Our mission is to coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education.

American Indian/Alaska Native

2022 Head Start & Early Head Start Profile

“I love Head Start and have for a long time. My two grandchildren were so prepared when they started school. The teachers were fantastic, the staff were very helpful and friendly. This year my youngest grandson is in Head Start. I can really see a big change in him. I know he is in good hands.”

– Vickie May

$316,684,151 FY21 Funding

21,207 Funded Slots Nationwide

16,654 Funded American Indian / Alaska Native Head Start Slots

4,553 Funded American Indian / Alaska Native Early Head Start Slots

462 Head Start Centers Nationwide

Visit nhsa.org/locator to view the map in more detail.
Head Start’s Model
Nationwide, Comprehensive, Multi-Generational

In the six decades since our founding, we have reached a new milestone: 37 million children have been served by Head Start. Innovators and small business owners, police officers and members of the service, nurses and teachers—our alumni represent the vast and diverse fabric of our country. From early math and reading skills, to confidence and resilience, Head Start helps children build the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

Head Start takes a comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of young children and their families. There are four pillars in every program:

**Education**: Learning experiences support intellectual, social, and emotional growth

**Health Services**: Immunizations, dental, medical, and mental health support, nutritional services, and early screenings ensure healthy development

**Family Involvement**: Opportunities for parents and caregivers to be involved in decision making, participate in classes, and volunteer in the program strengthen families

**Wraparound Support**: Tailored services meet local and individual needs and link children and families to community supports.

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| Children | | Families | | Community |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 89,652 Home Visits Conducted Throughout the Year | **385** Pregnant Women Served | **6,431** Newly Enrolled Children Completed Behavioral Screenings | **1428** Head Start and Early Head Start Classrooms |
| 551 Children Received Care for a Chronic Health Condition | **5,907** Children Received Preventative Dental Care | **9,339** Children Up-to-Date on Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic & Treatment Screenings |
| **1,426** Homeless Families Served | **11,234** Families Received Services that Promote Family Outcomes | **4,257** Fathers Involved in their Child’s Educational Experiences |
| **6,666** Total Head Start and Early Head Start Staff | **12,035** Parents Employed, in School, or in Job Training |

The National Head Start Association is committed to the belief that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to succeed in life. Since 1974, NHSA has worked for policy changes that ensure all income-eligible children have access to the Head Start model.

-- CDC, *Implementing Mitigation Strategies in Early Care and Education Settings for Prevention of SARS-CoV-2 Transmission*

December 2020