

January 2019  
Liaison Call  
1-717-836-1406

In attendance: Jacquie Hultquist, Capital Area Head Start; Suzanne Christian, Luzerne County Head Start; Jodi Thomas, Bradford-Tioga Head Start; Michelle Smith, PHSA

#### Program News:

Do you have any advocacy efforts to report? What have your programs been doing?

[NHSA's Center on Advocacy](#), [Advocacy Calendar](#), [Advocacy Toolkit](#)

Luzerne has just hired a community advocate. Rep. Aaron Kaufer came in to read to the classroom. They are partnering with local police depts and other agencies, healthcare facilities. Luzerne formed a Health and Wellness Committee working with local hospitals offering free flu shots, weight loss program, bone density screening, promoting healthy eating habits and a healthy workplace environment. School Safety Committee partnership offering safety training through [Our Kids Deserve It](#), a non-profit that does property safety assessments of school buildings and classrooms. Updating emergency protocol using [I Love You Guys](#) which defines lockdown, lockout, evac announcements. This was sent out to parents to make them aware of protocol in place. Bradford-Tioga - Rep Clint Owlett will be visiting the Troy classroom along with the Dairy Princess, the board is planning legislative luncheon in april (inviting state, local, and fed along with chief of police) to include an educational opportunity and classroom tour. New initiative in Tioga County 501 c(3) [Asa's Place](#) is a residential emergency shelter for drug exposed or dependent newborns. Invited legislators to dinner and Jody advocated for the shelter and early learning.

#### Legislator Connections:

Is there a new legislator in your district to meet? Any connections made?

If the legislator remained the same, take an opportunity to learn more about them.

[PA House Members](#), [PA Senate Members](#)

#### Opportunities

1. My Family's Plate Latino Edition, cooking demonstrations and events are a great way to welcome families into the program or add to an upcoming community event (ie, Three Kings Day Celebration). Partnership with Aetna Better Health  
Contact: Kara McFalls, [kara@paheadstart.org](mailto:kara@paheadstart.org), [My Family's Plate](#)

2. What are your suggestions for training/workshop topics for Michelle/PHSA to offer Liaisons and/or parents/caregivers at admin meetings or conferences. Some examples are: Engaging Families in Advocacy, Writing for Media, The Role of the Liaison. If you have any ideas, let Michelle know at [michelle@paheadstart.org](mailto:michelle@paheadstart.org). Jodi suggested at the admin meeting talk about what we offer as far as the liaison program (makes things easy so programs don't reinvent the wheel), ask what programs are doing, i.e. do they already have a liaison and just don't call it that, etc.

3. If your program has home visiting, the Childhood Begins as Home campaign is asking for parents who would like to do a short video about the value of the home visiting experience. Great opportunity to promote home visiting to others and throughout PA. What the video can be used for - the campaign will be putting the videos on the website, using them in email blasts, and using them to educate legislators and community members about Home Visiting. Programs can use these videos during enrollment time and as education tools for their communities by submitting them to their local tv stations and/or public television stations. An example is [this video](#) of PA Dept of Human Services Secretary Teresa Miller and her daughter during a visit from her home visitor.

4. What is being talked about in your programs around Governor Wolf's inaugural address? <https://www.governor.pa.gov/remarks-governor-wolf-2019-swearing-ceremony/>, [email template to send Gov. Wolf an email](#), [Pennlive article](#) offers opportunity for Letter to the Editor response. Jodi sent an email to Gov. Wolf using the template and she said it was very simple to use.

Next liaison call is 2/15/19 11a-12p. We will be talking about Gov. Wolf's budget proposal and advocacy efforts around that.

Respectfully,

Michelle Smith