



# COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES CENTER FOR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2011/2012

## PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES

**F**amilies are at the heart of all we do at the Center for Family and Community Engagement. We build on each family's strengths and emphasize family leadership, community partnerships, cultural safety, and inclusive planning. We build partnerships that make families safer, healthier, and more productive. We involve social workers, teachers, and other professionals to create and sustain a wide circle of support around the family.

CFFACE grew out of NC State's Department of Social Work. In 1998, faculty social work researchers advocated a team approach—involving family advocates and representatives from child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health, schools, public health, and others—to support children and families. These teams committed to fully engaging the family in planning for its well-being. What began as a 10-county pilot project to involve at-risk families in decisions affecting them has now expanded to include all 100 of North Carolina's counties.

**“WE WANT TO KEEP THE FAMILY’S VOICE  
AT THE CENTER OF THE CONVERSATION.”**

**- JOAN PENNELL,  
DIRECTOR**

The Center has earned a national and international reputation for its work on family-centered meetings. CFFACE continues as an integral partner on these multi-system teams and has developed specific curricula to support them. The Center provides extensive support in training those who work with families to ensure their voices are heard when plans are made that involve them.

### Support CFFACE

CFFACE has received funding from the state Departments of Health and Human Services and Public Instruction. We also rely on community and corporate gifts to sustain and expand the work of the Center. Please make your contribution to the NC State Foundation, noting that you wish to allocate the funds to CFFACE. We recognize donors on our Web site.



### AT A GLANCE

Advances youth, family, and community leadership in practice and policy.

Fosters a system of care through joint training of social services, schools, mental health, public health, and juvenile justice.

Conducts research on child abuse, neglect, and domestic violence.

Provides training and program support for family-centered meetings.

Improves home-school relations and increases student retention and achievement through family meetings.

Promotes coordinated and culturally responsive approaches to resolving family and community issues.

Encourages interdisciplinary, national, and international collaborations.