



California

**Head Start
Association**



Summer 2004

FOCUS

IN THIS ISSUE

Head Start Summer Teacher Institute.....p.1

Head Start Reauthorization Update.....p.2

CHSA Wants Key Ammendments to Reauthorization Bill.....p.2

CHSA Joins Preschool Californiap.3, 6

Thank-You!.....p.3

Fiscal Year 2004 Appropriations.....p.3

State Collaboration Office Reportp.4

Two New Projects.....p.4

Region IX Training Conference.....p.4

Head Start Pioneer Retires Senaida Garcia.....p.5

Mark Your Calendars!..p.5

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Head Start Summer Teacher Institute June 1 & 2, 2004

This Institute is a partnership between the California Head Start Association and Cluster 1 Grantees

Join us in San Diego for the 2004 Summer Teacher Institute. The goal of this institute is provide classroom resources and strategies for individuals who work with children and families of limited English language development and enrolled in Head Start. The workshop presentations for this conference will emphasize a balance of theory and practice to support the needs of the Director, Education Specialist, Training Manager, Teacher, Parent, and Disabilities Manager. Head Start programs are encouraged to send individuals or teams of staff to ensure a transfer of knowledge is sustained at various program levels. The two-day Institute will offer participants over 40 breakout sessions, a networking reception and a facilitated art expression project to build upon our collective principles related to the children, families and the communities we work to serve in our agencies. The Institute will provide two excellent keynotes:

June 1st opening session keynote will be Dr. Kathy Escamilla from the University of Colorado. Dr. Kathy Escamilla is associate professor of education in the division of social, bilingual and multicultural foundations.

June 2nd lunch keynote will be Francisco X. Alarcón, Chicano poet and educator. Dr. Alarcon will present in song, poetry and illustrations that come from his prize winning bilingual children's literature

For more information and registration forms on the Head Start Summer Teacher Institute go to the CHSA website at: www.ca-headstart.org/CHSA_conference_training.html or call CHSA at 916-444-7760.

MISSION STATEMENT
The California Head Start Association is the unified voice providing leadership and advocacy for the Head Start community.

VISION STATEMENT
The California Head Start Association will be an important strategic partner representing Head Start interests in California and the nation.



Dr. Kathy Escamilla



Francisco X. Alarcon



Check the CHSA web site for updated information on Head Start in California – enrollment data, staff and family information and more; go to www.ca-headstart.org click on Fact Sheet

California Head Start Association Reauthorization Update

By Edward Condon, CHSA

As the 108th Congress heads toward summer break, the Head Start reauthorization bill (S. 1940) remains on the desk of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension (HELP) Chairman's desk, Senator Judd Gregg. It is anticipated that the bill's last opportunity for consideration would be this May. The Senate will be back in session this summer, but given election year politics, it is unlikely Head Start's reauthorization would be moved to the floor by leadership.

In late March, the Senate passed an amendment to TANF reauthorization by a vote of 78 to 20. The Snowe-Dodd amendment added another \$6 billion in mandatory/guaranteed funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) over five years. Senators Boxer and Feinstein supported the Snowe-Dodd amendment. That brings the mandatory increase in the Senate bill to a total of \$7 billion. The significance of this amendment might suggest that the Senate leadership is looking to move on key domestic programs prior to the summer. However, like all appropriations, the real battle over funding will take place in the fall within the full FY-05 budget debate.▲

SPEAK UP AND BE HEARD NOW!
www.saveheadstart.org



Senator Gregg, HELP Chairman

California's Head Start Association supports the position of the National Head Start Association to oppose the bill. CHSA would like to see major amendments in key areas:

Grant Administration: Grantees would be required to **re-compete every five years**, unless determined by HHS to have "priority" status. This element of the bill would prove to be a distraction to organizations and would not achieve the intended outcome of higher quality. Low quality programs, upon proper opportunity to address deficiencies, should be de-funded. However, this bill does not define the significance of the problem that could force a grant re-competition. Programs would be forced to spend more time and resources on grant administration and minimizing disruption to families and staff.

