

## August 9, 2017

## For Immediate Release

ASU Mid-South Parents As Teachers and Arkansas Department of Health Nurse-Family Partnership Presents Home Visiting Services to Crittenden County School Personnel and Local Service Providers.

ASU Mid-South Parents As Teachers and Arkansas Department of Health Nurse-Family Partnership presented Crittenden County Home Visiting Services to Marion High School faculty and staff on Tuesday, August 8, during professional development week for returning faculty and staff.

"All the school districts have been very supportive of Home Visiting Services for Crittenden County," commented Brandy Ivy, Home Visiting Services Coordinator. "We are hoping to build a lasting relationship/partnership with all the local school districts in order to better serve eligible families in Crittenden County."

The presentation was one of several including Wonder Jr High, East Jr High, Marion Middle School and the West Memphis Rotary Club. The Home Visiting team members are trying to ensure all school personnel and local service providers are aware of the services provided by Home Visiting Services.

They are scheduled to present Home Visiting Services in the upcoming months at East Arkansas Family Health Center in Earle, Welcome Week Resource Fair at ASU Mid-South, and Parent-Teacher conferences at Earle High School.

Home Visiting Services are free services to eligible families beginning at the prenatal stage and following the family through until the child turns 3 years old. The program offers support to families while focusing on parent-child interaction, development-centered activities, and family well-being.

The Nurse-Family Partnership Program (NFP) works with first time, low-income mothers to educate them about prenatal care, caring for the baby after birth and how to promote the baby's emotional and physical well-being and mental development. NFP Nurses answer questions on pregnancy and childbirth, help new mothers set goals for themselves and their baby and help to increase knowledge and access to community resources.

The Parents as Teachers (PAT) home visiting model provides support to families in the first years of their child's life by using researched-based activities and information delivered to parents by a trained parent educator. During the first years of a child's life, their parents are their most influential teachers. PAT works with families to provide the information, support and encouragement parents need to help their child as they learn and grow.

Funding for the Arkansas Home Visiting Services program was made possible by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under a grant of the Affordable Care Act awarded to the Arkansas Department of Health.

For more information about the PAT home visiting model contact Brandy Ivy, Home Visiting Services Coordinator at 870-733 6027 or email <u>bivy@asumidsouth.edu</u> or the Nurse-Family Partnership programs, contact August Rose, NFP Program Administrator at 501-772-8370 or email <u>august.rose@arkansas.gov</u>



Caption: From LtoR, Paul Johnston, Principal Marion High School, August Rose, NFP Program Administrator, Brandy Ivy, ASU Mid-South Home Visiting Services Coordinator, Jonathon Crymes, Assistant Principal Marion High School

## **About Arkansas State University Mid-South**

Arkansas State University Mid-South is a public two-year institution of higher education with an open-door admission policy, serving Crittenden County, Arkansas, and the surrounding areas with a comprehensive educational program. The College is committed to economic development in the Arkansas Delta through the provision of high quality, affordable, and convenient learning opportunities and services consistent with identified student, community, and regional needs.

To meet these needs, the College provides quality academic and support programs, personnel, technology, administrative services, and facilities necessary to respond in a timely and effective manner.

For more information about ASU Mid-South, visit https://www.asumidsouth.edu.