

Iowa Head Start Association

# Annual Report

2014 - 15



## A year of reflection...

We hope you enjoy the 2014 - 15 Iowa Head Start Association Annual Report. The Association has worked hard this year to further its mission - *to enhance the capacity of its members to promote and advocate for a wide variety of quality services for all of Iowa's children and families*. Each and every day, IHSA works to connect its grantees to one another to be sure this mission is met.

Established in 1965, Head Start was created to help the most vulnerable segment of the population - low income children and families. In the 39 years since its inception, IHSA has become more diverse and so have its programs. Take a look and see what a difference we make.



Governor Terry Branstad signs the Proclamation honoring 50 years of Head Start.

## A year of progress...



9 grantee agencies connected with each other at the Teacher Kick-off online event in August 2014.



25 networking and training events were attended by over 487 IHSA staff.



The Association led an effort to reach out and educate school district superintendents about Head Start, leading to enhanced community partnerships.

## Professional Development

15  
NETWORKINGS

8  
TRAININGS

487  
ATTENDEES

180  
HOURS OF  
TRAINING



### Strategic Plan

Head Start partners met in 2014 to develop a strategic communication plan for the Association. The resulting plan below highlights the priorities for the coming year. The two main communication objectives of the year were:

- Enhance Head Start's credibility with superintendents so they are willing to partner with grantees;
- Create greater awareness and belief among Head Start teachers and assistant teachers in the benefits of their role and of IHSA.

Communication strategies were developed to help achieve these objectives. A high priority was placed on delivering consistent messages, creating awareness of how Head Start can help, and creating a multi-channel communication process. Through agency messages, technology trainings, advocacy efforts and membership cards, the Association took aim at making their objectives attainable.

### Award Winners



#### Tom Mayer Award of Excellence *Kim Young-Kent*

The Region VII Tom Mayer Award of Excellence was initiated to recognize outstanding contributions in the Head Start field. This year's recipient, Kim Young-Kent is known well in the Head Start community. In her leadership roles, she personifies excellence. Kim has led Tri-County Child and Family for nearly 25 years. She holds a Master's in Education and graduated from the Head Start Johnson and Johnson Management Fellowship Program. She served on the boards of the Iowa Head Start Association (including three terms as president), Region VII Head Start Association (as president and treasurer), and National Head Start Association. She regularly serves on state boards and committees, including playing leadership roles with Cedar Valley Promise.

Kim shows a single-minded attention to the mission. She understands collaboration whether it's working closely with school districts around Iowa's universal PreK; tripling her Head Start and Early Head Start slots using a variety of local, state and federal dollars; creating the perfect referral partner in Lutheran Services in Iowa; developing child care partnerships before it was required or popular; or contracting her health services to the county health office.

For Kim, it is never about ego but about what best serves the mission. She is generous with time and energy as a mentor to parents, staff and other directors in the state and region. When Iowa Head Start directors face re-competition, leadership change and other crises, their first call is Kim Young-Kent.



#### Children's Champion Award *Sharon Ford*

Sharon Ford epitomizes a children's champion. Throughout her extraordinary career, she has been involved in State, Regional and National Head Start Associations, and in fact, served as president of all three Associations at the same time! She is credited with supervising the implementation of the first full day, full year Head Start program in Iowa.

In 1986, Sharon testified before the Sub-Committee of the Human Resources Committee of Education and Labor supporting reauthorization of Head Start and Community Action Agencies and opposing the Gramm-Rudman legislative amendment. She also served on a review panel in the major effort to review and refine the Child Development Associate (CDA) national credentialing program (CDA). She has served on several committees that provided direction for the National Head Start Association. Sharon has twice been invited to the White House as a representative of Region VII Head Start. She met President George H. W. Bush in the White House and President Jimmy Carter in the Rose Garden.

She is currently the Director of Community Action of Southeast Iowa and has held the position for 21 years. Her passion is children and helping people improve their quality of life. As the Executive Director of Community Action, Sharon has taken on many agency projects that support children and their families. One such project was obtaining a CDBG grant to fund construction of the Tallarico Center which houses several programs, Head Start classrooms and an Early Head Start classroom.

