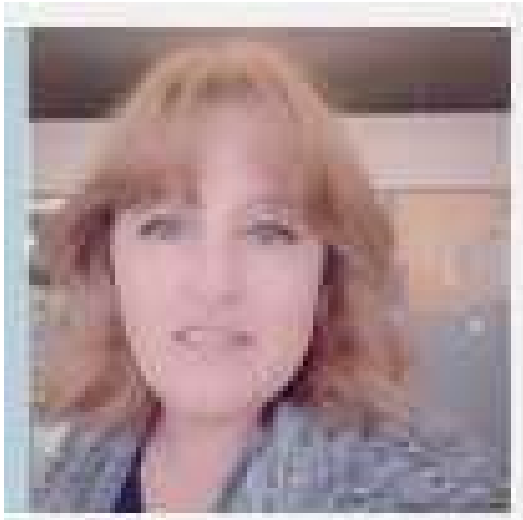


Prepared by Region IX Office of Head Start

Arizona Head Start Association Region 9 Updates November 18, 2021

Hello from Arizona Program Specialist



Andrea Harvey,
Program Specialist



Shirley Karrer,
Program Specialist



Brenda Diaz,
Program Specialist

Agenda



- ▶ Vaccinations for Head Start Staff #SleeveUp4HeadStart
- ▶ Supporting Staff Wellness
- ▶ Build Better Back
- ▶ FY22 Monitoring Process
- ▶ CARES Act Oversight Study
- ▶ Upcoming National TTA and Regional TTA events
- ▶ Questions?

Vaccinations for Head Start Staff

#SleeveUp4HeadStart



- ▶ 9/9/2021 President Biden announced a [plan](#) for all Head Start staff and certain contractors to be vaccinated.
- ▶ A notice of Final Rule is forthcoming.
- ▶ January 2022 All Head Start teachers and program staff will be required to be vaccinated to help ensure the health and safety of children, families and their communities.
- ▶ How are you planning with your program to ensure your staff meet the requirements?

Moving Toward Full In-Person Services



- ▶ Programs are working toward full enrollment and fully in-person comprehensive services, contingent upon the CDC, state, and local health department guidance, and in consideration of local school districts' decisions.
- ▶ The use of virtual and remote delivery of program services for children, while not a permanent program option, is an interim service delivery strategy.
- ▶ Beginning January 2022, OHS will reinstate practices for tracking and monitoring enrollment. Programs are expected to work toward full enrollment and full comprehensive services.

Supporting the Wellness of All Staff in the Head Start Workforce



[ACF-IM-HS-21-05](#)

Issued September 27, 2021

- ▶ Prioritize staff wellness in Head Start programs
- ▶ Strategies to promote wellness:
 - Support a program-wide culture that promotes children’s mental and overall health and social and emotional well being
 - Keep children safe during all activities
 - Foster environment of respect, trust and teamwork
 - Use COVID-19 relief funding to support retention
 - Make mental health and wellness information available to staff
 - Improve workspaces and encourage healthy options
 - Ensure staff are aware of their rights as employees

Federal Budget 2022 – Build Back Better Act



- ▶ \$450B in total funding
- ▶ \$15B to increase compensation for the Head Start workforce over six years
- ▶ Mandating full enrollment for Head Start, in which state pre-K systems must look to fill all Head Start slots first before creating new slots
- ▶ Expansion of statewide pre-K in the model of Head Start, including the possibility of local grants to Head Start if state governments opt out of participating
- ▶ Requirement of state-level child care quality to be held to Head Start Program Performance Standards

FY2022 Monitoring Process



[ACF-IM-HS-21-03: FY2022 Monitoring Process for HS & EHS](#)

Issued July 27, 2021

- **Focus Area 1 (FA1)**
 - Virtual – Start Date: October 2021 (protocol posted)
- **Focus Area 2 (FA2)**
 - In-person – Start Date: January 2022 (protocol posted)
- **CLASS**
 - FY2022 CLASS review will not be conducted
 - Virtual CLASS pilot
- The OHS will monitor local conditions for each scheduled on-site review and follow CDC recommendations
- The OHS reserves the right to conduct unannounced, on-site or virtual reviews as needed

FA1 and FA2 changes/additions



- ▶ Recipient will have the opportunity to share:
 - Program strengths, creativity and approaches to providing quality services
 - Strategies for creating a workplace culture that promotes diversity, belonging and inclusion
 - How the program is responding and adapting throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
 - How the CARES Act and other funding is being used
 - Strategies for continuous improvement and how the program determines programmatic, child and family outcomes
 - ERSEA strategies for children and expectant mothers

CARES Act Oversight Study



- ▶ The OHS will be conducting a CARES Act Oversight study in FY22:
 - This review takes a collaborative approach to identifying challenges recipients have encountered and aims to inform the development of technical assistance to proactively address issues that could impact payment integrity.
 - The study will be conducted remotely using the OHS-approved sampling methodology.
 - Eighty recipients will be selected to participate.

Upcoming National TTA Activities



[Upcoming Events | ECLKC \(hhs.gov\)](https://www.eclkc.gov/)

- Implementing High-quality Mental Health Consultation– December 1, 2021
 - My Peers Orientation – December 2, 2021
 - Prioritizing Staff Wellness in Unprecedented Times- December 2, 2021
 - National Spotlight on Solutions-focused Possibilities: Putting Your Dollars to Work– December 6-7, 2021
-
- View past, upcoming events, and registration information [HERE](#).
 - For more information on registering for any of these events, please contact your assigned TTA Point of Contact (POC) or Program Specialist

Upcoming Regional TTA Activities



➤ Region Wellness Series

- Session 2 - February 10, 2pm-3:30pm PT
- Session 3 - May 12, 2pm-3:30pm PT

➤ Arizona Coaching Network

- December 21/January 18

- For more information on registering for any of these events, please contact your assigned TTA Point of Contact (POC) or Program Specialist

We'll Get Through This



Questions & Answers

