Region VII Head Start Association (R7HSA)

ANNUAL REPORT

Year ending June 30, 2025

Region VII Head Start Association

IOWA | KANSAS | MISSOURI | NEBRASKA

R7HSA, 312 SW Greenwich Dr., Ste. 105,
Lee's Summit, MO 64082
R7HSA.com

164 Head Start/Early Head Start grantees, delegates, and community partners are located across the four-state region, providing services to more than **19,956 HS** and **10,435 EHS** families.

R7HSA is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit membership organization. Membership in the association is comprised of dues-paying State Head Start Associations representing grantees from respective states. R7HSA is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors consisting of categorically representative seats, four seated members from each state joined by ex-officio members including the Region VII Office of Head Start, Head Start State Association Leadership, Head Start State Collaboration Offices and the Region VII Training and Technical Assistance Office.

R7HSA is an affiliate member of the National Head Start Association with four seats on the NHSA Board of Directors. (www.nhsa.org)

**Data Source: 2025 Program Information Report (PIR)*

R7HSA MISSION AND STRATEGIC FOCUS

The Mission of the Region VII Head Start Association is to ensure quality services for children and families by promoting and supporting the effectiveness of State Head Start Associations, local Head Start Programs, and members.

Our Vision is for Region VII State Head Start Associations and affiliated local Head Start Programs to be of the highest quality in the nation.

2024—2026 STRATEGIC PLAN
with three strategic areas of focus:

- EFFECTIVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- STRONG PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS
- INTENTIONAL MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

CURRENT R7HSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R7HSA Board Roster *Updated January 2026*

BOARD OFFICERS

President	Vice-President	Treasurer	Secretary
SANDY PATCHEN	CHRISTIE FERENCE	TONYA WEBER	KIM SILL
Seated 01/2026	*Seated 01/2026*	*Seated 07/2024*	*Seated 01/2026*

BOARD MEMBERS

Iowa

Director Representative, IA
TONYA WEBER
• R7HSA Board Treasurer
New Opportunities Head Start
23751 Highway 30 East
P.O. Box 427
Carroll, IA 51401
Phone: 712.792.9266
Email: tweber@newopp.org

Staff Representative, IA
SHARON BURKE *Seated 08/24*
Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation
305 Montgomery
Decorah, IA 52157
Phone: 563.382.8436
Email: sburke@neicac.org

Parent Representative, IA
OPEN

Friend Representative, IA
TOM RENDON *Seated 12/20*
Iowa Head Start State Collaboration Office (retired)
3704 Adams Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50310
Phone: 515.201.1151
Email: tom.rendon@mediacombb.net

CURRENT R7HSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kansas

Director Representative, KS
KIM SILL
- R7HSA Board Secretary
- **NHSA Director Representative R7**
- **NHSA Board Secretary** *Seated 07/21*

Olathe Head Start, USD 233
1700 West Sheridan Street
Olathe, KS 66061
Phone: 913.780.7416 Fax: 913.780.7419
Email: ksillhlc@olatheschools.org

Staff Representative, KS
SHELBY HOWARD
- **NHSA Staff Representative R7**

NEK-CAP, Inc.
PO Box 380, 1260 220th Street
Hiawatha, KS 66434
Phone: 785.741.0275
Email: showard@nekcap.org

Friend Representative, KS
SANDY PATCHEN *Seated 01/15*
- R7HSA Board President

Constructive Playthings
13201 Arrington Road
Grandview, MO 64030
Phone: 816.965.2302 | 800.448.5543 x 2216
Email: spatchen@constructiveplaythings.com

Parent Representative, KS
OPEN

CURRENT R7HSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Missouri

Director Representative, MO
TAMMIE BENTON
Jefferson-Franklin Community Action Corporation
#2 Merchant Drive, P.O. Box 920
Hillsboro, MO 63050
Phone: 636.789.2686
Email: tbenton@jcac.org

Parent Representative, MO
KALINA SMALLS
MARC Program
Email: kaylianam@yahoo.com

Friend Representative, MO
OPEN

Staff Representative, MO
SHERRIE GREGORY *Seated 02/08/2024*
Ozark Action Inc.
710 East Main Street
West Plains, MO. 65775
Phone: 417.256.6147
Email: sgregory@oaiwp.org

Nebraska

Director Representative, NE
AUDRA OESTREICH *Seated 08/24*
Sarpy County/ESU #3
6949 S. 110th Street
La Vista, NE 68128
Phone: 402-339-6592
Email: aoestreich@esu3.org

