

Montana State Legislature

2011 Session

Exhibit 3

This exhibit is a booklet which can not be scanned, therefore only the front cover/table of content and 10 pages have been scanned to aid in your research.

The original exhibits are on file at the Montana Historical Society and may be viewed there.

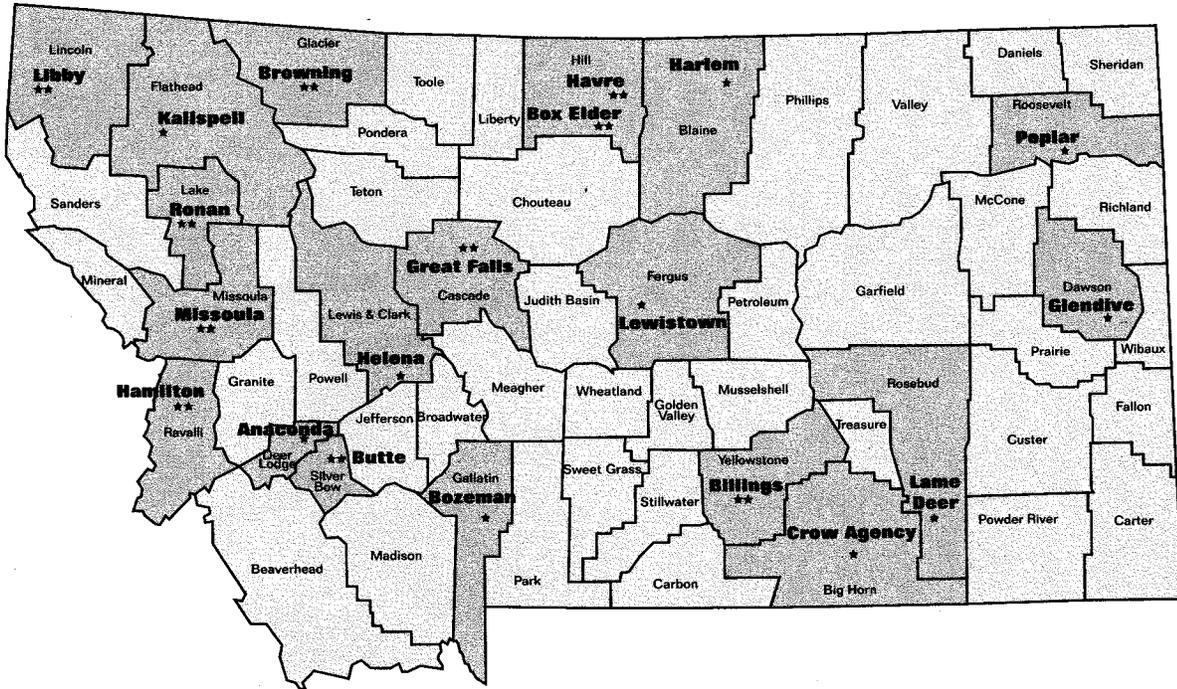
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Society Archives
225 N. Roberts
Helena MT 59620-1201
2011 Legislative Scanner Susie Hamilton**



2011 Montana Head Start/Early Head Start Report



Montana Head Start / Early Head Start Locations



Anaconda

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
Head Start

Billings

Head Start, Inc.
Young Families Early Head Start

Box Elder

Rocky Boy Head Start and Early Head Start

Bozeman

HRDC District IX Head Start

Browning

Blackfeet Early Childhood Services/
Head Start and Early Head Start

Butte

Butte Head Start
Aware Inc., Early Head Start

Crow Agency

Crow Agency Head Start

Glendive

Action for Eastern Montana Head Start

Great Falls

Opportunities, Inc. Head Start and Early Head Start

Hamilton

Ravalli County Head Start and Early Head Start

Harlem

Fort Belknap Head Start

Havre

Northern Montana Early Childhood Services/
Head Start and Early Head Start

Helena

Rocky Mountain Development Council Head Start

Kalispell

Northwest Montana Head Start

Lame Deer

Northern Cheyenne Head Start

Lewistown

Central Montana Head Start

Libby

Kootenai Valley Head Start
Families in Partnerships Early Head Start

Missoula

Child Start, Inc. Head Start
Missoula Early Head Start

Poplar

Fort Peck Head Start

Ronan

Flathead Early Childhood Services
Head Start and Early Head Start

WHAT ARE HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START?

