

Ottawa Area ISD

Parents As Teachers program operating in 5 elementary buildings, serving 80 families. Home visits, playgroups, community resource referrals, literacy focus. Plan to expand to seven buildings in the fall. Funded through a combination of funds from the ISD, locals, and a Children's Trust Fund grant.

Collaboratively offer early childhood professional development to improve the quality of daycare, pre-school and homebased services. Partners include Head Start, Children's Resource Network (4C), and Life Services System.

Coordinate several collaborative groups around issues of early childhood/parenting. (Coordination of services, training, networking, grant development, parenting education services)

Lead agency for the annual Challenge of Children conference held on the campus of Hope College each May. This is a parenting conference in its' 21st year.

Promotion of early childhood in general through the Be Their Hero campaign, and more specifically through production of early childhood services brochures, pre-school screening applications, and placemats in area restaurants. Materials are distributed countywide.

www.parentpro.org website for early childhood training and parenting education.