Parent Representative, NE
MARK HABA *Seated 01/2026*
Email: habaexv100@gmail.com

Friend Representative, NE
CHRISTIE FERENCE
- **R7HSA Board Vice President**
- **NHSA Friend Representative**

Phone: 308.745.0780
Email: dcference25@gmail.com

Staff Representative, NE
MARISA VINSKY
SENCA Head Start
802 Fourth Street, PO Box 646
Humboldt NE, 63876
Phone: 402.862.2411 ext 103
Email: mvinsky@senca.org

CURRENT R7HSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Regional Office and Training/Technical Assistance Office

LATRICE DAVIS, ESQ.
Regional Program Manager, Midwest Region
US Dept. of HHS-ACF-OHS
601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106 Phone:
816.426.2285 Fax: 861.426.2228
Email: latrice.davis@acf.hhs.gov

DANA MOSES
Region VII Head Start Training/Technical Assistance Coordinator
ICF International
601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: 816.426.2904 Fax: 816.426.2888
Email: Dana.Moses@icf.com

Head Start State Collaboration Offices

MONICA SHUEY
Iowa Head Start State Collaboration Office
400 E 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
Phone: 515.336.3281
Email: monica.shuey@iowa.gov

STACEY WRIGHT
Missouri Head Start State Collaboration Office
1400 Rock Quarry Road
Columbia, MO 65211-3280
Phone: 573.884.0650 Fax: 573.884.0598
Email: wrightst@missouri.edu

KIM KENNEDY
Kansas Head Start State Collaboration Office
Department for Children and Families – EES Division
555 S. Kansas Ave, 4th Floor
Topeka, KS 66603
Phone: 785.368.6354 Fax: 785.296.0146
Email: Kimberly.Kennedy@ks.gov

STEPHANIE KNUST
Nebraska Head Start State Collaboration Office
301 Centennial Mall South, P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
Phone: (O) 402.471.2463
Email: Steph.Knust@nebraska.gov

Region VII Head Start Association

DONNA VEATCH
Director of Executive Services
Phone: 816.718.2260
Email: Donna@R7HSA.com

MIKE BAUGHER
Director of Marketing
Phone: 816.550.6388
Email: MikeBaugher@R7HSA.com

APRIL NOE
Executive Assistant
Phone: 660.424.4430
Email: noe6074@earthlink.net

CURRENT R7HSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R7HSA EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

State Head Start Associations

Iowa Head Start Association

President
SHARON BURKE *effective 12/23*
Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation
305 Montgomery
Decorah, IA 52157
Phone: 563.382.8436
Email: sburke@neicac.org

Executive Director
LORI FERRIS
PO Box 411
Altoona, IA 50009
Phone: 515.371.9128
Email: iowaheadstartassn@gmail.com

Kansas Head Start Association

President
MEGAN COOK
Director of Early Childhood/Head Start
Successful Beginnings Wyandotte County Head Start
USD 500 KCKPS
Email: MEGAN.COOK@kckps.org
Phone: 913.627.4395

Executive Director
HEATHER SCHROTBERGER *effective 06/23*
PO BOX 13
Lawrence KS 66044
Phone: 785.856.3132 Fax: 785.856.3134
Email: hschrotberger@ksheadstart.org

Missouri Head Start Association

President
TAMMIE BENTON
Head Start Director
Jefferson-Franklin Community Action Corporation
#2 Merchant Drive, P.O. Box 920
Hillsboro, MO 63050
Phone: 636.789.2686 x1701 Fax: 636.797.2689
Email: tbenton@jfcac.org

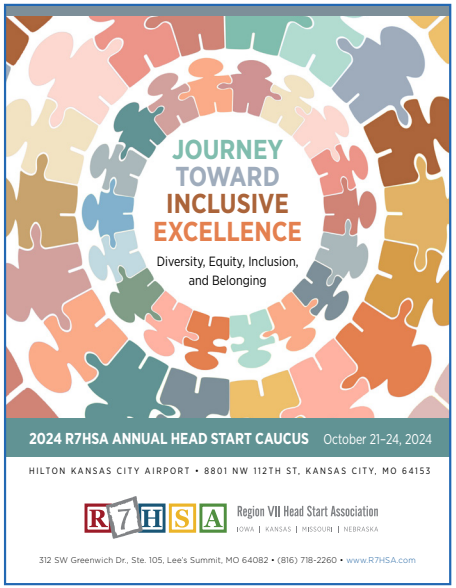
Director – Executive Services
TINA BERNSKOETTER
P.O. Box 817
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Office Address:
3337 Emerald Lane
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Phone: 573.884.5078
Email: tina@moheadstart.org

