

**Friends  Of Liberia**



# Family Literacy Initiative: An International Partnership Brings Success to Parents and Preschoolers

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# Presentation Objectives



- To describe the Family Literacy Initiative Partnership
- To identify core components of HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents and Preschool Youngsters) model necessary for program fidelity
- To share strong program outcomes – in Liberia and around the world
- To share lessons learned

# Liberia Family Literacy





# Partners & Alliances

**Friends  Of Liberia**



## Funders:

- Open Society International
- Foundation Rolander Family Foundation
- Friends of Liberia (FOL) membership
- Rotary Club, Indianapolis and others

Comic Relief USA



# The HIPPY Model



# What is HIPPY?



## Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters







To equip parents with skills, tools, and confidence to prepare their children for success in school.



## HIPPY believes



- Parents everywhere want the best for their children.
- Parents can teach their children.
- At all ages, we learn by doing.
- The parent-child bond is strengthened by engaging together in fun, educational enriching activities.
- With appropriate training and support, parents can teach other parents.





# HIPPY Around the World



HIPPY programs operate in 15 countries worldwide: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, China, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, Paraguay, South Korea, Sweden and the United States



# Four Essential Features of the HIPPY Model



**3 Year\***

**Home-Based Curriculum  
30 Weeks per year  
Ages 3-5**



**Coordinator and  
Staff of Home Visitors**



**Role Playing:  
Instructional Technique**



**Home Visits  
Group Meetings**



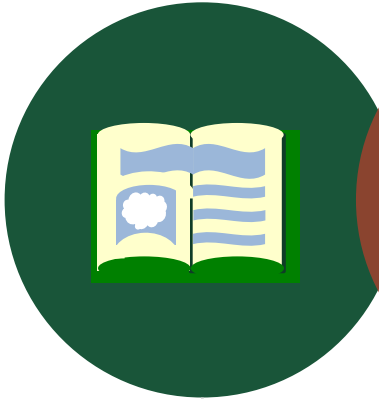
# Curriculum



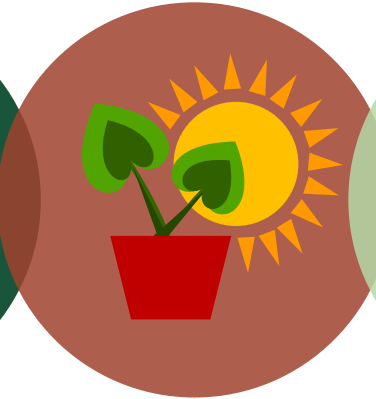
**3 Year  
Home-Based Curriculum  
30 Weeks Per Year**



# School Readiness Curriculum



Literacy



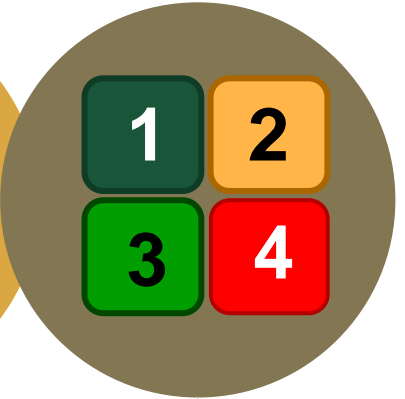
Science



Motor



Language



Math





# Staffing



**Coordinator  
Home Visitors**







# Role Play



## **Role Playing: Instructional Technique**







# Group Meetings



## Home Visits And Group Meetings





NV MASSAQUOL -

B. M. L. JUNIOR HIGH

SCHOOL

Presented by Department of

Education, Health and Family Services

Project No. 1012-0-000

KPMG

AFW



# Training and Fidelity of the Model

- Intensive 1-week training
- Weekly staff meetings where home visitors role play with themselves
- Role play with the practice child
- Role play with the parent
- Coordinator conducts at least one monitoring of home visitors each year
- On-going training of promote the professional development to home visitors



