

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CHANGES IN THE HEAD START PROGRAM

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1965

- Program began as a summer program through local public schools.
Funding was \$96,400,000, enrollment was 561,000.
Lyndon Johnson, President

1966

- Based on success of the summer program, Head Start was funded as a primarily part day, 9 month program, largely through existing community action programs.
- Responsibility for the program was under the federal Office of Economic Opportunity. Design began with four basic component requirements as outlined in program "guidance".
- No legislated "standards" were in place.
Funding was \$198,900,000, enrollment was 733,000
Lyndon Johnson, President

1967

- A demonstration project – The Parent and Child Centers – was established, offering Head Start services to families with children birth to three (replaced by EHS in 1995)
Funding was \$208,900,000, enrollment was 749,000
Lyndon Johnson President

1969

- Head Start moved from OEO to the newly established Office of Child Development, under the then Department of Health, Education and Welfare.
Funding was \$333,900,000, enrollment was 663,600
Richard Nixon, President

1970

- The role of Policy groups were defined, and 70.2 was created and written into law.
Funding was \$325,700,000, enrollment was 477,400.
Richard Nixon, President

1972

- Head Start mandated to serve children with disabilities. The required "at least 10%" of its national enrollment would be set aside for these children.
- RAPs established, providing a T/TA system for services to children with disabilities.
- Home Based services model was approved
Funding was \$376,300,000, enrollment was 379,000
Richard Nixon, President

1973

- First CDA program established. CDA's in every classroom proposed for 1976.
- The National Head Start Association was established
- The Ohio Head Start Association was incorporated
Funding was \$400,700,000, enrollment was 379,000.
Richard Nixon, President

1975

- First Performance Standards were published and the review process was begun. Reviews were not done every three years, although the standards identified that as the ideal process.
Funding was \$403,900,000, enrollment was 352,800.
Richard Nixon, President

1977

- First expansion opportunities for Head Start programs, expansion occurred in the 1978 fiscal year.
- Bilingual and bicultural Migrant and Seasonal programs began. Services were provided to 6,000 children in 21 states
Funding was \$475,000,000, enrollment was 333,000.
Jimmy Carter, President

1978

- First actual expansion took place.
Funding was \$625,000,000, enrollment was 391,400.
Jimmy Carter, President

1979

- President Carter recommended moving Head Start to the U.S. Department of Education. Considerable resistance to this effort was raised by the Head Start community nationwide, and the President dropped the idea. Head Start remained under HHS
Funding was \$680,000,000, enrollment was 387,500
Jimmy Carter, President

1984

- Head Start stayed in the Regan “safety-net”, but federal oversight was tight
Funding was \$995,750,000 Enrollment was 442,140
Ronald Reagan, President

1986

- Considerable federal pressure put on programs to limit service to children to one year, thus serving larger numbers of children for the same funding.
Funding was \$1,040,315,000, enrollment was 451,732
Ronald Reagan, President

1990

- Largest single increase was approved for Head Start in its history. President and Congress promised “full funding” for the program. Funding was approved for the 1991 fiscal year.
- Head Start Expansion and Quality Improvement Act passed.
- Head Start/State Collaboration Projects begun. First wave funded, Ohio among first 12 states to receive funding.
Funding was \$1,552,000,000 enrollment was 540,930.
George Bush, President

1991

- Funding for expansion distributed. Funding was \$1,951,800,000 enrollment was 583,471
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George Bush, President

1993

- Federal legislation passed allowing Head Start programs to purchase buildings, and pay interest with federal dollars.
- President’s Commission on Head Start established
Funding was \$2,776,286,000, enrollment was 713,903
Bill Clinton, President

1994

- Head Start Reauthorization. Significant, major changes in the direction of Head Start included in the language of the bill, based on the findings of the President’s Commission.
- Program Quality the Major Focus
- Services for children birth to three
- Revision of the Performance Standards
- Increased focus on collaboration, particularly with child care
- Early Head Start grants would be complete with ANY qualified provider, opening the door to Head Start “ownership”, and creating a broader competitive field for Head Start

