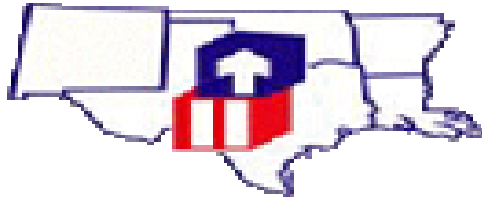


REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION BOARD
Quarterly Reporting Form



Name: Alferma Giles, Ph.D. Position: Scholarship Committee Chairperson
Meeting Date: April 7, 2025
RE: Scholarship Committee Report
Address: Alferma.Crawford@uth.tmc.edu

Correspondence: Emails and/or phone calls to:

President Crystal Pena, Michelle Joubert, Kahree Wahid, Jackie Govan, Monica Coats, Donna Hicks & Ernestine Padilla & Deana Howell

The Scholarship Committee reports the following:

Reports from Scholarship Recipients:

**Graicee Hicks | Marietta, OK – Allie J. Mitchell Scholarship Recipient
(Early Childhood Development - Murray State College)**

“I am letting you know that this scholarship has helped me in my college career so far. I have used it to purchase books, classes, and other fees I have had. Thank you so much for the opportunity you all have given me. I hope that this scholarship can continue to help other students just like it has helped me.”

**Trisha Wainscott | Allen, OK – Head Start Staff Scholarship Recipient
Big Five Allen Public Schools Head Start, (Child Development - Murray State College)**

First, I want to express how truly blessed and honored I feel to have been considered for and awarded this scholarship from Big Five. It has been a tremendous help in supporting my educational journey, and I am deeply grateful for this opportunity.

So far, I have utilized the scholarship funds for tuition, textbooks not covered by my existing scholarship, and necessary school supplies. My initial goal was to save toward purchasing a reliable laptop, as I plan to pursue my bachelor’s degree to become a lead teacher. Unfortunately, my current laptop does not meet the requirements for proctored tests, and I have not yet found an

option within my budget. However, I am exploring ways to contribute additional funds to make this purchase possible.

The reason I began this journey at 38 is deeply personal and meaningful to me. Over the years, I've witnessed instances where some educators did not fully adhere to rules, protocols, procedures, and curriculum. This weighed heavily on my heart and inspired me to return to school. I was once a child in the school system who struggled with a learning disability, and I understand the importance of receiving proper guidance and support.

I have had the privilege of being an assistant for seven years (now entering my eighth), working alongside lead teachers who have poured their hearts into providing children with meaningful education, using every tool and resource available to them. However, I've also observed others who seemed more focused on simply getting through the day, rather than fully embracing the opportunity to enrich children's learning experiences. This contrast has fueled my desire to become a lead teacher who prioritizes creativity, dedication, and excellence. I believe it is our responsibility as educators to utilize every resource available to us and follow the road map provided to guide and inspire the next generation. God willing, I hope to lead a classroom one day and serve as an example of what a committed, passionate educator looks like.

This decision has not been without challenges, as I also have a beautiful family to consider. My two wonderful daughters are growing and creating their own stories, and my loving, supportive husband has been my rock throughout this journey. I have prayed deeply about this path and take comfort in knowing that no matter the outcome, I can serve and make a difference wherever I am placed. Every day, in any position, I am given the opportunity to love, serve, and teach what is right. I am at peace knowing that I can fulfill my purpose, no matter the role. In summary, I have utilized the scholarship funds for tuition, textbooks, and school supplies (notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, binders, art supplies for child development projects, etc.)

Thank you so much for your time, support, and belief in my journey. I am truly grateful for this opportunity and wish you all a wonderful day!

The 2025 scholarship application:

The Region VI Head Start Association (HSA) draft Scholarship Application was sent to the scholarship committee to review and edit on March 18th. The application will be converted into a Word Fillable version prior to distribution and posting to the website

Scholarship application period: May 2 – June 2, 2025

The scholarship application will be forwarded to State Association Presidents and Collaboration Directors to send to Head Start/Early Head Start grantees. Grantee Agency Directors/Administrators are asked to share the scholarship application with **staff, parents, former Head Start students, volunteers, and friends of Head Start. Applications are due at the grantee level on June 2, 2025.**

Grantees in each state can only submit one (1) scholarship/award application per category. Previous recipients of Region VI Scholarships or Awards are not eligible

Report Attachments (if any): None

Signature(s): Alferma Giles **Date Submitted:** 4/2/25

TXHSCO website: <https://texashssco.org/>

