



Center for
Well-being of
Africans in
America

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July 31, 2008

Dear Parent,

Center for Well-being of Africans in America (CWAA) and the Seattle Public Schools' Office of Family and Community Partnerships (OFCP) are inviting East African parents with school-age children to participate in a community discussion. We are interested in hearing about parents' experiences with their children. These discussions will take place in small groups of 8 to 10 parents called focus groups.

The purpose of these focus groups is to gather information so that we can better understand the experiences and challenges faced by East African parents in the United States. We hope the information we find out will help us develop a culturally appropriate program that will give parents tools for meeting the challenges they face in raising their children. The information you will be sharing with us will be a valuable investment on the community's current and future generation of parents and their kids. Trained focus group leaders will be leading the focus group in your native languages.

If you decide to participate, you will join a group of up to 10 parents in a discussion that will last 1.5-2 hours. The focus group leaders will have questions about parents' experiences where you will be free to participate in the discussion as much or as little as you chose. The discussion will be audio taped so that we will be able to write down all of the comments during the discussion. However, we will use only first names during the discussion, and no other record of the names of the participants will be kept. We will not associate any particular comment with individuals' names. Instead we will make a transcription of the comments without participants' names.

CWAA and OFCP are determined to evaluate and foster positive parenting experiences among East African parents. We believe that by sharing your experiences, we will be able to identify common themes that will aid us in finding targeted solutions. We will be offering a cash incentive as a token of our appreciation for your participation in the focus group.

If you are interested in participation, please contact Caroline at 206-234-4837 or Linda Slater at 206-252-0992. Your participation is important to us and I hope you will join us.

Sincerely,

Caroline Sawe