

## 10/19/21

**Crittenden County Home Visiting Services Team at ASU Mid-South Receives National Recognition as a Blue Ribbon Affiliate** 





West Memphis, AR – The Home Visiting Services team housed at Arkansas State University Mid-South has earned a prestigious endorsement from the Parents as Teachers National Center, Inc., (PATNC) as a Blue Ribbon Affiliate, making it one of the top-performing home visiting affiliates within the PATNC's international network. The official designation was made on October 1, 2021.

Being named a Blue Ribbon Affiliate affirms that the ASU Mid-South Home Visiting Service is a high-quality member of the home visiting field, implementing the evidence-based Parents as Teachers model with fidelity. Families in the Crittenden Co. community are positively impacted by the services delivered by this program.

The program includes home visits, group connections, child screening, and connections to community resources. It equips parents with knowledge and resources to prepare their children for a stronger start in life and greater success in school.

"To earn the Blue Ribbon Endorsement, we underwent a rigorous self-study and review process from the National Center. The process confirms that we are meeting Parents as Teachers' standards of fidelity and quality," said Brandy Ivy, Director of the Home Visiting Services team. "Blue Ribbon Affiliates are exemplary programs, delivering highest quality services to children and families."

Implementation with quality and fidelity is vital in home-visiting programs as it determines a program's effectiveness in accomplishing its original goals and intended outcomes. It also verifies that a program is being implemented as designed. Parents as Teachers' rigorous endorsement process demonstrates an affiliate's accountability and credibility to the community, its funders, elected officials, and the partner organizations with which they work.

"The Blue Ribbon endorsement demonstrates our commitment to continuously improving the quality of services we provide to children and families. It also provides assurances to funders and community partners that our affiliate is a wise investment."

## **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 quality, affordable, and convenient learning opportunities and services consistent with identified student, community, and regional needs.

## **About Parents as Teachers**

Parents as Teachers (PAT) builds strong communities, thriving families and children that are healthy, safe and ready to learn. The internationally-recognized evidence-based home visiting model is backed by 35 years of research-proven outcomes for children and families. PAT currently serves nearly 200,000 families in all 50 U.S. states, 115 Tribal organizations, six other countries, and one U.S. territory. Parents As Teachers National Center, Inc., is headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri. Parents as Teachers affiliates operate in various settings, including health departments, hospitals and schools, faith-based and non-profit organizations. For more information, visit parentsasteachers.org or Twitter @NatIPAT.

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