

## HEAD START STATE COLLABORATION OFFICE

### NEWSLETTER

**JANUARY 2011**



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Welcome to the very first edition of the Washington Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO) newsletter! To improve communication between the HSSCO and Head Start programs, we will be releasing a bimonthly newsletter containing updates on the work of the HSSCO and information about opportunities for your programs to participate in and provide input to state level activities. Since we know that everyone is busy and has plenty of other reading to do, we are committing to keeping it short and sweet (three pages or less). We hope that you will find it to be a useful resource and that you will provide feedback about how we can make it better in the future. Below are brief highlights on some of the things we've been up to recently:

#### **Head Start Dental Home Initiative**

There are two years remaining on Washington's five-year Dental Home Initiative (DHI). The purpose of this initiative is to increase the number of Head Start and Early Head Start children who have dental homes. Following analysis of current oral health needs in Washington and a request for input from HS/EHS directors, the Washington DHI leadership team will spend the coming year focusing on improving alignment between HS/EHS and Access to Baby and Child Dentistry (ABCD). We will provide more information on the progress of this initiative in the following months.

#### **Head Start/Early Head Start/ECEAP State Profile**

The HSSCO is coordinating the development of an updated Head Start and ECEAP State Profile. This document will provide a single source of information about Washington's Head Start, Early Head Start and ECEAP programs. This version will build upon the 2002 state profile although this new document will be:

- Updated to reflect current data and information.
- Written at a more accessible reading level.
- Shorter – about 30 pages for the electronic version and 10 pages for the printed executive summary.

Thank you to everyone who responded to the request for feedback regarding this project. We are writing an outline for the document and hope to have a final product available this spring.

### **Needs Assessment**

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the Second Annual HSSSO Statewide Needs Assessment of Head Start Programs. Your responses provided valuable input for developing the HSSCO work plan for the coming year. The report outlining the results of the assessment is available online and can be accessed at the following link:

[www.del.wa.gov/publications/partnerships/docs/HSSCONeedsAssesmentReport2010.pdf](http://www.del.wa.gov/publications/partnerships/docs/HSSCONeedsAssesmentReport2010.pdf)

### **DSHS Data Share**

Head Start programs can receive DSHS client data to be used in recruitment efforts through contracts with the HSSCO. If you have a contract in place, please note the following documents due to Kaelyn Bristol by February 1, 2011:

- Data Request Forms Due
- Notice of Nondisclosure
- Notices of Data Disposition (for last year's data)

If you do not have a contract in place and would like to receive this information, please contact Kaelyn immediately about setting up a contract.

### **Other News**

For more information about what's happening in DEL, check out the DEL newsletter at:

[www.del.wa.gov/publications/communications/](http://www.del.wa.gov/publications/communications/)

### **Contact Information**

We want this newsletter to be useful for YOU. If you have suggestions for future newsletter topics or feedback/questions regarding any of the HSSCO's activities, please send those thoughts along to Kaelyn Bristol at (360) 725-3517 or [Kaelyn.bristol@del.wa.gov](mailto:Kaelyn.bristol@del.wa.gov) - we would love to hear from you!