

### Dear Head Start Program Directors,

Please help us to grow the NHSA Action Network and increase the effectiveness of our federal and state advocacy this year. Pre-Service is a great opportunity for programs to encourage staff to get involved and grow their participation in advocating for Head Start.

We are asking that you use this packet to remind staff at your Pre-Service why their advocacy for Head Start matters and urge them to join the NHSA Action Network if they are not already an active member.

Below you will find suggested talking points for speaking with your staff. Included is a Pre-Service Meeting sign-in sheet, and a flyer in English and Spanish that staff can use to join the NHSA Action Network

Please send copies of the completed sign-on sheets to <u>advocacy@nhsa.org</u>. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Blair Hyatt at <u>bhyatt@nhsa.org</u>.

Sincerely, Blair

### **Talking Points**

- In today's challenging environment, Head Start's mission is more critical than ever. Despite flat funding, your work continues to change our children's and families' lives. To continue this vital work and amplify our voice, we need your help in our ongoing advocacy efforts. Let's continue to champion them with passion and commitment.
- We are actively working with the National Head Start Association (NHSA) to enhance our advocacy network. Your engagement in these efforts is essential as we work together to champion our mission.
- If you are not already, I urge you to become an active part of this growing advocacy network. Your voice and participation are invaluable as we work together to secure a strong future for Head Start.
- We are passing you a sign-on sheet and a flyer for joining the NHSA advocacy network. Please be sure to sign the sheet.
- Joining the Network and participating in the campaigns is not advocacy and is legal for you to do. To be completely sure that there is not even the appearance of the misuse of federal funds, please share your personal email and be sure to advocate for Head Start during your personal time.



# **Action Network Sign-Up Sheet**

1. Name:	F	Phone: _	Email:	
[] Already signed up	[] Please sign me up!	[] Not	comfortable with NHSA advocacy	[] Just signed up using flyer QR
2. Name:	F	Phone: _	Email:	
[] Already signed up	[] Please sign me up!	[] Not	comfortable with NHSA advocacy	[] Just signed up using flyer QR
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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?

Head Start exists because parents and staff have fought as advocates for Head Start.

## What Is Head Start Advocacy?

- Expressing pride in your Head Start program. Sharing stories about how Head Start helps children and families thrive now and in the future 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.

# JOIN THE HEAD START ADVOCACY NETWORK: go.nhsa.org/subscribe

### NHSA and State Associations Working Together

The National Head Start Association (NHSA) works with your State Association to get better funding and policies for Head Start programs. When you sign up for the Advocacy Network, you will be the first to hear from us about how you can help us do this and be an advocate for Head Start.



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# ¿Por qué es importante la promoción?

Head Start existe porque los padres y el personal han luchado como defensores de Head Start.

### ¿Qué es la defensa de Head Start?

- Expresar orgullo por su programa Head Start. Contar historias sobre cómo ayuda Head Start los niños y las familias a prosperar ahora y en el futuro con amigos, vecinos y líderes de comunidad.
- ✔ Hablar de su programa como el lugar al que los padres quieren que asistan sus hijos, y los profesores quieren trabajar.



✔ Firmar y enviar correos electrónicos o cartas de apoyo a Head Start a líderes políticos.

#### La NHSA y las asociaciones de estados trabajan juntas

La Asociación Nacional de Head Start (NHSA) trabaja con tu asociación estatal para obtener mejores fondos y políticas para los programas Head Start. Escuchará de nosotros cómo puede ayudarnos a hacer esto y ser un defensor de Head Start.