Head Start focuses on 3 to 5 year old children and their families. Early Head Start focuses on pregnant women, children birth to age 3, and their families.

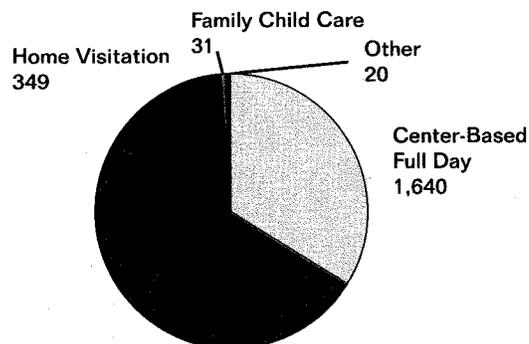
Head Start and Early Head Start (HS/EHS) are comprehensive programs offering educational services for children and parents including:

- Health
- Developmental screenings
- Social services
- Oral health
- Mental health
- Disability services
- Nutrition
- Transportation
- Job skills
- Social skills
- Parenting
- Family events
- Parent leadership
- Staff development
- Community partnerships

The Office of Head Start of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) oversees 12 regions of the United States. Each region is arranged in groupings of states. Montana is part of Region VIII and Region XI, which includes all tribal programs.

In Montana, there are 13 ACF Region VIII Head Start programs and 7 ACF Region VIII Early Head Start Programs. There are 7 ACF Region XI Tribal Head Start Programs and

Head Start Enrollment by Program Option



3 ACF Region XI Tribal Early Head Start Programs. These programs are funded to serve 4,606 children.

The Federal Office of Head Start provides grants to local public and private nonprofit agencies to provide comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families, with a special focus on helping young children develop the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

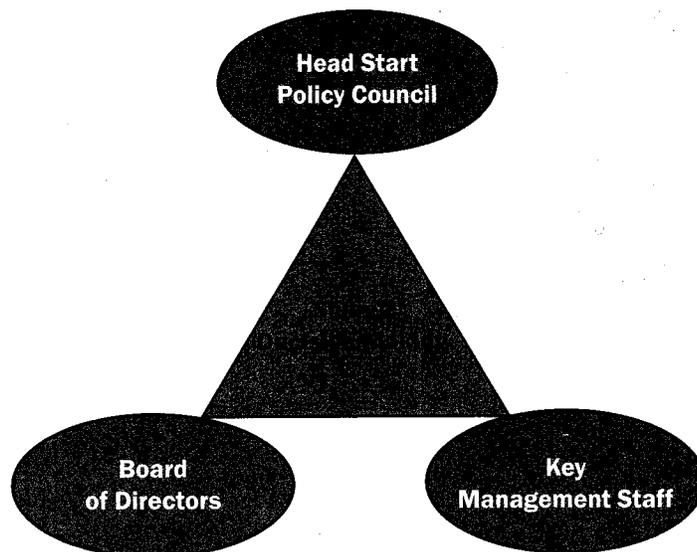
Policy Council

Every Head Start and Early Head Start has a Policy Council. Head Start and Early Head Start programs are administered locally through nonprofit organizations, local governments, or local school districts.

The Policy Council is a decision-making group that is part of a shared governance structure that is mandated by Federal Head Start regulations.

51 percent of its membership is comprised of parents of currently enrolled Head Start children.

Community members and collaborative partners are also involved to address the specific needs and concerns of the communities served by HS/EHS.

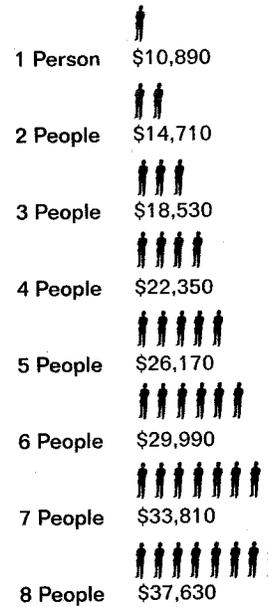


WHO BENEFITS FROM HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START?

