

SUPPORT PREPARE TOMORROW'S PARENTS!

We are educators, physicians, psychologists, legislators, business leaders, entertainers, parents, and students who advocate Parenting Education for children and teens. We supply resources and educate the public to further this critical work. Please join us:

- 1. Become an Advocate.** Whether you're a new-comer or already in the field, send an email to advocates@preparetomorrowparents.org or call toll-free 1-888-PARENTS for the information, materials, and support you'll need. Order free brochures for your colleagues and friends.
- 2. Learn more about the importance of preparing tomorrow's parents and how this is being accomplished.** Order our 13-minute video and download or order our 182-page guide by calling 1-888-PARENTS or online at www.preparetomorrowparents.org.
- 3. Support Prepare Tomorrow's Parents with a tax-deductible financial contribution.** Mail your check or credit card authorization, or call toll-free 1-888-PARENTS. Donate securely online at www.preparetomorrowparents.org/donate.htm. We will send cards acknowledging contributions made in someone's honor or memory. Gifts of stocks and securities are welcome.

Prepare Tomorrow's Parents is a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax-exempt corporation, and registered Florida charity SC-11146. We retain 100% of all contributions.

Thanks to The Susan A. and Donald P. Babson Charitable Foundation and for generous funding to produce this brochure.

Printing underwritten in memory of Sandy Garfinkle.

Prepare Tomorrow's Parents

454 NE 3rd Street, Boca Raton, FL 33432
phone 561-620-0256, 888-PARENTS (toll-free)
fax 561-391-9711

info@preparetomorrowparents.org
www.preparetomorrowparents.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Suzu Garfinkle Chevrier
Founder and President

Gary Ferdman
Vice President Fundraising
Business Leaders for Sensible
Priorities

Carol Lewke, Vice President
Public Information
Chicago Learns

Mimi Plevin-Foust
Vice President Marketing
Wide Time Productions

Myriam Miedzian, Ph.D.
Social Philosopher, Author

Joan Message Barbuto
Connecticut Coalition for
Parenting Education

ADVISORY BOARD

Kerby T. Alvy, Ph.D.
Center for the Improvement
of Child Caring

Rabbi Balfour Brickner
Stephen Wise Free Synagogue

James P. Comer, M.D.
Yale University Child Study Center

Jonah Edelman
Stand for Children

Mary Gordon
Roots of Empathy™

Kathryn Grody
Performing Artist

Harriet E. Heath, Ph.D.
Bryn Mawr College Parent Center

Stuart I. Harris, FCA
Greater Roanoke Valley Character
Coalition

Lou Howort
NYC Health Teacher and Trainer

Mary M. Jurmain
Realityworks, Inc.

Margaret R. Kind, M.D.
Child Psychiatrist

Jonathan Kozol
Author

Pat Loncto
NY State Health Education
Leadership Team

Mandy Patinkin
Performing Artist

David Popenoe, Ph.D.
National Marriage Project,
Rutgers University

Marilyn Swierk, CFCS, CFLE
Vice President Programming
American Association of Family
and Consumer Sciences

Dana McDermott, Ph.D., CFLE
Secretary
DePaul University

Dorrie Maxwell, CPA, Treasurer

Keith F. Backer, Attorney at Law

Jack Cuffari
Branding and Communications
Consultant

Janet Pozmancier
L.P.C., L.M.F.T., R.P.T.
Parents Under Construction™,
Childbuilders

Andrea M. Schuver
Executive Director

Alvin F. Poussaint, M.D.
Harvard Medical School

Deborah Prothrow-Stith, M.D.
Harvard School of Public Health

Kyle D. Pruett, M.D.
Yale University Child Study Center

Jacquelynn Puriefoy-Brinkley
Educating Children for Parenting®

Tom Roderick
Educators for Social Responsibility

Belinda Rollins
Parenting Coalition International, Inc.

Christopher Sarson
Television Producer

Judith Schiffer, Ed.D.
Professor of Education, Principal

Mary B. Schroer
Former Michigan State
Representative

Jane Carney Schulze, Ph.D.
Californians for Parenting
Education in Schools

John Vasconcellos
California State Senator, Retired

Bernice Weissbourd
Family Focus

Jack C. Westman, M.D.
University of Wisconsin, Emeritus

Peter Yarrow
Peter, Paul, and Mary

Darlene E. Yoquelet, CFCS
Family and Consumer Sciences
Teacher; Garland, TX

Edward Zigler, Ph.D.
Yale University Bush Center in Child
Development and Social Policy

The most important job in the
world comes with no training.



