

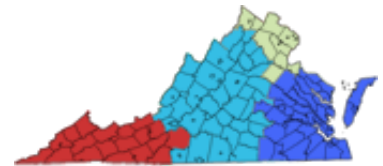


Virginia Head Start Association, Inc.

Spring 2016



Issue: 6



Visit us on ...



Upcoming events

[Directors Council](#)

June 21-23, 2016
Oceanfront Sheraton
Virginia Beach, VA

Welcome to our Quarterly Report!

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that we are almost half-way through 2016! It has been a busy year for Head Start at the local, state, and national levels. Even more exciting opportunities and activities are on the horizon. Read on, and stay tuned!

Federal News

(Credit to NHTSA for compiling this information)

FY 16 Funding

A. Office of Head Start (OHS) released two Program Instructions (PI) one for extended duration funding and one for COLA.

1. Extended Duration: On April 25, OHS announced the availability of approximately \$294 million for programs wishing to increase the total annual hours of services offered to children enrolled. Those eligible for funding include HS and EHS programs that do not provide services equivalent to a full school day and full school year for 40 percent or more of their Head Start center-based participants, do not provide continuous services for all of their family child care participants or Early Head Start center-based participants, or wish to convert slots from locally designed or combination options to center-based program schedules for longer service duration. NHTSA really

[Infant Toddler Conference](#)

August 10-11, 2016
Stonewall Jackson Hotel
Staunton, VA
Registration now open

[Health & Family Institute](#)

November 2-4, 2016
Stonewall Jackson Hotel
Staunton, VA
Registration opens in August

Call for Proposals are being accepted until June 15th for the Health & Family Institute Submit your proposal [here](#)

Join Our Mailing List!

wishes to encourage eligible programs to apply, this is a rare opportunity for additional funding. Deadline to apply is June 24, 2016. For more information:

- a. To ask questions and obtain more information visit NHTSA's Extended Duration [webpage](#).
- b. To view the OHS webinar slides visit [here](#) (slides were posted publicly during the webinar).

2. Cost of Living Adjustment: On April 27, OHS announced that programs, including those with EHS CC Partnership funding, may apply for a COLA increase of 1.8 percent. COLA funds are to be used to increase staff salaries and fringe benefits and to pay for higher operating costs.

- a. [OHS COLA Program Instruction](#)

B. FY16 Expansion Early Head Start/CC Partnership: The FOA is expected to be released on June 30th and an updated grant forecast is available [here](#).

FY17 Funding

Update on FY17 Appropriations: The Senate has put forth its 302B allocations for each funding area, with only a small reduction for the Labor/HHS budget. The House, however has not put forth theirs. It looks like the Senate will try to mark something up before Memorial Day. In the meantime NHTSA has put together some targeted actions to take place this summer. NHTSA still expects that most likely there will be a continuing resolution that will fund HS at this year's levels until after the election or even until October of 2017.

Head Start Performance Standards

Update on the NPRM: NHTSA expects that the standards are moving and should be getting to the White House and the Office of Management and Budget in the coming months. To encourage them to listen to the Head Start field, NHTSA thinks it would be wise to get support from the field to strongly encourage their member of Congress to send a letter regarding duration and family/parent engagement to OMB. If this strategy is effective, NHTSA will need to get these letters finalized by the end of May. Please contact [Tommy Sheridan](#) if you are interested in helping send the letter to the Administration. Click here to view the [NPRM letter](#).

VA News

Mixed-Delivery Preschool Grant Program

Thanks to funding made available in the FY17-18 biennial budget by Governor McAuliffe and supported by leaders in the legislature, the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation will fund local pilots to field-test potential solutions to barriers that have prevented all eligible children from participating in Virginia's preschool initiative. Legislation creating the Mixed Delivery Preschool Fund and Grant Program ([House Bill 47](#), Patron: Greason) outlines specific priorities for the program. By promoting flexibility and "out of the box" thinking, these pilots represent the opportunity to promote more public-private partnerships and increased collaboration between business, education, and community leaders.

Details about the grant program and how to compete can be found below:

[Funding Announcement](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Success Stories

Email your success stories to [Dawn Ault](#)
We know you have them,
so why not share?