Educational Requirements of Staff: By September 2010 50% of Head Start teachers at each individual center would be required to have a baccalaureate degree relating to early childhood or related educational area. In addition, Curriculum Specialists, Education Coordinators, Teaching Assistants, Early Head Start Teachers and Early Head Start Home Visitors would be required during the five-year reauthorization period to meet additional training and educational goals. As important and fundamental to quality these requirement maybe, they also represent the potential of an un-funded mandate given the current federal spending climate. It has been estimated by some the cost of these increased educational



Senator Kennedy, Ranking Member

requirements alone would exceed \$2 billion nationally over five years. The funding increase in this bill is proposed at \$400 million, but those dollars are only proposed, actual appropriations depend on a separate appropriations process. In California, Head Start grantee and delegate budgets have been hit hard with the workers compensation insurance escalating costs, increase to health benefits plans and other labor based expenses. Any additional un-funded mandates could dramatically impact program operations.

The Senate's Head Start reauthorization bill does contain a number of positive solutions that Head Start Advocates have been promoting the past few years including:

- Income eligibility limit to 130 percent of poverty, up from the current level.
- Increase authorized share of funding for Early Head Start, increasing the set-aside to 18% by 2009 if the sufficient appropriations are made available.
- Expand the state collaborations offices scope and purpose.
- Authorize new Centers of Excellence to designate up to 200 exemplary agencies to promote more intensive school readiness coordination and disseminate best practices.

Register to vote by
OCTOBER 18, 2004
www.ss.ca.gov/elections/votereg1.html

To stay up-to-date on Head Start reauthorization, Federal public policy or State issues – join CHSA listserve. Go to www.ca-headstart.org and sign up. Go to www.ca-headstart.org/reauthorization.html

Thank-You!

The following individuals and organizations donated over \$3210 in cash and 800 articles of children's clothing to support the Southern California fire victims

Robert Armstrong Child and Family Development Corp. Carol M. Piechocki Genesee County Community Action Resource Department Fred L. & Mary E. Barrett East Grand Forks Family Service Center Tracey S. Winchester Barry County Head Start Tammy Jetton Family Development Division Fred L. & Mary E. Barrett East Grand Forks Family Service Center Sandy Imes Taylor Head Start Zulma I. Ruiz & Elvin C. Matos Julieta P. Vilches Salud Agdeppa Cruz & Melchor M Cruz Mirin Lue & Lincoln Lue Linda B. Korth & David Korth Amy Liew Paula Russell Daniel J. Torlone Janice W. Pekrul Ronald L. Mize, Ph.D. University of Saint Francis James J. Solon & Mary Kay Solon Middleton Dr. Van Der Ploeg Butte College Linda Fisher University of St. Francis Christine Guthrie Marin Head Start Gary Gilbert Mid Michigan Community Action Agency, Inc. Richard E. Hammel Genesee County Community Action Resource Department Kathy McGuinness NCCDI-Tehama County Head Start Patricia Stroh Sue Gallagher Arthur W. Sanders Dr. Escoe Bliss Communication, Inc. Maggie Wood Child and Family Corporation and the Oxford Head Start Program (pictured below) from Oxford, Michigan. Hooray for helping hands big and small! ▲



The Maggie Wood Child and Family Corporation, and the Oxford Head Start program, pictured to the left, from Oxford, Michigan, are just one of the many Head Start Programs from all over the United States that collected children's clothing and funds for Southern California.

CHSA Joins with Preschool California

Since 1965 Head Start's involvement in the delivery of high quality preschool experiences has served millions of children here in California and across the nation. The principle of universal access to preschool is core to the position that all children deserve and need a Head Start in education and life. The California Head Start Association has been working this past year in a number of coalitions to support the expansion of services to all children. At the March 2004 Board of Directors meeting, CHSA leadership moved to endorse Preschool California's goals and objectives. This organization is a broad-based, multi-year advocacy campaign to achieve voluntary preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds in

California. Preschool California envisions:

- Voluntary preschool programs, to prepare children for a smooth transition to kindergarten and for success in life, available for all 3- and 4-year-olds whose families choose to enroll them
- High standards of program quality with teachers who are educated and compensated at a level comparable to teachers in California's K-12 system
- Public and private providers in a variety of settings, including schools, child care centers, Head Start programs and family child care homes

