



Example Activity Locations

Once you've decided what type of family engagement activity you want to design, don't box yourself into thinking the only possible locations are the school or your program space. Sometimes a different space in the community better suits the activity type or families' needs. This resource includes the different family engagement activity types with example locations and activities.

Skill Based	
<p>Community and School-Level Need: At least 50% of our program's adult family members do not speak English. And 40% of participating families live below the poverty line.</p> <p>Family-Level Need: 30% of participating families speak primarily Spanish, and 20% speak primarily Korean. And 50% of participating families haven't graduated from high school. Less than 50% of students graduate from high school and move on to postsecondary education.</p> <p>Family Voice: Families are requesting ESL classes during lunch hours or on Saturday mornings. And families are requesting GED classes and classes on building resumes, applying for jobs online, and building technical skills to help them get better-paying jobs.</p>	
Location	Activity
Car, Train or Bus	Develop podcasts for your ESL learners. Podcasts are an entertaining way to help learners expand their vocabulary.
Home	Livestream learning events so that adults who cannot attend in person can watch them live or recorded. You can even do a question-and-answer segment to measure the learning.
Workforce Development Office	Partner with your local workforce development board to host periodic classes on resume writing and interview skills. These partners likely have goals around this work that they are trying to meet, so it's a win-win!
Adults' Workplace	Host brown-bag events during lunch breaks at a workplace that employs many of your students' adult family members. You can likely get support from the employer if you focus on building skills that will benefit the goals of employers and employees alike.
The Local Bank	Since many of the families you serve may be living below the poverty line, work with your local bank to host an event on financial literacy. The bank likely wants the community to prosper and will often provide incentives for adults to attend.
Local Library	The local library is often a safe haven for families. They want all members of the community to be literate, so you can partner with them to host ESL and literacy classes at times when families might be bringing their children there. Summer events are often very popular.



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Enrichment	
<p>Community and School-Level Need: Adults have limited access to fun or enriching activities.</p> <p>Family and Student-Level Need: Family surveys indicate that transportation is a barrier to participating in activities.</p> <p>Family Voice: Focus groups with families indicate interests in learning about gardening, jewelry making, pottery, sewing and technology.</p>	
Location	Activity
School	Provide enrichment classes for adults throughout the year. Consider offering similar classes for students and families so they learn skills they can share at home.
Home	Many neighborhoods or apartment complexes now have amenity centers or open spaces. Bring activities to your families. Set up a family-friendly painting event, and get local businesses to sponsor it or to donate art supplies and refreshments. An instructor gives step-by-step guidance on creating a specific scene on canvas, and each participant goes home with his or her own painting, ready to hang!
Local Plant Nursery	Arrange to pick up adults from a neighborhood green space and take them to a local plant nursery. Partner with the nursery to provide instruction on plants that attract butterflies, and let parents select plants to put in their community garden.
Community Recreation Center	Partner with your local recreation center to provide free exercise classes for families a few times a week.
Local Craft Store	Partner with your local craft store to teach sewing to families.
Local Park	Work with city officials to gain access to space in a local park and invite families to build and maintain a community garden.



Example Activity Locations

Shared student and family	
<p>Community and School-Level Need: About 70 percent of students failed to meet proficiency standards on the state math assessment.</p> <p>Family and Student-Level Need: Students need help to master multiplication and division, and families do not understand the math strategies being used with students.</p> <p>Family Voice: Families want to understand how to help their students with homework.</p>	
Location	Activity
Car, Train or Bus	Develop podcasts with tips on how adults can encourage students to complete homework at home.
Home	Create short mini-lesson videos on how to solve specific math problems for the week's homework. Put videos on thumb drives and give them to parents each week, or post them on your webpage or social media page for families to watch.
Adults' Workplace	Host brown-bag events during lunch breaks at workplaces where several adult family members work. Use the time for short workshops on how to help students succeed in school.
Local Park	Host a math scavenger hunt at the local park where parents and students work in teams using clues to find items to help them solve math problems.
Aquarium	Take adult family members to the aquarium and demonstrate ways they can build math into the experience on a return trip with their elementary-age children.



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Leadership	
<p>Community and School-Level Need: Schools report that only 20 percent of parents participate in any school functions, including parent-teacher conferences.</p> <p>Family-Level Need: Survey results show that family members don't feel welcome at school and often feel intimidated by teachers.</p> <p>Family Voice: Families want help communicating with school leaders.</p>	
Location	Activity
Car, Train or Bus	Develop podcasts for families whose first language isn't English to help them understand terms and concepts they might hear at parent-teacher conferences, such as achievement test, assessment and cooperative learning groups.
Home	Consider having conferences in a student's home if family members are more comfortable there. Also consider creating tip sheets and videos to help parents be better prepared for parent-teacher conferences.
Local Community- and/or Faith-Based Organizations	Partner with community- or faith-based organizations to identify family advocates willing to attend parent-teacher conferences with the families. Work with one of these organizations to host a meal for families and advocates so they can get to know each other and strategize about upcoming conferences.
Adults' Workplace	Host brown-bag events during lunch breaks at workplaces that employ many of your students' adult family members. Ask the school counselor to provide a workshop on what to expect at parent-teacher conferences and how families can prepare for the conferences.
Local Service	Recruit volunteers from the local Rotary Club or a similar service organization to serve as leadership coaches for parents. Volunteers can use role-play scenarios to teach communication skills and can also provide guided practice and feedback on writing effective emails.



Example Activity Locations

Linking to Resources	
<p>Community and School-Level Need: Police records show there are at least 50 reports of local gang activity each year.</p> <p>Family and Student-Level Need: Families report they have been exposed to at least one violent gang-related incident.</p> <p>Family Voice: Families would like more resources to help them protect themselves and their children from gang activities.</p>	
Location	Activity
Car, Train or Bus	Work with local service organizations to provide short podcasts with tips families can use to keep their children safe.
Home	Host a virtual meeting with local law enforcement, and include an opportunity for families to engage in a Q&A segment on local crime and gang activity.
Adults' Workplace	Coordinate with representatives of local law enforcement to develop workshops, then host brown-bag events at workplaces around your community.
Local Community- and/or Faith-Based Organization	Partner with a local community- or faith-based organization to provide safe activities for students on weekends when your 21 st CCLC program is closed.

