



WEEKLY UPDATE | June 21 – 2021



Early Head Start RISING!

Addressing the urgent need to care for and support pregnant women, infants, and toddlers in pandemic recovery through a major expansion of Early Head Start.

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This has to change. Early Head Start provides pregnant women, infants, and toddlers from at-risk backgrounds with high-quality education and care during the most rapid and influential period of brain development. By intervening as early as possible, Early Head Start serves as a buffer to prevent and address childhood trauma, hunger, poor health, and other outcomes associated with growing up in poverty. Concurrently, programs support parents during the most difficult and stressed time of parenting, when their own well-being and family goals can be impossible to achieve without support and partnership.

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[2021Early-Head-Start-Rising](#)

Source : © National Head Start Association 2021



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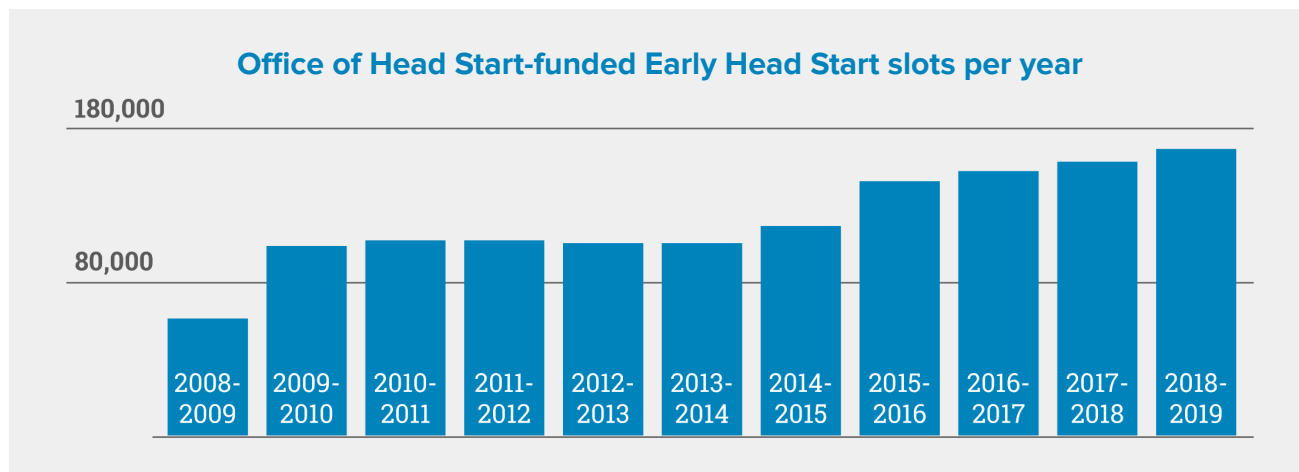
Supporting Communities Hit Hardest By the COVID-19 Pandemic

Millions of pregnant women, infants, toddlers, and families—disproportionately in communities of color—have experienced devastating economic and health impacts from this unprecedented pandemic. Early Head Start can support them. We know that child poverty and hunger have risen during this pandemic, while child well-being has declined. The social isolation caused by COVID-19 has impacted brain development and [left young children more vulnerable to trauma, abuse, and neglect](#). This crisis has also highlighted alarming disparities in health outcomes for young children.

Now is the time to expand Early Head Start, especially to support the low-income communities and communities of color hit hardest by this pandemic. Early Head Start is designed to serve these families specifically, with its **comprehensive multigenerational approach**, proven to support healthy development of the whole child by connecting families to medical homes, providing developmental screenings, and nurturing positive adult-child relationships through culturally and linguistically appropriate approaches.

Early Head Start's flexible model, which includes year-round support, home-based options and robust partnership opportunities with child care partners, is built for this moment. No other early childhood program attends to the cultural and linguistic diversity of U.S. families or is as skilled at addressing childhood trauma. The connection to Head Start supports continued development of children and families as they get ready for Kindergarten.

Decision Makers have the power to expand Early Head Start.



1. Congress

Congress knows how to expand Early Head Start. Responding to the Great Recession in 2009, Congress grew Early Head Start slots by nearly 75% (see chart above). Since, they have invested in additional slots and expanded the program through [Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships](#). They can do it again.

2. The Office of Head Start

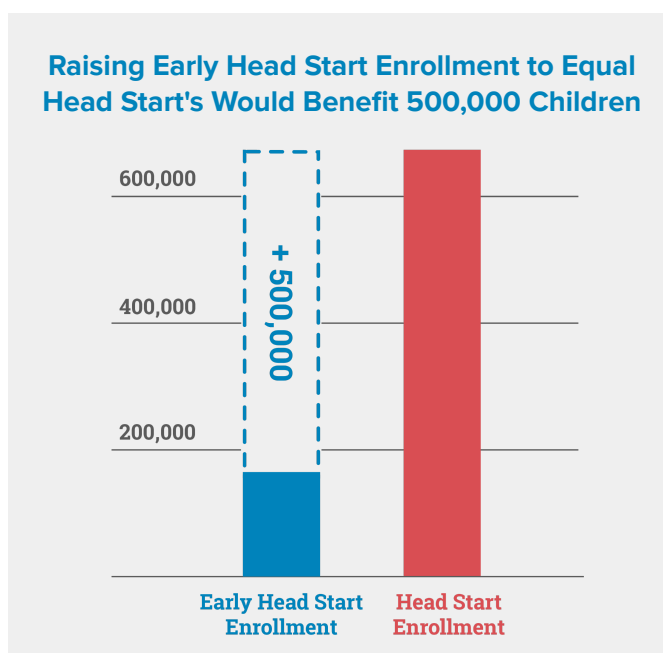
The Office of Head Start and the Administration for Children in Families have many pathways to Early Head Start expansion, including better aligning child care and Early Head Start systems, expanding Regional Office support for grantees, and developing a pipeline of new sites and programs.

