

Memo

To: House Human Services Committee

From: Christy Swenson, Vermont Head Start Association Chair

Topic: Impact of Potential Head Start Cuts

In the current school year, Head Start programs have contributed the following to Vermont's early childhood landscape:

(Caveats: This is based on 6 of 7 Vermont Head Start programs; This is for the current school year so does not show 12 months of service.)

Local School Districts:

- \$474,511 in Direct Cash Support
- 12.7 staff (\$941,848 value)
- \$126,444 of capital improvements, equipment, and supplies

Community Action Agencies:

- \$2,536,867 in administrative funding

Parent Child Centers:

- 38 staff (\$2,257,720 value)

Community-based Child Care Programs:

- \$792,096 in Direct Cash Support
- 11.9 Staff (\$933,218 value)
- A substantial amount in educator training
- \$24,750 of capital improvement, equipment, and supplies

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Vermont Head Start Association

Head Start operated centers:

- Vermont Head Start programs operate using \$8,660,455 worth of childcare facilities of which \$7,558,646 is federally owned
- 615 children served
- 186,534 meals/snacks served
- 178 parents at risk of losing employment/job training or unable to continue their education
- 15,410 hours of family stabilization and case management services

Home Visiting services:

- 7,345 hours of Parent Education
- 6,829 hours of Family Stabilization services
- 212 families served

Child Safety and Families Served:

- Head Start/Early Head Start currently serves 90 children and families where there is FSD involvement
- Head Start/Early Head Start currently serves 148 children experiencing homelessness
- Head Start/Early Head Start currently serves 54 children with an adult with substance use disorder in their household (based on self-disclosure)
- Head Start/Early Head Start currently serves 166 children with an adult with a diagnosed mental health disorder
- Head Start/Early Head Start currently serves 26 children who have lost a parent to death or incarceration

Health, Mental Health, and Oral Health services:

- 104 children referred to early intervention/early childhood special education
- 183 children identified as having a hearing concern and referred for care
- 127 children identified as having vision concerns and referred for care
- ~25% of served children have a OnePlan/IEP
- 1288 hours of Oral Health services (registered dental hygienists)
- 655 hours of Mental Health services (licensed mental health providers)

Training

- \$337,969 provided in training and professional development in the areas of trauma-informed care, early childhood development, behavioral intervention, and family engagement