## Early Care and Education Fall Institute IHSA Annual Meeting

The 2014 Early Care and Education Fall Institute was held September 19 - 21 at Prairie Meadows Events & Conference Center in Altoona. IHSA was proud to serve again this year as a co-sponsor. Institute committee representatives helped provide direction to ensure the Head Start community's needs were met. A number of sessions were held highlighting topics of interest including: STEM, school readiness, IMIL, challenging behaviors, PBIS, impacting child outcomes, CLASS, cultural competence, and more.

The IHSA Annual meeting was held on Friday of the Institute with over 77 people in attendance. A plated luncheon was served as IHSA reviewed its accomplishments for the year. In addition, IHSA was pleased to present two awards at the meeting.



## Website

The Iowa Head Start Association website, [www.iowaheadstart.com](http://www.iowaheadstart.com), proved an invaluable tool for grantees, board members and parents. The website allows grantees and other partners to find key messages and updates in real time. In addition, the training calendar provides a complete list of upcoming events and a link to register for them. The interactive map on the home page allows parents and others the ability to find their local agency. By clicking on the map, visitors are directed to contact information. The website is updated on a regular basis, ensuring all partners can access current information at their fingertips.

12 agency  
messages  
helped grantees  
stay up-to-date.

The website  
provided  
relevant job  
posting  
information.

275 people  
registered  
online for  
training events.

### Iowa Head Start Association

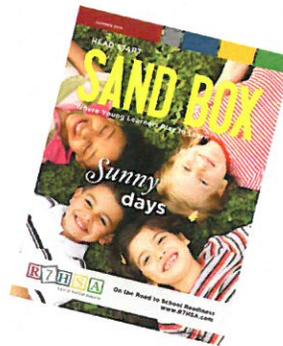
c/o Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children  
5525 Meredith Drive, Suite F  
Des Moines, IA 50310  
tel 515-331-8000  
[www.iowaheadstart.com](http://www.iowaheadstart.com)

### Iowa Head Start Collaboration Office

Iowa Department of Education  
Grimes State Office Building  
400 E. 14th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
tel 515-326-5389  
email [tom.rendon@iowa.gov](mailto:tom.rendon@iowa.gov)

### IHSA Board of Directors

Michael Eller, President  
Christi Regan, Vice President  
Cheryl Collins, Secretary  
Kathy Hall, Treasurer  
Cindy Davis  
Michael Eller  
Kriss Engstrom  
Julie Lang  
Marcia Munford  
Melissa Nelson  
Kendra Rensink, Remsen  
Judy Russell, Des Moines  
Dick Sievers



## Regional News

The Iowa Head Start Association is an active participant in regional Head Start events and trainings. Based in Kansas City, Region 7 publishes Sandbox magazine which offers a complete update on what is happening in our area. In addition, the Association has submitted numerous articles. To access the magazine, go to <http://www.r7hsa.com>.

## Membership

All employees and parents of Head Start grantees are members of the Iowa Head Start Association. Membership cards are available upon request. IHSA membership is open to anyone who is interested in and supportive of the work of the Association. For further information, contact Ashley Otte, [ashley@iowaaec.org](mailto:ashley@iowaaec.org).



Administrative support for the Iowa Head Start Association is provided by the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children.



**Head Start/Early Head Start in Iowa  
2014-2015 Program Year**  
**Head Start Funded Enrollment-----7,785**  
**Total Actual Served-----9,114**  
 (Head Start = 7,010 Early Head Start = 1,922)

**2014-2015 Program Statistics**

**Age (Actual Enrollment)**

Children 0-1 year old .....	643
Children 1 year old .....	607
Children 2 years old.....	829
Children 3 years old.....	3011
Children 4 years old.....	3834
Children 5 years old.....	8
Pregnant Women.....	182

