

# Impact of Sequester on WV Head Start and Early Head Start



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# Head Start/Early Head Start

- Head Start/Early Head Start is a federal program that promotes the school readiness of children ages birth to 5 from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social and emotional development.
- Head Start/Early Head Start is a child-centered, family focused, comprehensive and community-based program.
- Head Start provides comprehensive education, health, nutrition, dental, mental health, social services and parent involvement opportunities to income eligible children and their families.

# Snapshot of Head Start in WV

- 21 local agencies administering Head Start (HS) statewide.
- 9 of those programs also provide Early Head Start (EHS) in 23 counties.
- In 2011-2102, WV HS and EHS served 9,583 children across the state.

Data Source: Program Information Report (PIR), Office of Head Start 2011-2012 Program Information Enrollment Report.

# Why is EHS not statewide?

- Early Head Start is a much younger program, started in 1995. As a result, there are fewer EHS programs nationally.
- Funding is competitive and programs are awarded based upon strength of grant applications.

# Impact of Sequester to HS/EHS

- The FY 13 sequester cuts to WV HS/EHS equaled \$3,127,159. (Source: WV Head Start Association Sequester Impact Survey)
- This has resulted in 461 fewer families receiving Head Start and Early Head Start services during this school year. (Source: National Head Start Association West Virginia Fact Sheet: Impact of Sequestration. Website: [www.nhsa.org](http://www.nhsa.org))
- 80 staff have also lost their jobs. (Source: WV Head Start Association Sequester Impact Survey)
- Head Start services have been diminished.

# Impact Assessment Challenges

- Head Start Data Collection and reporting
  - County Data
  - Staff Data



# Sequestration Impact by Grantee Document

# Additional Impacts

- Implications of reductions beyond children and staff
  - Facilities
  - Transportation
  - Shortened days of service
  - Impact on other programs/systems such as UPK and Child Care Subsidy
  - Collaboration
  - Future sequester cuts....
  - What about programs that did not make cuts?



# Contact Us!

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