

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



Why Is Advocacy Important?

There are thousands of eligible families who deserve the unique benefits of having their children attend a Head Start program but they have no program to go to. Advocacy is essential for keeping Head Start strong and securing more funding to serve more families. Head Start exists because parents and staff have fought for Head Start.

What Is Head Start and Early Head Start Advocacy?

- Expressing pride in your Head Start program by sharing stories about how Head Start helps children and families thrive with friends, neighbors, and community leaders.
- Talking about your program as the place parents want their children to attend, and teachers want to work.
- Signing and sending emails or letters of support for Head Start to political leaders.
- Informing public leaders about the significance of Head Start to the community.
- Encouraging others to join you in being an advocate.

NHSA and State Associations Working Together

The National Head Start Association (NHSA) is your national leader in Washington, D.C., where Head Start funding and policies are determined. NHSA works with State Associations and our members to coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start community as a leader in early childhood development and education. We hold the belief that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to succeed in life.

In addition to working with NHSA, your State Association advocates for you with the members of your state legislature for state funding and to help set policies that support Head Start and the families we serve.

