

HIPPY, Washington, D.C.

1100 North Capitol Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20002

(202) 408-8676

Doris Rhinehart, Coordinator
Evelyn Devlin, Development Coordinator

April 3, 1997

Melanne Verveer
2125 Leroy Place, N.W.
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Melanne:

Please forgive me for presuming on our friendship and intruding on your time at home but I thought if I went through regular channels my request would get lost in the White House mail.

As you may recall, I spoke to you some time ago and asked that you would tell Mrs. Clinton that Washington, D. C. has a thriving HIPPY program. Enclosed is a wonderful newsletter published by the local National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Friends of HIPPY, which capsulizes what HIPPY has accomplished here in Washington over the past two years. Knowing of the First Lady's continued interest and support of HIPPY and of her pledge of a personal donation to HIPPY USA from the proceeds of her book, I ask that if at all possible you see that Mrs. Clinton gets this newsletter.

If the First Lady's schedule permits, we would like to invite her to participate in our second HIPPY commencement ceremony which is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, at the Mount Airy Baptist Church at 1100 North Capitol Street. I would be pleased to work with Mrs. Clinton's staff to arrange this visit. As you may know, I volunteer my time and effort on this project so it is best to reach me at home at (202) 362-4950.

Congratulations on your recent promotion!

Sincerely,

Evelyn

Evelyn Devlin

called 4/1

Washington HIPPY

Published by NCJW for Friends of HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Children)

HIPPY expands in second year

One year after it started, Washington HIPPY has doubled to 60 families and expanded to include three-year-olds.

The thirty, five year olds, who were the first to complete a HIPPY program in the District last June, will be joined by thirty three and four-year-olds. They all live in the Union Station area and are attending or will attend Walker Jones Elementary School.

HIPPY, Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters, is a home-based, school readiness program aimed at supporting parents as their child's first and most influential teacher. It was developed by the National Council of Jewish Women for use in Israel and was exported to this country in 1984. HIPPY parents are trained by paraprofessionals in the community to prepare their three, four and five-year olds for school through weekly activity packets of clearly illustrated, step-by-step activities. The program is designed to increase the confidence and marketable skills of the parent participants at the same time that it helps their children.

The District children who completed their first year, celebrated their commencement, June 6 at Mount Airy Baptist Church on North Capitol Street. The church is a member of the multi-racial, religiously diverse coalition which won a \$100,000 multi-year grant from Freddie Mac Foundation to bring the renowned HIPPY preschool program to the District.

Doris Rhinehart, a teacher at Walker Jones for over 34 years, coordinates the program which she graded A+ for its first year. "The parents and children were always thrilled to see us," she said.



Proud graduates of the first HIPPY class at last June's Commencement.

Rhinehart and her staff of three paraprofessionals - parents hired and trained to teach other parents in the program - met with participating parents and guardians twice a month to instruct them in the lessons they would teach their children. Families also received learning materials and books that were included in the free program.

On alternating weeks, parents met with paraprofessionals and the coordinator at Mt. Airy Baptist Church to review their progress and receive additional counseling. While parents conversed and listened to speakers on self esteem and stress management, their children were supervised and entertained by volunteers from the Washington D.C. HIPPY committee. HIPPY participants also took field trips to the circus and the Capitol Children's Museum.

The Washington, D.C. HIPPY committee is comprised of members of the Center City Community Corporation, a District tutoring group called I, Too Tutoring, the National Council of Jewish Women and the Mt. Airy Baptist Church.

HIPPY serves over 15,000 families in 27 states. A HIPPY initiative in Maryland serves over 400 families. "It's exciting to become part of the community," said Evelyn Devlin, who worked for over a year to bring HIPPY to the District.

A word for our sponsors



Without the following generous sponsors, HIPPY would not be operating in the District.

Freddie Mac Foundation

\$50,000/yr for 2 years.

