



A Family Learning Program

Torrington Even Start

Written Testimony of Blanca Castillo
Parent, Torrington Even Start Program
Appropriations Committee
February 16, 2016

Dear Senator Bye, Representative Walker, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. My name is Blanca Castillo. I am a Torrington Even Start parent. Even Start is a family learning program that provides comprehensive family-centered education programs to improve children's academic success and to increase parents' economic opportunities.

I am writing to urge you to reinstate funding for the Even Start Program line item in the Office of Early Childhood budget to support local two generation learning.

In my community, the Torrington Early Childhood Collaborative in Partnership with the Torrington Public Schools, received \$146,952.67 from this line item which was leveraged and matched resulting in more than \$150,000 to support creating healthy outcomes for families with young children and paving a way to higher education and careers.

As a parent in the Even Start Program, see attachment

Sincerely,

Blanca Castillo

Blanca Castillo

2/11/16

Mi nombre es Blanca Castillo
del programa de Even Start.

Quiero darles las gracias por el apoyo que hemos recibido de parte de ustedes, ya que este programa es una gran ayuda para nosotros los Padres de familia que nos ayuda cada día a poder aprender más del idioma de este país como es el Inglés, ya que así podemos tener una mejor comunicación con nuestros hijos y poder ayudarlos con sus tareas de la escuela, para que ellos tengan una buena educación.

Mi más profundo agradecimiento y esperamos seguir contando con su apoyo.

Blanca Castillo