I. Policy:

This policy outlines St. Joseph Academy’s (SJA) procedure for family advocacy in cooperation with Next Door (Child Care Partnership). Family advocacy at SJA engages and involves families of children enrolled in the Early Head Start program through activities, practices and services that support parents as the primary nurturers, experts and teachers of their children in order to promote and sustain their child’s learning development.

II. Procedures:

A. Family advocacy has a specific and intentional role in the following three areas of work with families:
   1. Activities/strategies that promote and enhance the parent-child relationship.
   2. Activities/strategies that engage parents in discussion about their child’s growth and development and provide parents information and opportunities to learn about concrete things they can do to promote their child’s learning.
   3. Activities/strategies that encourage parents involvement in their education of their child. This includes helping parents recognize and expect “quality education” and learn how to advocate for a quality education for their child.