



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 27, 2015

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Brian J. Whiston, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Presentation on Head Start and Early Head Start in Michigan: A System Overview

This presentation will provide an overview of Michigan's Early Head Start and Head Start programs, as well as the Head Start State Collaboration Office, which is housed in the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Great Start. Head Start is the federal child development program administered by the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Head Start. New regulations, redefined priorities and collaborative initiatives, such as the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships, bring changes to the program that are important to share with the State Board of Education.

Head Start and Early Head Start promote the school readiness of low-income children age birth to five. Programs provide comprehensive services to children in areas such as health, mental health and nutrition. Additional services support the goals of families, including adult education, housing and food security.

Local Head Start and Early Head Start are funded directly by the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Head Start. Michigan programs provide early childhood education and comprehensive services to over 40,000 low-income children each year. Although the Michigan Department of Education does not oversee Head Start, the program is a significant partner in the state system.

The Head Start State Collaboration Office is mandated by the federal Head Start Act (42 USC 9801 et seq.) and requires the Collaboration Director to facilitate collaboration and coordination between Head Start programs and the state early childhood system.

The presentation will provide both a state-level and local perspective of Head Start in Michigan from the Head Start State Collaboration Office Director and a Head Start grantee.

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