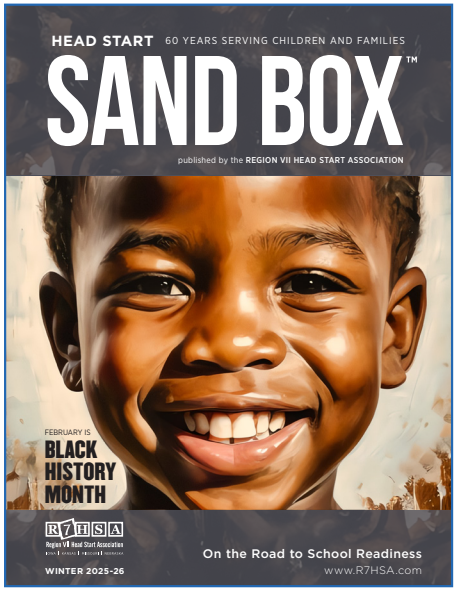
Nebraska Head Start Association

President
NIKI GEMAR
Head Start C&FDP
Hastings, NE
Phone: 402.462.4187 ext. 153
Email: ngemar@hshn.org

Vice President
KRYSTIE HOHNSTEIN
Educational Service Unit 13
4215 Avenue 1
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Phone: 308.633.3712
Email: khohnstein@esu13.org

2024-2025 Strategic Focus Accomplishments





- ***2024 Head Start Caucus***
- ***2025 Annual Conference***
- ***2025 Bukaty HR Series*** *Virtual Training*
- ***2025 Virtual Management Acceleration Program (MAP) Training***
  — in partnership with the Region VII Training and Technical Assistance Office
- ***2025 R7HSA Award Recognition*** honoring recipients across the four-state region
- ***R7HSA Sand Box™*** quarterly magazine
- Social Media Engagement — 1,000+ Facebook followers, weekly posts from various agencies

Annual Financial Report
2024-2025

REVENUE:	
Membership	21,058
Professional Development Events	318,113
Corporate Support	13,538
Interest Income	14,174
Misc	6,193
TOTAL REVENUE	373,076
EXPENSES:	
Logistical Event Coordination	168,254
Management	180,063
TOTAL EXPENSES	348,317

2024-2025 CONTRIBUTORS

Brookes Publishing
Bukaty Companies
Clean Air Dynamics
Coaching Potentials
Constructive Playthings
Discount School Supply
FirstDay Learning
InKind Pro
Innovative Healthcare Solutions
Kaplan
Lakeshore Learning
Learning Genie
PAXIS Institute
PlusOptix
Ripple Effects
Sing.Play.Love. — Ann Meeker Watson
Teaching Strategies
University of Cincinnati Online

NATIONAL INITIATIVE

Be an active region in support of the NHSA *Dollar Per Child* campaign

The goal of the *Dollar Per Child* campaign is to annually collect one dollar for each of the children in Head Start programs across the nation. NHSA's member dues—by law—cannot be used for lobbying, so *Dollar Per Child* is the main source of funding for Head Start's advocacy in Washington.

Unified in an effort to Strengthen Our Voice: By donating just $1 for each child served in a local program, your dollars will go to assist R7HSA in raising **29,496*** "Dollars for Advocacy" which will be sent to support the NHSA *Dollar Per Child* Campaign.

**Data source 2024-2025 Program Information Report (PIR)*

Children in their new coats at Community Action Partnership of Mid-NE: Head Start/Early Head Start Program.

Through the collective efforts of the Nebraska Head Start Association (NeHSA), Nebraska Head Start Collaboration Office, public health hygienists across the state, and key partners at the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS), a new pathway now exists to ensure children receive required dental assessments.

THE NHSA HEAD START PLEDGE

I believe every child can succeed;

I believe my work in Head Start helps children and families succeed;

I believe every vulnerable child should be served by Head Start.

I pledge to work together with the families I serve, my community partners, and my colleagues;

I pledge to work together to ensure this nation honors its commitment to vulnerable children;

I pledge to be part of the untiring voice that will not be quiet until every vulnerable child is served by Head Start.

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