



Pennsylvania Head Start life changing education birth through five.

## Pennsylvania Head Start Association Monthly Update

January 2018

### January Spotlight - Westmoreland Community Action Head Start

The children from Westmoreland Community Action Head Start presented New Kensington Police Chief, Jim Klein, and some of his staff with thank you cards and a poster in honor of Officer Brian Shaw. Officer Brian Shaw was killed while making a traffic stop in New Kensington PA. Officer Shaw was 25 years old. The children wanted to show their support for the police department and the community.



**Would you like to see your program featured in next month's  
Spotlight Program?**

PHSA is looking for submissions for future Program Spotlight features. Tell us about the AMAZING, but everyday things that are going on in your program by emailing [michelle@paheadstart.org](mailto:michelle@paheadstart.org).

## PHSA Happenings

### PHSA Has a New Professional Development Coordinator!

Kayle Richardson has joined the PHSA staff part time as Professional Development Coordinator. Kayle also works for Capital Area Head Start as the Director of Employee and Program Development, where she has been employed since 2010. Kayle attended Lebanon Valley College and graduated with a degree in elementary education and English. Prior to coming to PHSA, Kayle taught 4th grade, preschool, and was an Early Head Start Instructional Coach. She currently lives in the Carlisle area with her wife and two sons. You may contact her at [kayle@paheadstart.org](mailto:kayle@paheadstart.org).



### Upcoming Capitol Caravans

Through our work with the PreK for PA campaign, one of our objectives is encouraging Head Start advocates to come to Harrisburg and meet with their legislators. Programs choose a session date and we set up meetings with their legislators and/or staff to share Head Start success stories, educate them on the importance of Head Start in the communities they represent, encourage them to support Head Start, and/or thank them for their support in the past.

PHSA Liaisons are working hard to gather groups of interested parents and staff to make legislative visits at the PA Capitol. The House and Senate will be in session on the following dates

House and Senate	Senate Only	House Only
2/6/18-2/7/18	1/29/18-1/31/18	3/13/18-3/14/18
4/16/18-4/18/18	3/19/18-3/28/18	4/9/18-4/11/18
4/30/18-5/2/18	4/23/18-4/25/18	6/21/18
5/22/18-6/20/18	5/21/18	6/30/18
6/25/18-6/29-18		

Any programs interested in participating in a Capital Caravan please have your Liaison contact our Outreach Manager, Michelle Smith, at [michelle@paheadstart.org](mailto:michelle@paheadstart.org) for more information and she will begin setting up legislative visits. Also, please include names and addresses of all attendees because their office staff needs to make sure attendees are constituents of the legislator. If your program does not have a Liaison and you would like more information about the Liaison Program, the next page includes helpful information. Please contact Michelle with any additional questions or to identify your program's Liaison.

## Introducing the PHSA Program Liaison Project

The PHSA Program Liaison Project was developed to identify an advocacy lead within each PHSA program and deepen connections between PHSA and Head Start/Early Head Start staff and parents. By identifying a “point of contact” within each member program, PHSA hopes that:



- All programs will have a known advocacy lead (Liaison) within their program
- Liaisons will ensure that all program staff and parents will understand the critical role that ongoing education and advocacy about their program plays in the continued growth of Head Start/Early Head Start in Pennsylvania and nationally
- Working with Liaisons, PHSA will be able to quickly mobilize Head Start/Early Head Start staff and parents around state and federal advocacy issues

In addition to ensuring that each Head Start/Early Head Start program has an identified advocacy lead, PHSA hopes to deepen connections between PHSA and the staff and parents within its member programs because:

- Liaisons will communicate to program staff and parents how they are connected to PHSA and the larger Head Start/Early Head Start Community
- Liaisons will increase program staff and parents’ understanding of the benefits and opportunities for engagement that come with PHSA membership

### Who designates a person (staff or parent) as a PHSA Program Liaison?

The Head Start/Early Head Start program director will identify a staff member or Policy Council member that will serve as their PHSA Program Liaison.