Low-Income Children and Families

The first priorities for enrollment in HS/EHS are families living in poverty. Children are eligible for Head Start if their family is at or below the federally-established poverty line, the family receives public assistance (TANF cash assistance or SSI), the child is in foster care, or the child is homeless as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001. Families with incomes above the federal poverty guidelines may be eligible for HS/EHS services based on additional criteria such as a developmental disabilities, professional referrals, or family crisis situations. Individual programs determine the eligibility requirements, with the input of their Policy Council and board of directors, to determine how children are selected for enrollment in HS/EHS programs.

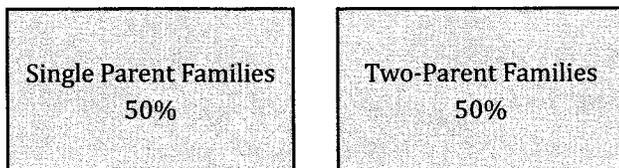
Federal Poverty Eligibility, Family Size and Eligibility



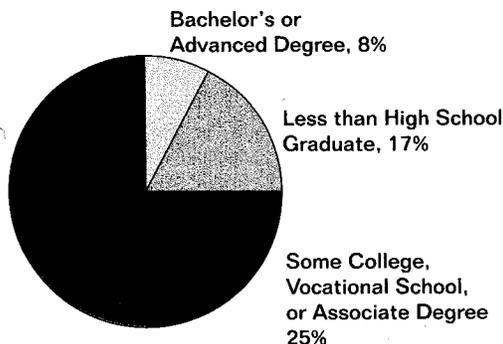
Source: Federal Register, Vol. 76, No. 13, January 20, 2011, pp. 3637-3638

Who are Montana's Head Start and Early Head Start Families?

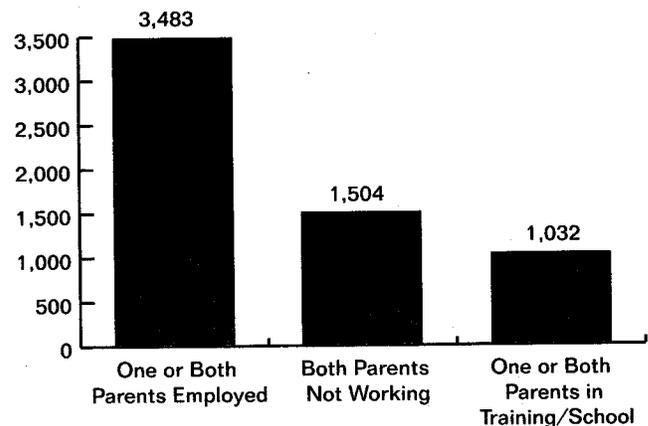
Composition of Head Start Families



Education Level of Head Start Parents



Employment Status of Head Start Parents



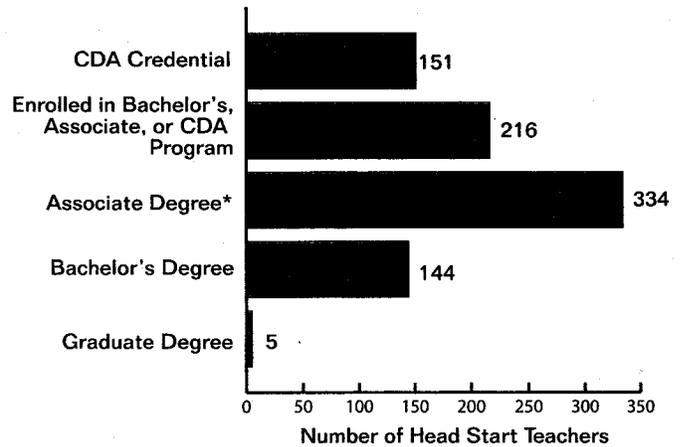
Head Start and Early Head Start Staff

Head Start and Early Head Start programs contribute to Montana's economy by employing nearly 1,400 people, some of which are current or former HS/EHS parents (10 percent). The programs are committed to supporting parents as they work toward achieving their education and employment goals.