Federal funding was \$3,325,728,000, enrollment was 740,493

Bill Clinton, President

1995

- First Early Head Start programs were funded.
- CDA requirement – a CDA in every classroom – to be in place in 1996.
- Select committees for Head Start Performance Standards meet in DC.
- Head Start/Child Care partnership initiative underway.
- Required on-site peer reviews every three years enforced. Required shut-down of programs if deficiencies are not corrected within one year.
- Welfare Reform – beginning of the movement which brought significant changes to Head Start enrollment potential

Funding at \$3,534,128, 000 enrollment at 750,696

Bill Clinton, President

1996

- Head Start Revised Performance Standards completed.
- CDA requirement FINALLY anchored. One CDA teacher required in every classroom

Federal Funding was \$3,569,329,000, enrollment was 752,077

Bill Clinton, President

1997

- Revised Head Start Performance Standards enforced. The following presented major adjustment needs/changes in agency systems from the previous standards:
 - High quality program operation to be enforced
 - Major changes in component structure
 - Major changes in the Policy Group functions
 - Increased responsibilities for the Board of Directors
 - Staff must be QUALIFIED to do their work- must have appropriate skills, knowledge and experience for job
 - Collaboration requirements escalated
 - CDA Requirements anchored
 - Major change in the on-site assessment tool and process

Funding at \$3,980,546,000 enrollment was 793,809

Bill Clinton, President

1998

- Reauthorization- Resulted in the most massive changes yet for the Head Start program:
 - Purpose of Head Start changed from the development of social competence to the promotion of school readiness, creating a major culture change for Head Start
 - For profit organizations may compete for Head Start grants
 - Includes major focus on child and family literacy goals, creating a major literacy focus for Head Start classrooms
 - Establishes expectations for competitive salaries for teachers and other Staff
 - Expands funding to Early Head Start
 - Adds additional education performance standards
 - Changes and adds-to the performance review process
 - Requires outcomes assessment processes for children (Performance Measures)
 - Shortens the deficiency correction time from one year to 90 days for some problem areas
 - Adds significant work requirements in the social services area

- Requires transition activities
 - Requires enhancement of HS/CC partnership agreements
 - Requires AA Degrees for at least one teacher in each Head Start classroom
 - Requires additional professional requirements for classroom teachers
 - Requires an enhanced Human Resource system for programs
 - Requires focus on full day-full year services for families
 - Creates major shifts and new requirements in management systems
- Funding was \$4,347,433; enrollment was 822,316*
Bill Clinton, President

1999

- Reauthorization requirements put into law, and enforcement begun
 - Priority focus on education practices and outcome measures
 - Priority focus on supporting career/professional development planning, and teacher education
 - Priority focus on improving management systems
 - Priority focus on supporting appropriate funding and functioning of Early Head Start programs
 - Priority focus on Head Start partnerships and full day services
- Funding was \$4,658,151,000; enrollment was 826,016*
Bill Clinton, President

2000

- President requests biggest increase in Head Start funding ever - \$1 billion, Congress approved \$933 million. Still the largest increase ever.
 - Programs are enveloped in managing the change processes and resulting culture changes within their Head Start program operations and the escalated time frame for completion of teacher degrees .
 - Futurists are looking at the changes which will occur, depending on the presidential candidate elected. -
- Funding was \$5,267,000,000; enrollment was 857,664*
Bill Clinton President

2001

- Major focus on classroom literacy standards by the Bush administration.
 - Continued focus on high quality program operations.
 - New Head Start Commissioner, from a small program in Texas. Not from within the Bureau structure or with government service as a background.
 - PRISM anchored as the on site evaluation tool, after two years of revisions continued and increased focus on Head Start research, looking for “proof” of the value of the program – higher levels of accountability
- Federal Funding at \$6,199,812,000. Enrollment at 905,235*
George W. Bush, President