### What activities does a PHSA Program Liaison regularly participate in?

Each PHSA Program Liaison will work with their directors and PHSA staff to develop activities that best meet the needs of their individual Head Start/Early Head Start program. Though there will be differences in implementation, in general, Liaisons will do the following kinds of activities:

- Communicate regularly with PHSA staff via email, social media and conference calls
- Keep current on the news that impacts the PA Head Start/Early Head Start Community including issues related to state and federal funding, other parts of the early learning system and programs that support Head Start/Early Head Start programs, families and children
- Work with PHSA staff and their program director to develop a plan to ensure that all program staff and parents know what PHSA is and that their program is a member, are signed up for PHSA email lists and are signed up as supporters of the PreK for PA Campaign and that they understand the importance of educating community members and legislators about the positive benefits of their Head Start/Early Head Start program
- Work with PHSA staff and their program director to promote PHSA Monthly Update Calls and Parent Calls amongst their program staff and parents
- Fine tune their program’s message about the benefits of Head Start/Early Head Start in their community
- Identify program staff and parents who can speak about the positive impact of Head Start/Early Head Start
- Gather stories from program staff and parents that illustrate the positive impact of Head Start/Early Head Start
- Cultivate ongoing relationships with federal and state legislators and members of local government
- Identify program staff and parents who are interested in participating in district and capitol visits to legislators to emphasize the importance of the program in the legislator's district

### Interested in becoming a PHSA Program Liaison?

Talk with your program director!

# 2018 Winter Administrator's Meeting Registration is Open!

Sponsored by:



Registration for the 2018 Winter Administrator's meeting is open! This year's meeting will be held at the Best Western Premier Harrisburg on February 27-28, 2018. Please be sure to register on our website by February 17th to avoid a late fee.

Hotel reservations can be made by clicking [HERE](#) or call the Best Western & ask for the PA Head Start Association group rate. Room rates are \$99.95/night (plus tax) and there is no parking fee. Please register by Tuesday, January 30th in order to get the discounted room rate.

Register for the meeting here:  
[2018 Winter Admin Meeting Registration](#)

**The agenda includes:**

Region III Office Update

PHSA Update

HSSCO Office - Tracy Duarte

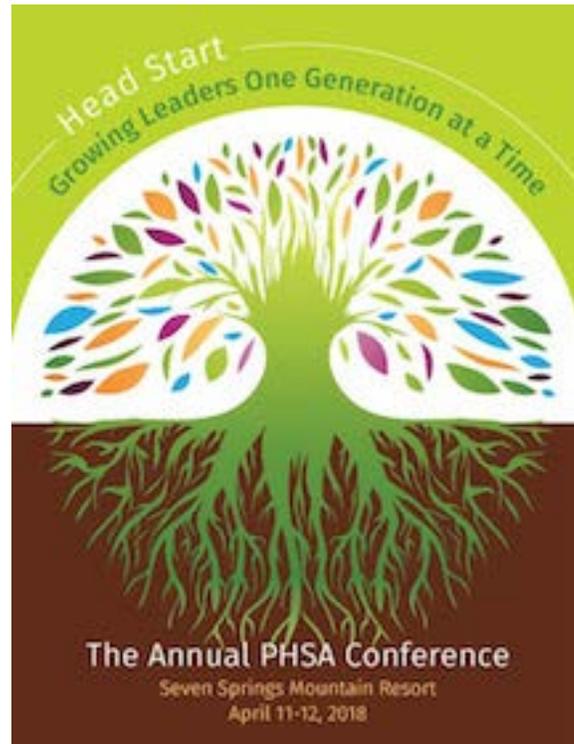
OCDEL Update including Governor Wolf's budget, Pre K Counts, Early Intervention, and  
STARs

Opioid Crisis - Cathleen Palm

Early Learning Investment Commission - Carrie Harris

## SAVE THE DATE!

Click [HERE](#) to reserve your hotel rooms today



PHSA is still accepting on-line workshop proposals for our 2018 Annual Conference, April 11-12, 2018 at the Seven Spring Mountain Resort, Seven Springs, PA.

