

HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START

Investing in Wisconsin Today and For Tomorrow

What is Happening Across Wisconsin . . .

Expansion and Quality Improvement/COLA funds awarded to Wisconsin's Head Start & Early Head Start programs through ARRA are enhancing the lives of young children, helping programs support both staff and working families, and improving communities across our state.

Wisconsin ARRA funds have been invested in the following ways . . .

- 12 Head Start/Early Head Start programs to **serve an additional 1,027 young children and their families** through \$11,741,796 in expansion grants. Additional enrollment opportunities are crucial as more families are increasingly affected by the economic recession.
- 26 Head Start and Early Head Start grantees to create a combined **183 new full time employment opportunities** in their local communities. These jobs would not have existed without ARRA funding.
- Numerous programs across Wisconsin to **initiate quality improvement activities suited to individual program needs** through \$7,306,468 in quality improvement/COLA funding. Programs are supporting staff development, improving facilities, implementing classroom projects and curricula, purchasing resources and necessities large (buses) and small (books), and strengthening services to children and families.
- **Every Head Start/Early Head Start program in Wisconsin to provide staff with a 1.84% COLA increase** to improve salaries and boost benefits. The COLA increase makes Head Start wages more competitive and helps programs retain well-qualified staff.



What is Happening in the 2nd Congressional District . . .

- There are **three grantees**— Dane County Parent Council, Renewal Unlimited, and Rock-Walworth Comprehensive Family Services. All three grantees operate both Head Start & Early Head Start programs.
- Each grantee received program expansion funds. Combined, these Head Start & Early Head Start programs have expanded to **serve an additional 252 infants, toddlers, preschoolers or pregnant women and their families** with over \$2.4 million in expansion grants.
- **Nearly 54 full-time employment opportunities** have been created to better serve children and families with expansion and quality improvement/COLA funding.
- \$962,254 in quality improvement/COLA funding has led to the **renovation** of four facilities, the **building** of three playgrounds, and the **purchase** of four buses. Additionally, quality improvement funds have helped **retain staff** and provided staff with varied **professional development** opportunities.

ARRA ACTIVITIES & OBJECTIVES

Unique to Wisconsin's 2nd Congressional District

Educational Development: Provide staff with scholarship funding to pursue coursework towards an Associate or Bachelor Degree in Early Childhood Education, Special Education, or teaching English Language Learners.

Fund the Mental Health Coordinator position to conduct initial/follow-up home visits with families and staff to hold eight playgroups to provide children and families with support, education, and interaction opportunities.

Increase staff hours.

Create jobs and retain staff in the area of early childhood education and intervention targeting both non-English speaking children and families and special needs children and their families.

Cover increased program operating costs associated with required benefits, health/dental insurance, larger leases, and maintenance expenses.

Retain highly qualified Head Start teachers.

IMPLEMENT PROGRAM INITIATIVES

HEAD START FLEXIBLE FULL-DAY MODEL focused on Latino families and young children.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE CRISIS TEAMS (FACT)

PROGRAM for responding to victims of family violence.

DOULA PROGRAM to provide support to mothers before, during and just after birth.

Purchase necessary equipment and supplies like a lead testing machine, automated external defibrillator (AED) training machines, program supplies, computers, and a vehicle and supplies for the portable Play Mobile.

Professional Development Training Opportunities:

- PARENTS AS TEACHERS (PAT) CURRICULUM training on individual supports to children ages 3 to 5 and families in the areas of special needs and English language learners.
- Training on the DEVEREUX EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSESSMENT (DECA), a social-emotional and child protective assessment tool for young children.
- Training on the CREATIVE CURRICULUM, an education system that promotes the use of interest areas as a way of providing experiences that promote cognitive, social, physical, and language development for preschool children.
- Training on approaches to STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS with other community and local educational agencies to enhance services to children and families.
- REFLECTIVE SUPERVISION training for managers.
- BOOTIE CAMP training for Early Head Start staff.
- Training to obtain FIRST AID and CPR certification.



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