2002

- Federal initiative for classroom literacy and pre-reading skills the major national focus – mandated national training institutes planned for the coming year -
 - STEP (Summer Teacher Education Program) training in the summer of 2002
 - STEP follow-up November, 2002
 - New Director’s and others Training, January 003
 - Health Institute, April 2003
 - STEP Distance Training, June 2003
 - Fiscal Training Institute July/August 2003
 - STEP IV, V, VI, VII planned for continuation in 2003
 - T/TA focus to be solely on the federal mandates for the coming fiscal year (October 02– September 03). Regional priorities not being considered

- All carry-over funds, previously controlled by the Regions, will now be controlled by the D.C. Bureau. Funds will be sent back to Washington and re-distributed.
- All new and replacement grants will now be “paneled” and determined by the Washington Bureau where previously done by the Regions.
- Continued dialogue about moving Head Start from HHS to the U.S. Dept. of Education
*- Funding at \$6,536,570,000; enrollment at 912,345,
G.W. Bush, President*

2003

- Federal Budget includes a \$139m increase for Head Start, President’s “Strengthening Head Start” plan introduced, proposing both a move to the U.S. Dept. of Education, and a state by state grant of the federal funding T/TA system of 38 years dismantled. National Reporting System introduced on warp speed track, staff trained in the program on a national agenda training schedule, and first assessments were completed in the fall of 2003.
- National uproar by hundreds of ECE professionals against the NRS and the design of this assessment program. Calls for in-depth evaluation of the program are defended vigorously by the administration
- Head Start NOT reauthorized on schedule, and program goes into “Continuing Resolution” funding
*- Funding at \$6,667,533; enrollment at 919,427
G.W. Bush, President*

2004

- House passes contentious Head Start reauthorization bill by one vote at 1:30 a.m. First time in the history of Head Start that such discord was present in Reauthorization efforts. Senate bill leaves committee with many parts unacceptable to the Head Start community. Bill not to floor by mid-April,
- Rumors of hold up until after the 2004 election. GAO begins investigation of the NRS Congress does not act on Head Start Reauthorization, so program goes into the 2nd year of continuing resolution on funding.
- Bureau unveils the Head Start Management Initiative – an effort to ensure program compliance with the regulations especially full enrollment, fiscal accountability and program quality.
- Senate Bill doesn’t make it out of the Senate, Reauthorization 2004 does not happen
- Flat funding continues, with a less than 1% cola provided
- T/TA network not functioning to the satisfaction of most programs across the country
- Considerable numbers of negative news articles hit papers across the country. Effort masterfully crafted by the House Education and Workforce committee.

*Funding at \$6,666,783,000 Enrollment 909,608
G.W Bush, President*

2005

- Reauthorization process begins again. House passes HR 2123 in late summer.
- HR 2123 includes sweeping changes for Head Start management and governance processes
- Head Start wage and salary administration process is questioned by Congress, and salary caps for Executive Directors, Head Start Directors and other key staff are imposed on Head Start programs
- GAO releases report on the Head Start bureau, which is unflattering, and points out failures in Head Start program oversight. Congressman Boehner’s committee requested the study
- Senate bill 1107 passes out of committee
- President’s budget flat funds Head Start and includes funding for some sort of “state demonstration projects”
- Bureau seriously changes and tightens PRISM process and programs are experiencing very negative on-site reviews. Limited advance notice is being provided to programs (30 days) prior to the on-site visit
- Bureau changes a wide range of processes formerly in place, and does most decision making in Washington, DC rather than in the Regional Offices
- T/TA process is evaluated by the Bureau, there is still a high rate of dissatisfaction with the T/TA system

