



For over 45 years, AVANCE has been dedicated to providing high quality, innovative, two-generation education and support programming for low-income Latinx children and families in Texas. Our targeted program services reflect the cultural, racial/ethnic, and linguistic background of our families and provide specific strategies based on the unique needs of these families and children, ensuring that racial equity is embedded in our systemic approach.

AVANCE Parent-Child Education Program (PCEP)

PCEP is AVANCE's core foundational program. This program teaches parents how to become their child's first teacher and how to ensure that the home is the first classroom. While parents attend the PCEP sessions, their children receive care and instruction using the PCEP Early Childhood Education Framework. The framework, which can supplement other early childhood education curriculums, includes nine themes associated with developmentally appropriate activities that build on in-home instruction. In addition to early education and parenting education, the program provides parents with opportunities to develop social capital - a network of support through connections within their cohort and within their community. PCEP includes three main components: 1) parent education, 2) socialization through toy making, and 3) community engagement and advocacy:

Parenting Education Class (1 Hour)

Parenting education is delivered by a trained AVANCE Parent Educator utilizing AVANCE's comprehensive, bilingual parenting curriculum. The purpose of the curriculum is to teach parents how to become their child's first teacher and ensure the well-being of their children through mastery of various topics. Engaging and interactive lessons are delivered in a group setting to provide parents with opportunities to learn together and from one another.

Toy Making Class (1 Hour)

One of the most unique components of PCEP is toy making. Trained toy makers guide parents through a process of creating educational toys from typical household materials. Toy making gives parents tools for educational play with their children, which increases serve and return, brain development, language acquisition, hand-eye coordination, visual discrimination, and auditory discrimination. Each toy is accompanied by a Possibility Sheet, a guide with options for how to utilize the toy. Parents make and practice using the toys together, allowing them to develop additional skills (i.e., sewing) while also increasing confidence, communication skills, and connection.

Community Engagement and Advocacy (1 Hour)

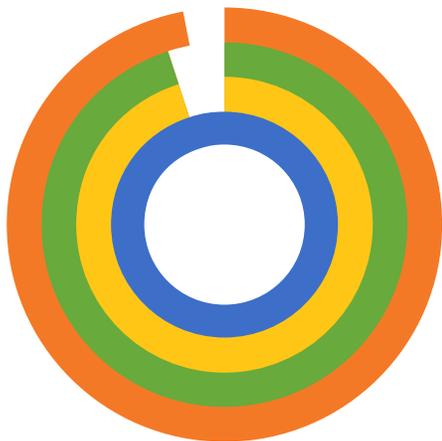
During the community engagement and advocacy hour of PCEP, AVANCE provides parents with opportunities to develop a network of support between each other and within the community. Resource connection can take various forms, including information about the availability of community services and resources (including eligibility requirements), as well as community speakers invited to share details about their support services. In all instances, parents can share experiences and needs and receive support from each other and staff.

Key Concepts and Domains Covered in PCEP

The PCEP Framework Domains			
Parenting	Parent-Child Interactions	Family Well Being	Child Development & School Readiness
<p>Role of a Parent Parenting Philosophy</p> <p>Parenting Goals Family Needs Assessment Coaching & Goal-Setting</p> <p>Knowledge of Child Development Developmental Expectations Special Needs</p>	<p>Responsive Parenting Attachment & Bonding</p> <p>Play-Based Interactions Serve and Return</p> <p>Language Facilitation Promoting Language Development Bilingualism & Biliteryacy</p> <p>Executive Function & Self-Regulation Managing Behavior Transitions, Rules & Routines</p>	<p>Basic Essentials Accessing Basic Supports</p> <p>Toxic Stress Stress Response Systems</p> <p>Mental Health & Wellness Trauma Informed Care Nutrition</p>	<p>Social and Emotional Learning Trust & Emotional Security Self-Awareness & Self-Regulation Relationships with Others</p> <p>Language & Communication Listening & Understanding Communication & Speaking Emergent Literacy</p> <p>Cognitive Development Exploration & Problem Solving Memory Imitation & Make Believe</p> <p>Physical & Motor Development Health & Well Being Gross & Fine Motor Skills</p>

Impact

The PCEP curriculum puts equity into practice by building on families' strengths and supporting their individual needs to advance equitable outcomes for parents and children participating in the program. A recent external study of our Dallas PCEP program shows that AVANCE children (n=1,559; 100% Hispanic; 95.6% ELL) are more likely to attend pre-K, more likely to be school ready at Kindergarten, and less likely to be chronically absent than a comparison group of demographically similar children whose families did not participate in PCEP.



14,661 Participants served annually

97% of children enter PreK school-ready

95% passed 3rd grade reading and math

95% had better grade school attendance

127% increase in employment among parents