TRW - \$5100

Holy Trinity Catholic Church - \$3250

NCJW DC (bequest in honor of Ruth Bernstein) - \$2500

NCJW DC - \$7000

NCJW Nat'l Capital Area - \$1000

NCJW No. VA - \$7000

Family of Elizabeth Desan - \$3000

In-kind contributions

Ernst & Young - computer equipment

Mt. Airy Baptist Church - office and meeting space, catering

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Yippee HIPPY

by Jan Prince,
Washington HIPPY Advisory Board Member

When I attended HIPPY workshops at the national convention of National Council of Jewish Women in Detroit, this past March, I was struck by the laments of other NCJW members who had failed to start HIPPY programs in their area. They had all attempted to bring the program to a community. In Washington, the community came to HIPPY.

The Northwest One Urban Renewal Area, which HIPPY now serves, is just a few blocks from the nation's capitol, but it is a chronically poor neighborhood where most of the 4,600 residents live in five large, low-income apartment complexes. Forty percent of the inhabitants live below the poverty level. The median household income is \$10,206 annually.

In recent years, area churches, schools, resident councils, government and private agencies have been attempting to restore the locality to a desirable place to live. They have attacked this mission on various fronts, including early childhood education.

Dr. Antoinette Wells, principal of Walker-Jones Elementary School in Northwest One, estimates that 60 to 70 percent of the children entering kindergarten each year have no school readiness skills. There is a

families in the area can afford it. A head start program in the school serves only 39 families.

Elizabeth Desan, a reading specialist in Anacostia public schools for a dozen years, had been running a volunteer tutoring program at Walker Jones. Her six years of tutoring at the school convinced her that the "missing piece of the puzzle is the input of parents." School counselors and teachers would always blame the poor progress of a child being tutored on a difficult homelife and no support for learning, said Desan.

"Indeed, the school seems far away from the community surrounding it. Few parents venture within its doors," she said. Then Desan heard about HIPPY and decided it was a program that would meet the crying needs of the Walker Jones families on two fronts - by preparing children for school and by making their parents responsible for this preparation. "...as the parents become more involved with the educational development of their children, they begin to feel more empowered themselves," said Desan.

She recruited her friend Evelyn Devlin, another District resident, to help her write a grant proposal. They approached the National Council of Jewish Women about their effort after learning, from a 60 minutes broadcast, that HIPPY was started by NCJW. The Washington area Sections of NCJW joined Elizabeth and Evelyn's effort and the Washington HIPPY committee was born.

The committee also includes the Center City Community Corporation (4C's), a non-profit organization which administers community development programs in the District, especially

in the Northwest One area. The organizations planned an information day to be

hosted by Mt. Airy Baptist Church, which sits in the center of the targeted neighborhood. It's pastor, the Reverend C. Phillip Johnson, agreed that "HIPPY would be a great asset to this particular community.

"We offered other programs such as teen age pregnancy counseling, but no pre-school program. We like to test out the community with all types of programs," said Rev. Johnson. Together, the 4C's, I,



Elizabeth Desan and HIPPY graduates Benitra and Freda Warren and their mother Catherine Warren. Desan is the force behind Washington HIPPY.

Too Tutoring, NCJW and the Mt. Airy Baptist Church worked over the next few months to present an informational meeting that introduced HIPPY to the community.

The Information Day was truly a coalition effort, from the the invitations and press packets produced by NCJW Sections to the hot lunch cooked and donated by Mt. Airy congregants. Debbi Lockhart, Channel 4 weekend morning news anchor, moderated the 3 hour program. The presentation and role playing by Maryland HIPPY paraprofessionals was enough to impress Desiree Griffin-Moore, a Freddie Mac Foundation grants program officer. Washington HIPPY received a \$100,000 two-year grant from the Freddie Mac Foundation.

The Washington HIPPY committee continues to thrive as an ongoing support system. Separate committees focus on childcare, outings for the participants and this newsletter. The committee assembled an Advisory Board of Committee representatives, local education and community development experts, and potential funders to assist in funding, promoting, sustaining and expanding the program.

New members to Washington HIPPY are welcome. Contact the Washington HIPPY office, at (202) 408-8676.



Maryland HIPPY paraprofessionals, Shaneera Johnson and Wendy Price role play a HIPPY lesson at the Washington Information Day.

privately operated Montessori school in one of the housing developments, but few

Make HIPPY work

Rhineharts put Retirement on hold

by Sarah Singer, NCJW National Capital Area Section

When she retired after 34 years of teaching at Walker Jones Elementary School, Doris Rhinehart envisioned a leisurely life of travel and volunteer work for her and her husband, Ramon. What she got was a full time job coordinating the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY). What HIPPY got in Rhinehart was a package deal. Doris and Ramon Rhinehart work together for HIPPY as a team of educators, motivators and social workers.

As coordinator, Doris recruits parents, trains paraprofessionals, leads meetings and assists mothers with everything from finding a sofa to finding a scholarship. As a volunteer, Ramon locates a GED class, a parent support group or a substance abuse treatment program for HIPPY mothers, putting his 27 years as a social worker to good use.

Elizabeth Desan, a founder of HIPPY D.C. targeted Doris for the coordinator's job. Desan was a tutor at Walker Jones when she first noticed Rhinehart.

"There she (Rhinehart) was with 24 children. Her discipline was perfect. She didn't raise her voice. She had a rapport with her students and a lively teaching style." As soon as Desan learned Rhinehart was retiring, she began her recruitment campaign.

Doris succumbed to Desan's "bugging." When it came time to recruit participants, the Rhineharts' work in the community paid off. As they recruited door to door in the Sursum Corda housing project, Doris encountered mothers and grandmothers who had been her students. "I'm working with the third generation," Doris said of the children in HIPPY. "Mothers know me. They know that I never let them down, that I do the best I could."

"They always take time for you"

Doris's best includes a big dose of acceptance.

"God gave me a gift. I love people. I accept them for who they are," she explains. "My relatives taught me determination, responsibility, self-esteem and that



Doris Rhinehart and Ayana Sulton share smiles at a HIPPY meeting.

you have to work for what you want," Doris said. "I was poor, but there was love in my home."

And that's one of the messages she brings along with the HIPPY lesson to the homes of the mothers she visits.

The Rhineharts want HIPPY mothers to see them as grandparents, people they can lean on, people who encourage and inspire. And, in this warm and welcoming couple, they do. "It's like you want to tell her something," Lula Jackson, a HIPPY participant, says of Doris. Another HIPPY parent, Victoria Mitchell, says "They always take time for you."

Through their work with HIPPY, the Rhineharts hope to set a new generation of children on the right track.



**HIPPY,
Washington, D.C.**

There are over 120 HIPPY programs throughout the United States administered by the parent organization HIPPY USA. Each program follows the basic HIPPY education model, yet each has a unique organizational structure. For its first program in the District, HIPPY, Washington, D.C. is implemented by a broad-based coalition of sponsoring organizations.

The Center City Community Corporation (Four C's), which holds a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt status, is responsible for financial administration of HIPPY including accounts receivable and payable and payroll and financial reports to funding agencies. **The Washington Area Sections of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW)** were a

primary force in bringing HIPPY to Washington and NCJW volunteers assist with funding, publicity and special programs. **The Mount Airy Baptist Church** provides office and meeting space at no charge to the program. Elizabeth Desan, executive director of **I Too, Tutoring** offers her many years of teaching and tutoring expertise, as does **Dr. Antoinette Wells**, Principal of the Walker-Jones Elementary School. **Evelyn Devlin**, volunteer Development Coordinator, seeks out potential funding sources and writes proposals. **Doris Rhinehart**, our capable Coordinator, is assisted by her husband, **Ramon**, a retired D.C. Social Worker.

Washington HIPPY

Jan Prince, Editor

Washington HIPPY is published by the National Council of Jewish Women for the Washington D.C. HIPPY program. Contributions to the newsletter are encouraged. Please send all correspondence to: Washington HIPPY, 11747 English Mill Ct., Oakton, VA 22124. The HIPPY office can be reached at (202) 408-8678.

