Hello, Center Director!

The creators of Sesame Street have designed a free, online professional development course to help preschool teachers promote family engagement and enrich teacher-parent interactions.

The Sesame Street: Growing Together course includes videos, resources, and exercises for teachers to try with parents and children. With your support, they want to help providers and families connect with each other to ensure children’s well-being and success!

Colleagues from PHMC’s Research and Evaluation Group, a Philadelphia-based nonprofit, are studying the course’s effectiveness and recruiting lead teachers and parents of four-year olds for the research study.

As research participants, the teacher and parents will complete surveys in February and April 2020.

The teacher and parents will receive gift cards for completing surveys. The center will receive Sesame Street books, posters, and magnets for completing the study. Teachers volunteering to take part in the study will be randomly chosen to either take the course or not. In addition to completing surveys, teachers chosen to take the course will:

- Spend about an hour per week for 10 weeks on the course and its activities
- use the strategies learned with up to six parents
- fill out a feedback survey every other week and
- be in a focus group, if asked

If you would like more information, please visit PHMCresearch.org/SesameStreet for a recorded webinar and frequently asked questions. You can also send questions to SesameStreet@phmc.org or call (215) 731-2039.

---

Interested in having this study at your site? Please follow the steps in this checklist.

1. Share this information with your lead 4 year old teacher(s). Attached is a teacher flyer. Give this flyer to your teachers and talk with them to see if they are interested.

2. ACT NOW! Go to: https://tinyurl.com/SesameDirectorScreener or scan the QR code. There you will answer four yes/no questions to see if your center is eligible, and enter the name and email address of at least one teacher who is interested. **NOTE:** We will continue to accept centers until we meet our desired number of centers, but do not delay, fill it out right away!

What happens after that?

If your center is eligible, your teacher will get an email from SesameStreet@phmc.org with a link to an eight-item screening form to determine the teacher’s eligibility and where they will give their contact information and consent. Consented teachers will receive flyers to distribute to the parents of four year olds in their classroom. At least three parents from the consented teacher’s classroom will need to be screened for eligibility and consent before the teacher and the parents are enrolled in the study.

We would like to have teachers and parents enrolled as soon as possible. We may contact you to ask for your help in getting the word out to parents, if needed. We will inform you by February whether or not your site is participating the study.

Thank you for considering! Your support will help Sesame Street create effective resources!

The PHMC Sesame Street Growing Together Research Team