

Report for the Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood
July 2015

Partner Group: Missouri Head Start-State Collaboration Office (MHSSCO)

Liaison to the Board: Stacey Wright, Director

Federal Early Head Start/Child Care Partnership Grants: The MHSSCO participated in the regional EHS/CC Partnership orientation in Dallas, Texas April 21-23rd. As Collaboration Directors, our role in supporting partnership through strong state systems work will assist grantees in providing comprehensive quality early care and education services for family and children with low incomes

This was an extremely competitive grant. Missouri was awarded 6 grants in total. The below list includes each MO individual grantee listed by name of Grantee along with both enrollment figures for EHS CCP and Expansion. Please remember that the enrollment numbers are initial ones, and as we heard at the orientation, some of the partners were not in place yet and some were going to revisit their MOU's, therefore keep in mind that there could be slight changes as this work progresses.

| Grantee Name | Partnership Enrollment (initial #'s) | Expansion Enrollment (initial #'s) | Total Enrollment (initial #'s) |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Children's Therapy Center of Pettis County, Inc. | 16 | 0 | 16 |
| Missouri Valley Community Action Agency | 18 | 16 | 34 |
| Youth In Need | 120 | 0 | 120 |
| Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph | 48 | 0 | 48 |
| Douglass Community Services | 40 | 36 | 76 |
| Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation | 0 | 160 | 160 |

As this work moves forward nationally, we will both participate in, and support opportunities for collaboration between Head Start and CCDF/Child Care Subsidy to support the program and partnerships as the state and local levels, including opportunities for learning and sharing information about the innovative strategies and early implementation lessons learned; engaging stakeholders discussions regarding key opportunities and challenges; and identifying strategies and support needed for moving the work forward.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced on June 16, 2015 important steps to improve the quality of services at Head Start programs across the country.

Some highlights from the News Release: *The revised standards reflect a vision for how to raise the bar on quality for all Head Start programs and build on the programs' history of success to help more children onto a path to school success.*

Head Start performance standards are the foundation for Head Start's mission to deliver comprehensive, high-quality individualized services to support the school readiness and healthy development of children from low-income families. The proposed rule sets an expectation that all programs operate for a full school day and full school year; raises education standards to reflect current research on brain development, early learning, and effective practice; and builds teacher skills and improves classroom performance through a system of evidence-based, individualized professional development.

The revisions significantly reduce the current 1,400 Head Start regulatory standards, by eliminating unnecessary and duplicative rules while setting high standards that will drive program performance.

The proposed standards maintain and strengthen Head Start's commitment to comprehensive services, including health and family engagement, which are central to helping children succeed and are a hallmark of Head Start. The proposal also maintains and strengthens Head Start's high standards on child safety.

The public is invited to submit comments on these proposed standards, which are due 60 days after publication on August 18, 2015.

The proposed regulation may be viewed at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/06/19/2015-14379/head-start-performance-standards>

The Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Office of Head Start and Office of Child Care are collaborating to transform the current training and technical assistance (T/TA) system. Their goal is to more effectively support early care and education programs and staff in the delivery of quality services to children and their families across the country. To support this vision, on May 19, 2015, ACF announced the release of six funding opportunity announcements (FOAs), soliciting applications to build the following new National Early Childhood Centers:

- **National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning**
- **National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness**
- **National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance**
- **National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement**
- **National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment**
- **National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations**