



# IHSA Advisor:

## Reflections & Connections

September 2016

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Updates from IHSA Executive Director, Lauri Morrison-Frichtl

Happy Fall to All!

Fall brings many changes and with those changes come the implementation of the new Performance Standards and the new Overtime Rule (FLSA). November 7th is a key date for implementation of the new Performance Standards. On December 1st the new overtime rules are law. I've been in DC this week and had a chance to listen to the Office of Head Start, HHS, current Administration (Office of Management and Budget and the White House), Illinois Congressional Members and the National Head Start Association. Here are some key take a ways.



ACF - Linda Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Development

- Linda Smith shared that the Performance Standards are now "understandable, clear about what we are trying to do and a beacon for the rest of the early learning field". Also, indicating that the child care regulations and the Head Start Performance Standards are more closely aligned to support better system building in states and provide continuity between the two systems. Examples she provided was around health and safety and criminal background checks.
- She urged us to stop thinking we are "competing" or it's a competition, but to think differently and welcome change. "Leadership does require change". The long term overall federal strategy is to have states serve four year olds and we (the Head Start community) need to move to serve the younger children.
- Learning from the EHS/CC Partnerships, especially as it relates to the true cost of doing it right. She indicated that getting the public to understand the true cost (\$15,000-18,000 for infant/toddler care) is critical.
- Related to facilities she indicated that there is a report on the OHS website on Head Start facilities. One third of our facilities were built before 1970. The report says there is a need for 700 new facilities and an estimated building infrastructure cost of about 3.8 billion.
- Commissioning the Academy of Sciences to study public financing of early childhood.
- We will see reauthorization in the next Congress and Head Start is in a strong place.

### [CONTINUE READING](#)

## IHSA is Proud to Announce Donna Emmons as the new Associate Head Start State Collaboration Director



Hello Head Start family! I am thrilled to be working again with you as your new IHSA Associate Collaboration Director. For those of you who haven't met me yet, I have a long history with Head Start. I worked with a center based Head Start program as Disabilities Coordinator in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and as a Parent Involvement/Disabilities Coordinator in a home-based Head Start program in North Carolina. I then moved to Illinois and worked as a Parent Involvement/Social Services Coordinator at Wabash Area Development, Inc. (WADI) HS/ EHS in southern Illinois for five years, taught

preschool in Harrisburg for a couple of years, and then returned to WADI as HS/EHS director for 25 years! The last 4 years I worked at the Illinois State Board of Education in the Early Childhood division with Preschool for All and Prevention Initiative grants. Now I am back to my first love—Head Start!

As your Associate Collaboration Director, I hope to assist Lauri and all of you in keeping the Illinois Head Start community visible and communicating with our early childhood partners in Illinois. I firmly believe in Head Start's core values of working alongside families while providing a solid foundation for our nation's youngest and most vulnerable children.

Please feel free to email me or call me with your questions or concerns or just to say Hello!

demmons@ilheadstart.org. 217-691-9495

Clear Skies,  
Donna

### Statement on New Head Start Program Performance Standards by Yasmina Vinci



September 1, 2016

"The Head Start community is pleased that the clear and central tenet of these new Performance Standards is the reducing of bureaucracy and streamlining of efficiency - two components essential to the effective delivery of Head Start's high-quality, early learning program model. We are particularly pleased that parent and family engagement remains essential to Head Start's two-generation approach. Upon initial review, these new Standards respond to the community's unified voice urging for increased flexibility - including flexibility on critical items such as duration extension - to allow for the local program design that enables Head Start to address the unique needs of the diverse communities we serve."

### Introducing the New Head Start Program Performance Standards

The Head Start Program Performance Standards are the foundation for Head Start's mission to deliver comprehensive, high-quality individualized services to support the school readiness of children from low-income families. The new Standards announced on September 1, 2016 are the first comprehensive revision of the Head Start Program Performance Standards since they were originally published in 1975. The updates reflect best practices and latest research on early childhood development and brain science.

