What is Pernet?

Pernet Family Health Service is a non-profit home health agency that serves individuals and families in Worcester and the surrounding communities. Pernet provides both home-based and group-centered programs in order to support individuals and allow families to reach their full potential.

Pernet’s mission is to support and strengthen the physical, social, and psychological development of individuals through home health and social services. Each of Pernet’s programs serve to empower families to build relationships, achieve their goals, and work through challenges. Through these services, families will actively participate in community life.

“To be what we wish to create...family”

Summer Goals

- Learn more about Pernet and each of their programs
- Meet Pernet families while shadowing the Parent Aid and Young Parents Programs
- Participate in Early Intervention activities
- Support the Summer Youth Jobs Program
- Create and facilitate a workshop
- Learn more about the socioeconomic and cultural needs of Pernet’s families
- Offer assistance to the directors and staff at Pernet in any tasks needed

Summer Service Learning Assistantship

My role as an intern at Pernet through the Service Learning Assistantship:
- Provided assistance to Parent Aid workers when possible while shadowing
- Assisted in facilitating parenting classes
- Met and got to know many of the families served at Pernet
- Shadowed and provided assistance for Early Intervention services and assessments
- Helped organize and participated in community outings to Buffumville Lake and the Ecotarium
- Assisted in leading the orientation trainings for summer youth workers
- Created and facilitated a workshop for youth workers on nutrition and exercise
- Learned about the socioeconomic and health challenges faced by many Worcester families

Outcomes

Program Achievements from 2013 Annual Report:
- Parent Aid program served 82 families
- 90% of families served by Parent Aid Program demonstrated at least 25% increase in parenting knowledge, behavior, and attitude
- Food pantry served 1,525 households
- 43 families and 130 total children attended summer outings
- 80% of Young Parent Support participants were able to get stable housing
- Early Intervention Program served a total of 333 children

Future Opportunities

- Workshops for youth in the summer jobs program in other topics such as nutrition, health, and career development
- Workshops for mothers in the Young Parents Support Program
- Further assistance in organizing summer community outings
- Shadowing Pernet staff to learn more about potential Worcester patient population

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References

http://www.pernetfamilyhealth.org