

PROUD TO BE PART OF THE CSI FAMILY



COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN IDAHO HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START



2013 National Head Start Association Award Nominees

CSI Head Start/Early Head Start Centers nominated parents, staff and community agencies for the 2013-2014 National Head Start scholarships and awards. Four nominees moved forward to compete locally, with the possibility of competing for state and regional awards/scholarships.

Head Start Parent Post Secondary Scholarship Award: **Miriam Staffen, Twin Falls**

Miriam has been a parent in College of Southern Idaho Head Start/Early Head Start since 2007. As a parent, she has engaged in program and center activities consistently and sincerely for many years. All the while she has been enrolled at University of Idaho working toward her Bachelor's degree in Psychology, raising a family and volunteering in our center and program. Miriam is currently the Twin Falls Early Head Start Family Services Advisory Committee representative, Twin Falls Head Start Policy Council representative, Policy Council Vice-Chair, Idaho Head Start Board Member, Region X Head Start representative and she has conducted program self-assessment as well as served as Policy Council parent for staff job interviews. Her time and dedication to program activities is commendable and inspiring.

She has children with serious medical conditions, IFSP's and IEP's, and a husband with PTSD from experiencing combat in Iraq. These challenges have inspired her to work in partnership with programs that provide services to children and families. Miriam volunteers in the community as a parent member of Region V Infant Toddler Advisory group, also known as RECC, Regional Early Childhood Council. She spends time with her daughters girl scout troop, is co-event coordinator for our local Silver Sage Girl Scouts, she attends Head Start center parent activities and program trainings. As busy as she is with all of her commitments, she also manages to work part time for the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health. In her part time position she plans and facilitates support groups, researches resources for families, manages a website and collaborates with local service providers. She plans to obtain a Master's Degree in Social Work. She has experienced many trials in life, which is a learning tool as well as great motivation to improve one's self and help others. I strongly believe she will do great things with her education.

Support Staff of the Year Award: **Sandy Hollenbeck**

Sandy has evolved over the years into an exceptional Food Service Manager. In 1995, began as a cook at the Twin Falls Child Care, worked as a cook at several other centers and is now a Food Service Manager in Wendell. She also contributed to the College of Southern Idaho Head Start/EHS program by assisting with the USDA duties, which helped all Food Service Managers. Sandy is the Food Service Manager for our center and her skills in food preparation, recordkeeping and knowledge of CSI Head Start/EHS protocol are exemplary. Sandy prepares tasty, nutritious meals with a great presentation. If an individual had the opportunity to observe the children, the parents and the staff enjoys her meals, they would most definitely see faces of people enjoying their food. One particular anecdote we have on a child is: "Sandy, you are the best cooker ever." The other children chimed in and agreed. Head Start parents are continually asking Sandy for recipes so they can try these at home. Sandy spends time with parents, explaining the best way to cook certain recipes. She exhibits helpfulness, kindness and compassion to all individuals she works with.

Sandy has the willingness to take on extra tasks when it involves Head Start children/parents or the community. To site a few examples of the "extra" activities Sandy has arranged: She asked her Girl Scout troop to sew literacy bags for Head Start families; she invited her son's Boy Scout troop to help serve trout at our annual Health Fair; and she continually contacts individuals in the community at local games, etc. to ask if they or anyone they know have a 3 or 4 year old child. When it was required each Head Start Center have a backup bus driver, Sandy willingly tested for her CDL and is now our backup driver. One of Sandy's most incredible attributes (not only her delicious cooking) is the fact that she always has a smile on her face and she truly loves what she does. I am very fortunate to know her as a person and to work with her on a daily basis. She brings a special light to our center, our Head Start children/families and to our team.

**College of Southern Idaho Head Start/ Early Head Start
Monthly Program Summary
For May 2013**

Enrollment

Head Start ACF Federal Funded	539
Head Start TANF	27
Early Head Start	80
Total	646

*The program does not fill open slots during the last 45 days of Head Start Services.

Program Options

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

Program Participation for May

HS Overall Attendance	85%
HS Double Session Attendance	82%
EHS Home Visit Completion Rate	94%

Meals and Snacks

Total meals served for May	4,407
Total snacks served for May	3,500

Education

The ongoing child assessment (COR) has been completed for the preschool children and the infant/toddler COR assessment period will end July 31. COR results for the 2011-2012 service year will be published in the annual program report.

Parent Involvement

This year the program is participating in the National Head Start Association scholarship and awards completion. Two individuals, selected by a nomination committee, will move forward with the possibility of competing for state/local awards, (listed on the page 1). The nominees are from Twin Falls and Orchard Valley. Over the summer months parents are encouraged to promote literacy and read to their children. The program's Summer Newsletter was recently issued and has ideas and resources for families to stay connected with throughout the summer months. The program is actively recruiting for the coming program year.

Early Head Start

Early Head Start currently has four expectant mothers enrolled in the program and 76 infants and toddlers. There are nine children that will transition out of EHS and into Head Start on July 31, 2013. The program is actively recruiting and taking applications for Expectant mothers, infants, and toddlers. In May, Early Head Start centers hosted CSI dental hygiene students at their PALS socialization in order to provide fluoride varnishes. They will be hosted again later this summer.

Documents for Board Review/ Approval:

Financial Reports