

# ESSA Training Kit

## Community-Based Parent Involvement

### Lesson 2

This kit is the second in a set of four developed from the Annual IDRA La Semana del Niño Parent Institute in 2017 for use in training and technical assistance for school districts to strengthen family engagement.

The second kit is based on a presentation highlighting IDRA's Education CAFE work in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.



#### Welcome and Introduction

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Describe goals for the session to explore what effective parent engagement is.

Have participants introduce themselves and state one thing they hope to learn more about.



#### Think-Pair-Share

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Ask: **What is your vision and dream for the education of all children?**

Have participants discuss in pairs. Report out highlights and point out commonalities.



#### Small Groups

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Hand out copies of the **IDRA Family Leadership in Education Principles** (or show it on the screen). Assign one principle to each group and have them discuss what it means to them and what it looks like in practice.

Then have them share one key point with the large group.



#### Education CAFE

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Hand out the IDRA **Education CAFE flier**. Ask participants to read or skim through the flier and talk, in pairs, about what they find interesting in the description.



#### Video 1

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Show an excerpt from the **video interview of Michael Seifert** at the 2017 IDRA La Semana del Niño Parent Institute (3:40:40 min to 3:42:52).

Materials for this kit are online at: <https://budurl.me/2-IDRAedCAFE>



## Video 2

Show the video: **W.K. Kellogg Foundation 2013 Convening**. Point out that the Comunitario PTAs are now called Education CAFEs – Community Action Forums for Excellence. Introduce the video, which stems from a convening by W.K Kellogg Foundation of national leaders to highlight innovative approaches to family engagement in education. They visited IDRA to see how family engagement set up as a shared responsibility among families, schools and communities can transform schools for all children. Leaders of the first PTA Comunitario described their exciting and pioneering work for education among families living in South Texas colonias. (The key elements of the video are 2:55-7:30.)



## Small Groups

Working in small groups, have parents apply what they have learned by writing down the two important features about the Rio Grande Valley PTA Comunitario/ARISE community engagement program.



## Large Group

Report out and list highlights on the board. Ask why the features of the Rio Grande Valley Education CAFE are successful in helping to improve education for children in their own community. Ask how this model could work to enhance parent involvement efforts in participants' district(s).



## 5 Steps

If there is interest, hand out the infographic: **5 Steps to start an Education CAFE**. Prepare to do Steps 1 and 2 before the next meeting.



## Closing

Invite parents to the next session and advise them of the next Annual IDRA La Semana del Niño Parent Institute.

### Learn about IDRA's Education CAFEs – Community Action Forums for Excellence

Grounded in IDRA's Family Leadership in Education framework, an Education CAFE is a parent group that is rooted in a community-based organization, rather than in a single school. And its sole purpose is to collaborate with schools to improve the success of students in the community. With support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, IDRA is establishing a Texas Education CAFÉ Network of community-based family and educator groups that help inform public education policies and practices related to implementation of ESSA.

<https://budurl.me/2-IDRAedCAFE>

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