Head Start and Early Head Start regulations mandate that classroom teachers have formal training in early childhood education. Currently, HS/EHS programs are working towards meeting a national standard that 50 percent of all classroom teachers have a baccalaureate degree in early childhood education by 2013 or a Baccalaureate or advanced degree and coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education, with experience teaching young children. Teachers create professional development plans with their peers and supervisors. Many partnerships have developed with the college and university systems in Montana to meet these educational needs.

Who Works for Head Start and Early Head Start?

Education Level of Head Start Teachers



* Includes Child Development Associate

144 parents are employed by Head Start.

Head Start Teacher Salary Comparisons

Classroom Teacher Average Salary (all education levels)	\$20,466
Number of Teachers	351
Preschool Teacher Salary, all Montana	\$22,260
Assistant Teacher Average Salary	\$12,009
Number of Assistant Teachers	289
Assistant Teacher Salary, all Montana	\$19,360

WHAT ARE THE CHILD OUTCOMES?

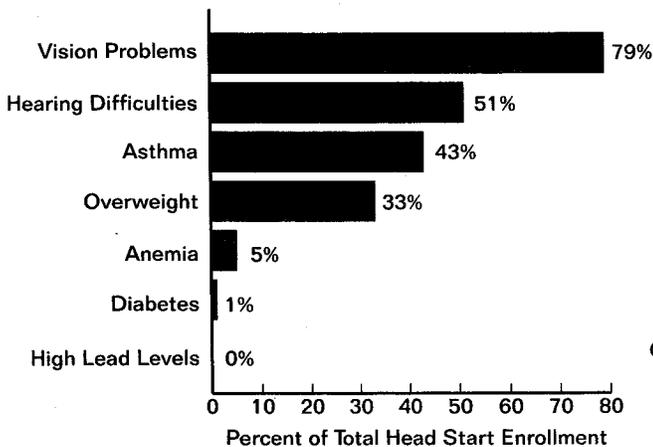


Head Start and Early Head Start focuses on preparing children for future learning and life. Head Start/Early Head Start programs utilize comprehensive, developmentally appropriate, research-based curricula. These are aligned to address domain areas to ensure children's preparedness for school and long-term success. Some program areas include:

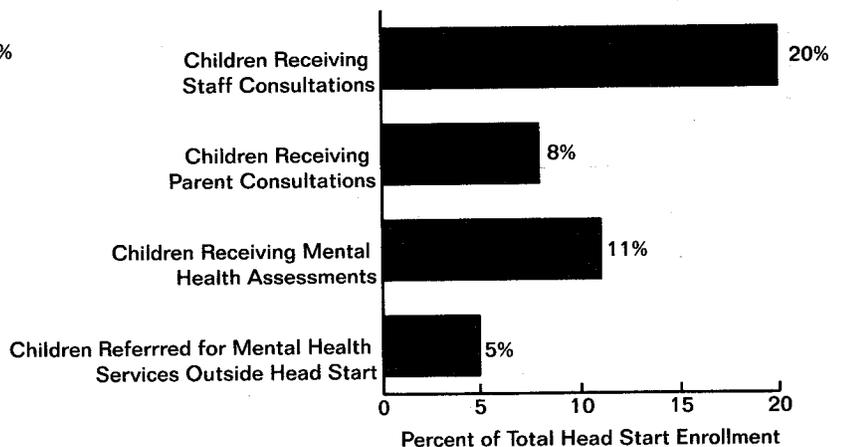
- Physical Development and Health
- Social and Emotional Development
- Language Development
- Literacy Knowledge and Skills
- Mathematics and Science
- Logic and Reasoning
- Creative Arts Expression
- English Language Development

Parent input is essential to the HS/EHS curricula as parents provide staff with important information on the growth and progress of their child throughout the program. Individual assessments are frequently completed to determine if children are in typical early childhood development ranges, and modifications are made if children need further assistance or support.

