Research Brief 4

Family Involvement and After School

The American Youth Policy Forum published *No More Islands: Family Involvement in 27 School and Youth Programs* (2003) in the context of No Child Left Behind and the Workforce Investment Acts requiring family involvement in both school and youth programs. The report reviews evaluations of school and youth programs that describe family involvement in a variety of venues. www.aypf.org/pressreleases/pr22.htm

Harvard Family Research Project has produced two research briefs on evaluating family involvement in out-of-school time. *Engaging With Families in Out-of-School Time Learning* (2004) explores how out-of-school time programs are evaluating their engagement with families. *Beyond the Head Count: Evaluating Family Involvement in Out-of-School Time* (2002) provides evaluation strategies and practices for out-of-school time programs.

www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/afterschool/resources

The Institute for Responsive Education at Northeastern University published *Family Participation in After-School Study* (2003), which describes 21st Century Community Learning Centers programs and their strategies to encourage family involvement. www.responsiveeducation.org/pdf/afterschoolReportOne.pdf

Parent Leadership

The Center for Parent Leadership published *The Case for Parent Leadership* (2004), a report that shows why parent leadership is important. The report also documents parent leadership initiatives across the country and includes resources, tools, and checklists that schools can use to assess current parent engagement efforts. www.centerforparentleadership.org/publications.html

For information about family involvement in Alabama or to learn about the Alabama PIRC Academy for Parent Leadership and Engagement, contact the Alabama PIRC at 334-567-2252 or visit us online at www.alabamaparentcenter.com.

Taking a Closer Look: A Guide to Online Resources on Family Involvement was compiled by <u>Heather B. Weiss</u>, Kelly Faughnan, <u>Margaret Caspe</u>, Cassandra Wolos, M. Elena Lopez, and <u>Holly Kreider</u>, Family Involvement Network of Educators (FINE), Harvard Family Research Project (HFRP), September 2005.