

REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION
Quarterly Reporting Form



Name: Alferma Giles, Ph.D.

Position: THSSCO Director

Meeting Date: July 18, 2022

Organization: Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office

Address: Alferma.Crawford@uth.tmc.edu

Correspondence: Emails and/or phone calls to:

1. Jackie Govan, Paula Brown, Olga Valezuela-Zavala, & Kahree Wahid
2. Region VI HSA Board

Reporting Information:

- The THSSCO Year 3 of 5 Continuation Grant for FY23 was submitted for approval on June 29th.
- The THSSCO Needs Assessment/Strategic Plan is in the final stages of development and will be posted on the THSSCO website once it has been completed
- Participated in the quarterly meeting with the Texas Early Learning Council on July 15th. The THSSCO provided information and answered questions regarding SNAP recipient's eligibility to enroll in Head Start.
- The THSSCO has hosted meetings with the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission Team that oversees SNAP, to assist with the coordination between SNAP and Head Start. We also reviewed and determined the language that will be used in documents, publications and announcements.
- The THSSCO participated in quarterly meetings with Cal Lopez, Director of the Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth (TEHCY) Office on July 30th, to engage in activities of the Home at Head Start Initiative and to discuss the TEHCY Summit that will take place in San Marcos, TX August 29-31. The THSSCO will facilitate a session on the Functions & Activities of the THSSCO and provide updates from the Office of Head Start and the National Head Start Association.
- The THSSCO is working with the Region VI Collaboration Directors to plan, prepare and present a pre-conference event on Opioid Abuse and Substance Use Disorders at the **Region VI Head Start Association Conference in September.**
- The THSSCO is working with The Professional Development Company, Power Potential to Create a Partnership Guide that will explain the alignment between Head Start, childcare, and

school districts. The Partnership Guide will contain kindergarten transition information and activities to support effective partnerships, relationship building and collaboration that will assist families and children in early childhood programs to implement practices that will assist them in their partnership efforts. The completed guide supports the Office of Head Start Transition to Kindergarten Initiative, as it will include kindergarten transition information that will address: families, children, programs, educators, leaders and the community in partnership efforts. The usage of video's and transition information from Head Start resources posted on the Early Childhood Learning Knowledge Center (ECLKC) website will be used to ensure that the guide specifically includes the information and documents developed to support partnering and transition to kindergarten. Reference resource tools and activities posted on the ECLKC website will be included as well. A weblink will be developed for public access to the Partnership Guide that will be posted on the Texas Head Start Collaboration Office Website, along with other state agencies as requested.

- The THSSCO continues to work with Help Me Grow North Texas in the continuation grant for Learn the Signs Act Early data collection efforts.
- The THSSCO continues to collaborate with the Texas Oral Health Partners to support Head Start/Early Head Start's Oral Health Needs. We are now focusing on the following:
 - Laps in oral health care in Head Start/Early Head Start programs during the pandemic
 - Promoting oral hygiene to address the increase in cavities in children during the pandemic
 - Addressing dental home providers for children as needed. Focus on rural counties
- The Children's Learning Institute was awarded the ACF Cultivating Awareness and Resilience in Education (CARE) Grant. The CARE program is a mindfulness-based program that helps teachers better manage their stress and enhance their social-emotional skills. The grant is being implemented in HS/EHS programs over a five-year period. The THSSCO supported the recruitment of 250 teachers and will work to recruit coaches to engage in year 3 of the grant, and continues to provide information, data and outreach to support the grant implementation.



Board Action Items: None

Report Attachments (if any):

Signature(s): *Alferma Giles* **Date Submitted:** 7/12/22

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