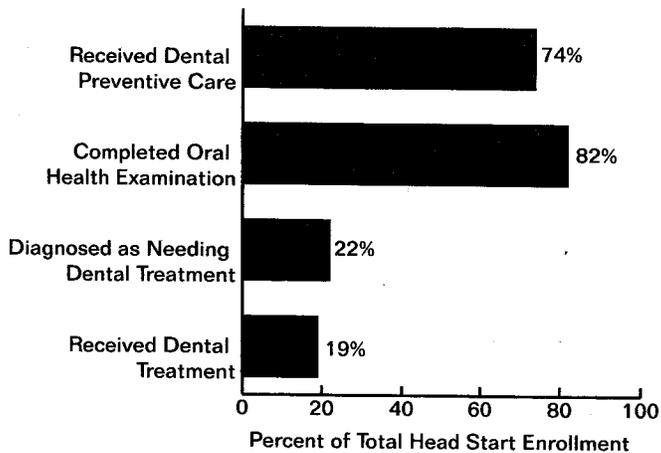
Head Start Children Receiving Treatment for Health Conditions



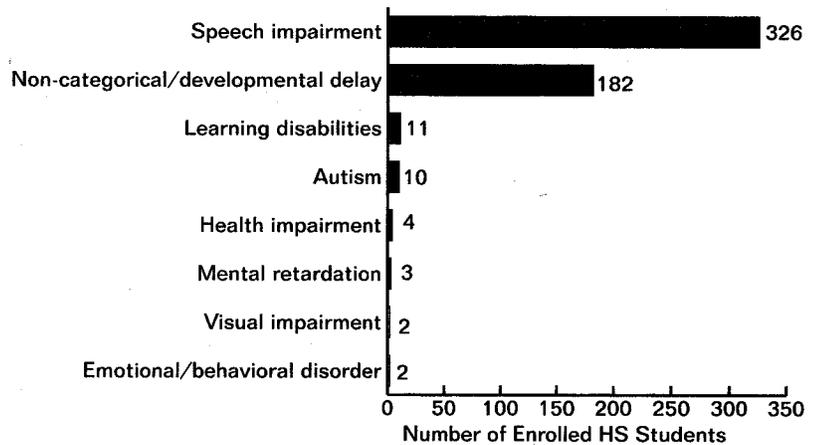
Head Start Children Receiving Mental Health Services



Head Start Children Receiving Dental Services



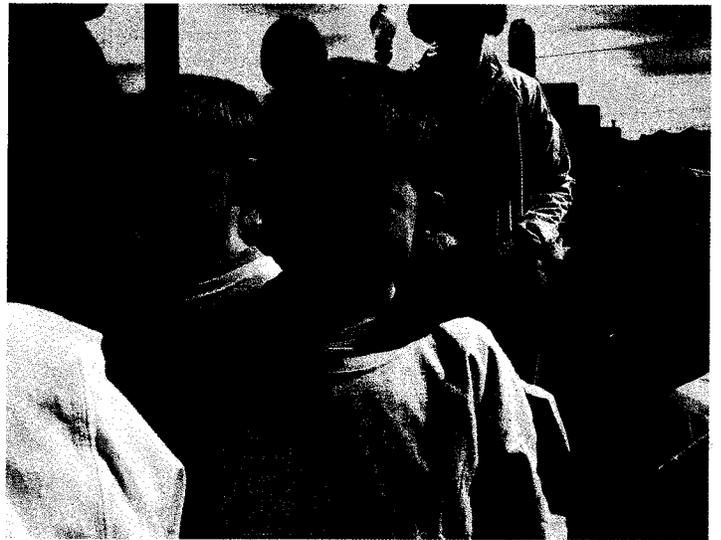
Head Start Children with Diagnosed Disabilities



Health Outcomes

Many HS/EHS children are receiving services they would not otherwise get, including dental screenings, mental health assessments and consistent, healthy meals. Many children entering into HS/EHS have significant dental health needs, perhaps because of the considerable shortages in the numbers of Montana dentists who accept Medicaid.

