

REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION BOARD

Quarterly Reporting Form



Name: Paula A. Brown

Position: OK HSSCO Director

Organization: OK Assoc. of CAAs

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Correspondence:

- 1.** Conference calls with Maria Cervera, ACF, OHS Region VI HSSCO Liaison
- 2.** Conference calls with Kent Mitchell, NHSA Director of State Affairs – Monthly HSSCO call and Monthly HSSCO on Homelessness hosted by Tracy Duarte,

Content Topics: Transition Summit, SNAP Discussions, Embedded Department of Human Services Case Workers, Collab Office Fact Sheet

Reporting Information:

1st Annual Early Childhood Transition Summit: We held the 1st Annual Early Childhood Transition Summit on June 22, 2022. We had 83 participants in attendance and a total of 14 teams. The teams experienced a mix of big group training, breakouts, and team planning/networking time. Each of the teams walked away from the day with the beginning of a comprehensive transition plan for their community. We will have a 6 month follow-up virtually to keep them connected and directed. Maria Cervera from Region VI OHS provided a greeting and update on Head Start. We also had a national speaker, Matt Weyer who discussed transition policy at the state level and how to effectively support them. Region VI T&TA, Tamara Brickey and Robin Bowen provided a session on families and the transition process as well as facilitating the development of the transition plans. There was a panel presentation that included Part C, Head Start, a parent, a disabilities manager, and an elementary school principal. Participants in the summit included Head Start, Early Head Start, SoonerStart (part C), Public School EC Special Ed, Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Childcare. Breakfast was provided by Frog Street Press, Lunch and door prizes were provided by Lakeshore Learning, and Transition Backpacks were provided by the Oklahoma HSSCO. The summit was well received, and people are excited for there to be future summits since space was limited.

SNAP Discussion: The HSSCO has been in discussions with Oklahoma's Department of Human Services, which manages the SNAP program. They have already added SNAP eligibility to the intake process for families applying for services. They will be referred to a local Head Start program when they are found to be eligible for SNAP, among other eligibility criteria. I am also in discussions with the director to develop an MOU that would allow a designated person at each center to be able to verify SNAP eligibility when needed.

Embedded Department of Human Services Case Workers: I invited and OKDHS provided speakers at a recent Head Start Directors' meeting that gave them opportunity to learn about having embedded case workers at individual Head Start programs/centers.

Updated Oklahoma Head Start Fact Sheet: My new program assistant, Zoe Campbell, has been working hard on re-designing and getting the 2021 Fact Sheet completed. It is on target to be ready to go by August 1st.

Board Action Items: None at this time

Report Attachments (if any):

Signature(s): *Paula A. Brown*

Date: 7/18/2022