Lula Jackson and daughter, Iesha at HIPPY commencement. Jackson will work as a paraprofessional this year.

One parent's Praise for HIPPY



"HIPPY is great. It's great for my child. She loves it. She calls it homework," says Lula Jackson, whose daughter Iesha brightens the babysitting sessions at our bimonthly parent meetings. Iesha loves HIPPY so much she wants to do it all of the time, says Jackson. But limiting the lessons to 15 minutes each day "helps me teach her how to wait," she says.

"Just that 15 minutes each day gets them ready for school. She's learning how to

trace, and her directions. It's easy for me to do with her. Anybody can do it," says Jackson, who ably demonstrated a lesson for the HIPPY Advisory Board. Jackson says the program gives her a chance to express herself, too. "I can make the stories exciting to hold their interest," she added.

Jackson holds a certificate in early childhood education for infants and toddlers. While she worked when her first two children were small, she has spent

more time helping in the schools with her other three children. "I help out a lot. The teachers in D.C. public schools have 20-30 children. They can't give separate attention."

Jackson considers her children "our future. I want them to be a good statistic and I'll do anything to give them a head start." Last year, Jackson was unable to enroll Iesha in the pre-kindergarten program at Walker Jones. When her sons brought home a flier about HIPPY, Jackson said she was on the phone immediately.

"I love the program, - especially the fact that it's right in the house. You can do it in the same time it takes you to do your fingernails and toenails. It's quality time I can spend with my children." This year she will join the program as a paraprofessional helping 12 other HIPPY parents learn to teach their children.

Meet the Washington HIPPY team

Our paraprofessionals

Annie Holbrook, Pamela Smith, Lorette Ragin, Lula Jackson and Towanna Gardner are the Washington HIPPY program paraprofessionals who work part-time visiting homes, role playing lessons,

then teach their children. On alternating weeks she attends the parent meetings with program coordinator, Doris Rhinehart and HIPPY parents at Mt. Airy Baptist Church.



HIPPY parapos, Annie Holbrook, Pamela Smith and Lorette Ragin stand proudly behind the first HIPPY D.C. class

providing encouragement and advice and receiving training and support through regular meetings with program coordinator, Doris Rhinehart. As peers of other HIPPY parents, they have a chance to build trust and communicate with hard-to-reach families; as members of the same local community and parents of small children, they can often empathize with the challenges facing HIPPY families and make the program work in their own neighborhood.

Annie Holbrook visits the parents of 12 HIPPY children in the Sersum Corda housing project every other week for 1-11/2 hours to teach parents the lessons they will

Last Fall, Holbrook went door to door with Rhinehart and the other paraprofessionals to recruit HIPPY participants. Although she had moved from the neighborhood, her 31 years as a teaching assistant at Walker Jones gained her the trust of the community. The parents she visits have welcomed her into their homes.

"Most of them really love it. They want me to come and they never forget. They're always there and ready for me," says

Holbrook. Many of her parents work and Holbrook works to accommodate their schedules. She is proud of the assistance she could give one of her parents who asked for help locating a drug rehabilitation program. "As long as I can help someone, I'm fine. I don't mind helping," she says.

"This is a beautiful program. It helps a lot of children who need it before they get to school," said Holbrook. Her godchild, Benitra Warren is starting her second year in the program. "The easy curriculum is very good. The parents love it. The children got more and more interested each time I visited," she added.

Speakers & Special Events



Parent meetings and extra outings provide more opportunities for HIPPY parents to share experiences. Thanks to the following experts for speaking at the biweekly parent meetings, held at Mt. Airy Baptist Church:

Barbara Rabin Fox spoke on stress management, Sybil Gray and Marisa Brown talked about self-esteem for children, Ann Hilse of Holy Trinity Church gave advice about parental self esteem, Bonita Bantom of D.C. Dept. of Child and Family Services talked about child abuse.