# Intensive week-long training on the HIPPY Model for Family Literacy Initiative Staff

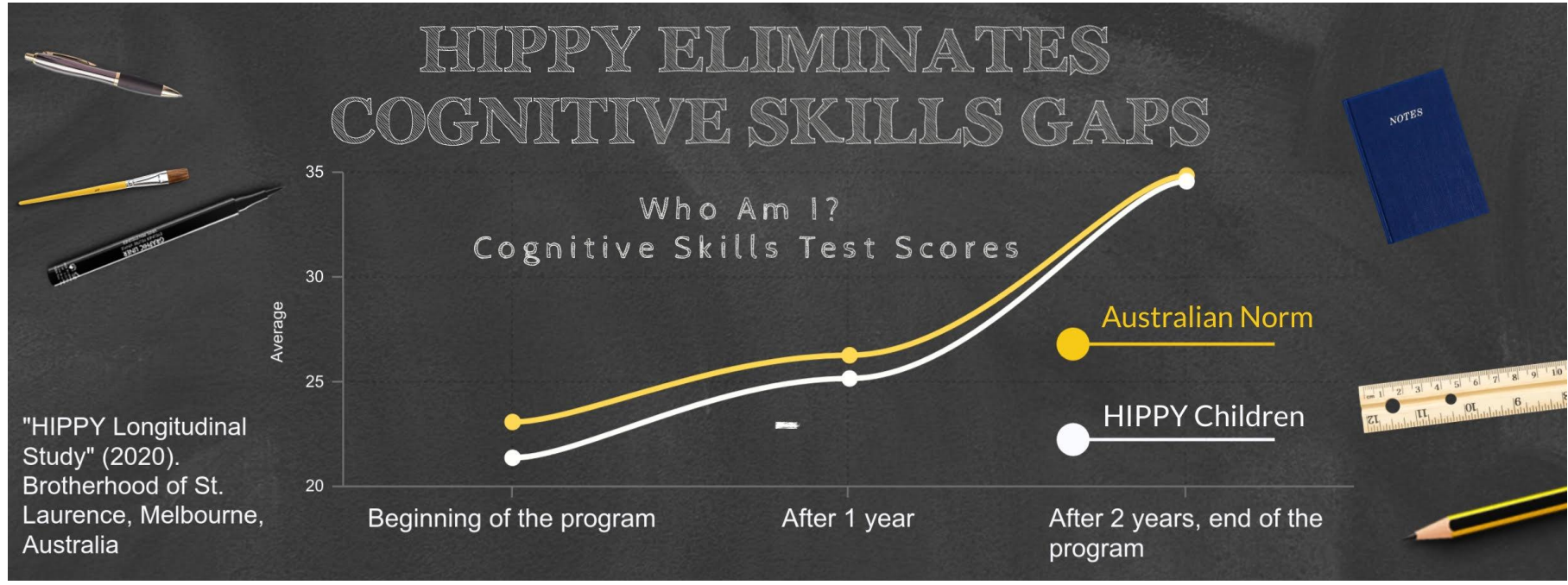




# Program Evaluation



# HIPPY closes the achievement gap in Australia





# Program Evaluation: Looking at the Numbers

## Participation In Program

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Communities	3	3	4	4	4	4
Families	60	120	180	180	187	197
Children	68	123	182	181	188	199
Home Visitors	6	12	21	21	21	21