3. State Governments

States are making unprecedented investments in early childhood, and [a number of states either invest directly in Early Head Start](#) or programs modeled on it. They have the power to address systemic issues to expansion, such as low compensation for early educators and facility improvements.

4. Programs

Finally, Early Head Start and Head Start programs are ready to grow, recognizing the huge demand for prenatal care and high-quality infant and toddler care and support in their communities.



10 Effective Strategies

Among the four key decision makers, there are at least 10 effective levers to pull to expand Early Head Start.

	Levers to Pull	Description
Congress	Federal base funding	Permanently expanding the number of EHS slots funded on an annual basis
	COVID-19 funding	Providing COVID-19 recovery funding to expand EHS and create or improve facilities
	Head Start Act Reauthorization	Strengthening the prenatal-to-age-five continuum in the next reauthorization of the Head Start Act and addressing eligibility
Office of Head Start / Administration for Children and Families	Systems Alignment	Promoting systems-level partnerships with child care, in particular, and around issues of equity
	Regional Office Support	Ensuring consistent support for EHS across regions
	Pipeline Development	Identifying and engaging a pool of providers interested in providing or expanding EHS services
States	State Support	Providing state funding, workforce supports, and investments in facilities
	Child Care Partnerships	An expanded commitment to Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships and layered funding
Programs	Effective Practice Supports	Expanding effective practice supports to help programs deliver high-quality services
	Conversion	Supporting the conversion of HS slots to EHS slots



Over the next several years, the National Head Start Association is committed to expanding our work with and support for Congress, the Office of Head Start, and the Administration for Children and Families, states, and Early Head Start programs, as well as child care partners, and other allied systems. We are focused on:

- 1. Raising awareness of the need for more Early Head Start access** and all the good that existing programs do through the development of research-tested messaging and expanded media efforts.
- 2. Raising a stronger Early Head Start community of practice**, better able to deliver the highest-quality services and support and expand as community needs and partnership opportunities arise.
- 3. Raising federal, national, state and local advocacy community and policymaker support** around a common set of policy priorities and approaches that will lead to a significant expansion of Early Head Start.

Early Head Start is RISING. Join Us!

Millions of infants and toddlers who qualify for Early Head Start cannot access it due to limited resources and a lack of awareness. They are counting on us to act. We hope you will join us in 2021 to help Early Head Start rise in communities all across this nation! For more information, please contact advocacy@nhsa.org.

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Human Resources Department

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Hello,

You're about to gain more insight into your paycheck than ever before, including the power to review and approve it before payday! I'm pleased to announce we're updating our payroll process to use **Beti, Paycom's automated payroll**, so you can own and manage your paycheck.

- The benefits in using Beti include:
- 24/7 insight into your paycheck, including advance knowledge of take-home pay.
- a direct connection for you —not HR—to resolve errors before payday.
- clarity on how your pay is calculated and changes.
- a visualization of deductions, expenses, and other allocations
- confidence in your paycheck's accuracy

In the next few days, we will also be adding some features to the time clocks! These features will help ensure your timecard is right by allowing you to:

- correct any errors (like missing punches or incorrect hours) from your time clock directly.
- approve your punches for the day when you clock out.

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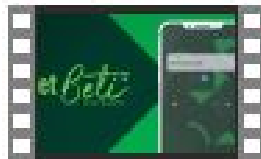
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You can access Beti through Paycom's Employee Self-Service tool or the Paycom mobile app. Beginning each pay period, you automatically will be alerted to:

- correct any errors (like missing punches or incorrect hours)
- identify and correct any missing items.
- review and approve your paycheck.

This gives you the opportunity to ensure your paycheck is correct before we submit payroll. The "Show Me How" guide at this link provides easy step-by-step instructions. If you have any questions unaddressed by the guide, please submit them through Ask Here™ within the Paycom app.

To watch the video click this link -> [Watch Beti](#)



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This Week Early Childhood Education Facts



▶ Not Just Playtime

Playtime is a very powerful and necessary learning tool for youngsters. Playing is critical to a child making social connections, expanding and using their imagination, and developing language and motor skills. Time to make some play dates and break out the toys, future innovation depends on it.

<https://www.factinate.com/things/28-facts-child-development/>



▶ *Submit your inquiry about content by sending an email to:
lpineda@childstartinc.org*

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

- Aristotle -



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