► *continued on page 6*

Corporate Sponsors for 2004 that proudly support California Head Start Association



Fiscal Year 2004 Appropriations

The omnibus appropriations bill that includes Head Start has not been completed as of January 9, 2004. It is anticipated Head Start is increased \$148 million over last year's level bringing total FY04 funding to \$6.8 billion. This funding level will allow Head Start and to maintain current service levels. California programs will see an increase of \$17.7 million bringing total FY 04 to \$831 million appropriated here in California. State appropriation estimates reflect Head Start and Early Head Start appropriations only.

Enrollment: California's Head Start (3 – 5) funded enrollment for FY04 is 91,155, and Early Head Start (0 – 3) 7602. In addition to the Head Start and Early Head Start appropriations identified above, California is home to a Migrant Head Start funded enrollment of 5163 and American Indian/Native American funded enrollment in FY04 of 763. California's total Head Start funded enrollment for FY04 is 104,683. ▲

ENROLLMENT	
Head Start	91,155
Early HS	7602
Migrant HS	5163
Tribal/NA HS	763
Total	104,683





REPORT

California Head Start State Collaboration Office Report

By Michael Silver and Michael Zito

The CHSSCO continues to work on a number of activities intended to assist Head Start programs and the larger early care and education community:

- CHSA Executive Director Ed Condon and CHSSCO staff led a discussion on proposed federal changes to the collaboration grant projects at the CHSA conference in January.
- The Desired Results (DRDP) Head Start Workgroup continued meeting to provide input on the draft revised Desired Results Developmental Profile to the CDE's Child Development Division.
- The CHSA, CHSSCO, and the CA Department of Health Services' Office of Oral Health are continuing work on a final report on the Oral Health Roundtables. The report will include descriptions of successful strategies devised by Head Start Health Specialists to meet the oral health needs of the children they serve. It will also include what the CHSA, CHSSCO, Department of Health Services and others will undertake at the State level to improve oral health outcomes for Head Start and other low-income children.
- An issue of the Bridges newsletter is undergoing layout work at CDE Press with an anticipated Winter/Spring 2004 release. The issue will feature early literacy resources and activities. The following issue of Bridges is in the planning stages now and will focus on the service system for children with developmental delays or disabilities.
- The California Family Literacy Conference will be held in Sacramento June 30-July 2. The CHSSCO is on the planning committee for this event and will coordinate Head Start sessions with the CHSA. ▲

Two New Projects: CHSA Parent Ambassadors and Oral Health Education

In response to the emerging needs of the California Head Start community, CHSA is moving in two new directions to deepen it's resources for member agencies staff, Head Start children and families.

CHSA Parent Ambassadors

Under a grant from the Packard Foundation, CHSA will be working to develop a core group of parent advocates to work in their local communities and statewide on issues related to children and families. The Parent Ambassadors, a group of 35-40 individuals will be trained to present effectively their personal experience in early childhood education, Head Start and community mobilization. Each individual would be trained to be proficient in the following communication concepts:

- Explore issues
- Develop critical thinking skills
- Prioritize their experiences
- Practice a step-by-step process for presenting their experience
- Feel comfortable formulating and voicing opinions

In addition to Parent Ambassadors, CHSA will be funded to explore two other topics—California Head Start Centers of Excellence and Workforce Development.

Oral Health Education

As a sub-contractor to the California Dental Health Foundation, CHSA will develop curriculum and provide training to over 450 key staff over the next 3 years on oral health prevention and hygiene. The goal of the trainings will be to increase awareness and knowledge of parents and Head Start staff about the importance of early oral health care and the necessary actions needed to prevent dental decay. As a direct outcome of our 2003 Regional Oral Health Roundtables, CHSA will work closely with the California WIC Association and the California Healthline Project to provide the very best resources. ▲

For more information on these projects contact Edward Condon, CHSA Executive Director at 916-444-7760.