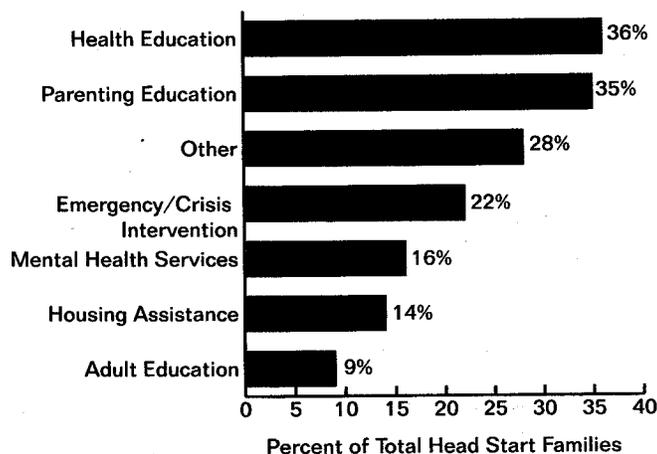
The Administration for Children and Families requires Head Start children have a dental exam on an annual basis. Program staff work with community oral health professionals to access dental care for children. In addition, they diligently work to ensure that children have health insurance, such as Healthy Montana Kids (HMK). Head Start staff coordinates with local organizations to garner funding for dental services that might otherwise be unavailable or unattainable.



Children with Special Needs

Head Start and Early Head Start programs must ensure that children with diagnosed disabilities have access to needed services. The federal standards require a minimum of 10 percent of the total enrollment be children with special needs. In 2009-2010, 651 of the children in Head Start and Early Head Start had special needs and specially designed Individual Education Plans (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSP) for children under the age of three. Head Start and Early Head Start programs work with the parents and special education staff to devise these plans to meet the specific needs of the children and support their development.

Services Provided to Head Start Families



A key element to the comprehensive nature of HS/EHS is the Family Partnership Agreement. Family and Community Partnership Staff work with parents to help them recognize their strengths and develop short- and long-range goals for family success. Ensuring that fathers have opportunities to participate in their child's HS/EHS experience is a primary focus.

Head Start and Early Head Start programs provide support services to families and assure connections to appropriate community referrals. Parent involvement is an important component of HS/EHS curriculum. Parents volunteer in classrooms, participate in decision making at both the center and program level, and have a strong influence over policies and procedures implemented by the HS/EHS program.

Parental involvement is a major component in the assessment and individualization process for all HS/EHS children. Parents are encouraged to remain actively engaged and advocate for their children throughout their development in HS/EHS and transition to other early childhood programs.

Every \$100 in federal funds received by an EHS or HS program must be matched by \$25 in local non-federal resources.

WHAT ARE THE COMMUNITY OUTCOMES?

Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Montana are supported in their success by community partners. Every HS/EHS program in Montana has a number of significant and effective partnerships within each community where services are provided.

Most Head Start programs have formal collaboration agreements with Early Head Start and local public schools, as well as with other community partners. These relationships align Head Start parents with kindergarten registration, and work to promote effective services for children with disabilities. Collaborative partnerships also work with higher education facilities to offer professional development classes that many HS/EHS staff utilize to advance their education.

Matching Dollars

Head Start programs offer economic incentives for the communities they serve. Each Head Start program is required to locally match a percentage of its federal operating dollars. Much of a program's match is met by its community partnerships; however, the match can also be in the form of donated space, classroom materials and supplies, time spent in classrooms, or assistance in other parts of the program.

THE MONTANA HEAD START ASSOCIATION

The Montana Head Start Association (MTHSA) is a statewide organization composed of representatives from Montana's Head Start, Early Head Start and Tribal Head Start and Early Head Start programs. The Association provides a voice for HS/EHS programs regarding advocacy, legislative and policy issues, and funding. The Association engages parents, staff, graduates of HS/EHS, and friends to speak on behalf of the programs and their services.

The MTHSA assists local HS/EHS programs with training and technical assistance throughout the state

and collaboratively works with other early childhood organizations such as the Montana Child Care Resource and Referral Network (CCR&R), the Montana Association for the Education of Young Children (MtAEYC), the Montana Child Care Association (MCCA), and the Early Childhood Services Bureau (ECSB). The Montana Head Start Association also works with other state Head Start associations and is connected to the Region VIII Head Start Association and the National Head Start Association working on common training and advocacy projects.

