

## Parish & Community Sample Survey about Early Childhood Development

The first 1,000 days of every child's life are crucial for laying the foundation for future learning, behavior and health. We here at \_\_\_\_\_ (*community, school or organization name*) are considering a plan to incorporate Early Childhood Development into our \_\_\_\_\_ (*top priorities/mission statement/goals*) in the upcoming \_\_\_\_\_ (*budget/season/cycle/program year*).

Partnering with Episcopal Relief & Development, we hope to both support the successful work they are doing across the globe and to discern how we might become engaged in this work, making lasting changes in Early Childhood Development in our own communities.

Please take a moment to let us know which areas of engagement you are personally interested in supporting. This will help ensure that any work we pursue in this area will reflect our community's interest and passion. Thank you

### **WORSHIP:**

I want \_\_\_\_\_ (*insert community, school or organization name*) to help us, as a community, focus on early childhood development.

I would support (*check those that interest you*):

Attending the annual Episcopal Relief & Development service, typically held on the first Sunday of Lent, highlighting through our prayers proven solutions and hope for Early Childhood Development.

Observing the Children's Sabbath on the third Sunday of October.

Being in conversations about making our prayer and worship gatherings more supportive and welcoming for children aged 0-3 and their caregivers.

Teaching about baptism in our neighborhoods and on social media and welcoming families who are not currently a part of it to celebrate this sacrament with us.

Adding collects, litanies and other prayers to our weekly worship service reminding us to be stewards of the very youngest children in the world and those who care for them.

## HOSPITALITY AND FORMATION:

I want \_\_\_\_\_ (*community*) to teach me more about how we can be more directly involved in (check those that interest you):

Understanding the current status of children aged 0-3 in our community and where \_\_\_\_\_ (*our community*) can make a difference.

Being in conversations about making our nursery and early Christian formation more intentionally supportive and welcoming of children aged 0-3 and their caregivers.

Creating welcome baskets for newborns with prayers for the parents, information about baptism and practical supplies, gifts, books and other information for children aged 0-3.

Learning about the work Episcopal Relief & Development is doing to make lasting change through *Moments that Matter*<sup>®</sup>, how it is improving the lives of children and those who care for them around the world and what we can learn from their research to help our neighbors.

Participating in a book group or Bible study exploring the issues of early childhood development so I can understand the situation more deeply and direct my prayers and other resources toward improving the lives of those most affected.

Creating and resourcing (hospitality, staff, communications, concurrent nursery care) a caregiver's support group for those with children aged 3 and under in their homes.

## ENGAGEMENT:

I am interested in \_\_\_\_\_ (*community*) making other connections in early childhood development, including (check those that interest you):

Making sure that our local food and sundry ministries have sufficient nutrition and supplies, including mental wellness resources for distribution to families caring for children aged 0-3.

Providing and promoting a nursery for much-needed recovery groups for persons meeting in our space with infants.

Partnering with local early childhood development care providers and non-profits in areas like volunteering and supplying crisis nurseries, parent education, Head Start, programs about financial literacy for teen parents, immigration services and other agencies that serve infants and their caregivers.

Beginning/continuing a conversation about hosting an early childhood care center in our space and/or fortifying an existing center or one in our neighborhood.

\_\_\_ Partnering with Episcopal Relief & Development, helping raise funds for their work, and utilizing their resources and connections to aid communities.

\_\_\_ Partnering with the Episcopal Public Policy Network to learn more about how governmental interventions and legislation can bring about larger institutional changes for early childhood advocacy.

Please use the remaining space to let us know if you have any other ideas or insights about this new ministry. If you would like our team to reach out to you directly, please include your name and contact information. Thank you.