*Funding at \$6,842,348,000 Enrollment at 905,851
G.W. Bush, President*

2006

- Senate does not bring S 1107 to the floor
- Head Start budget is cut by 1%. First time the budget has ever been CUT
- Prism changes again, effective for the beginning of FY 2007 (November)
- Head Start Bureau undergoes major reorganization. Is now the OFFICE OF HEAD START – an elevation in relationship to the Office of HHS
- A new Director of the Office of Head Start is named. Channel Wilkins. Assistant Director is named – Frank Fuentes
- Changes to the T/TA system were put in place, little to no training occurs as a part of the contracted system.
- Both House and Senate majorities shift to the Democrats in the November election

Head Start Reauthorization did NOT occur in 2006, making the House and Senate bills obsolete, and they were redrafted in 2007 for reauthorization efforts

Funding at \$6,785,771,000 Enrollment at 906,993
G.W. Bush, President

2007

- Funding remains flat
- HR 1429 was developed by the renamed House Committee on Education and Labor
- It was passed by a solid majority of votes in April, 2007
- Senate Bill 556 was passed in June. Both bills are now in committee (9/07)
- Head Start reviews have been much more user friendly in the 2007 program year
- The Improving Head Start Act of 2007 was passed by both houses of Congress, and signed into law by President Bush on December 13, reauthorizing Head Start for an additional five years.
- A group of Senators in a bi-partisan effort petitioned the Senate Committee on Appropriations for a minimum \$750m increase in Head Start funding for FY 2008, however the White House budget provides flat funding again for Head Start.

Funding at \$6,888,571,000 Enrollment at 909,201
G.W. Bush, President

2008

- The Office of Head Start is moving to write regulations for the new Act, and revise the existing regulations in concert with the new rules. That process began on 2/1/08.
- Certain requirements in the Reauthorization Act of 2007 were immediately transferred into local agency requirements, bypassing the rule writing process, including the changes in required board structure. They include:
 - Eligibility raised to 130% for 35% of agency slots
 - HS Programs MUST enroll at least 10% of their slots with children with disabilities as defined by the IDEA regulations, and these children must have an IDEA based IEP as determined by the LEA, and
 - Homeless children are categorically eligible for Head Start regardless of income – the McKinney Vento act defining “homeless” will apply to Head Start
 - Teacher degrees will be required – by 9/30/2010 All EHS teachers must have a CDA (new); by 9/30/2011 ALL classroom teachers must have an AA; by 2013 ALL Education Coordinators/Managers must have a BA; by 2013 50% of ALL classroom teachers must have a BA;
 - By 2013 ALL teacher assistants must have a CDA
 - Programs may request to reduce slots during years where there is no new money in order to accommodate program expenses
 - Programs may request slot conversions from part day to full day and from Head Start to Early Head Start
 - State training offices funded in some regions prior to the election in November
Funding was cut in the President’s budget by \$10 million

Funding at \$6,888,571 Enrollment at 909,201
G.W. Bush, President

2009

- Head Start included in the *American Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act* 1.234 billion provided for HS – COLA, Quality Improvement, HS expansion, EHS expansion, all but \$234 million is temporary money; 1 billion provided for EHS expansion, all is temporary money 2 years duration
- State Training offices all funded. Role of the State Training office not clearly defined in some regions. Services not readily available in some regions. Phase 2 of the T/TA system as defined in the HS Act, not yet announced as of May, 2009.
- Standards Revision as defined in the Head Start Act of 2007 has not been completed
- An additional \$1.1 billion is earmarked for Early Head Start expansion, dollars to be distributed outside formula requirements. These dollars have a temporary life span of 2 years.
- The FY 2009 budget is passed in an Omnibus bill giving Head Start another \$2.34 million to be distributed by the allocation formula. This money is permanent and will be included as an increase in agency grant allocations
- Yvette Sanchez-Fuentes named Director of the Head Start Bureau
- Requirement for the revision of the Performance Standards within one year of the passage of the Head Start Act not met
- Secretary's Advisory Committee completes recommendations for the Redesignation of programs and submits to ACF.
Funding at \$6,776,784,000 Enrollment at 908,412
Barack Obama President

