Head Start in Michigan: A System Overview

Susan Broman
Deputy Superintendent, Office of Great Start, MDE

Kaitlin Ferrick
Head Start State Collaboration Office Director, MDE

Lucy McClintic
Director, Capital Area Community Services Head Start

11/11/2015
Agenda

• Overview of History and Structure of Head Start and Early Head Start
• Head Start in Michigan
• Current Federal Initiatives
• Local Perspective: Capital Area Community Services
• Head Start State Collaboration Office
Head Start and Early Head Start: An Overview

- Head Start and Early Head Start are comprehensive child development programs serving low-income children ages birth through five, and their families.
- Promotes the school readiness of children through a holistic approach that addresses their educational, social, emotional and mental development.
- The federal Administration for Children and Families’ Office of Head Start directly funds local agencies to operate programming in their communities.
Head Start History

• Began as part of President Johnson’s “Great Society” Campaign
  – War on Poverty policy initiative

• Launched in 1965 as an eight-week summer demonstration
  – Targeted to low-income preschool children with the goal of preparing them for elementary school

• The 1994 Head Start Reauthorization created Early Head Start
Eligibility Criteria

Head Start serves children ages three through Kindergarten entry, while Early Head Start serves infants and toddlers up to age three.

Who is eligible?

• Children from families with a household income at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
• Homeless children
• Children in foster care
• Families receiving public assistance, such as TANF
• Children with special needs must account for 10% of total enrollment
Head Start Program Highlights

• Comprehensive Services: programs offer families continuous services they need in areas such as health, dental, nutrition and family counseling

• Family engagement: emphasis on including families in their child’s development and education
  • Integration into program governance

• Diverse model options: center-based, home-based and family child care models allow for flexibility
Head Start in Michigan: By the Numbers

Michigan Head Start cumulative enrollment for the 2013-14 program year was 41,783
- 35,369 children were served in Head Start
- 5,888 children were served in Early Head Start
- 473 pregnant women also received services as enrollees

Michigan has 45 total grantees representing diverse entities:
- Community Action Agencies
- School Systems
- Tribal and County Governments
- Non-profit entities, including faith-based organizations
Eligibility Type

• 70.04%: Income eligible (household income at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty guidelines)
  • Translates to 29,263 children
• 16.46%: Receipt of Public Assistance
  • 6,884 children
• 4.18%: Homeless status
  • 1,748 children
• 2.40%: Foster Care status
  • 1,002 children
• 10.6% of all children enrolled in Head Start and 17.4% of those enrolled in Early Head Start in Michigan had an Individualized Education Program or Individual Family Service Plan
  • Nationally, these figures were 13.8% for Early Head Start and 12.2% for Head Start
Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships (EHS-CCP)

Collaborative federal grant opportunity between the Office of Head Start and Office of Child Care that focuses on improving child care quality and expanding access to full-day, full-year infant and toddler services

• Grantees partner with family child care homes and child care centers to implement Early Head Start in these settings
• Services provided through age three
• Encourages layering of funds, including child care subsidy, with partnership dollars supporting quality
EHS-CCP in Michigan

Michigan grantees received 5 awards:

- St. Joseph ISD
  - $700,000
- Capital Area Community Services
  - $1.7 million
- Macomb County Community Services Agency
  - $1.7 million
- Order of the Fishermen Ministry
  - $3.8 million
- Matrix Human Services
  - $6.5 million

Awards total $14.4 million and will serve over 850 children in centers and homes.
Capital Area Community Services
Head Start and Early Head Start

Lucy McClintic
Head Start Director
Serving children in Clinton, Eaton, Ingham and Shiawassee Counties
Capital Area Community Services
1,761 children

PRESCHOOL (1457)

- 21 Preschool Sites
- 50 Preschool Classrooms
- 4 Full Day up to 10 hours of care
- 12 Partners including 8 school districts and 2 lab classrooms
- 28 Blended GSRP/HS classrooms (448 slots)
- Families qualify at or below 100% of poverty (family of four $24,250)
- 50% of our families are at 50% of poverty (family of four $12,125)
Capital Area Community Services

EARLY HEAD START (184)

- 2 Early Head Start Sites
- 7 Early Head Start Classrooms
- 13 Home Visitors (3 partner agencies – CMH, Ingham Health Dept., Shiawassee RESD)
- 20% of children have coordinated services with Early On
- 24 MIECHV – Federal Home Visiting families
NEW EARLY HEAD START CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

INGHAM, EATON SHIAWASSEE COUNTIES
(120)

- 6 Homes
- 11 Centers

The target: Families needing full day care who are working or going to school.

