

Rhode Island Head Start Programs

Comprehensive Community Action Program

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Tri-Town Community Action Agency

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East Bay Community Action Program

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Middletown, RI 02842
Director: Barbara Schermack
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South County Community Action Inc.

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Director: Julie Bircher
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Region I Office

Administration for Children
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JFK Federal Building
Boston, MA 02203
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[www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/
hsb](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/hsb)

CHILD Inc.

160 Draper Avenue
Warwick, RI 02889
Director: Lynda Dickinson
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Woonsocket Head Start

204 Warwick St.
Woonsocket, RI 02895
Director: Karen Bouchard
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Children's Friend & Service

621 Dexter Street
Central Falls, RI 02863
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Providence Head Start, Inc.

20 Almy Street
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Director: Mary T. Dean
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Head Start Collaboration Office

600 New London Ave.
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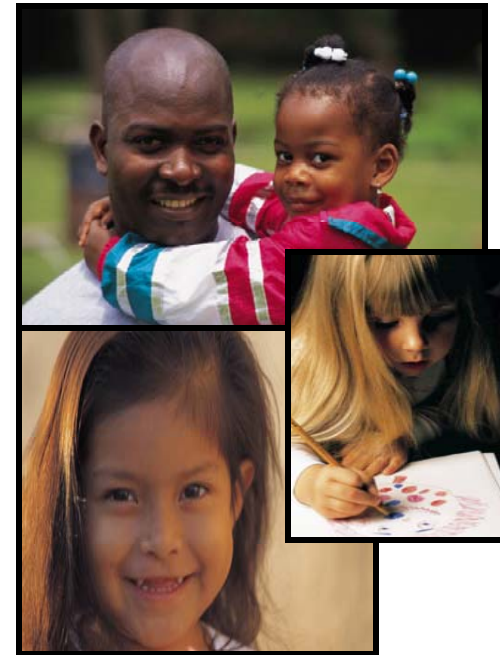
Visit our website:

www.riheadstart.org

Rhode Island Head Start Association
C/O Comprehensive Community Action Program
848 Atwood Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920

Rhode Island

Head Start Association



Head Start:

The Nation's Pride

Head Start & Early Head Start

Head Start is a federally funded program created in 1965 in an effort to combat poverty. The program offers a wide range of services to low-income children aged three to five years old.

The 1994 reauthorization of the Head Start Act created Early Head Start for low-income families with infants, toddlers and pregnant women.

Children receive comprehensive services that provide for the education, health and emotional growth of the child. Services provided include: health, dental health, mental health, and nutrition. In addition, Head Start provides services for families including intensive social services, parent education programs and opportunities for parents to become actively involved in the Head Start program. Both Head Start and Early Head Start focus on the entire family, not just the child.

Head Start and Early Head Start programs offer flexibility by providing service options that offer an effective way to reach difficult to serve families.

In 2001 and 2002, two reports were released that evaluated the impact of Head Start programs on children and families.

Studies found that both Head Start and Early Head Start have shown continued positive impact on the children and families who participate in the programs.

Head Start

The Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (FACES), an ongoing, national study of Head Start children and families released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, shows that children who entered Head Start in Fall 1997 showed gains in their literacy/language, social and cognitive development by the end of that year.

In terms of parent and family outcomes, the FACES* study shows that parents of Head Start children generally reported extremely high levels of satisfaction with Head Start and view Head Start as an important source of support in rearing children.

Parents of Head Start children also reported spending increased time reading with their children and more time involved in educationally-focused recreational activities at home.

(*Head Start FACES: Longitudinal Findings on the Program Performance: Third Progress Report, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, January 2001. (This report, is available online at www.acf.gov/programs/core/pubs)



EARLY HEAD START

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services evaluation on Early Head Start participants showed better outcomes across a range of child, parent and home measures. This evaluation found that Early Head Start participation had a positive impact on children's cognitive and social-emotional development.

(Making a difference in the lives of Infants and Toddlers and Their families, The Impacts of Early Head Start, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, June 2002. (To find this report, look online at www.mathematicamp.com/3rdlevel/ehstoc)

Head Start and Early Head Start have proven to have a positive impact on the development of the children and families who participate in these programs. Head Start and Early Head Start provide a supportive foundation for children among families struggling to meet economic and developmental needs.

RHODE ISLAND HEAD START

SUMMARY DATA 2003

Federally Funded Enrollment: 2,674

Total Enrollment * 3,251

* This number reflects all children/families who participated in the program.

Estimated Number of RI Head Start eligible children: 5,291*

Number of children not served: 2,040*

*Source: 2002 Kids Count Fact Book

Family Data

Percent employment (full/part time): 54%

Head Start Eligibility Criteria: 100% of the federal poverty line, which is \$18,850 annually for a family of 4.