[STANDARDS IN PDF](#)

### It's Time for a Paradigm Shift in Head Start

By Yvette Sanchez Fuentes, assistant director for policy, Ascend at the Aspen Institute

Last week the Office of Head Start released the much anticipated revision of the Head Start Program Performance Standards (standards). This is the first comprehensive revision of the standards since they were first released in 1975.

These standards are more than a decade in the making since the bipartisan passing of the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007. These revised standards represent an opportunity for a paradigm shift in how Head Start services are designed and implemented for the most vulnerable children and families in this country.

In his opening remarks in announcing Head Start, President Lyndon Johnson stated that the program is intended to be "more of neighborhood program than a federal program". From my perspective and experience, the point of Head Start 50 years ago and today was for communities to determine the best way to serve its most vulnerable children and their families in order to move them out of poverty. Head Start was never supposed "to do it all". Yes, grantees are responsible for ensuring that children and their families have access to comprehensive services, but the goal was to do it in a way that built on the resources and strengths of existing community organizations and services and helped families to build their social capital so that long after they graduated from Head Start they would become their own best advocates. Head Start grantees know that when you have resilient families - you have strong vibrant communities.

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE AND EXPERIENCE, THE POINT OF HEAD START 50 YEARS AGO AND TODAY WAS FOR COMMUNITIES TO DETERMINE THE BEST WAY TO SERVE ITS MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES IN ORDER TO MOVE THEM OUT OF POVERTY.

[READ ENTIRE ARTICLE HERE](#)

## Head Start Gets Sweeping Overhaul

By Lauren Camera | Education Reporter  
Sept. 1, 2016

The Obama administration released a sweeping overhaul to the federal Head Start program Thursday, significantly reducing duplicative and burdensome requirements while also expanding the program to a full day and school year and increasing services for children with disabilities and those who don't speak English.

"Today we're unveiling some of the most significant improvements we've ever made to Head Start," said Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell, who herself attended the early childhood education program as a child in West Virginia.

"The new standards strengthen educational practices and are based on the best research about how children learn and develop."

Head Start, the early learning program targeted toward low-income families that enrolls more than 1 million children every year, has served more than 33 million children since its inception in 1965. The new standards are the largest revision of the program since 1975, HHS officials said.

[SEE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

## Early education program Head Start benefits young students, campus researchers find

September 8, 2016  
BY ANDERSON LANHAM via The Daily Californian

# WHAT DOES HEAD START DO?

Comparing among an otherwise equal group of children, a child's enrollment in a Head Start preschool leads to:



**INCREASED PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

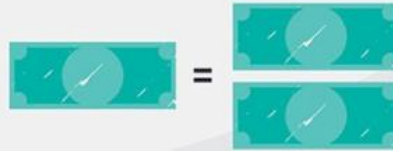


**20 PERCENT INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF TIME PARENTS SPEND READING TO THEIR KIDS**



**ABSENT PARENTS SPENDING ONE MORE DAY A MONTH WITH THEIR CHILDREN**

Researchers found that the Head Start program pays for itself. Every one dollar invested in the program generates two dollars in income for the child later in life.



Children enrolled in Head Start can expect to gain

**\$5,513**

more than they would otherwise.

Source: [rls.berkeley.edu](http://rls.berkeley.edu)

Dani Sundell/Daily Cal Senior Staff

A policy brief recently published by the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment found children enrolled in Head Start benefit academically both in the short term and, to a lesser extent, the long term, refuting earlier research that showed the program to have marginal impact and limited scope.

Head Start is a federal program intended to provide early education to disadvantaged children before they enter kindergarten. The policy brief consisted of several studies - conducted in part by faculty in UC Berkeley's economics department and Goldman School of Public Policy - and found that though there is a small average benefit to enrolling children in Head Start, the effects vary widely among different children and different centers.

One study by Patrick Kline and Christopher Walters, both assistant professors in the economics department, showed that Head Start increases the future earnings of its students. The conclusion came after Kline and Walters reviewed other studies of similar programs finding a correlation between test scores and future income, and applied that relationship to predict income for Head Start students.