THE TIME TO BEGIN PREPARING IS NOW!



"I advocate that all students — male and female — be required to take a class in childrearing... that's a big step toward improving the quality of parenting in this country."

Alvin Poussaint, M.D.,
Harvard Medical School



"Over a three-year period Prepare Tomorrow's Parents gave me the confidence, know-how, and energy to implement an ambitious statewide mandate with little funding. Prepare Tomorrow's Parents has truly been the 'wind beneath our wings!'"

**Pat Loncto, Instruction Developer &
Project Coordinator, New York State
Parenting Education**

PREPARING TOMORROW'S PARENTS IS ESSENTIAL!

80% of all Americans become parents. Parenting is the most important job we do.

Changes in American society have made the parenting role more challenging. Adjustments in family life offer young people fewer chances to learn good parenting solely by observation at home.

An alarming number of children are at risk of being abused, neglected or otherwise poorly nurtured by inadequately prepared or supported parents. Neglected or abused children are prone to perpetuate this cycle by becoming adults without resources for healthy parenting. Inadequate parenting contributes to teen pregnancy, depression, addictions, academic failure, delinquency and later violent criminal behavior

A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION

Prepare Tomorrow's Parents is a national, nonprofit organization working to reverse this trend by helping ensure that all children and teens are prepared for the responsibilities of future parenting. Our mission is to promote and facilitate the learning of parenting, nurturing and relationship skills as an essential curriculum element in grades K-12, as well as through community organizations and other youth settings.



Through Parenting Education, children and teens develop attitudes, knowledge and skills vital to their social and emotional well-being and to sound future parenting. Preparing young people to become caring, competent parents may be the single most effective way to prevent child abuse and other violence, increase mental health, advance school preparedness, and achieve academic success for future generations

Parenting education for children and teenagers:

- develops empathy, caring behaviors, and skills for healthy relationships in boys and girls;
- raises awareness about parental roles and responsibilities;
- encourages responsible decision-making about when to become a parent;
- teaches the basics of human development;
- provides practical information and skills for child care;
- shapes attitudes and values while they are forming; and
- builds the foundation for effective parenting.

"I learned that having children is a big deal! I don't think I will ever consider bringing a life to this earth until I am ready!"

Middle School Student

"It is critical that we teach future parents their vital role in preparing their children to reach their full potential in school and in later life."

Edward Zigler, Ph.D., Yale University Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy

WHY PARENTING EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS?

A society in which parenting is a valued occupation undertaken only by prepared adults will help assure that every child is well-nurtured, emotionally healthy, and capable of reaching his or her full potential.

- Nurturing skills are crucial to children's positive early development and cannot be left to chance.
- Early experiences shape a child's brain, impacting lifelong potential for learning, relationships and mental and physical health.
- Children who have empathy and nurturing skills are less violent and less likely to become abusive parents.
- Understanding the responsibilities of effective parenting encourages teens to postpone this demanding role.
- Effective parenting lays the groundwork for better mental health in future generations.
- Social and emotional literacy improve learning by creating caring classroom environments.



WHAT DOES PREPARE TOMORROW'S PARENTS OFFER?

- We offer a toll-free number, **888-PARENTS** to facilitate information exchange, referrals and assistance.
- We maintain a website that provides extensive resources for advocates and educators, at www.preparetomorrowsparents.org.
- We distribute materials developed especially for educators and advocates. These include our 182-page guide *Preparing Tomorrow's Parents Today: How to Bring Parenting Education for Children and Teens to Your Schools* in print and on our website for download, as well as our free video.
- We work through the media and special events to increase public awareness of Parenting Education for young people.
- We identify, network with, and promote a variety of programs and Family and Consumer Sciences classes that offer effective Parenting Education for children and teenagers.
- We provide an international clearinghouse of instructional materials for educators and advocates of Parenting Education for young people.
- We educate elected and appointed officials about the importance of supporting Parenting Education for children and teens.

"Prepare Tomorrow's Parents' video, guide, classroom-ready lessons and other resources on their website have been instrumental tools for Family and Consumer Science and Health teachers, as well as Extension educators."

Denyse Altman Variano, Extension Resource Educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension

