

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 8th Congressional District . . .

- There are **seven grantees**—Cooperative Educational Services Agency (CESA) 7, Green Bay Area Public Schools, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin, Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council, and Wood County Head Start—operating six Head Start and four Early Head Start programs.
- Two grantees have received program expansion funds. Combined, these Early Head Start programs have expanded to **serve an additional 124 infants, toddlers, or pregnant women and their families** with over \$1,241,488 dollars in expansion grants.
- **Nearly 18 full-time employment opportunities** have been created to better serve children and families with expansion and quality improvement/COLA funding.
- \$743,017 in quality improvement/COLA funding lead to the significant **renovation** of facilities, program assessment for **capacity building**, the **retention of staff**, and varied **professional development** opportunities for staff.

ARRA ACTIVITIES & OBJECTIVES

Unique to Wisconsin's 8th Congressional District

Increase staff compensation and benefits to improve overall program quality.

Expand the role of our new Literacy mentor, a licensed teacher that supports each classroom teacher by providing one-on-one and small group instruction to children. In cooperation with the classroom teachers, the Literacy mentor creates positive, experiential, and developmentally appropriate early childhood learning environments.

Improve staff qualifications and assist with implementation of career development programs. Support staff in their on-going improvement of skills and expertise.

Purchase classroom resources for math, science, and literacy instruction.

Expand bilingual services for Spanish speaking children and families.

Support CDA certification for teacher aides.

Supplement the cost of increased program operating expenses.

Provide professional development to teaching staff to improve staff qualifications. Provide training to all staff for consistency in how to deal with children's behaviors.

Update playground equipment to ensure safety and support children's physical development.

Improve the energy efficiency and safety of facilities.

Attend trainings related to Early Head Start and services to infants/toddlers to build our new Early Head Start program.



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