[SEE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

## Obama Administration Investments in Early Learning Have Led to Thousands More Children Enrolled in High-Quality Preschool

SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

Hundreds of thousands more children across the country have access to high-quality early learning programs today, compared to the beginning of the Obama Administration.

In 2013, President Obama put forth his bold Preschool for All proposal to establish a federal-state partnership that would provide high-quality preschool for all 4-year-olds from low- and moderate-income families. After the President's call, many states took action and today, all but four states offer preschool to young children. Overall, in the 2015-16 budget year, states increased their investments in preschool programs by nearly \$767 million or 12 percent over the 2014-15 fiscal year. And, from 2009 to 2015, states enrolled 48,000 more 4-year-olds enrollment in state preschool.

The Obama Administration has increased investments by over \$6 billion in early childhood programs from FY 2009 to FY 2016, including high-quality preschool,

Head Start, child care subsidies, evidence-based home visiting, and programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

"A high-quality early education provides the foundation that every child needs to start kindergarten prepared for success," said U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr. "Because of historic investments from the Obama Administration, states and cities, more children-particularly those who have been historically underserved-now have access to high-quality early learning. But we can't stop there. We must continue our collective work to ensure that all children-regardless of socioeconomic status, race, background, language spoken at home, disability or zip code-have access to the opportunities that prepare them to thrive in school and beyond."

[SEE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

### Higher Standards for Head Start

The new Head Start standards - which emphasize using data to improve performance - will be worth the costs.

August 12, 2016

By Sara Mead via U.S. News

Earlier this month the Administration for Children and Families released final changes to the Head Start Performance Standards, the rules that govern the operation of Head Start programs. Because Head Start programs serve more than 1 million children, these new regulations could have big impacts on early childhood programs across the country.

The most dramatic change is an increase in the minimum number of hours that children spend in Head Start programs: Currently, Head Start programs must serve preschoolers for at least 3.5 hours a day and 128 days a year. Starting in 2019, however, at least half of Head Start preschoolers must be enrolled in programs that offer at least 1,020 hours of instruction a year - more than double the current minimum. By 2021, all Head Start preschoolers must be enrolled in longer programs. The regulations give programs some flexibility to adjust their schedules to match local public schools or offer shorter programs if they better meet the needs of children and families, but overall, the new rules should significantly increase the amount of time children spend in Head Start.

The new rule also requires changes in numerous other areas of Head Start's education, family services and operations, including changes to curriculum, teacher professional development and services for dual language learner students.

[SEE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

### Analysis: Hillary Clinton Is Right About Head Start

*September 27, 2016*

BY MATT BARNUM via The 74

es Head Start, the federally funded early childhood education program, get an unfair rap?

To conservatives, it's a classic example of big government gone awry, continuously expanding without regard for evidence of failure. The Heritage Foundation says flatly: "Head Start Doesn't Work."

Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, by contrast, has vowed to double investment in the program, saying it gives children "a strong foundation to learn."

So who's right?

At first glance, Head Start skeptics seem to have a point:

Federal research studies using high-quality, randomized research techniques found small benefits that disappeared by the time a student finished kindergarten or first grade.

But a new research brief by Claire Montialoux of Berkeley's Institute for Research on Labor and Employment summarizes a number of other studies showing that Head Start may actually be cost-effective and that the federal research understates the benefits of the program.

[SEE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

## HSPPS AND PROGRAM GOVERNANCE

September 28, 2016

By Alexandra R. Rosenblatt & Edward T. Waters & Nicole M. Bacon

In the Office of Head Start's (OHS) recent Showcase video on Program Governance, OHS noted that Program Governance is the first subpart of the HSPPS and that this should "send[] a message." OHS also commented that "if the governance structure is not solid then a program is at risk." If that doesn't make you sit up and take note, how about this report to Congress noting that for FY 2014, failing to report to the governing body and policy council was the number one noncompliance finding, showing up on the reviews of nearly a quarter of grantees nationwide?

