

Why were Family Resource Program Provincial Standards of Practice Developed?

Family Resource Programs (FRPs) should aspire to high quality, comprehensive, accessible, community-based programs that comply with province-wide standards of excellence and respond to the changing needs of families with young children. The Standards provide a framework for FRPs to use as they strive for excellence in their programs.

The development of the FRP Standards of Practice manual (2009) and implementation of these Standards by Family Resource Programs will both inform and regulate the sector.

Standards represent expectations for program design and implementation as well as agency infrastructure. They lay the foundation for how Family Resource Programs ensure:

- ▶ participants/clients are treated ethically and with respect for their rights;
- ▶ programs are planned and delivered according to province-wide best practice standards;
- ▶ physical environments are appropriately planned and maintained, and;
- ▶ organizations are governed and administrated ethically and responsibly.

In June 2015, a new process for completing the standards will be launched. The manual has been revised to reflect current "best practices" and emerging trends in the field. The process of providing documentation has been streamlined. For programs that have been accredited under CARF or COA, modifications to the Standards requirements take into account their previous accreditation work.

What are the FRP Provincial Standards of Practice (2nd Edition, 2015)?

The 2015 FRP Provincial Standards of Practice address four key areas of operations that include:

1. FAMILY-CENTRED PRACTICES

- ▶ Family-centred approaches
- ▶ Family support and strengthening
- ▶ Encourage family development
- ▶ A focus on Child Development
- ▶ Value in Diversity
- ▶ Ethical Conduct

2. PROGRAM PLANNING & DELIVERY

- ▶ Flexibility in Programming
- ▶ Programming for adults
- ▶ Early learning programming
- ▶ Program Evaluation & Quality Improvement
- ▶ Design & Function of Physical Environments
- ▶ Safety and Hygiene

3. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION

- ▶ Engagement in community-based planning and leadership
- ▶ Partnerships and collaborations
- ▶ Engagement with the broader community
- ▶ Connections for families to community resources

4. GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- ▶ Governance
- ▶ Planning and Administration
- ▶ Finance
- ▶ Human Resources
- ▶ Information Management

How were these Standards developed?

The Standards were written in the context of:

Five Core Service Areas

1. Family Support
2. Play-based Learning
3. Early Learning and Literacy
4. Parent Education and Learning
5. Information and Referrals



The five core service areas are the “What” you do in your FRP. When combined, they provide comprehensive wrap around support for families with young children – if done well.

Six Valued Practices

1. Physical Space and Design
2. Promote Engagement
3. Promote and Build Relationships
4. Promote Family Development
5. Strengthen Communities
6. Governance and Administration



Valued Practices are the “How” you do the work.

Why Standards of Practice?

The development of shared standards is an important strategic step towards defining and promoting quality practice and establishing a common language for BC’s Family Resource Programs. They can be used to:

- ▶ Provide a framework for best practices, as new programs are established;
- ▶ Provide a self- assessment tool for existing programs wishing to enhance or strengthen the quality of their services;
- ▶ Demonstrate the quality of work that programs are doing with families;
- ▶ Support staff to reflect on and enhance their work with families;
- ▶ Provide a provincial tool that measures and assures program quality;
- ▶ Establish criteria that can be used by funders or policy makers in decision-making, and program monitoring;
- ▶ Provide a vehicle for families to partner with programs by providing feedback and direction;
- ▶ Support the growing professionalization of the field;
- ▶ Document the good work that FRP’s do.

For additional information and support on implementation of the FRP Standards of Practice:

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