

REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION
President's Report to Board of Directors
May 4, 2010

PRIORITIZED TASK LIST

- ✓ Sent State President Contact List to Treasurer and Scholarship Chairperson
- ✓ Sent Dollar per Child Report Request to State Presidents
- ✓ Developed an Attendance Tracking Log for Board Members



In Process:

- Thank You Letter to NMHSA (Jaime Diaz, 2010 Conference Chairperson)
- Contact Jackie Deadman, Arkansas University to Facilitate Strategic Planning
- Send Board Membership Roster to Committee Chairs to Solicit Volunteers
- Research Treasurer's Term Limit Amendment and Controller Proposal to Board

STATE/REGIONAL AND/OR NATIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED:

- Region VI HSA Quarterly Meeting: Sugar Land, Texas: March 27-29, 2010

DOLLAR PER CHILD CAMPAIGN: "Big Thanks!" to all of the programs who have donated. As you know the funds from this campaign help NHSA pay for legislative efforts including ARRA, Head Start Appropriations, Early Learning Challenge Fund, the next Head Start Act Reauthorization, OHS Regulatory Issues, as well as other efforts. NHSA cannot do their work without our support. Let's do our part! Reports up to date are as follows: Total Amount: \$19,165.06

- Arkansas Head Start Association: Number of HS/EHS Slots: 10, 521. Contribution: \$10,851.28.
- Texas Head Start Association: Number of HS/EHS Slots: 74,129. Contribution: \$8,313.78. Does not include donations sent directly to NHSA by agencies. Strategies utilized included raffle at state conference, walk-a-thons and sale of ribbons!


RESOLUTIONS: (Approved at Annual Business Meeting in Albuquerque, November 14, 2009)

- Public Awareness (Public Service Announcements): local/national TV, radio and PBS broadcasts.
- Transportation: provide waivers for alternative transportation and/or state regulated.
- Definition of High Quality: name a committee to develop a definition; approved by membership.
- NHSA Recognition: encourage all Region VI programs/individuals to pay dues and join the NHSA.
- Support New Grantees: all current grantees to embrace and support new grantees in their local areas.
- Support HS/EHS Expansion – Beyond Stimulus: continuation of ARRA funds; no interruption of services.
- NHSA Membership: for NHSA to develop a provision to transfer membership when there is a staff vacancy.
- HS/EHS Blending of Funds: support blending and/or collapsing HS/EHS contracts; define seamless.
- Elimination of Duplication of Services: support one-stop approach to early childhood services in communities.
- Region VI Conference 2010: support to the Region VI conference in Texas in 2010.
- Conference Appreciation: recognize great leadership of Jaime Diaz and team effort of the 2009 conference.
- Parent Involvement in Region VI Conference: encourage grantees to bring more parents to the conference.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **NHSA Board Representatives:** As per review of NHSA By-laws, it reads, “NHSA Representatives begin office effective July 1st of the calendar year ending with an odd number; term is for two (2) years. Question: When does the Region VI Board elect representatives to NHSA Board? Needs clarification.

NATIONAL HEAD START UP-DATE

- **Director of Affiliate Relations:** Ed Condon has joined the NHSA team as Director of Affiliate Relations. In this position, initially funded by the recent grant from the WK Kellogg Foundation, Ed will be working with Head Start Affiliates (State and Regional Associations) to expand their operations and build systems and partnerships related to professional development, communications/marketing and advocacy efforts in alignment with NHSA's strategic goals. 
- **Head Start Alumni Need:** NHSA is looking for Head Start Alums to feature in an upcoming project! You can nominate yourself or someone you know who was made ready for life through Head Start by contacting Hannah Griffin at NHSA at hgriffin@nhsa.org.
- **NHSA Submits Letter to NGA/CCSSO:** The National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers jointly held a meeting last month with the National Head Start Association and about 30 plus other stakeholder organizations in the early childhood community to discuss the joint development of these standards by the NGA and CCSSO and to explore the implications of these standards for the learning and development of young children, from birth through third grade. National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers requested public comments on the development of their K-12 Common Core Standards. Go to www.nhsa.org to view comments submitted.

LEGISLATIVE UP-DATE/CALL TO ACTION: There are a number of items on the agenda for the current seven week work period ending Memorial Day weekend. Please see below for a snapshot update of some the various items working their way around Capitol Hill:

- **Budget/Appropriations:** The funding climate this year is difficult and it is more important now than ever to contact your representatives and tell them why we need to increase Head Start funding by \$1 billion. ARRA funds brought services for an additional 64,000 children, as well as \$2 billion to expand and improve; we must maintain the additional funding in order to continue serving children and families.
- **Jobs/Employment:** Extension of unemployment benefits, summer jobs program, decrease of the unemployment rate through small business tax incentives and loans and the Keep our Educators Working Act of 2010 are hot topic discussions for the nation. Head Start family members may be having challenges finding and retaining jobs or may be currently unemployed; it is important to advocate on their behalf.
- **Child Nutrition:** Increase funding for child nutrition programs that help improve health, obesity rates, and child development and school readiness will also be discussed in Congress. These programs are vital to Early Head Start and Head Start's mission to develop the whole healthy child.

To contact your Senators and Representatives, call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121 or if you'd like to email them, go to: www.senate.gov and click on your Senator's website or www.house.gov and click on your Representative's website. On each website, there is a contact or feedback form which will allow you to email him/her directly.



Report Respectfully Submitted by Gloria M. Lopez, Region VI President.