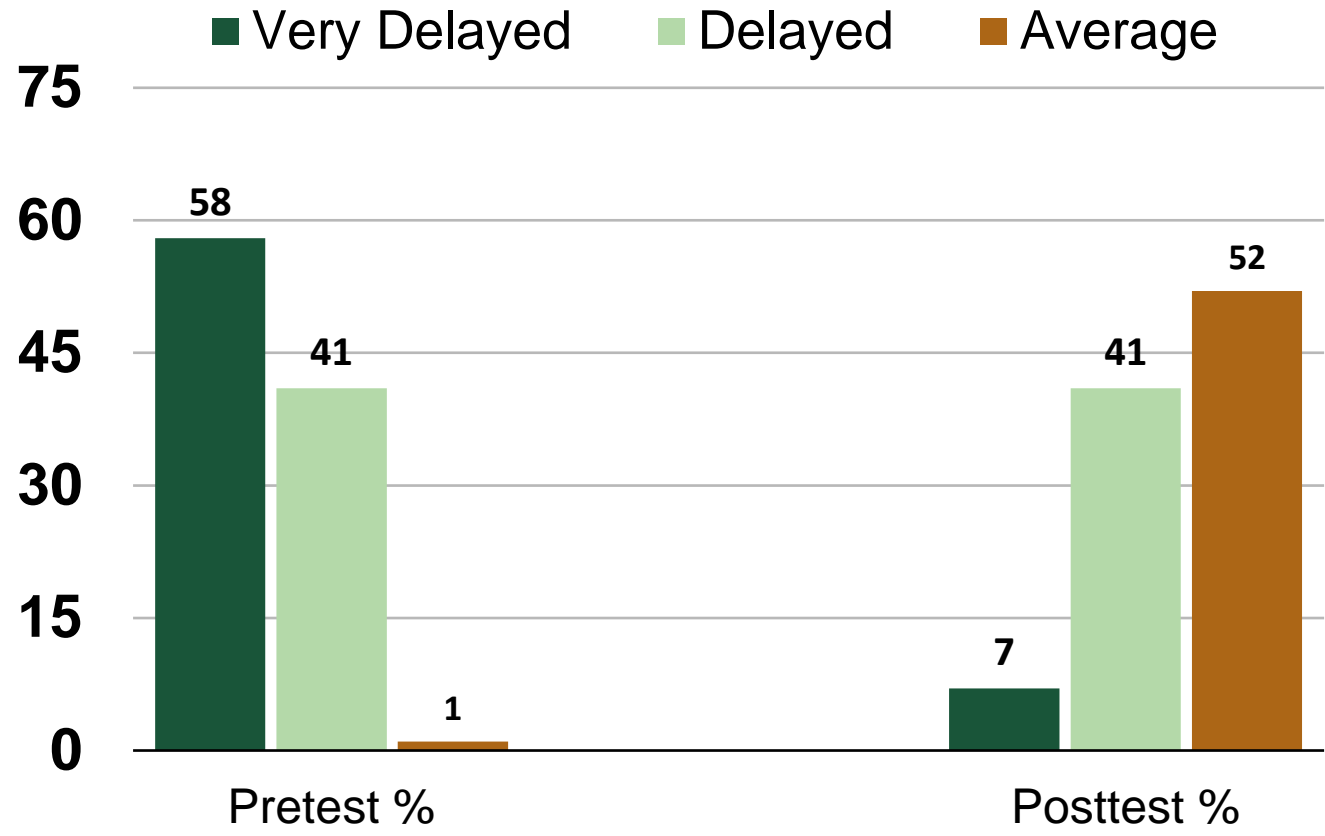
# Evaluating Children's Short term Outcomes





# 3 Years Combined Comparison

Descriptive Classification Categories at the beginning and end of 163 children's first instructional year







# Program Monitoring



# Monitoring Program Implementation

- Coordinator's Quarterly Reports
- Feedback from HIPPY trainers and several Friends of Liberia visitors
- Parent/caregiver feedback survey
- Home visitor surveys



# Second Quarter Narrative (January – April 2019)

## We-care/Friends of Liberia/HIPPY Family Literacy Initiative (FLI)





# Typical Content of Quarterly Reports

- Recruitment and Enrollment
- Number of home visits
- Group meetings and participant information
- Summary of:
  - accomplishments for the quarter
  - implementation challenges and steps taken to address them; and
  - recommendations for improving implementation and outcomes.



# Parent Feedback Survey Key Findings

- 98% (109 of 111) of parents indicated the program had been “very helpful”:
  - in showing how to teach their child
  - in helping them talk to their child
- About 2/3 had some difficulty in doing program activities
- About 1/2 indicated some difficulty in reading materials
- About 1/3 requested help in increasing their literacy skills and/or educational level





# Using Feedback

- Initial and ongoing success of the program led to its expansion in years 2 and 3.
- Liberianization of the books and materials
- Feedback from coordinator, parents, and home visitors led to the piloting of an Adult Literacy Program in 2019



# Policy Implications and Lessons Learned



# Broader Impact and Policy Implications

- FLI's home visiting model is included in the National Early Childhood Professional Framework in Liberia.
- FLI has been incorporated in the Nurturing Care Framework in Liberia (Prenatal – 3yr). A pilot has been funded by the Open Society Foundations and two sites will have both the nurturing care elements and the education focus through FLI.



# Lessons Learned

- Each partner's role is critical
- Open communication is essential
- Retention of committed staff is crucial
- Data collection and program evaluation is vital
- Staff-community relationship is key
- Culturally adaptable curriculum is needed
- Obtaining funding is challenging



# Questions and Answers

For more information, please contact [yvonnecapehart@yahoo.com](mailto:yvonnecapehart@yahoo.com)