

# The Climate of Arizona Head Start Renewal, Support, and Access to High-Quality Services



## Positive Statewide Impact

Head Start federal  
funding added  
**\$175,213,573**  
to Arizona's  
economy

Arizona  
Head Start  
programs  
employed  
**4,788**  
individuals

**15,984**  
children/pregnant  
women and

**14,525**  
families served

**641**  
homeless families  
served,

**159**  
found housing  
by year-end

### The National Early Education Program

Founded in 1965, Head Start is based on the premise that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to reach their full potential. Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS) provide comprehensive, multi-generational support that includes early care and education, health and nutrition, and family services. Head Start focuses on school readiness for children from three to five, while Early Head Start provides high-quality daycare for infants and toddlers and prenatal services for pregnant women. Working closely with local communities to identify and meet specific needs, Head Start promotes family health and stability while engaging parents as equal partners in their child's education.

### The Voice of Arizona Head Start

The Arizona Head Start Association (AZHSA) was created to empower the coalition of organizations that provide Head Start programs. AZHSA works closely with Arizona's Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO) to support strategic planning and carry out statewide initiatives across organizational, governmental, and community levels. We strengthen and enhance the work of our member agencies and partners through four committees: Early Childhood Development; Disabilities & Mental Health; Integrated Health & Safety; and Parent, Family, and Community Engagement. These committees keep AZHSA at the forefront of statewide leadership, whether collaborating on critical issues, driving program excellence, or promoting professional development.



### Arizona Head Start At-a-Glance

211

Head Start programs

11,085

Head Start children

18

Early Head Start programs

3,726

infants/toddlers;

150

pregnant women

Three

Seasonal/Migrant programs

1,023

cumulative Seasonal/Migrant children

474

preschool Seasonal/Migrant children

The Arizona Head Start Association has prepared this fact sheet. Development, production and distribution of this fact sheet was supported in part by funds from the Arizona Head Start State Collaboration Office.

**A comprehensive report is available at [AZheadstart.org](http://AZheadstart.org)**



### Children

6,334

behavioral screenings for newly enrolled children

999

received care for chronic health condition

6,960

received preventative dental care

9,880

up-to-date on periodic/diagnostic screenings



### Community

364

Head Start/EHS centers statewide

10,026

Head Start/EHS classrooms

1,441

preschool classroom teachers/assistant teachers

459

EHS center-based teachers

### OUR MISSION

The mission of AZHSA is to pursue excellence in collaboration with local agencies and partners that promotes educational achievements, family self-sufficiency, and generational progress. To achieve this, we advocate for the wellbeing of a high qualified workforce, including opportunities for state level engagement with key stakeholders and elected leaders.



### Families

111,882

home visits throughout the year

11,059

families received support services

11,039

parents employed or in school/job training

5,151

fathers involved in child's educational experiences



Arizona Head Start Association

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