

July 2026

Parents as Teachers' Impact on Family Economic Wellbeing

It can be difficult for families to thrive in the midst of socioeconomic challenges. Parents as Teachers improves family economic well-being, which is part of a multi-stranded approach that helps children achieve their full potential. Education and employment are among the top five types of goals set by caregivers in Parents as Teachers.¹ By focusing on improving family economic well-being, Parents as Teachers empowers parents to take the necessary steps to improve their economic standing which can have more immediate benefits for the family and long-term benefits for their children in terms of development, school readiness, and poverty avoidance.



Parents as Teachers improves family economic wellbeing.

- Parents as Teachers caregivers are 16% more likely to become employed.¹
- High school enrollment rates are 69% higher for caregivers in Parents as Teachers who had not already completed high school.¹
- College enrollment rates are 12% higher for Parents as Teachers caregivers.¹
- Caregivers in Parents as Teachers are more likely to receive education or training and use nonparental childcare on a regular basis.²
- Parents as Teachers caregivers are less likely to receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits than caregivers not enrolled in the program.²
- Caregivers in Parents as Teachers are more likely to experience significant improvements in outcomes related to family economic self-sufficiency, parenting, and child development.²
- Parents as Teachers combined with financial empowerment and education resulted in greater awareness and utilization of financial resources like the Earned Income Tax Credit for caregivers while also reducing rates of child abuse and neglect.³
- Families were less likely to utilize Families with Dependent Children benefits – now called Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) - after receiving Parents as Teachers.⁴





Growing a child's love of reading

“A young, first-time mother has struggled in nearly all aspects of her life and does not have much support; however, she still takes pride in being a great teacher for her daughter. During her first personal visit, she worked with her parent educator to set goals to find a job and housing. One of her main goals was to find employment to start supporting herself and her daughter. She was almost homeless and did not have much guidance. After just a few months, she achieved her main goal and found a job she enjoys. She has also found childcare for her daughter while she works. Although she is still working to find steady housing, her family had stepped up to help temporarily. We are very proud of this mother and cannot wait to see what she accomplishes during the next few months.”

— Community Partnership Family Resource Center; Woodland Park, CO

References

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