The new HSPPS provide the perfect opportunity to review your program's policies and procedures to make sure they follow the Program Governance regulations and implement best practices. As you embark on your review, ask yourself these questions:

1. Does our program get data in front of the governing body and policy council?  
The HSPPS require programs to use data to continuously improve outcomes. The governing body and policy council share this responsibility. Programs should have a procedure in place to ensure that data from their continuing assessments are effectively communicated to the governing body and policy council. The governing body and policy council, for their part, should be seriously considering the data and using it to make informed decisions. Ideally, the minutes for governing body and policy council meetings will clearly show this process.

[SEE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

## #HeadStartStrong: Head Start Kids Grown Up, Strong and Successful

September 29, 2016

By: Judy Sarasohn

Summary:

In recognition of the first comprehensive revision of Head Start performance standards since 1975, these Head Start graduates agreed to share their stories.

## NEW PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- ✓ IMPROVE IMPACT ON CHILDREN'S LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ EXTEND CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION TO A FULL SCHOOL DAY AND A FULL SCHOOL YEAR
- ✓ BUILD TEACHER SKILLS
- ✓ FOCUS ON OUTCOMES RATHER THAN OVERLY PRESCRIPTIVE RULES
- ✓ PRODUCE HIGHER RETURNS ON TAXPAYER INVESTMENT



#HEADSTART

#HEADSTARTSTRONG

What does Xyus, the 17-month-old son of a Northern Virginian single mom, have in common with Darren Walker, president of the Ford Foundation? Bonnie St. John, a Paralympic skier? Or award-winning correspondent Steve Osunsami?

They're all Head Start kids.

While Xyus hasn't made his mark on the world yet, he is participating in the nation's preeminent public early childhood education initiative at a special time. The Department of Health and Human Services recently announced new standards to improve and strengthen Head Start, based on the best research and on what HHS has learned over the 51 years of the program's existence.

These new standards will help ensure that Xyus and every Head Start kid can access high-quality, comprehensive early education, making sure the American Dream is within their reach.

In recognition of this first comprehensive revision of Head Start performance standards since 1975, Darren Walker, Bonnie St. John, Steve Osunsami and other Head Start graduates agreed to share their stories:

Darren Walker, named this year to Time magazine's annual list of the 100 Most Influential People in the World, led the philanthropy committee that helped resolve the city of Detroit's historic bankruptcy and managed the initiative to rebuild New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

"I was raised by a single mother and I and my sister lived in the early 1960s in a small town in East Texas called Ames. ... The scene is a little dirt road with a modest, shotgun shack, and a woman approached my mother and me on the porch and told my mother about a new, government program called Head Start.

[SEE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

Check This Out!

Illinois Head Start Association is now offering  
**YOU.....ONLINE Illinois Approved FOOD  
HANDLER TRAINING and FOOD SAFETY  
MANAGER CERTIFICATION TRAINING at**



**SPECIAL PRICING** only for Illinois Head Start members!

**CHECK THIS OUT!!!**

Food Safety Manager Certification Training:

This Enhanced e-Learning course has been accepted for Professional Food Managers Certification training by most of the nation's regulatory agencies.

[Learn more here](#)

Food Handler Training

The State of Illinois requires an ANSI-accredited food handler card. The TAP Series Food Handler card is from an ANSI-accredited program, carries the ANSI logo, and is accepted by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

[Learn more here](#)

**Upcoming Training and Events**



**OCTOBER**

- October 3: Central Education QEC / Springfield**
- October 4: Central Family Services QEC / Springfield**
- October 5: Disability and Mental Health QEC / Springfield**
- October 6: Meet the New Performance Standards / Springfield**
- October 7: Health and Nutrition QEC / Springfield**
- October 13: Directors Fall Meeting / Springfield**
- October 14: Meet the New Performance Standards / Chicago**
- October 18: Central EHS QEC / Springfield**
- October 18: Chicago Education QEC / Chicago**
- October 19: Chicago Family Services QEC / Chicago**
- October 20: Chicago Disability & Mental Health / Chicago**
- October 21: Delegate Directors Networking Meeting / Chicago**
- October 24: Chicago Health & Nutrition QEC / Chicago**

