

advocacy

training

leadership

collaboration

communication

professionalism

accountability

respect for  
diversity



*...a unified voice*



**Indiana  
Head Start  
Association**



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Head Start  
Association**

1845 W. 18th St.,  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
317-916-0810  
[www.indianaheadstart.org](http://www.indianaheadstart.org)

**2014 Annual Report**



## our mission:

The mission of the Indiana Head Start Association (IHSA) is to provide a unified voice that represents all paid members and agencies.

IHSA meets the needs of its members by providing advocacy, training and leadership development and promoting collaboration and communication.

IHSA is committed to fostering professionalism within the organization and accountability to members. IHSA promotes proactive leadership and respect for diversity.



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Region V Head Start Association, Advocacy Committee  
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We would like to recognize the following Head Start & Early Head Start programs that were 2013-2014 members.

Area IV  
Area Five  
Bauer Family Resources  
Bona Vista EHS  
CAECI  
CANI  
CAP of Western Indiana  
CAPE  
Cardinal Services, Inc.  
Carey Services EHS  
CARS  
CASI  
Community Care HS  
Community & Family Services  
Elkhart & St. Joseph Counties HS Consortium  
Family Development Services  
Fayette County HS  
Floyd County HS  
Fremont Schools HS  
Garrett-Keyser-Butler EHS/HS  
Geminus  
Hamilton Center EHS  
Hopewell EHS  
Hoosier Uplands EHS/HS  
Human Services, Inc.  
ICAP  
KIRPC  
Kokomo Center Schools  
Lake Ridge Schools  
Lincoln Hills Development Corporation  
Marion Schools HS  
Marshall-Starke Dev. Center  
OVO Head Start  
PACE  
Pathfinder Services, Inc. EHS  
SCCAP  
Schools City of Hammond  
SIEOC  
TMC  
TRC of Delaware and Madison Counties  
Tri-Cap  
Western Indiana CAA



## general information & overview

Head Start has existed since 1965 and Early Head Start began in 1995. Both have provided services to over 30 million children and families. The services provided are divided into three main categories:

- **Early Childhood Development and Health Services**
- **Family and Community Partnerships**
- **Program Design and Management.**

### **Early Childhood Development and Health Services**

All programs implement a research-based curriculum and assessment that are developmentally appropriate for the children's ages. In Head Start, the curriculum and assessment must align with the domains and domain elements identified in the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework. The Framework reflects Head Start's integrated, comprehensive approach to child development and learning. They must also be aligned with the state's Pre-K standards. The curriculum and assessment drive what happens in the classroom. Head Start and Early Head Start have a strong emphasis on school readiness. Children who have been in Head Start enter kindergarten ready to learn, both cognitively and socially.

Early Head Start and Head Start programs have a strong focus on health. Each child receives a developmental screening, a physical, dental and health screening and speech and language screening. The findings are followed up by evaluations and treatment. Parents are included throughout the process. Programs work with mental health professionals to provide classroom observations and individual intervention or treatment. Programs work with families in all areas of nutrition. Programs' enrollment must include at least 10% children with disabilities.

### **Family and Community Partnerships**

Head Start and Early Head Start know that it is critical to develop strong relationships with families. Family engagement outcomes that are positive result in children who are healthy and ready for school. All families are given the opportunity to develop and implement a tailored family partnership agreement.

There are a variety of ways for families to be involved throughout the program year:

- Parents can volunteer in the classrooms or kitchens, ride the children's buses or participate in field trips and other activities
- A Parent Committee must exist for each center or home-based group
- A Policy Council comprised of parents and community representatives acts as part of a system of shared governance for each grantee.

Beginning in 2011, the Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework, a research-based organizational guide, is being used by Head Start and Early Head Start to not only measure engagement but to achieve outcomes that lead to positive and enduring change for children and families.

Head Start and Early Head Start partner with hundreds of organizations and agencies in their communities, in order to provide all the comprehensive services from which the children and families will benefit.

## partnerships & programs

### **Power in Partnerships**

In order to meet the needs of families, Head Start and Early Head Start programs collaborate with many organizations in the community. The same can be said for the Indiana Head Start Association.

In order to meet the needs of programs, IHSA works closely with the Indiana Head Start State Collaboration Office and STGi, the State-based Training and Technical Assistance Office. IHSA has an annual contract to complete the Statewide Needs Assessment for the Collaboration office.

In September of 2013, Governor Pence appointed members to the Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC). Head Start is represented by the Collaboration Office and various individuals in Head Start and Early Head Start are members of the seven ELAC workgroups.

IHSA has worked with the IN Department of Education in various ways, including a current revision to the Foundations for Early Learning and ISTAR-KR, the statewide child assessment.

IHSA supports the work of the Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Time Learning. Programs are encouraged to become licensed and to participate in Paths To Quality, Indiana's Quality Improvement Rating System. IHSA is represented on the PTQ Marketing and Outreach committee. IHSA participates in the IN Professional Development Network.

IHSA has representation on the Board of the Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC) and members serve on various IAEYC committees. The IHSA Executive Director chairs the IAEYC Accreditation committee.