An April 10 outing to the Ringling Brothers Circus drew 86 parents and children. HIPPY coordinator, Doris Rhinehart raved about the day. "The seats were good, the bus drivers were excellent, we got there early enough for the children to look around and everyone behaved responsibly. It was really great." Parents loved the June trip to the National Capital Children's Museum as much as the children, especially the maze and bubble room and the puppet show. A picnic at the zoo is next on the agenda. We welcome additional suggestions for speakers and outings. Call the Washington HIPPY office, (202) 408-8676.

our HIPPY Advisory Board Members:

Once HIPPY was operating, the participating organizations took the steps to form an ongoing Advisory Board of current and potential participants, funders and community organizers. Board members will be asked to assist with program promotion, funding, special events and guest speakers. It is hoped that they will assist in establishing helpful liaisons with other community, government, business and educational groups. The initial meeting in April produced an enthusiastic exchange of ideas and suggestions for the program.

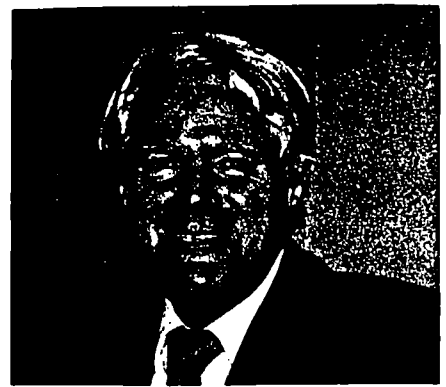
The HIPPY, Washington, D.C. Advisory Board includes members from each implementing agency, representatives from

early childhood/family support programs, the HIPPY Coordinator, a participating parent, members of active community groups, funders and potential funders and representatives of local Sections of the National Council of Jewish Women. It's an impressive group and we'd like you to meet two of its members.

Paul McElligott

Paul McElligott appreciates both the value of empowerment and the Northwest One Urban Renewal area where HIPPY is now operating.

In the late '70s, McElligott chaired a development team that worked with tenants



Paul McElligott, Washington HIPPY advisory board member

of the Sersum Corda apartment complex where many HIPPY parents now live. Although their initial attempt to buy the property from the landlords failed, the tenants prevailed in 1993, after the tax laws changed. In the meantime, McElligott continued to work with non-profit neighborhood development groups in the area to turn tenants into homeowners and vacant buildings into vital community resources. The attorney and 30-year District resident has been determined to change survey statistics which showed that fewer than 100 of the 1800 homes in the Northwest One Urban Renewal area were owned by their residents.

"Our ongoing connection [with HIPPY] is to the community," said McElligott. He calls it human development on a neighborhood level -development which includes education, building personal relationships and training. "You need all of these elements together if you're going to have development sustained in the long term," he said.

HIPPY's formula of training parents to teach their children, dovetails McElligott's drive to give District residents more control over the development of their community. He is enthusiastic about the idea of incorporating HIPPY into the many development projects he oversees as executive director of North Capitol Neighborhood Development. The non-profit development corporation is busy increasing the number of privately owned homes in the area. Already, McElligott has proven an active HIPPY advisory board member by plugging the program at meetings with White House District liaison, Carol Thompson Cole.

McElligott's non-profit development group is converting the Tyler House, at the corner of New York Avenue and N. Capitol Street, into 284 units of Section 8 housing, which

