

PROUD TO BE PART OF THE CSI FAMILY



COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN IDAHO HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START



Idaho Head Start Association

Two staff and two parents attended the Idaho Head Start Association (IHSA) meeting January 8-10, 2013 in Boise. IHSA is an association of the State's 13 Head Start and Early Head Start programs and their partner organizations. The Association also receives oversight and direction from an elected board comprised of IHSA members.

The board is composed of eight members: three directors, two staff, two parents and one member at large. The College of Southern Idaho Head Start/Early Head Start has two representatives on this board: Deborah Drain, Parent Engagement/Family Involvement Specialist, a staff representative. Deborah was also elected IHSA treasurer; Miriam Staffen, a parent representative, who was also elected as a representative to Region X. Region X consists of Head Start programs from across Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Alaska.

During the conference, the CSI HS/EHS delegation met with Idaho State congressional members from districts that are within the program's service area. The director, staff and parents met with Congresswoman Donna Pence, (D) Dist. 26, Senator Lee Heider (R) Dist. 24, Senator Jim Guthrie (R) Dist. 28, Congresswoman Maxine Bell (R) Dist 26, and Congressman Lance Clow (R) Dist 24. Parents shared their head start experience with State legislators and the importance of parents as their child's first teacher. The feedback from legislators was to highlight the need for parents to stay involved with a child throughout his or her entire education. The program also asked that Early Childhood Education be taken into account with the re-examination of education reform in Idaho. Each congressional member was provided with the program's Annual Report and the IHSA Data Book. Parents and staff were invited to meet again with Senator Heider on the matter.

The IHSA board will meet three more times during the year:
Directors meeting April 8-9 and Board meeting April 10, 2013
Directors meeting July 11 and Board meeting July 12, 2013
Directors meeting October 28 and Board meeting October 29, 2013

Additionally, the program has received its summary of findings from the Office of Head Start's triennial federal review. The program is swiftly addressing areas of non-compliance. Mike Mason has a copy of the findings and will present them.

**College of Southern Idaho Head Start/ Early Head Start
Monthly Program Summary
For December 2012**

Enrollment

Head Start ACYF Federal Funded	566
Head Start TANF	27
Early Head Start	80
Total	673

Program Options

Part-day/ Part-year, Double Sessions, School District, Pre- K, Early Head Start -Home Based.

Head Start Attendance

December Head Start Overall Attendance	82%
December Head Start Double Session* Attendance	80%
December EHS Home Visit Participation	77%

*Double Session is currently a Self-Transport option

Meals and Snacks

Total meals served for December	3,867
Total snacks served for December	3,100

Education

The Twin Falls Health Initiative Grant for 2012 was closed out. It provided vision machines for Head Start and the Twin Falls School District. Approximately 2,126 children were screened. In-service training was completed Jan. 3 and lead teachers were trained in the new 2nd Step curriculum. This is a supplemental curriculum to High/Scope. 2nd Step covers skills for learning, empathy, emotion management, friendship skills/problem solving and transitions to kindergarten. The 2nd Step curriculum was purchased as part of the Community Health Improvement Grant.

Parent Involvement

Policy Council and Center Committee Officers had leadership training on January 19th. The training has expanded in time and participation from parent volunteers with assigned duties. This collaborative effort includes speakers and hands on training. Parent training continues over the next several months at parent meetings throughout centers on male/parent involvement. Individual center based team-building is also ongoing in centers with all staff to promote growth, information, and skill building that enhances communication and well-being and can be shared with parents.

Early Head Start

Early Head Start is partnering with Susie Beem of South Central Public Health District to provide EHS siblings with dental sealants. The sealants will be provided on-site at EHS centers during socializations. The project will be reviewed by Health Advisory on January 28th. EHS also received training on parent-child interaction from Mary Fultz, from Portland State University as well as an additional training on a parent-child engagement tool, the PICCOLO from Utah State University, that will be implemented in the program later this year.

Documents for Board Review/ Approval:
Financial Reports