

## Selected FY2015 Accomplishments

### National:

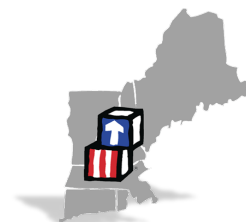
- Met with members of Congress regarding budgetary and policy issues
- Participant in NHSA's "Investing in Impact" workgroup
- "Conversations in Learning" panel member
- Active participants on National Head Start Association's Board of Directors and Executive Committee
- Submitted written comments to Congress and Office of Head Start regarding: Child Care Development Grant Preprint, Head Start Collaboration Office Annual Report proposals, Head Start Performance Standards, Notice of Proposed Rule making, Health, Education and Workforce Committee's request for comments re: Head Start, Training and Technical Assistance system
- Co-signed letters submitted to Congress and Office of Head Start regarding: Aligned Monitoring System recommendations, *Caring for Our Children Basics* standards, Designation Renewal System, Elementary and Secondary Education Act Re-authorization, Homeless Children and Youth Act

### Regional:

- Hosted a survey to collect regional input to inform the region's Training and Technical Assistance Plan
- Supported State Associations in the review of, and response to, the proposed changes to Head Start Performance Standards
- Hosted 2 regional conferences and (co) sponsored 9 additional training events
- Hosted regional dialogue regarding longitudinal data systems
- Supported state conference activities
- Participated as a presenter and panel member at a State Association retreat

### Local:

- Joined program Directors during visits to Congressional members
- Supported staff recruitment efforts via website job postings
- Incorporated local training needs in regional professional development events
- Responded to requests for resources and information



# New England Head Start Association Annual Report 2014 - 2015



## From the Association Leadership



James A. Houlares  
Chairperson of the  
Board of Directors

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is with great pride that we present this annual report. As you will see, NEHSA has continued to grow and progress, providing us with a greater capacity to support the Early Head Start and Head Start grantees throughout New England.

While the entire Head Start community celebrated the 50th Anniversary year of the Head Start program, NEHSA:

- Continued to strengthen its organizational functions and financial stability
- Increased its provision of professional development events
- Expanded its involvement in public education and public policy issues
- Enhanced its support to the Region's State Head Start Associations
- Further evolved its partnership with the Regional Office

We could not have accomplished this without the support and contributions of:

- Members of the NEHSA Board of Directors
- NEHSA agency members
- The Office of Head Start Regional Office staff
- The Region 1 Training and Technical Assistance Network
- Our conference corporate exhibitors and sponsors

NEHSA remains committed to supporting the Region's children, families, staff, programs and communities as we look forward to times that include a number of changes on the Federal, Regional and Local levels. We are excited to partner with the Head Start community, and invite you to actively join us as we embrace the opportunities to demonstrate Head Start's importance, innovation, and leadership.

*"My son still wasn't talking at age 2 1/2 and I was growing concerned. I signed him up for Head Start and three months later he was talking in sentences!"*

- Head Start Parent, MA

## Priority Areas | Strategic Opportunities

In its 2015-2017 Strategic Plan, NEHSA has identified these **key priority areas**:

- Continued evolution of NEHSA's organizational structure and resources.
- Strengthen the identity and role of NEHSA to meet the needs of grantees in the Region.
- Development and delivery of quality training and professional development activities.
- Proactive involvement in public policy matters and linking regional needs to national issues.

To respond to these **strategic opportunities**:

- Expand responsive services and supports to membership.
- Ensure an effective and financially stable organization.
- Provide regional leadership related to Head Start Reauthorization and Federal policy development.
- Promote State pre-k and federal early learning initiatives as a national priority.
- Promote valid and reliable data as evidence of the collective impact on children, families and communities.



## 2015 Member Agencies

**Connecticut:** ACES Middlesex County / Action for Bridgeport Community Development / Community Development Institute / Connecticut Head Start Collaboration Office / EASTCONN / Education Connection / Human Resources Agency / LULAC / Manchester Head Start / Norwalk Housing Authority / TEAM, Inc. / Thames Valley Council for Community Action / United Way of Greater New Haven

**Maine:** Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care / Aroostook Community Action Program / Child and Family Opportunities, Inc., / Community Concepts / Center for Community Inclusion Disability Studies / Kennebec Valley Community Action Program / The Opportunity Alliance / Penquis Child Development / Southern Kennebec Child Development Corporation / Waldo County Community Action Program / York County Community Action Program