Mission

The Montana Head Start Association brings together families, staff, directors and friends of all Montana Head Start and Early Head Start programs through leadership, education, information, and advocacy on behalf of young children, pregnant women and families in Montana.

Vision

In partnership with the people of Montana, the Montana Head Start Association commits to participate with and influence the planning and implementation of services that will forever enrich the lives of children, families, and the communities in which they live.

Goals

- Organizational Development
- Membership Development
- Professional Development and Lifelong Learning
- Advocacy



Values

Leadership - A strong voice that empowers, directs, and guides our membership, as well as the broader early childhood community, to make a positive impact on Montana's children and families.

Inclusion - Encourage participation and welcome the diversity of directors, staff, families, and friends from all Montana Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

Support - Contribute to the growth and development of the membership through mentoring and nurturing responsive, respectful relationships.

Professionalism - Promote commitment to personal integrity, ongoing career development, life-long learning and mentoring to ensure the highest quality Head Start and Early Head Start programs and services to children and families in Montana.

Accountability - Provide responsible stewardship of resources to address the needs of our members and ensure the Association's sustainability and viability.

Collaboration - Develop and nurture mutually beneficial relationships with others with whom the Association has shared values and common interests.

THE MONTANA HEAD START COLLABORATION OFFICE

In Montana, the Head Start Collaboration Office is housed in the Early Childhood Services Bureau (ECSB) of the Human and Community Services Division of the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS). Originally funded in 1996, the office works within state government to:

- Help build early childhood systems and access to comprehensive services for all low-income children.
- Facilitate the involvement of HS/EHS in developing state policies, plans, processes, and decisions affecting the HS/EHS target population and other low-income families.

The Collaboration office works in the following priority areas to meet their goals and objectives:

CHILD CARE

The Montana Head Start/State Collaboration Office recognizes the need to develop policies and practices that promote the collaboration and coordination essential to improving child care availability, quality and affordability. The Collaboration Office and some HS/EHS programs are involved in the STARS Quality Improvement System. In order to support programs and families, the Collaboration Office is:

- Housed in the Early Childhood Services Bureau of DPHHS
- A member of the Best Beginnings Early Childhood Advisory Council
- A member of the Board of the Montana Association for the Education of Young Children (MtAEYC)
- Conducting training and information sessions for any interested entities

DISABILITY SERVICES

HS/EHS programs offer an ideal setting for the integration of young children with disabilities. Partnerships that bring service entities together enhance and strengthen available services. At the state level we work with the following entities:

- Office of Public Instruction - Preschool Special Education (Part B), Comprehensive System for Personnel Development (CSPD), and Montana Behavior Initiative (MBI)
- Developmental Disabilities of DPHHS - Part C - Infant/Toddler services, Family Support Services Advisory Council
- Child Care plus+ of the Rural Institute on Disabilities at the University of Montana

EDUCATION

High quality education requires adult training so that young children have the best opportunities to succeed. The Collaboration Office supports Higher Education partnerships that train HS/EHS staff and potential staff. We work with the Technical Assistance system that is provided through the federal Office of Head Start. In 2006, we initiated the Montana School Readiness Initiative and now work with 20 community teams across the state, including:

- Early Childhood Partnership for Professional Development (ECPPD)
- EC Career Development Advisory Council & Early Childhood Project at Montana State University
- Technical Assistance providers for HS/EHS
- Office of Public Instruction
- Early Childhood Higher Education Consortium
- 20 community Early Childhood Coalitions that address school readiness
- HS/EHS Education and Child Development Managers



FAMILY LITERACY

The Collaboration Office recognizes the need to form community partnerships that support families in the attainment of literacy and other life and job skills. At the state level, the Collaboration Office works with:

- Montana Association of Families Touched by Incarceration (MAFTI)
- Domestic Violence training initiative
- Montana Children's Trust Fund
- Parent Information and Resource Center of WORD, Inc.
- Head Start Day at the Capitol
- HS/EHS Family and Community Partnership Managers and Family Advocates