To submit your proposal, click here or go to:  
<http://paheadstart.org/rfp/>

Proposals will be accepted through **January 26th, 2018.**

Questions? Please don't hesitate to contact Kayle at [kayle@paheadstart.org](mailto:kayle@paheadstart.org).

Thank you!

**READY SET  
GROW**Linking Pennsylvania Farms  
to Early Childhood Programs

## Welcome to Ready Set Grow!

When children go on farm field trips, plant seeds or try locally grown foods, they are participating in farm to school activities. Designed to connect them with their local food system and farming community, these activities get kids excited about healthy eating. The Food Trust, in partnership with Pennsylvania Head Start Association, is excited to launch a new initiative, “Ready Set Grow,” which aims to increase these activities on a statewide level in the early care and education area.

Connecting young children and their families to fresh, delicious fruits and vegetables grown in Pennsylvania and connecting those children to how food grows through gardening and other learning opportunities doesn’t just set them on a path to good health but also supports our local agriculture economy and helps build community.

Last month we launched our website, which can be accessed [here](#). Be sure to watch our [promotional video](#) to see why we are so excited about Farm to ECE in Pennsylvania!

For more information on Farm to ECE in Pennsylvania or if you have interesting practices or stories to share about how you include Farm to ECE in your programs, please contact Michelle Smith at [michelle@paheadstart.org](mailto:michelle@paheadstart.org).



# READY SET GROW

Linking Pennsylvania Farms  
to Early Childhood Programs



## Check out the Ready Set Grow [website!](#)

Our first blogpost will be up soon and will focus on cultural relevance in the Farm to ECE community. We will also be adding a Head Start section which will include evidence-based best practices for incorporating Farm to ECE in your Head Start programs.

## Resources



### [A Roadmap for Farm to Early Care and Education](#)

Promotes a shared understanding of the early care and education sector and the natural opportunities to integrate farm to school initiatives into ECE settings.

### **9th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference**

The National Farm to School Network is now accepting applications for scholarships to the 9th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference, which will take place in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 25-27, 2018. This event is the top national training and networking event for farm to cafeteria professionals working to improve community health, build economic opportunities for farmers and producers, and ensure long-term sustainability for local food efforts nationwide. To ensure the conference reflects the full diversity of the movement, scholarships are prioritized for farmers and farm support organizations, farm to college / hospital practitioners, early care and education providers, food service professionals, persons of color, and youth (through age 22).

Learn more and submit your application at [www.farmtocafeteriaconference.org](http://www.farmtocafeteriaconference.org). The deadline to apply is Feb. 12, 2018 at 8pm ET.

#### Other Important Conference Dates

Early Bird registration: Jan. 29 – March 9, 2018

Scholarship application closes: Feb. 12, 2018

Registration closes: April 9, 2018

Conference: April 25-27, 2018



**[“Studying the Head Start Advantage”](#)** by Yasmina Vinci, *The Huffington Post Blog*, 1/11/2017.

Never respect men merely for their riches, but rather for their philanthropy; we do not value the sun for its height, but for its use.

-Gamaliel Bailey

In a Huffington Post article, Yasmina Vinci, Executive Director of the National Head Start Association, writes, “Metric after metric, report after report, researchers continue to find that Head Start provides high quality early learning opportunities to America’s poorest children. Faced with the enormous task of providing comprehensive, educational and two-generational services to our nation’s most vulnerable children, Head Start programs across the country continue to use creativity and innovation to meet and exceed expectations.”

### **An Interview with Ron Herndon | Children’s Institute**

<http://www.childinst.org/ci-updates/the-early-link-podcast/921-an-interview-with-ron-herndon>

We invite you to listen to our interview with Ron Herndon, a long-time community leader and activist in Portland and nationally. He has been the director of the Portland-based Albina Head Start since 1975, and his background includes more than four decades of advocacy efforts on behalf of low-income families and young children, and Portland’s black community.