Families must be participating with DHHS child care subsidy or have been awarded a scholarship.
The grant supports the expansion of slots for low income children and quality enhancement such as equipment, curriculum materials, professional development, mental health, and a nutritional consultant for each center and home.

65 caregivers have signed up to pursue an Infant/Toddler CDA credential.
Community Collaboration

200 Partners help us provide high quality services

- MSU
- LCC
- WKAR – Ready to Learn
- Health Department
- Local/Intermediate School Districts
- Greater Lansing Housing Coalition
- Great Start County Collaboratives
- PNC Bank – Grow Up Great
School readiness/kindergarten indicators have been developed with Early Childhood/GSRP staff, Kindergarten teachers and parents across our four counties.
School Readiness

- 25 school readiness indicators are included in a Transition Summary that is provided to all Kindergarten teachers.
- The indicators cut across 5 child developmental domains and are aligned with Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations for Kindergarten and the Head Start Child Development Early Learning Framework.
Head Start Child Outcomes
2014-2015
Percent of children within Widely Held Expectations for their age

- **Social/Emotional**
  - Fall 14/11/15: 46%
  - Winter 15: 67%
  - Spring 15: 82%
  - Total: 95%

- **Gross Motor**
  - Fall 14/11/15: 67%
  - Winter 15: 75%
  - Spring 15: 90%
  - Total: 98%

- **Fine Motor**
  - Fall 14/11/15: 75%
  - Winter 15: 86%
  - Spring 15: 93%
  - Total: 98%

- **Language**
  - Fall 14/11/15: 86%
  - Winter 15: 95%
  - Spring 15: 96%
  - Total: 95%

- **Cognitive**
  - Fall 14/11/15: 61%
  - Winter 15: 52%
  - Spring 15: 87%
  - Total: 96%

- **Literacy**
  - Fall 14/11/15: 52%
  - Winter 15: 52%
  - Spring 15: 85%
  - Total: 95%

- **Mathematics**
  - Fall 14/11/15: 30%
  - Winter 15: 66%
  - Spring 15: 86%
  - Total: 95%
Parent Focus

- We promote parent engagement toward an understanding of school readiness and kindergarten expectations.

- We promote family literacy – daily reading.
School Readiness is about curiosity, an engaged mind and...
eagerness to learn!
Head Start State Collaboration Office

The HSSCO supports the development of multi-agency and public and private partnerships at the state and local level. These partnerships are intended to:

• Assist in building early childhood systems
• Provide access to comprehensive services and support for all low-income children
• Encourage widespread collaboration between Head Start and other appropriate programs, services, and initiatives
• Augment Head Start's capacity to be a partner in state initiatives on behalf of children and their families and facilitate Head Start involvement in state policies impacting low-income children and families
Head Start State Collaboration Office

Section 642B of the Head Start Act authorizes the creation of the HSSCO to “…facilitate collaboration among Head Start agencies…and entities that carry out activities designed to benefit low-income children from birth to school entry, and their families…”

- Each state must designate a HSSCO Director and they must hold a full-time position of “sufficient authority” to ensure effective collaboration
- Grants are awarded by the Office of Head Start
Executive Order 2011-08 consolidated early childhood programs and resources under a single agency in an effort to:

- Maximize child outcomes
- Reduce duplication and administrative overhead
- Reinvest resources into quality improvement and service delivery
HSSCO Priorities

1. Partner with State child care systems emphasizing the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Initiatives
   • *Convening EHS-CCP grantees; Pilot development*

2. Work with state efforts to collect data regarding early childhood programs and child outcomes
   • *Race to the Top-ELC Head Start projects*

3. Support the expansion and access of high quality, workforce and career development opportunities for staff
   • *Professional Development workgroup; Early EDU state team; partnering with MHSA on events*
HSSCO Priorities, continued..

4. Collaborate with Quality Rating Improvement Systems
   • **Great Start to Quality Core Team**

5. Work with state school systems to ensure continuity
   • **Ongoing collaboration with Great Start Readiness Program staff**

6. Regional/State Priorities
   • **Health Manager Workgroup; Homelessness Workgroup, Coordination with Migrant and Tribal programs**
QUESTIONS?

Kaitlin Ferrick
Head Start State Collaboration Office Director
Ferrickk1@michigan.gov