

**DEPARTMENT:** Human Services

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Melody Woosley

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:** Head Start Briefing Items

**SUMMARY:**

This item presents the following from the Department of Human Services (DHS) Head Start and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership programs for briefing without action required:

1. Briefing on the DHS, Head Start Lead, Dental and Green and Healthy Homes Data
2. Briefing on the DHS, Head Start Program Monitoring Calendars
3. Briefing on the August 2019 DHS, Head Start Program Update and Fiscal Report

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) requires recipients of Head Start grants to provide regular briefings on program and fiscal activities and ongoing training throughout the program year to their governing body, City Council, and to the Head Start Policy Council. While City Council must maintain its legal and fiscal responsibilities, it has authorized the Community Health and Equity Committee to oversee other key responsibilities.

The Head Start and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant programs are federally-funded programs administered by HHS. The programs provide early childhood education, family support and comprehensive support services to eligible children between the ages of six weeks and five years, and their families.

The DHS, Head Start Grant serves children at or below the federal poverty line and prioritizes the most vulnerable children, including those with disabilities, experiencing homelessness and children in the foster care system. The program mission is to prepare children and engage families for school readiness and lifelong success. The City of San Antonio program serves a total of 3,020 children: 777 children in the Edgewood Independent School District (EISD) and 2,243 children in the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD). As the program grantee, DHS, Head Start provides direct program management, oversight, training and technical assistance, governance, family support and mental wellness services. The comprehensive services approach positively impacts families and holistically addresses the needs of the children. DHS, Head Start also contracts with EISD and SAISD for the provision of educational and disability services, the Metropolitan Health District for dental services and University of the Incarnate Word for health services.

The Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Grant provides early childhood education and development for low-income families with infants and toddlers (ages 6 weeks to 35 months). Early Head Start partners with six non-profit child care centers to expand access to high-quality comprehensive services for 216 low-income infants and toddlers and their families.

**ISSUE:**

Rules and regulations for the Head Start and Early Start-Child Care Partnership grants as set forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) require the Governing Body (City Council) and the Head Start Policy Council to review programmatic actions and City Council has authorized the Community Health and Equity Committee to oversee certain key responsibilities:

1. Briefing on the 2018-2019 DHS, Head Start Program Lead, Dental, and Green and Healthy Homes Data (Attachment A) – According to the Head Start Act Sec 642(c)(1)(E) The governing body is responsible for activities and data review. The Office of Head Start requires programs to provide high-quality health, oral health, mental health, and nutrition services that are developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and that will support each child's growth and school readiness. The Head Start Policy Council reviewed the 2018-2019 DHS, Head Start Lead, Dental, and Green and Healthy Homes Data on August 27, 2019.
2. Briefing on the DHS, Head Start Program Updates (Attachment B) - The Head Start Act 642(d)(2)(A-E) requires the program share accurate and regular information with the governing body and Head Start Policy Council in accordance with the Head Start Act Sec 642(c)(1)(E). Monthly program report includes information on Head Start Program Monitoring Calendars and monthly activities for the programs and fiscal briefing for the month of August 2019.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The review of the items included in this memorandum are required for program compliance with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services rules and regulations for Head Start and Early Head Start- Child Care Partnership programs.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no anticipated impact to the general fund as a result of these actions.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

These items are for briefing purposes only.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Attachment A: 2018-2019 DHS, Head Start Lead, Dental, and Green and Healthy Homes Data
2. Attachment B: DHS, Head Start Data, Monthly Program Updates, and Fiscal Items