

The Sooklal Family



The Sooklal family has been a part of the SCAP Head Start program since September 2011. Originally, they were from the Republic of Trinidad. When they first arrived in the U.S., they lived with family just until they could become established and afford to be on their own. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sooklal obtained their GED, but despite this, they had difficulties finding steady employment.

The Sooklal's heard about SCAP from family and friends; however, at first they felt that with the support of family members they could get by without SCAP's help. For Mr. Sooklal, family is paramount and it's important to him that his family values be instilled in his sons. His goal for his children always has been that they receive a good education.

Mr. Sooklal's wife eventually obtained a job working in the cafeteria at a local elementary school; it was there she heard about the SCAP's Head Start program. They were impressed by the reputation of the program and decided to apply.

One of the program values that made an impression on Mr. Sooklal is that SCAP's Head Start program is parent and family driven. He also feels that the social and educational benefits that the children receive are, in his own words, "remarkable." It gives him a sense of pride to participate with his son and the other children in the classroom activities. It makes him feel good to share his talents with other children.

His favorite classroom project was the "Bird Feeder" venture. Part of this lesson was for Mr. Sooklal and the children to make a bird feeder together that was placed outside the classroom window so that they could watch the birds feed. Mr. Sooklal commented on how impressed he was with how well the children were taught about birds and their habits. He smiles with pride every time the project is mentioned.

Mrs. Sooklal often praises the SCAP Head Start program. She is amazed at the opportunities provided to both parents and children. She said, "I feel this program has helped my son tremendously. He has learned how to get along with other children." With a smile, she continued, "I also feel that both my son and I are ready to face kindergarten. Head Start is a great program. . . I would recommend this program to everyone."

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