Greetings,

National Family Week is an annual celebration observed during the week of Thanksgiving. Celebrations focus on building community connections and honoring those who strengthen families.

As public servants and social service providers, you work tirelessly to strengthen families everyday and often receive little recognition. It is only fitting that our first E-Newsletter should be distributed during a week that honors you.

Our monthly newsletter will highlight free resources and training opportunities designed to support you in your efforts to strengthen families. We hope that you will find the newsletter interesting and visit our website www.HealthyMarriageandFamilies.org for more information and to request technical assistance. On behalf of the Resource Center Team, I want to thank you for your service to families...and for letting us help!

Best Regards,

Robyn Cenizal, Project Director

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**Tip of the Month**

Your monthly tip to strengthen the significant relationships of those you serve. *Share it. Post it in your office and meeting spaces. Tweet it. Pass it on!*

**Open communication** is an essential ingredient in healthy marriages and relationships, and it's about much more than words. About 65% of all face-to-face communication is non-verbal (facial expressions, eye contact, gestures, posture, etc.).

Here's a conversation starter you can use with those you serve to help them reflect on their non-verbal communication with a partner or other significant person in their life: When you feel
heard or listened to, what is your partner doing that tells you he or she is listening? What does your partner do that indicates he or she is no longer listening?

Encourage clients to discuss these questions with their partner and use the answers as cues to strengthen their communication - the only "right" solutions are the one they come up with together!

**Featured Resources**

The National Resource Center hosts free Webinar opportunities for interested Federal, State, Tribal and local agency administrators and social service providers. Webinars feature speakers with first-hand experience integrating relationship education into their services, as well as promising practices, tips for stakeholders and the families they work with, and information as to how the National Resource Center can support them in their continued efforts to strengthen families. Below is a list of our most recent webinars, however, all of our past Webinars can be viewed online at [https://healthymarriageandfamilies.org/events-archive](https://healthymarriageandfamilies.org/events-archive).

- **Promoting Child Well-Being and Safety: Promising Practices for Encouraging Child Health and Safety via Integration of Relationship Education**
- **Promoting Economic Self-Sufficiency: Promising Practices for Encouraging Economic Stability via Integration of Relationship Education**
- **Promoting Resiliency in At-Risk Youth: Promising Practices for Encouraging Healthy Relationships via Integration of Relationship Education**

**Events**

- **National League of Cities Conference November 28-December 1, 2012 in Boston, MA. "National League of Cities 2012 Congress of Cities and Exposition"**
- **13th Annual National Indian Nations Conference: Justice for Victims of Crimes December 6-8, 2012 in Palm Springs, CA**

**Feedback and Technical Assistance:**

If you have suggestions or wish to speak with a Resource Center staff member, please contact us and we will be happy to assist you. If you would like to request Technical Assistance, please submit a [Training and Technical Assistance Request Form](https://healthymarriageandfamilies.org) and our Technical Assistance Coordinator will contact you.

To learn more about the Resource Center visit us at [www.healthymarriageandfamilies.org](http://www.healthymarriageandfamilies.org)

The National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families supports safety-net service providers as they integrate healthy marriage and relationship education skills into service delivery systems as part of a comprehensive, culturally appropriate, family-centered approach designed to promote self-sufficiency.

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