**South Education QEC / Mt. Vernon**

**October 25: South Family Services QEC / Mt. Vernon**

**North Education QEC / Dekalb**

**October 26: South Disability & Mental Health QEC / Mt. Vernon**

**North Family Services QEC / DeKalb**

**October 27: South Health & Nutrition QEC / Mt. Vernon**

**North Disability & Mental Health QEC / DeKalb**

**October 28: Chicago EHS QEC / Chicago**

**South EHS QEC / Mt. Vernon**

**NOVEMBER:**

**November 1: ERSEA / Joliet**

**November 2: North Health & Nutrition QEC / DeKalb**

**Chicago Health & Nutrition QEC / Chicago**

**November 3: North EHS QEC / DeKalb**

**Chicago EHS QEC / DeKalb**

**November 4: WEBINAR: TS Gold User Group Meeting**

**November 10: WEBINAR-Gateways To Opportunity / Registry**

**November 18: Transportation, Facilities and Safety / Springfield**

**November 29 & 30: Getting the Most from Your Staff / Springfield**

**2016 - 2017 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
TRAINING PLAN**

**DATES-AT-A-GLANCE**



**IHSA Annual Conference and Parent Institute**

**February 1 - 3, 2017**

**Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Normal Illinois**

**Current Job Openings**

**JOB OPENINGS**

**NEW POSITIONS**

[Gillespie, IL - IVEDC - Head Start/Early Head Start Education Coordinator](#)

**OPEN POSITIONS FROM PREVIOUS MONTH**

[Chicago, IL - Educare - EHS Assistant Teacher](#)

[Chicago, IL - Educare - Teacher](#)

[Kankakee, IL - CCR&R - Education Manager](#)

[Kankakee, IL - CCR&R - Early Head Start ERSEA/Data Base Manager](#)

[Kankakee, IL - CCR&R - Family Support Specialist Lead](#)

Meet the IHSA Board of Directors!



## **\$2 Per Child Campaign** Head Start Works in Illinois!

**The IL Head Start Association & the National Head Start Association support IL Head Start programs and their work by advocating on the state and national level. We need local agencies to support advocacy efforts through a local level \$2 Per Child Campaign. \$1 will be sent to NHSA and \$1 will stay in Illinois for the local association's work.**

### **YOUR ILLINOIS \$\$ @ WORK!**

- \* Advocacy Visits to State & Federal Legislators
- \* Parent Ambassador Support
- \* Ensuring Head Start has a voice in state level discussions about issues that affect us.

#### **Local Campaign Ideas for HS Parents, Alumni & Volunteers**

Spare Change Drive  
Silent Auction  
Bake Sale  
Raffles of Donated Items  
Car Wash  
Decorate Your Classroom Door Contest (\$1 per vote)  
Pie in the Face (pay per vote to see your favorite manager take a pie)  
Chili Cook Off Contest (pay to taste & vote)  
Pay to PJ (staff pay to wear pjs to work)

# Grand Opening

of our new website!

*DON'T FORGET TO CHECK IT OUT!*

## HEAD START...

PREPARED ME FOR SCHOOL AND FOR LIFE  
HELPED ME LEARN MY ABC'S  
PROVIDED A SAFE ENVIRONMENT  
SHOWED ME HOW TO BRUSH MY TEETH  
MADE ME A BETTER PARENT  
HELPED ME GET MY GED  
GAVE MY FAMILY STABILITY  
TAUGHT ME ENGLISH  
GOT ME TO THE DOCTOR  
HELPED ME GET A JOB  
FED ME HEALTHY MEALS  
HELPED ME FIND A HOME  
GAVE ME HOPE

HEAD  
START  
WORKS



October is . . .

**Head Start Awareness Month**

[www.NationalDayCalendar.com](http://www.NationalDayCalendar.com)

October is Head Start Awareness Month! Celebrate the wonderful work you do for our most vulnerable children & families!!



Illinois Head Start Association  
<http://www.ilheadstart.org>  
3435 Liberty Drive  
Springfield, IL 62704



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