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Start Program Awarded \$2.1 Million Federal Grant for the Expansion of Its High-Quality

Local Head Start Program Awarded \$2.1 Million Federal Grant for the Expansion of Its High-Quality Early Childhood Learning Program

April 6, 2021 (Dallas, TX) – Head Start of Greater Dallas, Inc. (HSGD) has received a \$2.1 million federal grant from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to expand its high-quality early learning program and services to infants and toddlers through Early Head Start (EHS).

ACF has allocated \$103 million for the purpose of expanding access to high-quality, comprehensive early learning services for low-income infants, toddlers, and their families. These EHS expansion awards are a precise resolution to the nationwide dilemma of achievement gaps in education for children with high needs.

The grant will allow HSGD to expand its comprehensive services to 72 infants and toddlers at existing Head Start centers throughout Dallas County. HSGD will utilize this federal award to work closely with parents along the birth to three continuum of care to ensure that their children are kindergarten-ready by the time the children turn 5 years old.

"We are elated that we were chosen as a recipient of this grant to provide quality childcare services to children ages 0-3 and their families," says Kathryn L. McCartney, CEO of Head Start of Greater Dallas. "The additional Pre-k opportunities will help to fill a still significant community need for services in this space. We are proud to continue our community impact in Dallas by cultivating a love of learning in our most vulnerable children, while strengthening their families. At Head Start, we know our children are the future. So, we believe in equipping them with the essentials to grow into the dynamic leaders of tomorrow. We remain steadfast in our belief that "Every Child Deserves a Head Start."

In addition to breaking educational barriers to children, the community, parents and teachers will also benefit from the proceeds of the grant. Comprehensive services provided within EHS centers include: health, developmental, and behavioral screenings; higher health, safety and nutrition services; professional development for teachers; new employment opportunities for Dallas County; and parent engagement.

To learn more about the Early Head Start program and the impact in Dallas communities, visit Head Start of Greater Dallas, Inc. at www.hsgd.org.

About Head Start of Greater Dallas, Inc.

Head Start of Greater Dallas is a nonprofit organization serving Dallas for over 30 years. HSGD provides children with the foundation of skills and knowledge they need to be successful in school and life and fosters self-reliant families and communities. The agency currently serves approximately 2,500 low-income preschool-age children, infants and toddlers at 42 full-day Head Start and Early Head Start centers located throughout Dallas County. The agency is dependent on community support for approximately \$8 million every year. For more information, visit our website at www.hsgd.org.