Having served as chairman of the board for the National Head Start Association for 20 years, from 1993 to 2013, Herndon offers a unique historical perspective on early childhood in Portland and nationally. Today, his Head Start and Early Head Start programs serve more than 1,000 children in 33 classrooms at 25 locations in North, Northeast, and Southeast Portland. And he has recently pioneered a Mandarin language program, the first of its kind for a Head Start program in the US.

In this interview, we discuss the history of Albina Head Start, racial discrimination and segregation in Portland, and the history of state and federal policy that systematically isolated and suppressed Portland’s African-American community — actions that still have lasting impact today. Herndon also provides his commentary on the history of education in the country, what is lacking for low-income children, the importance of teacher training and family empowerment, and ideas for changing the lives of children with a commitment to their well-being and success.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 23, 2018

[View Online](#)

### Wolf Administration Issues Statement on CHIP Re-authorization

Harrisburg, PA - Governor Tom Wolf and Department of Human Services Acting Secretary Teresa Miller released the following statement on Congress passing funding re-authorization for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for the next six years:

"I am relieved Congress has finally reauthorized this critical program after months of uncertainty for the Pennsylvania families who access health care for their children through CHIP," Governor Wolf said. "I am thankful to those in Congress who have made CHIP re-authorization a priority.

"CHIP provides high-quality health insurance for over 180,000 children across the commonwealth. For 25 years, CHIP has been widely supported across party lines, and I am proud we have secured the funding to celebrate CHIP's 30th anniversary in 2022."

"At the Department of Human Services, we were just days away from sending notices to families letting them know their CHIP coverage was being terminated," Acting Secretary Miller said. "I am so pleased these children will continue to have access to high-quality health insurance and the opportunities to thrive and succeed that they deserve."

### MEDIA CONTACTS:

J.J. Abbott, Governor's Office, 717-783-1116

Rachel Kostelac, DHS, 717- 425-7606

###



**Please join Acting Secretary Teresa Miller at the Cabinet in Your Community event on February 8, 2018. Secretary Miller will be joined by four other Cabinet Secretaries to talk about issues that are important to you and your region. The focus of the event will be on issues in Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton and Huntingdon counties.**



**WHAT:** Cabinet in Your Community Event

**WHO:** Dennis Davin, Secretary of Community and Economic Development  
Cindy Dunn, Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Teresa Miller, Acting Secretary of Human Services  
Leslie Richards, Secretary of Transportation  
John Wetzel, Secretary of Corrections

**WHEN:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** HACC Gettysburg Campus 731 Old Harrisburg Rd. Gettysburg, PA

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to [CaColeman@PA.Gov](mailto:CaColeman@PA.Gov) or call (570) 614 – 2090 by Monday, February 5, 2018.

We look forward to seeing you there!

# PA Early Ed News Announcement

*An inside look at Pennsylvania's early education system.*

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning supports families and their children from prenatal through school age by using data, research and stakeholder guidance to assure high quality services.



## Increasing Base Payment Rates for STAR 3 and STAR 4 Providers

As part of the Office of Child Development and Early Learning's (OCDEL) continuing efforts to support high quality child care, OCDEL will increase the subsidy base rates that are below the Maximum Child Care Allowance (MCCA) for STAR 3 and STAR 4 child care providers. Effective January, 1, 2018, all STAR 3 and STAR 4 child care providers who are being paid less than their published rates can receive a rate increase up to the Maximum Child Care Allowance (MCCA) if the published rate meets or exceeds the MCCA. The MCCA rates are established by OCDEL based on county, care level, provider type, and unit of care (part-time, full-time). In order to implement the base payment rate increase, eligible providers must submit their published rates to their Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agency.

The [Announcement](#) has information relating to additional next steps.

Don't get PA Early Ed News directly?  
[Click here](#) to subscribe and get the PA Early Ed News directly to your email.