IHSA is a Core Partner of Sunny Start, the Early Childhood Comprehensive System developed 10 years ago by the Indiana Department of Health.

As Head Start continues to focus on issues of homeless families, IHSA is active in Building Brighter Futures. This year, IHSA co-hosted a summit and participates on the committee that will sponsor a conference next year.

Other partners include the Indiana Association for Child Care Resource and Referral, the Indiana Community Action Association, the Indiana Institute for Working Families and NCCRR's Initiative for Military Families.

IHSA has worked with various National Centers to present training on important topics to Head Start, Early Head Start and Child Care.

The Indiana Head Start Association is an affiliate of the National Head Start Association and a member of the Region V Head Start Association. IHSA also maintains a close working relationship with other state Head Start associations and is a member of the Executive Director Consortium.



### **IHSA Provides Services to Programs**

Part of the mission of IHSA is to provide advocacy, training and leadership development.

During the 2013 – 2014 program year, many opportunities were given to programs to network and learn. Fall and Summer Leadership Institutes highlighted many of the partners that work closely with HS/EHS. Leaders at the national level were brought in to keep programs informed. Training during the year included School Readiness for Early Head Start, School Readiness for Dual Language Learners and a day that focused on important health issues – asthma and autism. In November, the first IHSA conference for Home Visitors was held and almost 100% of the Home Visitors in the state attended.

IHSA hosts directors' meetings. It is a time for directors to come together to discuss issues that are important to them and to share with and support each other. They are also updated as to what is going on with the association.

The Indiana Head Start Association has been sponsoring cluster meetings for many years. Meetings are more centrally located, in the north, central or south. There is also a cluster specifically for Early Head Start programs.

Training may be provided at the program site, if requested. Program governance training has been provided. Several programs have had "Head Start 101", a refresher course for some and an introduction for new staff.

Communication and information are important to Head Start and Early Head Start programs. IHSA stays in contact with programs on a regular basis. IHSA maintains a website, [www.indianaheadstart.org](http://www.indianaheadstart.org), as well as the IHSA Facebook page.

In the area of advocacy, IHSA tries to keep programs informed as to what is happening at the state, region and national level. Issues that have been important this year are funding, Universal Pre-K, and Early Head Start/ Child Care Partnerships. Last year, programs were focused on the impact of sequestration. This year, they were focused on replacing services and slots that had been cut. Programs have been looking at the idea of a five-year grant, the possibility of conversion of slots and a new monitoring system.

To end on a high note, the Indiana Head Start Association is looking forward to celebrating in 2015, with the rest of the country, the golden anniversary of Head Start, the program that has been called the "Gold Standard of Early Childhood Education."





# facts & figures



## Some 2014 IHSA Facts:

- 18,461 children enrolled in Head Start/ Early Head Start during the program year
- The total amount of federal funding for Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Indiana was \$109,182,574.00
- Investment per child is \$7,367.00, 91% of the national average
- 789 classes in the state. 1,459 children in the home-based option
- 61% white, 22% Black, 17% Hispanic
- 41 HS/EHS grantees in the state
- Almost 17,765 HS/EHS parents volunteered
- 2,975 staff worked in HS/EHS programs
- 62% of HS teachers in center-based classrooms have a BA or higher in Early Childhood Education or a related field
- 96% of children had health insurance at the end of the year  
97% of children had a medical home at the end of the year  
92% of children had a dental home at the end of the year
- 81% of children needing dental treatment completed it by the end of the year
- 90% of children were up to date on immunizations by the end of the year

## Some National Head Start Facts:

- Began in 1965 with 561,000 children and a budget of \$96 million
- Has enrolled almost 30 million children in the past 49 years
- 903,679 children attended HS/EHS in 2013
- Funding for HS/EHS in 2013 was \$7,573,095,000.00

During 2014, the Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Indiana continued to provide high quality services to children and families.

The Indiana Head Start Association (IHSA) held strong to its mission and provided services and support to the programs in our state. Almost 100% of the Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Indiana are members of IHSA. One of the most important roles the association plays is to foster and support communication between programs, and with other entities.

### Some highlights of 2014 are:

- The development of a position statement on the role of Head Start and Early Head Start in the system of early learning in Indiana.
- The opportunity to work with the Indiana Head Start State Collaboration Office (INHSSCO), the Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning, and Child Care Resource and Referral to inform and educate programs as they decided whether or not to apply for Early Head Start / Child Care Partnership grants.
- A continuing strong partnership between IHSA, INHSSCO and the State-based T/TA Office that has resulted in numerous training opportunities for Head Start, Early Head Start and Child Care providers. Several of the sessions were presented in conjunction with some of the National Centers.

As we move forward, we'll focus on these goals, among others:

- Complete the IHSA Strategic Plan.
- Develop training and professional development plans that are responsive to the membership.
- Maintain a strong focus on issues of early childhood education at the national, state and local level.
- Increase awareness of Head Start and Early Head Start.
- Continue to be the voice of Head Start and Early Head Start in Indiana.

We want to recognize The Indiana Head Start State Collaboration Office and Beckie Minglin, Director, for support.

*from the  
executive  
director*

Cheryl Miller,  
Executive Director