HEALTH/ORAL HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH

The Collaboration Office focuses on assisting programs in their quest to develop a network of providers that will actively address the needs of children and families in their health care needs. We work with and collaborate with all state government agencies involved in the various aspects of health care:

- All pertinent departments of Family and Community Health Bureau - WIC, Immunizations, Oral Health, Home Visiting, Medicaid and Children's Mental Health of DPHHS
- Montana Dental Association - HS Dental Health Initiative
- Child and Adult Care Food Program - obesity prevention
- HS/EHS Health Managers

WELFARE

The Collaboration Office is committed to assisting families, programs, agencies and organizations in the collaboration process as they build and strengthen the support services available for families participating in welfare programs. We work with:

- Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
- Early Childhood Services Bureau of DPHHS
- Human and Community Services Division of DPHHS (TANF)

HOMELESSNESS

The Collaboration Office encourages and helps program seek meaningful and relevant community partnerships that best serve families with young children. We work with:

- The Montana Homeless Coalition
- Continuum of Care Network of the Human Resource Development Council
- Montana Head Start Association

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Collaboration Office is committed to seeking community partnerships that support the programs. We work with national, state and local entities that foster the values and practices of volunteerism and skill building. We work with:

- AmericorpsVISTA office and Governor's Office of Community Service
- Montana Children's Trust Fund
- Fight Crime - Invest in Kids

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Anaconda

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
Head Start
317 West 4th St.
Anaconda, MT 59711-2101
(406) 563-8445

Billings

Head Start, Inc.
615 North 19th St.
Billings, MT 59101-1426
(406) 245-7233

Billings

Young Families Early Head Start
PO Box 51269
Billings, MT 59105
(406) 259-2007

Box Elder

Rocky Boy Head Start & Early Head
Start
PO Box 620 RTE #1
Box Elder, MT 59521
(406) 395-4690

Bozeman

HRDC District IX Head Start
32 South Tracy
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 587-4496

Browning

Blackfeet Early Childhood Services/
Head Start & Early Head Start
PO Box 528
Browning, MT 59417
(406) 338-7370

Butte

Aware Inc., Early Head Start
237 East Mercury
Butte, MT 59701
(406) 782-0455

Butte

Butte Head Start
PO Box 608
Butte, MT 59701
(406) 723-4078

Crow Agency

Crow Agency Head Start
PO Box 249
Crow Agency, MT 59022
(406) 638-3710

Glendive

Action for Eastern Montana Head Start
PO Box 1309
Glendive, MT 59330
(406) 377-3564

Great Falls

Opportunities, Inc. Head Start and Early
Head Start
PO Box 2289
Great Falls, MT 59403
(406) 453-5415

Hamilton

Ravalli County Head Start and Early
Head Start
81 Kurtz Lane
Hamilton, MT 59840
(406) 363-1217

Harlem

Fort Belknap Head Start
RR #1 Box 66
Harlem, MT 59526
(406) 353-2827

Havre

Northern MT Early Childhood Services/
Head Start & Early Head Start
2229 5Th Ave
Havre, MT 59501
(406) 265-6743

Helena

Rocky Mountain
Development Council Head Start
PO Box 1717
Helena, MT 59624
(406) 457-7308

Kalispell

Northwest Montana Head Start
PO Box 1696
Kalispell, MT 59903
(406) 752-7011

Lame Deer

Northern Cheyenne Head Start
PO Box 128
Lame Deer, MT 59043
(406) 477-6346

Lewistown

Central Montana Head Start
25 Meadowlark Lane
Lewistown, MT 59457
(406) 535-7751

Libby

Families in Partnerships Early Head Start
PO Box 7262
Libby, MT 59923
(406) 293-6242

Libby

Kootenai Valley Head Start
247 Indian Head Rd.
Libby, MT 59923
(406) 293-4502

Missoula

Child Start, Inc. Head Start
1001 Worden
Missoula, MT 59802
(406) 728-5460

Missoula

Missoula Early Head Start
2121 39th St.
Missoula, MT 59803
(406) 251-9410

Poplar

Fort Peck Head Start
PO Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255
(406) 768-5155

Ronan

Flathead Early Childhood Services
Head Start & Early Head Start
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