Northern Tier Community Action Corp.
Head Start Program

January/February 2024

David Greene
Executive Director

From the Director . . .

We hope that everyone had a great holiday and enjoyed special time with family and friends.

As we approach the halfway point of the program year, the children have been busy learning about different studies in the classroom and practicing socialization skills that will help them as they transition into kindergarten!

Just a few friendly reminders ~

* Please remember to drop off and pick up your child promptly;
* When your child is sick, please let your staff know that your son/ daughter will not be attending for a day or two;
* Attendance is required at Head Start – missing a day of learning is extremely important to your child's development;
* Check your REMIND text for program closures due to weather/snow/
* If you want to come in and help out in the classroom, read a story or join during circle time, we would love to have you. Please see your child's teacher to set up a time.

If you have any questions are concerns, please feel free to reach out to me.
I hope you all have a great January & February! Stay safe & warm!

Contributed by:
Debra Sidelinger
Head Start Director

Policy Council:

Chairperson:
Joseph DeLullo

Vice-Chairperson:
Victoria Dietrick

Secretary:
LaDawn Fuller

Next meeting:
February 8, 2024

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Program Self Assessment

Annually, Head Start programs must conduct a Self-Assessment of their effectiveness and progress in meeting program goals and objectives and in implementing Federal Regulations. The Self-Assessment must measure the program's strengths and areas for growth, allowing for continuous improvement of the program to increase impact for children, families, and communities.

Our Head Start program will complete an annual "Self-Assessment" beginning in January and ending in March. This is a formal process used to measure our Head Start's effectiveness in meeting program goals and objectives. Self-assessment helps identify program strengths and opportunities for improvement, particularly relating to the school readiness of children.

The self-assessment is part of the planning cycle for the Head Start program. The following information and/or documentation are used: community assessment, previous self-assessment, data points, program goals, action plans, policies and procedures, existing reports, surveys, and student data. Information is shared with Policy Council and the Board of Directors. Staff also completes a survey to gain their input.

Where do you come in?

Please complete the Parent Survey, which will be sent home through a REMIND link and it will be posted on FACEBOOK also. This will help us gain your valuable input so that your voice is heard!

Contributed by: Debra Sidelinger
Head Start Director

Social Media

Follow us on Facebook to stay connected with program news and happenings!
Like "Northern Tier Community Action Corporation Head Start"

Applications are being accepted for the 2024-2025 school year

Northern Tier Community Action Head Start is currently accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. Parents letting other parents know about our WONDERFUL program are the best advertisement for Head Start. Please let all your family and friends of 3-4 year olds that we are taking applications for next year. Applications are accepted throughout the year.

We are hoping to make the application process easier. You can apply to Head Start through FaceBook or our Website –Northern Tier Community Action Head Start. Applications can also be found at your local Head Start center or by calling the main office at 888 809-3704 Ext. 224.

If your child is currently enrolled and is not kindergarten age, you will not have to complete another application. Head Start applications are good for 2 years.

Contributed by: Marcy Boswell, Community & Family Manager

TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Family Service Workers and Home Visitors are currently taking applications for the 2024-2025 year.

Parents you are our best advertisement for our Head Start program
PLEASE….
TELL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

What is Head Start? Head Start is a comprehensive developmental and family service program that provides education, health, social services and nutrition services for each enrolled child.

Who is eligible? – A child must be 3 years old to participate in the program and not kindergarten age eligible. Children are selected according to priorities set by the Northern Tier Community Action Corporation Head Start Policy Council. Priorities include children with disabilities and children from families with incomes below the federal poverty level.

Who to contact? – Contact your local center or home based option to get an application.
Applications are also available on our website: www.ntcac.org

Do not forget to check us out on Facebook- Northern Tier Community Action Head Start
Or you can contact Marcy at 486-1161 or toll free 888 809-3704 Ext. 224

Contributed by: Marcy Boswell, Community & Family Manager

Attendance Matters

One of the most important ways that parents, grandparents and family members can do to help a young child be ready for success in school is to ensure regular attendance in Head Start.

Young children thrive on predictable routines, so creating the habit of going to bed early and getting up early to go to school to ensure that children develop the skills they need to be successful. Talk to your child about how important education is to you. Ask your child about his or her day, so that your child knows you are interested in their activities. Children learn and grow best if they regularly attend school. Give your child the encouragement they need to have the best preschool experience possible.

Contributed by:
Marcy Boswell
Community & Family Manager

Getting Oral Health Treatment Is Important!

If your child's dentist finds tooth decay and recommends a follow-up dental visit for treatment, it's important for your child to get care. Receiving follow-up treatment is key to keeping your child healthy.

Why it's important to take your child for a follow-up dental visit for treatment:

- The dental team can treat tooth decay and prevent it from getting worse and causing an infection.
- Treating tooth decay can prevent pain, trouble sleeping, behavior problems, and difficulty concentrating.
- Treating tooth decay can stop it from spreading to other teeth in your child's mouth.

Tips to prepare your child for a follow-up dental visit for treatment:

- Be positive. For example, say, "The dentist will help keep your teeth healthy."
- Keep it short and simple. If your child asks what will happen at the visit, you can say "The dentist will fix your tooth."
- Don't talk about shots or possible pain.
- If you fear visiting the dentist, don't share your feelings with your child. This could scare them.
- Read books or watch videos together with your child about dental visits. Look for books or videos that show dental visits in a positive way. Don't read books or show videos that use words like hurt, pain, shot, or drill. Ask a children's librarian, dentist, dental hygienist, child care provider, or teacher for recommendations.
- Let your child bring their favorite toy or blanket to the dental clinic.
- Ask one of the dental team members if your child will receive a small toy or new toothbrush at the end of their visit. Share this with your child.

Taken from Office of Head Start, National Center on Health

Contributed by: Bonnie Halquist, Health & Nutrition Manager