

## Square One 2010 Year End Report

- Municipal funding requests for 2010-11 were made to South Hampton Roads municipalities. (Chesapeake, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach) **As of June 15, 2010, confirmations of funding were received from the cities of Norfolk and Virginia Beach. (\$91,134)** As has been the case for ten years, municipal funds are used to leverage state and federal dollars required by Square One. A municipal contribution schedule is based upon \$2 per preschool child in each municipality derived from the last U.S. Census. (Norfolk request was fully funded and Virginia Beach request was fully funded less 15%.)
- Square One solicited private/corporate funds in an effort to leverage public funds and maintain programs in a comprehensive format. As of December 2010, **\$41,580 had been awarded** from The Hampton Roads Community Foundation, E. C. Wareheim Foundation, Target Corporation, Douglas and Marianne Dickerson Foundation, The Warden Family Foundation, Obici Healthcare Foundation, Riverside Health System Foundation, and the Towne Bank Va. Beach Community Relations Fund.
- In May 2010, the **Square One Director assessed a preschool in Norfolk** for the QRIS State Initiative. In August/September 2010, the **Square One Director completed the “Refresher QRIS Rater Training”** in Richmond on the “Environment Rating Scale Assessments” and the “Classroom Assessment Scoring System” and will be assessing more preschool programs through the Smart Beginnings SHR initiative in the future. Customized trainings on the ECERS/CLASS assessment tools are offered by Square One.
- **FREE Audio-web conferencing training** provided a 1-hour distance learning alternative for early childhood leadership focused on current early childhood topics. **Two (2) conferences were facilitated** in March 2010 and May 2010- 1) “The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children” and 2) “Child Mental Health Issues.” (94 participants)
- **Discounted or FREE professional development training for early childhood educators, caregivers, home visitors, parents and community leaders continued.** Square One has developed 23 evidence-based prevention and early intervention training courses in 2 hr. through 6 hr. formats to increase access to best practices in early care and education. (Four Saturday training days offered) **From July 1, 2009- June 30, 2010, a total of 238 early care professionals completed Square One’s PEI training** including staff from: Healthy Families, CHIP, Resource Mothers, Department of Social Services, public health departments, Public Schools, Community Service Boards, CASA, Office of Human Affairs, local preschools, child care centers, public libraries and parks & recreation staff representing Hampton Roads’ early childhood leadership. Dynamic, evidence-based curriculum focuses on topics including parent/child interaction, attachment, safety, nutrition/exercise, stress management, brain development, language development and child abuse and neglect. (Because of continued economic shortfalls... many agencies were unable to pay for training and enrollment in the Square One courses depended on

“Scholarships.”) Ten (10) “Training Scholarships” slots were awarded in each PEI course. One staff person per agency could register FREE.

- **152 participants enrolled in the Fall 2010 PEI courses.** (Avg. =14 per course)
- **279 participants in “Customized Training”** provided to the Norfolk City Public Schools *Even Start* program staff, Va. Beach childcare providers through GrowSmart “Fundamentals of Learning” program, QRIS preschool staff “ECERS training” at TCC, SHR Professional Home Care providers, Military Services YMCA Childcare Center staff, ODU Child Study Center/CDC staff, ODU early childhood education students, and Va. Beach Public Library staff. (January-December 2010)
- Square One **developed two (2) new courses-** “Observing/Documenting Child Behaviors” and “Infant/Toddler Milestones of Development” in 2 hr. PowerPoint formats.
- An “**Infant/Toddler Focus Group**” was convened by Square One to help develop the “Infant/Toddler Milestones of Development” course. (Marsha Goodman- Smart Beginnings SHR, Beth Griner- Places and Programs for Children, Karen Jackson- VB City Public Schools, Christy John- Infant & Toddler Specialist, Kerry Ragno- TCC, Jenefer Snyder- VB GrowSmart, Adrianna Walden- VB DSS, and Marty LaGiglia, Square One)
- **Square One continues to update its interactive website**, strengthening early care centers and families by increasing access to information and tools that support a child’s preparedness for school and life. Course training calendars and registration information promote professional development courses to early care providers and early intervention agencies. <http://www.SqOne.org>
- **Square One continues to provide technical assistance for early care providers** in the region and state. Square One remains actively involved in the *GrowSmart* Team in Virginia Beach, *Ready to Read Coalition* in Chesapeake and the *Consortium on Infant and Child Health (CINCH)* at EVMS and is a “State Rater” for the QRIS Initiative with Smart Beginnings.
- With support from the Target Corporation in Hampton Roads, **Square One continues to manage *Hampton Roads Reads!*, a preschool literacy project, in Norfolk, Portsmouth and Virginia Beach.** In 2010, **300** literacy materials/books were distributed to educators and children/families in 11 low-literacy level preschool/childcare classrooms and home visiting agencies.
- **Gretchen LeFever, PhD.**, Director of the Tidewater Community College Health Information Consortium, **joined the Square One Advisory Board.**
- With funding support from the Hampton Roads Community Foundation (“Technology Update” Grant), Obici Healthcare Foundation, and Riverside Health System Foundation, the Square One office received new computers, server, and printer/copier in December 2010.
- Square One staff continues to seek opportunities for professional development to enrich programmatic development and statewide training and technical support. The Square One Director attended a 2-day conference in Va. Beach entitled “Duty to Care” by *Zero to Three* about caring for military families.