2010

- A total of \$2.1 billion in ARRA funds distributed to programs across the country through competitive applications. These dollars expanded enrollment by more than 64,000 children and their families.
- Considerable complaining and concerns raised by the field regarding the competency and value of the T/TA network as it was configured following the passage of the Head Start Act. Consequently, the system was dismantled and RFP's were released for a new configuration
- Requirement for the completion of the Performance Standards still not met
- Release of a NPRM for Redesignation occurred in the fall of 2010. The language of NPRM was very divergent from the Secretary's Advisory Committee's recommendations. Final comments to be sent by December 21, 2010
- New T/TA system identified. Providers much the same as those in the 2009 iteration, but the work plans are totally changed. Will focus primarily on classroom activities and skills of teachers.
- Head Start Resource Centers identified: Five resource centers are named and grants awarded in addition to the state based T/TA system and the already in place Early Head Start National Resource Center They are:
 - National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning
 - National Center on Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness
 - National Center on Program Management, Design and Fiscal Operations
 - National Center on Parent, Family and Community Engagement
 - National Center on Health, Nutrition, Dental and Mental Health
 These centers will be tasked with providing current research and best practices and other professional development materials. They will offer expertise in the various areas of Head Start service delivery.
- An Omnibus bill ensuring the permanence of Head Start expansion funds (ARRA) did NOT pass, and the program is operating on a CR through February of 2011.

Funding at \$7,234,783,000 Enrollment at 908,412
Barack Obama President

2011

- OHS released the newly configured organization chart and reorganized structure
- Congress is threatening funding cuts in base grant funding in addition to excluding ARRA funding amounts.
- Over 1,600 responses and 66,000 comments returned to OHS in response to the NRFP.
- ARRA funding made permanent in last minute budget efforts, all slots and all dollars
- Final RULE on DRS released in September. Broad deviation from ACT and Secretary's Committee recommendations. HS community raises multiple concerns
- Sequester rule passed in Congress threatening the future of all federal domestic program budgets
- OHS identifies 132 Head Start programs as "poor performing" and slates them for recompetition during the coming year. RFPs to be released in the spring.

- Several State Association groups file suit in federal court to block the recompetition of programs in their states based on the questionable use of retroactive application of the law and a single deficiency as a trigger
- School Readiness now becoming a major initiative out of OHS
- Parent and Family Engagement initiative launched
- CLASS scores now being used as a part of the review process – scores will count

Funding at \$7,559,634,000 Enrollment at approximately 964,430
Barack Obama President

2012

- RFP's for some the 131 programs (one was removed after a “due process” review) on the list were issued in April – due in July
- RFP's for the litigant programs were issued in May – due in August.
- Process was identified. Reviews in fall; announcements of awards by the end of the year. No program ownership changes until after the end of the 2013 school year
- School Readiness now a major issue for local programs
- School Readiness initiative highlighted by OHS
- Head Start Impact Study results announced. Stated Head Start children lose gains by the end of first grade, announcement resulted in major negative press for Head Start and major fodder for right wing groups wishing to get rid of the program.
- Deputy Secretary Linda Smith has promised a newly revised review process to be unveiled in September 2012
- Nothing unveiled in September of 2012 regarding a revised review process
- Second round of 120 programs in the DRS was announced in December 2012

Funding at \$7.968,544,000 Enrollment at 956,497
Barak Obama, President

2013 to date

- Awards made for the first round of DRS programs. 80% of programs previously operating were re-awarded grants
- CLASS scores accounted for 50% of the programs in the DRS second round.
- Sequester cuts were applied to Head Start programs for the 2013 fiscal year. A 5.27% cut across the board for Head Start was imposed representing a loss of about 70,000 children/slots
- President announced plans for an early childhood initiative. Universal PreK for children at or under 200% of poverty to be operated in concert with the US Department of Education
- President announced plans for expansion of Early Head Start in partnership with child care. Both initiatives are dependent on budget allocations and Congressional action