# PA Early Ed News

## Announcement

*An inside look at Pennsylvania's early education system.*

### Message from Suzann Morris, Deputy Secretary

Happy 2018! OCDEL's New Year's wish is for a happy and healthy 2018. We look forward to a year of working with our partners throughout the commonwealth to move forward quality early learning opportunities for all Pennsylvania children and families.

On Monday, January 1, we kicked off the We Are Pennsylvania Early Care and Education campaign. During this 14-week campaign, you'll get to meet some of the faces of staff who work with families, early learning programs, and community partners to ensure that families have access to safe and supportive early learning environments for their children. Each week, we'll highlight a different aspect of OCDEL. I kicked off the first week--[find out what I had to say about OCDEL](#), then follow our partner PA's Promise for Children on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for messages throughout the week.

Did you see [Governor Wolf's announcement](#) of a \$1.4 million grant that will increase the quality of PA's early learning workforce? These federal funds from PA's Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant translates into improving the higher education opportunities for Pennsylvania professionals.

Finally, although January 22, 2018 is the solicitation deadline for the evidence-based Home Visiting Expansion RFA, there are opportunities beforehand to receive information and submit questions about the RFA process. Check out the [RFA](#) and supporting documents for deadlines, additional information and to see if your agency qualifies.

# PA Early Ed News

## Announcement

*An inside look at Pennsylvania's early education system.*

### Professional Development Opportunities Spring 2018

Now available are professional development opportunities via regional key funded courses available to all regional key regions in Pennsylvania. Check out the opportunities below.

- [Mid State Key Renewal Courses Online](#) and [Director Credential Courses Online](#)
- [Northeast Regional Key Funded Director Credential Course Online](#)
- [Northwest Key Funded Director Credential Courses Online](#)

Also available are Early Childhood Professional Development courses via [Westmoreland County Community College](#). For more professional development opportunities, visit the PD Registry at [www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org).

### Online Courses for Parents and Professionals of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

The Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Supports and Early Intervention Technical Assistance are collaborating with the Boys Town Learning Center to offer online courses designed for parents of young children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and the professionals who provide support to these children and families. More information on the course and how to register is available on the [EITA Portal](#).

Please note these classes are open to anyone, some require registration and open up each month for new participants.



 **OFFICE OF HEAD START**

ACF Administration for Children and Families

U.S. DEPARTMENT

OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

1. Log No. ACF-PI-HS-18-01
2. Issuance Date: 1/19/2018
3. Originating Office: Office of Head Start
4. Key Words: Fifty Percent; Duration Requirements

**PROGRAM INSTRUCTION**

**TO:** All Head Start and Early Head Start Grantees, including Delegate Agencies

**SUBJECT:** Fifty Percent Program Duration Requirement

**Instruction:** 45 CFR § 1302.21(c)(2)(iii) of the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) final rule states that programs must provide 1,020 annual hours of planned class operations over at least eight months per year for at least 50 percent of its center-based funded enrollment by August 1, 2019.

However, this Program Instruction (PI) notifies programs the Secretary has exercised his authority under 45 CFR § 1302.21(c)(3)(i) of the HSPPS final rule to waive the August 1, 2019 Head Start center-based service duration requirements, effectively lowering this requirement from 50 percent to zero percent. The Secretary has determined the mandate was not coupled with sufficient funding to mitigate a substantial reduction in funded enrollment. Therefore, to avoid serving fewer children and families, this requirement will not go into effect.

Programs are still free to choose to increase the duration of services, but the Secretary's determination waives the mandate that all programs do so for at least 50 percent of its funded enrollment. Given the funding constraints, we believe programs will have more flexibility to most effectively meet the needs of their communities.

The Department is also considering whether to remove the requirement that programs provide 1,020 annual hours of planned class operations for 100 percent of its funded enrollment by August 1, 2021. We expect to release a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking later this year. In addition, 45 CFR § 1302.21(c)(3)(ii) of the HSPPS final rule authorizes the Secretary to lower this 100 percent requirement on or before February 1, 2020. If this requirement is still in effect and Congress does not appropriate significant funds, the Secretary would likely make a similar determination.