Continued on page 6

While parents attended their bi-weekly Tuesday group meetings, anywhere from five to fifteen children convened downstairs for a good time of their own. The children have been eager participants in a variety of activities from bongo playing to tracing and coloring their body shapes. They have brought home Mother's Day cards, had storytime, danced the Hokey Pokey and shared lots of smiles with the wonderful volunteers who have been an integral part of this effort.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge those people who helped make the Tuesday afternoons run so smoothly in our inaugural year. Thanks to Jackie Smith for recruiting our marvelous volunteers from Mt. Airy Baptist Church; Ruth Ferguson, Ethel Petersen and Delores Anderson.. Thank you. Carol Goertel for her imaginative and fun arts and crafts ideas and donation of supplies. Jan Prince and daughter Hannah, who stepped in whenever it was needed. Sophie Silverstein, Elizabeth Desan, Evelyn Devlin, Arlene Goldberg, Alex Robinson, Betsey Sterenfeld and Gail Dezube for their donations of time and materials. Doris Rhinehart for her help and encouragement. Ramon Rhinehart for bringing the supplies back and forth and all

We Had Fun

*by Debra Mendelson
Childcare Chair, Washington HIPPY committee*

the wonderful home-cooked food. Those meatballs were outrageous! And, of course, Mt. Airy Baptist Church who has been so generous with their space. It is

through the efforts of all these people that we've been able to provide what we hope has been an enriching and fun time for the children.

We are ready for our second year of HIPPY. With enrollment doubling we should see more children at the parent meetings and we will need more creative ideas and hands-on help. If you would like to get involved in helping with childcare, call Debra Mendelson at (703) 938-3368.



*Maxine Maxwell and Porcha Maxwell
decorate noise makers at a
HIPPY parent meeting*

HIPPY

Makes Headlines

HIPPY made headlines in the *Washington Post's* District Weekly Section, June 20 after reporter Patrice Gaines and photographer Craig Herndon attended our commencement ceremony.

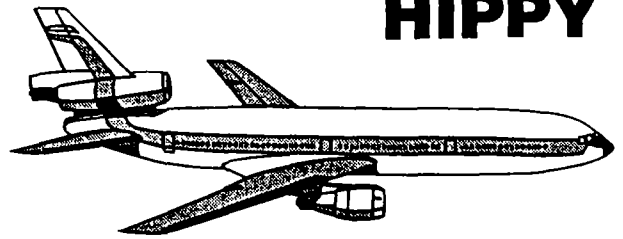


School Makes House Calls

HIPPY Program Trains Parents to Teach

By Patrice Gaines
 Photographed by Craig Herndon
 The Perry School, a public high school for African American students, is now being converted into a comprehensive center for economic development of families, which will offer training, counseling, child development and health services in one facility. Early childhood education and develop-

Rhineharts Go West for HIPPY



Washington HIPPY coordinator, Doris Rhinehart and her husband Ramon traveled to Denver in April for the Eighth National HIPPY Conference. "Caring Communities, Invincible Families, Children of Promise" was the theme. Over 350 HIPPY coordinators, paraprofessionals, parents, supervisors and administrators from a variety of implementing agencies attended. Mrs. Rhinehart said she was proud to find out that Washington HIPPY is one of the few programs to be computerized. "We were way ahead of many programs that had been around for four and five years and still weren't using the computer," she said. She also discovered that our parent meetings are better attended than those of many programs. "There were people representing programs with 250 families and they said they don't get more than 10 parents at a family meeting. We averaged when we were only 30 families," she said. Mrs. Rhinehart said the well-run conference provided a good opportunity for reviewing the program and sharing info with others.

Meet our HIPPY Advisory Board Members:

Continued from page 5

will bring nearly 300 families into the area at the end of 1996. He has already added 50 single family homes and just completed the \$4.5 million renovation of other private housing projects in the area. With another 300 units of vacant public housing scheduled for repair, the preschool population in the area should swell considerably. And, that's where HIPPY fits in.

It also fits into the ambitious conversion of the Perry School on N. Capitol Street near Sursum Corda, with which McElligott is also involved. Built in 1892, it was one of the original public high schools for African American students. Perry is now being converted into a comprehensive center for economic development of families, which will offer training, counseling, child development and health services in one facility. Early childhood education and develop-

ment was planned for the project even before McElligott heard about HIPPY. With the high rate of drop-outs, illiteracy and unemployment there is a need for education on both the adult and child level, says McElligott. "HIPPY is very helpful in combating these trends," he said.

