



North Carolina Head Start Association



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Dear Head Start and Early Head Start Family:

We have successfully completed another stellar year in North Carolina Head Start/Early Head Start. Even as we have just closed one school year, we are busy making plans for the next one and for those of us who have Early Head Start, the fun never ends. We will be enjoying the wonders of infant and toddler early care and education throughout the summer! And our numbers have grown since last summer with the expansion of Early Head Start in North Carolina.

We have a lot of important work ahead of us. As we plan for the upcoming school year, let's keep our focus on the Three I's: Integrity, Investment and Improvement.

Integrity- In this time of enhanced accountability and responsibility, we must always ensure that our programs operate within the prescribed federal guidelines and that all of our practices are above scrutiny and are transparent.

Investment- Head Start and Early Head Start are huge federal investments into the future of our great nation. While pouring into the minds of the children we serve during this great window of opportunity, we must also invest in our staff. While planning your upcoming pre-service schedule and training calendar, please keep in mind the needs of the staff that are charged with implementing high quality programming. Ensure that you have equipped them with the tools that they need to walk, talk, teach and lead in excellence.

Improvement- Head Start mandates an annual time of self-assessment, however critical analysis of our programming should not just occur once a year. It is in fact, on-going. Always look for opportunities to improve on what we know is already a high quality product and program.

The NCHSA always stands ready to provide you with guidance, support and assistance. Please contact me or our Executive Director, Michelle Bare for additional information.

Yours in Service,

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