The [Federal Register notice](#) announcing this determination with additional details is available for review. If you have questions regarding this PI, please contact your Regional Office.

Thank you for the work you do on behalf of children and families.

/ Ann Linehan /

Ann Linehan  
Acting Director  
Office of Head Start



### Early Childhood Hearing Outreach (ECHO) Initiative

#### **Implementing Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) Hearing Screening and Follow-up: A Four-Session Interactive Web Class**

Four Sessions: Feb. 5, 8, 12, and 15, 2018  
1–2 p.m. ET

[Register Online Now!](#)

Head Start and Early Head Start staff will learn to provide quality OAE hearing screening to young children in this interactive web class series. It consists of four live, hands-on sessions that run about an hour. Each session includes skill-based assignments that allow participants to practice the concepts covered during each presentation. Registrants must attend all four web classes.

#### **Topics for the web class include how to:**

- Plan and implement an OAE hearing screening program
- Explain how OAE screening works
- Conduct OAE screenings on young children
- Outline the necessary follow-up steps when a child does not pass the screening
- Access resources for tracking children through the screening and follow-up protocol
- Find additional tools and resources that support successful quality improvement

#### **Target Audience**

- Individuals working in programs that are committed to providing OAE hearing screening to the young children they serve

Programs are encouraged to have more than one staff member attend the class series to maximize practice and retention of material.

#### **How to Participate**

There is no cost for the web class, but participants will need to have functional OAE screening equipment and be able to practice screening young children during the session. [Detailed information and a registration link](#) can be accessed on the [KidsHearing.org website](http://KidsHearing.org). Advance registration for each participant is required. The deadline to register is Feb. 1, 2018.

#### **Questions?**

To learn more, contact the ECHO Initiative at [echo.ncham@usu.edu](mailto:echo.ncham@usu.edu).

**NATIONAL CENTER ON****Early Childhood Development, Teaching and Learning**

**Teacher Time  
Time for You!  
Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018  
7–8 p.m. ET  
[Register Online Now!](#)**

This webisode is all about supporting you! You need to take care of yourself before meeting the needs of young children. Self-care leads to better interactions at work and at home. Hear from adult health and wellness experts about strategies to support your overall well-being. Many ideas can be used with children to create positive learning environments. Ask questions and share your self-care strategies with other teachers and staff.

**Topics for this webisode include:**

- Self-care in and out of the workplace
- How stress can affect teaching practices
- Contributing to a positive working climate

**Target Audience:**

- Education staff who interact with children on a daily basis
- Support staff

**How to Register:**

Select the [link](#) to register.

**Questions?**

If you have questions, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning at [ecdtl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdtl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 1-844-261-3752.



## NATIONAL CENTER ON Early Childhood Health and Wellness

### Physical Activity with Mixed-Age Groups

Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018

2–3 p.m. ET

[Register Online Now!](#)

Discover tips and strategies for engaging mixed-age groups of children. Learn more about how to support physical activity for all children in your program.

#### Topics for the webinar include:

- Best practices for physical activity for children of all ages
- Strategies for grouping children
- Approaches to implementing physical activities with mixed-age groups of children

#### Presenter:

Brianna Holmes, MA, technical trainer, Nemours, National Office of Policy & Prevention

#### Target Audience:

- Head Start and child care directors, managers, administrators, and teachers
- Family child care providers
- Disabilities coordinators
- Classroom support staff
- T/TA managers and providers

#### How to Register:

Select the [link](#) to register.

#### Questions?

To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness (NCECHW) at [health@ecetta.info](mailto:health@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 1-888-227-5125.



**REGISTER NOW FOR HARRISBURG/CAMP HILL!**

**PA Head Start Healthy Smiles Task Force Meetings**

A Collaborative Initiative of  
The Region III Office of Head Start,  
PA Head Start State Collaboration Office,  
PA Head Start Association,  
Key Partners and Stakeholders

**Healthy Smiles, Happy Children:  
A Dentist for Every Child**

Thursday, March 8th, 2018 (10am-3pm)  
click [HERE TO REGISTER](#)  
Giant Food Store Community Center  
Camp Hill Shopping Center  
3301 Trindle Rd. Camp Hill, PA. 17011  
<https://goo.gl/maps/nH9nY6R1pb62>

Thursday, May 10th, 2018 (10am-3pm)  
PaTTAN Pittsburgh  
3190 William Pitt Way, Pittsburgh, PA. 15238  
<https://goo.gl/maps/1mE7VcGHk6q>

Thursday, November 1st, 2018 (10am-3pm)  
Community Services For Children - Training Institute  
1520 Hanover Avenue, Allentown, PA. 18109  
<https://goo.gl/maps/npFmzcZCodx>

Amy Requa  
Oral Health Coordinator  
Pennsylvania Head Start Association  
415 Market St. Suite 206A  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
(o) 484-463-8910  
(c) 610-613-3493  
[www.paheadstart.org](http://www.paheadstart.org)



**"CAVITY FREE KIDS"  
(3-HOUR WORKSHOP)  
AT  
PHSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SEVEN SPRINGS RESORT  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**



**Please check for updates:**

<http://paheadstart.org/2018-annual-conference/>

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: Wed., April 11th (Specific time TBA)**

**Presenters:**

- **Helen Hawkey, Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioner/Executive Director PA Coalition for Oral Health (PCOH)**
- **Amy Requa, State Oral Health Coordinator, PA Head Start Association**

**This 3-hour workshop is targeted for:**

Those who are new to Cavity Free Kids, as well as those who have taken the course in the past. This workshop is designed to be simpler to implement in the classroom and beyond, including a special Home Visitor curriculum! Includes new print resources and online resources through the Cavity Free Kids website.

**Who should attend?**

Those who wish to provide oral health literacy education for children and families and those who will train others through community outreach: e.g. Head Start/Early Head Start Managers, Teachers, Health Coordinators, Home Visitors, Nutrition Specialists, Community Educators, Community Health Workers, and more!

**Questions? Contact Amy Requa, PHSA Oral Health Coordinator, at [amyrequa@paheadstart.org](mailto:amyrequa@paheadstart.org)  
Funding for this training is provided with generous support from the:**

**DentaQuest**  
FOUNDATION

## Notable Research

### Examining Findings from Validation Studies of Quality Rating and Improvement Systems



*Kathryn Tout, Katherine Magnuson, Shannon Lipscomb, Lynn, Karoly, Rebecce Starr, Haether Quick, Diane Early, Dale Epstein, Gail Joseph, Kelly Maxwell, Joanne Roberts, Christopher Swanson, and Jennifer Wenner*

Explore findings from validation studies of Quality Rating and Improvement Systems across the country to learn how ratings of early care and education programs are associated with observed quality and children's development.

[Read the full study](#)



### Engaging Latino fathers into early head start: A review of the literature

*Ignacio D. Acevedo-Polakovich, Hannah E. Spring, Sara T. Stacy, Erica A. Nordquist, Mary M. Normand*

In the United States (U.S.), Early Head Start programs provide important services and resources that can benefit children and families. While additional benefits occur when these programs engage fathers, Early Head Start has historically experienced challenges engaging fathers, generally, and Latino fathers in particular. Identifying practices that successfully engage Latino fathers is particularly important as Latinas/os account for more than half of the U.S. population growth since 2000. We reviewed the relevant research and evaluation literature, identifying 23 engagement practices with some degree of empirical support. These practices highlight the roles of organizational change and of cultural responsiveness in engaging U.S. Latino fathers. Our discussion focuses on the implications of these findings for research and practice.

[Read the full article](#)



Duke

CENTER for CHILD and FAMILY POLICY

### Promoting Self-Regulation in the First Five Years: A Practice Brief

*Katie Rosanbalm and Desiree W. Murray*

Early childhood is a period of rapid brain development that paves the way for growth of self-regulation skills. This brief builds on reviews of the theoretical and intervention literature to provide early childhood leaders such as program administrators with guidelines for promoting self-regulation development in children aged birth through 5 years, both programmatically and through supportive environmental contexts.

