

**REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION**  
**Quarterly Reporting Form**



**Name: Alferma Giles, Ph.D.**

**Position: THSSCO Director**

**Meeting Date: July 19, 2023**

**Organization: Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office**

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**Correspondence: Emails and/or phone calls to:**

1. President Lopez, Region VI HSA Board, Paula Brown, Scholarship Committee & State Association Presidents
2. Rhonda Taylor, Jackie Govan, Kahree Wahid, Vicki Buffington, Venetia Peacock & Deana Howell

**Reporting Information:**

The THSSCO Needs Assessment Survey Report and Strategic Plan for 2023 is being completed at this time, and the full report will be published at the end of August.

The THSSCO grant for Year 4 of 5 was completed and submitted in the Head Start Enterprise System for approval. The NOA letter is expected in late August or September.

In June/2023, Head Start Collaboration Directors were issued new National Priorities that will guide the work of our offices:

1. Collaborate with state systems to align early care and education services and supports for children and families prenatally to age 5.
2. Work with state efforts to collect and use data on early childhood programs to guide decision-making and improve child and family outcomes.
3. Support the expansion of and access to high-quality workforce and career development opportunities for staff.
4. Coordinate with school systems to ensure continuity and alignment across programs, as appropriate.

\*State and Regional Priorities\*

The THSSCO is working with the Texas Head Start Association Board to plan the THSA Mini Conference, September 14-15, 2023 in Austin.

The THSSCO has developed partnerships with Dr. Jerry Roberson/Cognitive High Performance Coach & Speaker, David Bryant/Department of Family & Protective Services and Anthem Strong Families to support the THSSCO to support Head Start/Early Head Start and the Texas Head Start Association with work, engagement, trainings and presentations on the fatherhood & family engagement initiative.

### **PDG-B5 Grant – Meetings planned to update the state strategic plan**

The THSSCO Director participates in quarterly meetings with the Texas Early Learning Council. The current activities include work and engagement relating to the PDG-B5 Grant. Including stakeholder and council member interviews, planning meetings and the recent July 10<sup>th</sup>, first strategic planning session. We explored the plans/scope and developed a stakeholder action plan. Our next two meetings we include creating strategies for various areas of the early learning system. Texas was awarded \$16 million per year for a three-year funding cycle, from January 2023 through December 2025. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) led the grant application in partnership with fellow members of the Early Childhood Interagency Work Group, including Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Texas Education Agency, and Texas Health and Human Services Commission. The strategic plan goals include:

#### **1. Strengthen and Build the ECCE Workforce**

Develop a pipeline of effective early childhood educators and professionals through multiple pathways that improve the training of early childhood educators, including Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in high school, articulation and transfer agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, support for early childhood apprenticeships including incentives for staff who mentor apprentices, robust work study programs, and pipelines that grow the availability of the early childhood teacher workforce.

#### **2. Develop Statewide Integrated Data System**

Develop an Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS), taking into consideration how to align early childhood data efforts with the work of the Tri-Agency Work Group.

#### **3. Reports and Studies**

Conduct a new comprehensive statewide needs assessment for children birth to 5 years old. Develop a new statewide strategic plan with efforts led by the Texas Early Learning Council in partnership with families, providers and other ECCE stakeholders.

#### **Under Activity 6 – Sub granting Options: A, B and or C:**

Supplement Funding for the state’s Part C program with PDG B5 funds and increase number of infants and toddlers served.

The THSSCO is working with the Children’s Learning Institute/[Infant Toddler Specialist Network](#) (ITSN) to align the Head Start Program Performance Standards with the Early Learning Outcomes Framework. The ITSN Team provided a training to EHS administrators and infant/toddler staff who registered to participate. The Texas ITSN offers professional development opportunities and collaborative experiences for Specialists (mentors) and teachers covering a wide range of topics specific to supporting infant and toddler development. One of the goals of the THSSCO is to increase EHS infant/toddler staff participation in the ITSN.

The THSSCO is working with the [Texas Early Childhood Professional Development System](#) (TECPDS) to support, educate, train and encourage HS/EHS staff to set-up Texas Workforce Registry accounts. The TECPDS staff will participate in state association trainings, institutes, conferences, etc., to register program staff and to support the association to access and use all the tools available, including the certificate generating tool to offer state validated training certificates for staff to verify their participation in PD trainings.

The [Texas Workforce Registry](#) (TWR) is a web-based application FREE for early childhood professionals in Texas, to keep track of all of their education and employment history, as well as the clock hours of training they have accrued. Through your TECPDS account, create a professional development profile, view reports, link to your program or school, connect to the [WorkInTexas.com job](#) search resource and matching system, and evaluate trainings presented by Registered Trainers.

The Texas Trainer Registry offers resources for all early childhood professionals who deliver training, and all TECPDS accounts have access to trainer features. There are two permission levels in the Texas Trainer Registry:

- Registered Trainer
- Non-Registered Trainer

TECPDS also offers opportunities for organizations that provide training to formally connect their trainings and trainers to TECPDS through an organizational dashboard. Currently, this opportunity is available for non-profit training organizations or organizations in formal agreements with the Texas Workforce Commission to provide professional development.

### **Conference /Meeting Attendance:**

#### **Fatherhood Summit**

June 1 | Austin

#### **Texas School Ready Institute**

June 13-15 | Houston

#### **THSA Board Meeting**

June 21 | Austin

#### **23rd International Inclusion Conference Inclusion Institute**

May 15-18 | Chapel Hill, NC

#### **Region VI HSA Conference**

July 18-21 | New Orleans, LA

#### **HS Collaborators' Meeting**

August 1-2 | Washington DC

#### **THSA Mini Conference**

September 14-15 | Austin

#### **Fall Leadership Institute**

September 18-21 | Crystal City, VA



**Board Action Items: None**

**Report Attachments (if any):**

**Signature(s):** *Alferma Giles* **Date Submitted:** 7/12/23

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