**Massachusetts:** Action for Boston Community Development / Associates for Human Services / Cape Cod Child Development / Citizens for Citizens, Inc. / Community Action, Inc. / Community Action of Franklin, Hampshire, North Quabbin Regions, Inc., / Community Day Care of Lawrence / Community Teamwork, Inc. / The Dimock Center / Greater Lawrence Community Action Council / Holyoke-Chicopee-Springfield Head Start / Lynn Economic Opportunity, Inc. / Massachusetts Head Start Association / Montachusett Opportunity Council / PACE Head Start / Pathways for Children, Inc. / Quincy Community Action Program / Self Help, Inc. / South Middlesex Opportunity Council / South Shore Community Action Council / South Shore Stars / TRIUMPH, Inc. / Worcester Community Action Council

**New Hampshire:** Belknap-Merrimack Community Action Program / Community Action Partnership of Strafford County / New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DCYF HSSCO) / Southern New Hampshire Services, Inc. / Southwestern Community Services / Tri-County Community Action Program

**Rhode Island:** CHILD, Inc. / Children's Friend and Service / Comprehensive Community Action Program / East Bay Community Action Program / Meeting Street / South County Community Action Agency / Tri Town Community Action Program / Woonsocket Head Start

**Vermont:** Early Education Services / Capstone Community Action / Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity / Northeast Kingdom Community Action Program / Rutland Community Action Programs, Inc. / Southeastern Vermont Community Action / State of Vermont (DCF HSSCO) / United Children's Services

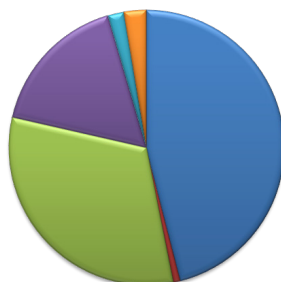
*"We came from a home with domestic violence. We lost everything - our home, my job, my car - and had to start over again... The Head Start staff helped in every area that we needed help. Thank you Head Start for changing my family's lives."*

- Head Start Parent, NH

## FY 2015 Financials unaudited



<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$267,028</b>
Membership Dues	\$24,300
Events	\$238,107
Dollar Per Child	\$941
Other	\$3,680



<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$266,239</b>
Events	\$122,589
Dollar Per Child	\$2,192
Personnel	\$84,361
Travel/Meetings	\$44,999
Operations	\$5,065
Other	\$7,033



## NEHSA Mission:

To unite and support New England Head Start Programs as leaders in early education.

## NEHSA Values:

- We are committed to being champions for the needs of Head Start children, families and staff and to increasing the quality of early childhood education.
- We are dedicated to being a high quality, high impact organization that evaluates its efforts, celebrates positive outcomes, and works toward continuous improvement.
- We are determined to play a valued and visible regional leadership role. We respect that programs, states, and state associations have unique attributes and we strive to represent them in an inclusive manner.
- We recognize the strength of a well-informed, unified voice to achieve the best outcomes for children, families and staff. We seek out collaboration and partnership, and at our core we are relationship based.
- We are committed to the mutual sharing of information in order to empower and enfranchise our membership. We respect each individual's unique contributions, perspectives and culture.
- We value the engagement of parents as equal partners in their role as board members and in the activities of the organization.
- We are accountable to our members by adhering to high standards of governance, carefully stewarding resources and operating transparently.

*“Head Start has helped me become an advocate for my children and myself.”*

- Head Start Parent, NH

## NEHSA Board of Directors and Staff

Jeanne Agri, Secretary / Director Representative, New Hampshire

Ben Allen / HSSCO Director Representative

Karen Ennis / Director Representative, Massachusetts

Dianne Farrar / Staff Representative to NHSA

Monette Ferguson / Director Representative, Connecticut

Antonia (Toni) Enright / Director Representative, Rhode Island

Debra Gass / Director Representative, Vermont

Robyn Giragosian / Parent Representative to NHSA

James Houlares, Chairperson / “Friend” Representative to NHSA

Jay Isakson, Vice Chairperson / Parent Representative, Vermont

Heidi LeBlanc / Director Representative, Maine

Marianne Miller / Director Representative to NHSA

Michele Pino, Treasurer / “Friend” Representative

Crystal Royea / Parent Representative, New Hampshire

Shakeisha Thomas-Raines / Parent Representative, Massachusetts

Vacancies: Parent Representatives: Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island

Dana Oltchick Lundy, Executive Director