[Read More](#)

## Early Education Policy

### Equity Starts Early: Addressing Racial Inequities in Child Care and Early Education Policy

This report takes a deep dive into racial equity in child care and early education, along with the historic and current systemic underpinnings that shape policies and programs today.



[Read the full report](#)

### Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children releases new report urging 2018 election candidates to support pre-k investments to improve PA's economic competitiveness

Year after year, the economy and education are among the top issues weighing on the minds of voters. Harnessing the voices of former Governors Edward G. Rendell and Mark S. Schweiker and powerful business and economic development leaders across the state, the report urges candidates for governor, the state legislature and U.S. congress to commit to making Pennsylvania a top state for its per capita investments in high-quality pre-k.



[Read the report here](#)

### Cumulative Benefits on Investing in ECE Exceed Up-Front Costs

Investing Early: Taking Stock of Outcomes and Economic Returns from Early Childhood Programs follows up RAND's 2005 study on impact and economic returns of early childhood interventions, exploring a broader range of intervention models and providing an updated synthesis from rigorous evaluation research. The study focuses on evaluations of 115 programs serving children or parents of children from prenatal to age 5 and examining outcomes for more than 3,180 children in 11 domains including behavior and emotion, cognitive achievement, child health, developmental delay, crime, and educational attainment. Across the programs RAND reviewed, 102 of them (89 percent) had a positive effect on at least one child outcome.



[Read the report here](#)



## WIC Announces a Collaborative Partnership



**WEBINAR ANNOUNCING A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN:**

**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION AND SAFETY PROGRAMS AND  
CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS  
FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE**

**AND**

**OFFICE OF HEAD START AND OFFICE OF CHILD CARE  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Please join the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) for a webinar reaffirming and renewing our partnership with the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and between the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Head Start (HS), Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) programs.

The webinar will go over a recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that describes how WIC, CACFP, HS, and CCDF can work together to promote and support regional, State, and local efforts to improve program coordination and service delivery for low-income children and their families.

**When:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018; 2:00 – 3:00 PM (EST)

**Presented by:** FNS & ACF Headquarters Staff, Short remarks to be provided by FNS and ACF Senior Leadership

**Audience:** All State and Local WIC Agencies

**Log-on information will be provided at a later date. This webinar will be recorded and the presentation will be made available following the webinar date.**

The [WIC Works Resource System](#) is an online education and training center for staff of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). It is a project of the Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Questions can be sent to [wicworks@fns.usda.gov](mailto:wicworks@fns.usda.gov).

## Events to Watch

Date	Event	Location
Feb 27--28, 2018	PHSA Winter Administrators Meeting	Best Western Premier Harrisburg, PA
Feb 28-Mar 1, 2018	PHSA Winter Board Meeting	Best Western Premier Harrisburg, PA
March 6-8, 2018	Region III EHS-CC Partnership Conference	Loews Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA
March 7, 2018	Ready, Set, Grow Task Force Meeting	PaTTAN Harrisburg, PA
March 8, 2018	PA Head Start Healthy Smiles Task Force	Giant Food Store Camp Hill, PA
April 11-12, 2018	2018 PHSA Annual Conference	Seven Springs, PA
April 23-27, 2018	2018 NHSA Annual Conference	Anaheim, CA
April 25-27, 2018	2018 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference	Cincinnati, OH



## Join us for one of PHSA’s Monthly Calls!

Call	Purpose	Date/Time
Monthly Update Calls <b>717-836-1406</b>	Get updates on current Federal, State and PHSA specific issues.	1:00 - 2:00 the 3rd Wednesday of each month
PHSA Parent Call Toll Free Number <b>1-800-309-2350</b> <b>327-1119#</b>	Connects parents to PHSA Board and advocacy efforts.	7:00 - 8:00 pm the 3rd Thursday of each month