Printable Version

Please share the VAHSA Winter Quarterly Report with your program staff, parents, and community partners. A PDF version is also accessible from our [website](#)

Flint, Michigan Update

NHTSA continues its work supporting program in Flint, Michigan impacted by the lead water crisis. A few recent developments include: [Lead Initiative Webpage](#), which includes resources and tools for programs, events, and a link to donate.

Parent Advocacy

The trip in early February to Washington DC for the 3 VAHSA Parent Board members and the Executive Director was very successful. While speaking to legislators about personal success stories, we also shared advocacy information related to the [Proposed Notice of Rule Making](#), of which we are still waiting for the Final Rule to be announced during summer 2016.

See pictures and more information on the trip [here](#).

Conference Corner

We have just wrapped up our 2016 annual conference that was held in Fredericksburg. This year was one of the largest turnouts we've had since 2009 with 371 full conference participants, 86 single day participants, over 70 presenters and 30 vendors. In an effort to stay "green" we used an App again this year instead of a printed program. This is the second year to use this technology and it has been well received. The best part of using this App is that participants are able to be the photographers of the conference. We had over 575 photos uploaded to the app and are now published on our [website](#). Thank you for your support of our very successful conference, "Keys to Unlock the Future." The NW Region will soon be starting to plan the conference which will be held next year in Roanoke on April 4-6, 2017. Mark your calendar now!

Call for Proposals are being accepted until June 15, 2016 for the Health & Family Institute. This conference is designed for Head Start Health Managers and Family Advocates. Both target audiences work directly with families regarding health, mental health, and other family-related issues. Submit proposal [here](#).

Scholarship Congratulations and Announcements

Maxine McKinney Emerging Leader winners:

Genee Drummond - East Coast Migrant Head Start Project
Early Childhood Education Coordinator

Guadalupe Jones - Shenandoah Valley Consortium for Head Start
Family Service Advocate

Nancy Elmore Scholarship for Continuing Education winners:

Asme Sultana -Staff-Family & Early Childhood Education Program

Alicia Doe -Parent-Greater Mount Vernon Community Head Start

Infant & Toddler Institute Scholarship Applications - now online Virginia Early Head Start staff and Child Care Partners are eligible to apply for a complimentary registration fee at our August 10-11 Infant & Toddler Institute, titled "Keys to Unlock Early Childhood Communication." Applications are due by June 15, 2016. Winners will be notified on or before July 1, 2016. Scholarship submissions will only be accepted via this form. Apply [here](#).

Scholarships continue with the generous support of the Head Start Collaboration Office.

Child & Family Outcomes

Dawn Ault and Aleta Lawson attended a national meeting, sponsored by NHTSA, regarding state-wide data collection. We heard specifically from Georgia, Illinois, and Minnesota about what is working well for data collection and sharing within their states. We were all asked to explore the most pressing questions about how to gather, analyze, or use data in your state using [this document](#) as a guide. We are striving to compare apples to apples while still being able to maintain local flexibility for curriculum and assessment adoptions. This is a broad topic that needs input from many in the field. If you are interested in serving on a VA Head Start Data Committee Work Group starting in the 2016-17 program year, please contact [Dawn Ault](#).

As you know, Head Start has been the nation's premier provider of developmental and educational services to pregnant moms, babies, toddler, preschoolers, and their families, who struggle to meet the basic needs of life. For over 51 years, Head Start continues to promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social, and other services to enrolled children and families. The Virginia Head Start Association strives to provide professional development training and advocate for Head Start funding. Thank you for your continued support by helping us find the "Keys to Unlock the Future" for children and families.




Dawn Ault
Dault@headstartva.org
Executive Director

on all orders over \$250 through June 30th with code HEADSTART2.
PLUS Free shipping on orders over \$99

Save
20%



**DISCOUNT
SCHOOL SUPPLY®**

HEADST2 Offer:** Must use code **HEADST2** at the time of order to take advantage of the 20% savings on all orders over \$250. *Free shipping** on stock merchandise orders over \$99 going to one location within the 48 contiguous United States, which in most cases will deliver within two business days via UPS ground. \$99 minimum order required after discount. Items that have a truck  symbol in the description cannot be used to reach the \$99 level and do not qualify for free shipping. Not valid with any other discounts, offers or promotions. Offer expires **6/30/16**.

©2016 Excellence Learning Corporation

Virginia Head Start Association, P.O. Box 4, Ashland, VA 23005