**Racial/Ethnic Composition**

Native American .....	1.6%
African American .....	16.1%
White .....	64.4%
Asian .....	2.6%
Pacific Islander/Other .....	0.4%
Multi Racial.....	11.2%
Latino .....	20.4%
Non-Latino.....	79.6%

**Teacher Information**

Education Level	
○ Associates Degree, ECE & Related .....	10.4%
○ Baccalaureate Degree .....	80.1%
○ Advance Degree .....	8.3%

**Asst Teacher Information**

Education Level	
○ Child Development Associate (CDA)....	42.6%
○ Associates Degree, ECE & Related .....	20.4%
○ Baccalaureate Degree .....	12.2%
○ Advance Degree .....	0.6%

**Program Models**

Full-day/extended day (5 days per week).....	32.8%
Full-day/extended day (4 days per week).....	8.8%
Part-day (5 days per week) .....	9.4%
Part-day (4 days per week) .....	35.3%
Home-based .....	12.9%
Combination Option .....	0.2%

**Family Information**

Number of Families Served.....	8,246
Number of Families on TANF.....	1,896
Number of Families on WIC .....	5,189
Who are:	
○ In School or Training .....	1,266
○ Employed Full Time.....	5,725
○ In the military .....	55

Family Service provided to enrolled who were identified to need/request services during program year:

○ Emergency/ Crisis Intervention .....	2,888
○ Health Education .....	4,449
○ Parenting Education .....	5,432
○ English Classes (ESL).....	286
○ Marriage Education .....	257
○ Housing Assistance .....	1,607
○ Mental Health Services.....	939
○ Adult Education .....	1,174
○ ESL Training.....	350
○ Subst. Abuse Prevention/Treatment .....	306



## Head Start/Early Head Start in Iowa 2014-15 Program Year – Facts

Iowa has 33 Head Start/Early Head Start Grantees operate 529 classes. Head Start/Early Head Start employs 1,866 persons. Three hundred ninety-three (393) of the employees are or were Head Start parents.

7,992 (89.5%) of the children enrolled in Head Start/Early Head Start completed all medical screenings -- of those screened- 536 were identified as needing follow-up treatment of which 503 received treatment. The top three issues:

- Vision
- Asthma
- Hearing Difficulties

59.4% (4,165 children) were at healthy weight at enrollment based on BMI

5,637 (80.4%) of the children enrolled in Head Start received dental examinations – 892 were identified as needing treatment and 716 received treatment.

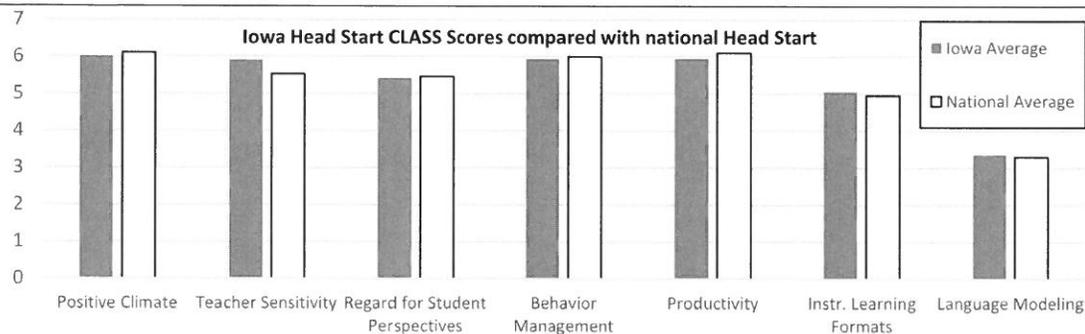
805 (11.5%) Head Start children were on an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

236 (12.3%) Early Head Start children were on an Individualized Family Support Plan. Top two issues identified were:

- Speech or Language
- Non Categorical/Developmental Delay

8,259 (92.3%) children enrolled more than 45 days completed or were up-to-date on their immunizations.

### Classroom and Child Measures



Based on average CLASS scores across 15 Iowa Grantees between 2012-2015. National scores from OHS (<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/data/class-reports>).

