

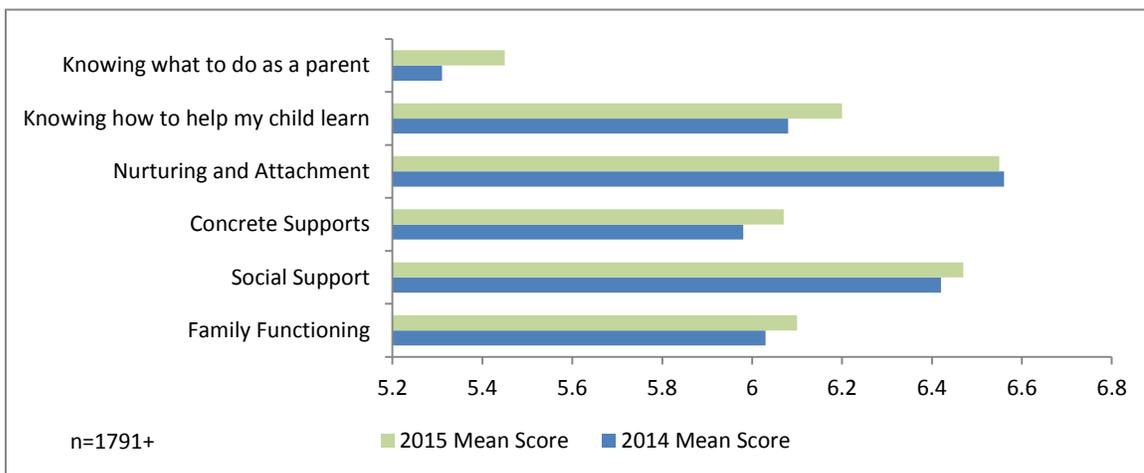


## Parents as Teachers Strengthens Families

Kansas Parents as Teachers (PAT) is highly adaptable to meet the needs of diverse families, cultures, and special populations. Among the many families served are low income parents, teen parents, parents experiencing substance abuse or domestic violence, foster parents, homeless families and military families. Unlike a preschool program where children attend several hours a week over a year, the PAT program provides services to all families on at least a monthly basis; providing more visits and services to families with more need. PAT is designed to work over time. Best results are achieved with families who remain in the program for 2 years or more

**Research shows that parenting education can be an important component in supporting and developing healthy relationships between children and their parents, setting the stage for strong families and children ready for success.**

Parents as Teachers equips families with the information and tools necessary to provide a healthy and safe home using an approach infused with five protective factors to strengthen families: parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete supports in times of needs and children's social and emotional development. **PAT data show that the program makes a difference.**



Parents as Teachers is available to less than 12% of the eligible children and families in Kansas.

In 2014-15, more than 27% of the Kansas PAT families were low income and 17% of the families had multiple risk factors including:

769 parents with less than a high school diploma or GED.

628 children with disabilities/chronic health condition

350 teen parents

321 families who are active duty military

253 families with substance abuse or domestic violence issues

228 families with mental health services

175 foster/adoptive families

165 transient or homeless families

143 very low birth weight babies

76 families involved with the corrections system



Kansas PAT is a valued partner with other parenting education and early childhood programs working together to promote easy access and high quality services to children and families in their communities.