Region IX 21st Annual Training Conference

October 19-21
2004

The Doubletree
La Posada Resort
Phoenix, AZ

www.r9hsa.org

CHSA Updates Board Committees – Join

At the January 2004 CHSA membership meeting, the organizations bylaws were updated to include an expanded committee structure.

The board subcommittees

<http://ca-headstart.org/CHSAOrgChart.pdf>

now include:

Program Management and Administration, School Readiness, Government Affairs/Public Policy, Membership Development and Fund Development, Partnership and Community Relations. Each committee will develop a scope of work providing support to the Board of Directors on key topic areas. Committees will meet three or four times per year in relation to annual conferences and training events. Individuals interested in working on any of the noted committees should contact the CHSA office at 916-444-7760 or email Edcondon@ca-headstart.org ▲

Head Start Pioneer Retires — Senaida Garcia —

Senaida Garcia, project director of the Head Start program in Tulare County for 35 years, retired Jan. 31. She had worked for the Tulare County Office of Education Child Care Program, which oversees Head Start, since its beginning in 1965.

Considered by many as a “pioneer” in the field of early childhood education, Senaida has been an inspiration to families and a role model for women and Hispanics. In her 38 years on the job, she has overseen huge growth in the program which now includes 43 Head Start child development centers, one of the country’s largest home-based programs, a Migrant Head Start program and a Child Care Resource & Referral library and subsidized child care program. The program employs over 650 staff and provides services to more than 6,000 children and their parents.

Senaida was the first woman and the first Hispanic elected to the Visalia Unified School Board. In 1989 she was named to the College of the Sequoias Hall of Fame and in 1996 was chosen Visalia Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year.

She was a member of the Tulare County First Five Commission which oversees the tobacco tax monies designed to help children 0-5 years.

She felt especially honored to have the Child Care program’s model center and training site named after her in 1998.

During the last year, she was honored as Tulare County Administrator of the Year, one of 24 Women of Influence honored by Channel 24 (Fresno NBC affiliate), and a Woman of Distinction by the local Soroptimists.

She will be greatly missed. ▲



Head Start pioneer Senaida Garcia.



Mark Your Calendars!

Management Institute
New Directors and Senior Managers
and CHSA General Membership Meeting
August 3 & 4
2004
Oakland Marriott
For reservations:
1-510-451-4000

The 2004 CHSA Management Institute will provide new directors, managers, coordinators, and program specialist who are new to their position or are seeking increased skills and a variety of new tools specific to Head Start and Early Head Start operations. Come meet Region IX ACF Staff and Region IX T/TA Staff, network and build your leadership portfolio. Check the CHSA website for details.

3rd Annual CHSA Parent Conference
November 12 & 13
2004

Holiday Inn
Sacramento, CA
For reservations:
1-916-446-0100

7th Annual CHSA Conference
February 9-12
2005
Pasadena, CA

Sights from the CHSA 2004 Conference in San Francisco



2004 Conference Group Picture



The Yellow River Drummers of San Francisco



Jan Len, Administration for Children and Families



Parent Voices speakers, Victor Chavez and Evelyn Taberna



2004 CHSA Award Winners, Teacher of the year: Wilfredo Lazarte and Support Staff of the Year: Marlene Montiel



FOCUS

SUMMER 2004 NEWSLETTER

California Head Start Association
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Please join CHSA today!

Go to the CHSA website and print out an application www.ca-headstart.org and click on Membership, and look for CHSA membership form.

► continued from page 3

- Programs linked to full-day early care and education programs to meet the needs of working families
- Programs offered in culturally and linguistically appropriate settings and inclusive of children with special needs
- Publicly funded programs for at least part of the day.

Preschool California brings together business leaders, K-12 educators, parents, labor, law

enforcement, faith-based institutions, seniors, community leaders, early care and education providers, child advocates, and others to work toward making quality preschool programs available for all of California's children. We encourage local Head Start leadership to get involved in local forums and discussions. As a key partner in your community, your expertise in working with children, parents and adjacent systems is integral as this state takes the next step in expanding access all 3- and 4-year-olds in California. ▲

For more information go to www.preschoolcalifornia.org

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