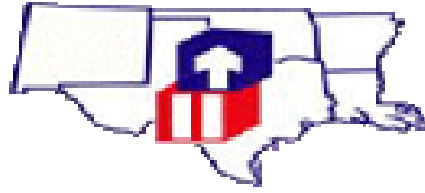


REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION BOARD

Quarterly Reporting Form



Name: Olga Valenzuela-Zavala **Position:** New Mexico Head Start State Collaboration Director

Organization: New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department **E-Address:** olga.valenzuela-zavala@state.nm.us

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Content Topics: _____

Reporting Information:

- ECECD department took effect on July 1, 2021- the HSSCO was elevated to the Secretary's Office. The department encompasses Child Care, PreK (public and private), Head Start, Nutrition, Licensing, Quality Rating and Improvement System, Home Visiting, Early Intervention.
- NM-Region VI Annual Virtual Conference in December 2020-close to 600 participants and were presented with topics as listed:
 - Importance of fatherhood
 - Trauma informed care and trauma sensitive classrooms
 - Supporting interactions in a socially distanced or virtual classroom
 - Early brain development and how to increase talk
 - Power of storytelling
 - Racial equity
 - Family engagement
 - Self-care and mindfulness

- Quorum on-line training available to HS programs-by December 2020 560 Head Start staff had taken advantage of those trainings completing 2,503 courses.
- In 2020- ECECD granted 260 scholarships to Head Start staff
- 15 slots were given to Head Start grantees across the state including tribal programs, for the CLASS Training of Trainers.
- At -a -Glance first report for the legislature- Head Start is being recognized in our state. This report was put together for our ECECD Department's Secretary to present at the legislature to highlight our program.
 - Brief History and program timeline
 - Priorities of the HSSCO
 - Highlights of the program
 - Family Partnership and leadership in the Head Start Program
 - Delivery of Services During the Pandemic
 - Capacity and Enrollment
 - Funding coming to the state including tribal programs.
- CCDF state Plan- renewal this year. Focused groups including Head Start programs
- NMHSA and the HSSCO coordinated a presentation for a Program called FirstDay Learning who provides Mental Health trainings, modules, presentations for parents, consultation services. The presentation is taking place on 4/28/21, ECECD is looking at training opportunities and this program will provide us with an overview of their services. Programs also can utilize their services using their PD funds.
- Intro to CLASS (3 cohorts English/Spanish/Tribal) April 27-28, 2021 for Tribal programs. Regional Head Start programs tentatively happening on June 11, 2021 both in English and Spanish.
- CNM college Fast Track Cohorts presentation 4/20/21, ECE Pathways and Scholarship information. On line courses, fast track cohorts, and English and Spanish courses.
- Head Start University-Family Engagement training 30 slots were left from the Region VI Annual Conference and the ECECD sponsoring them all. They are scheduled Mid-May all slots have been filled.
- Migrant Seasonal included Texas initial meeting and follow up meeting on 4/29. At this point we will find out if their program has been set up and figure out where we need to go from there.
- McKinney Vento Liaison began conversations coordinating a presentation for all head start grantees- we are working on scheduling the presentation.
- EHS-CCP scheduled an initial meeting on May 4th to initiate conversations with grantees that carry partnerships to start developing activities to support programs. Received support from my Region VI colleagues with ideas from what they are doing in their states. Also, applied for the NHSA Conference- they provided HSSCD the opportunity for a scholarship for the First EHS Track and was granted to attend three days of the conference. This will also help with the Child Care Partnership process.

The Track includes the following topics:

- Building the Bridge from Pregnancy to Infancy
- The Importance of Active Learning and Sensory
- Profiling EHS-CC work in Iowa with Camina Conmigo
- CDC Learn the Signs. Act Early

- Coordinating and Delivering Early Head Start Prenatal Services
- Two Year Old's and the Magnificent Power of Wonder
- Laying the Foundation
- Playful Learning Environments for Infants and Toddlers
- Supporting rural families

Also unknown as to who has been granted partnerships.

- Initial stages of planning our first Transition Summit at the end of the summer- Virtual. Last week Arkansas and Ohio states presented on transition summits and provided great ideas.
- February- Oral Health Presentation during the oral health month, programs were encouraged to continue communication with Oral Health State Liaison to coordinate presentation for their in-service and family engagement days.
- Tribal Bi-Weekly, Government to Government, and Navajo Nation Collaborative Meetings- State and Tribal Government meet to support programs and provide consultation.
- Weekly Navajo Nation Collaborative meeting- Invited Arizona HSSCD to participate as we share the nation. In this meeting we share information and learn from the different agencies, entities, states and support each other.
- Equity Council-All members are in the process of fully understanding Equity, systems, and self-reflect on things we may be biased.
- NMHSA and HSSCO MOU developing- HSSCD and NMHSA President participated in a guiding group from the NHSA to obtain ideas as to how to develop the MOU.
- HS Annual Needs Assessment, Annual Report and Re Funding Applications were completed and in the process of developing new goals to accomplish in the coming year.
- Opioid Campaign- Video production for a media plan, 2 Focus groups with families took place to determine what needed to be included in the videos. It is a series of 3 videos. The first one has come out and it is focused on having a safety plan. The next one will be on the stigma of substance misuse and the last one is more for training. All three videos are planned to be translated into Spanish and Dine (Navajo) and they also include close captioning for deaf and hard of hearing. These campaign is not only focusing on Head Start but will be available for all ECE programs' staff and families.
- Head Start Recruitment video- 2 focus groups with Head Start Directors took place to determine what needs to be included to highlight the Head Star Program and it will be used for state wide recruitment. And two focus groups with families have also been scheduled.
- HSSCO and NMHSA supported the NHSA coordinating focus groups with HS Directors, ERSEA staff and parents, for discussion on Barriers that prevent eligible families from accessing HS/EHS.
- P-EBT cards- state provided EBT cards to school children utilizing COVID funds coming to the state. Head Start was not included the first time around but is now being included for those children whose family receive SNAP, we are collecting names of those families to include them so they can receive the benefit.
- Met with Cheryl Angell region VI systems specialist
- We had our virtual OHS meeting last week.

Board Action Items:

Attachments (if any):

Signature(s): *Olga V. Lavala*

Date: 4/19/2021

HSSCO -JD