Barbara Nophlin

You don't have to sell Barbara Nophlin on HIPPY. Any place is a good place to start with children, she says, but, she adds, anything you can do for parents, who are their first and primary teachers, is even better.

Nophlin is an associate for later childhood with the D.C. Public Schools. As a member of the Washington HIPPY advisory board, she is representing her boss, the District's

Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Maurice Sykes. Although Nophlin currently works with teacher training for fourth through sixth grades, most of her prior experience has been with pre-K through third grade. She sees her primary role on the advisory board as a supportive one.

"I'm interested in following the program as the kids move up - how can we sustain parent involvement as the kids move up, especially parents with younger children?" she says. Nophlin is concerned with parent involvement in the elementary schools and is glad Walker Jones Elementary will be evaluating involvement as HIPPY progresses there. "I would like to see the program (HIPPY) expanded," she said, "there are other parts of the city that could certainly benefit from it."

Couple

fits Freddie Mac Foundation's mission

... could not be running in Washington the \$100,000, multi-year grant from the Freddie Mac Foundation. The Federal Reserve Bank of Washington, which supports the country's secondary mortgage market, established its foundation in 1991 to brighten the future of children, youth and families at risk. Although there is a small national component, the foundation is aimed primarily at the Washington Metropolitan area. Washington HIPPY received the foundation's maximum yearly grant of \$50,000.

"From all indications it's been a good investment, so far," says grants program officer, Desiree Griffin-Moore. Griffin-Moore attended the HIPPY informational meeting at Mt. Airy Baptist Church in March, 1995. She found that HIPPY "supports our mission to support programs that are focused on young children between 0 and 6 years, especially programs of a preventive nature." Early childhood education is important, said Griffin-Moore, to prevent the educational failures of children in school. HIPPY fits Freddie Mac's model as a

preventive program that also recognizes parent involvement as critical to children's learning and development.

"In general, I know that comprehensive approaches to provide early childhood experiences that include parents are vital to the success of children and HIPPY is one of those programs that will do that," said Griffin-Moore. She said she is also proud to be an active HIPPY participant through the Advisory Board. She has already suggested liaisons with other Freddie Mac Foundation programs, such as Museums as a Resource.

The HIPPY Curriculum

The room was hushed and the audience followed closely as Maryland HIPPY paraprofessionals, Shaneera Johnson and Wendy Price demonstrated the HIPPY model with plenty of plastic shapes, patience and encouragement. It was this actual demonstration of the HIPPY curriculum that impressed Desiree Griffin-Moore, the grants program officer who eventually approved the two-year funding for the District's first HIPPY program. Obviously, the program sells itself.

The Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters curriculum, contains 60 weeks of activity packets, 18 storybooks and 16 manipulative shapes which are used over a two year period. Each weekly activity packet includes approximately 10 activities for parents and children. The daily activities are written in a structured format comparable to a well-designed lesson plan for a novice teacher. The purpose of the structure is to provide guidance for the parents and to ensure a successful learning experience for the parents and their

children. The materials are easy for the parents to follow and are designed to elicit regular feedback from the children so that the parents can observe their children's learning. In this way, a parent can gain confidence in teaching and interacting with his or her children.

One of the lessons was delightfully demonstrated by our program coordinator Doris Rhinehart and HIPPY parent, Lula Jackson at the first HIPPY Advisory Board meeting. Mrs. Rhinehart played the child, while Mrs. Jackson read selected pages from the storybook, *Down the Path*. Part of that lesson is printed below.

Basic skill areas addressed by HIPPY activities include: tactile discrimination, visual discrimination, auditory discrimination, conceptual discrimination, language development, verbal expression, eye-hand coordination, pre-math concepts, logical thinking, self-concept, and creativity.

FOLLOW THE PATH

AGE: 4 — WEEK: 15
ACTIVITY SHEET

The bugs are crawling to the flowers.
Take a pencil and draw over each path
from the bug to the flower.

