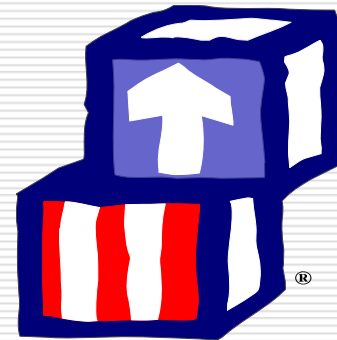


Nevada Head Start State Collaboration Office

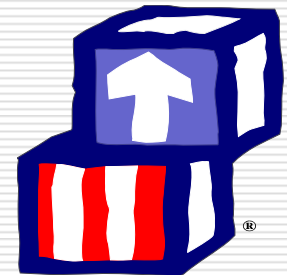


Purpose and Overview

September 2009 Partnership Committee
Meeting

Nevada HSSCO Overview

On December 12, 2007, President Bush signed Public Law 110-134 "Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007" reauthorizing the Head Start program. This law contains significant revisions to the previous Head Start Act and authorizes Head Start through September 30, 2012.

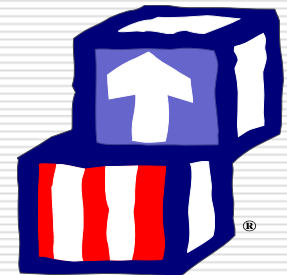


Nevada HSSCO Overview

HEAD START COLLABORATION; STATE
EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE

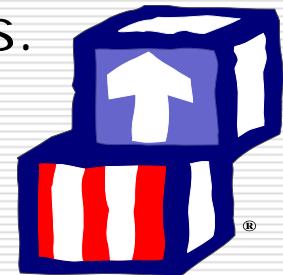
[42 U.S.C. 9837b]

Sec. 642B. (a)(1) From amounts made available under section 640(a)(2)(B)(vi), the Secretary shall award the collaboration grants described in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4).



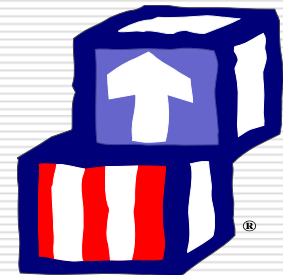
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(2)(A) The Secretary shall award, upon submission of a written request, a collaboration grant to each State and to each national administrative office serving Indian Head Start programs and migrant or seasonal Head Start programs to facilitate collaboration among Head Start agencies (including Early Head Start agencies) and entities that carry out activities designed to benefit low-income children from birth to school entry, and their families.



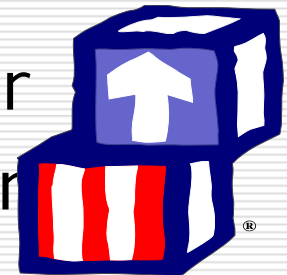
Nevada HSSCO Overview

- (B) Grants described in subparagraph (A) shall be used to—
- (i) assist Head Start agencies to collaborate with entities involved in State and local planning processes to better meet the needs of low-income children from birth to school entry, and their families;



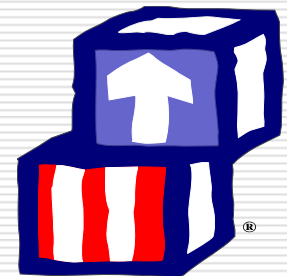
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(ii) assist Head Start agencies to coordinate activities with the State agency responsible for administering the State program carried out under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) and entities providing resource and referral services in the State, to make full-working-day and full calendar year services available to children



Nevada HSSCO Overview

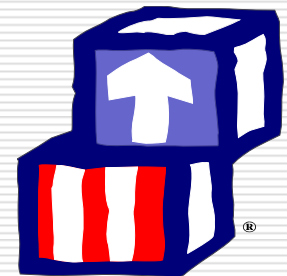
(iii) promote alignment of curricula used in Head Start programs and continuity of services with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and, as appropriate, State early learning standards;



Nevada HSSCO Overview

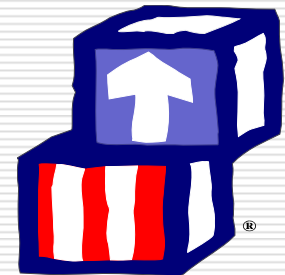
(iv) promote better linkages between Head Start agencies and other child and family agencies, including agencies that provide health, mental health, or family services, or other child or family supportive services, such as services provided under section 619 or part C of the Individuals with Disabilities

Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.); and



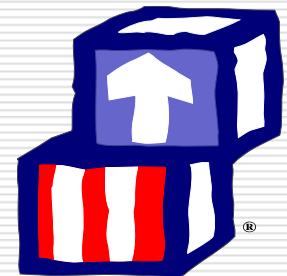
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(v) carry out the activities of the State Director of Head Start Collaboration authorized in paragraph (4).



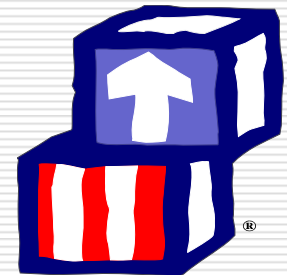
Nevada HSSCO Overview

- (4) The State Director of Head Start Collaboration shall—
 - (A) not later than 1 year after the State receives a collaboration grant under paragraph (2), conduct an assessment that--



Nevada HSSCO Overview

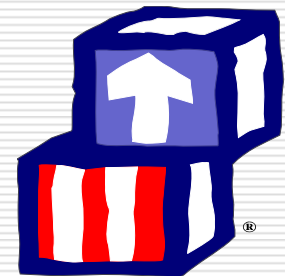
(i) addresses the needs of Head Start agencies in the State with respect to collaboration, coordination and alignment of services, and alignment of curricula and assessments used in Head Start programs with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and, as appropriate, State early learning standards;



Nevada HSSCO Overview

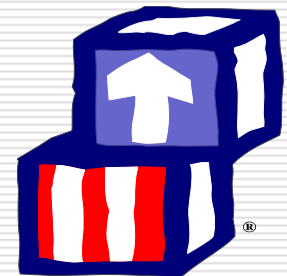
(ii) shall be updated on an annual basis;
and

(iii) shall be made available to the
general public within the State;



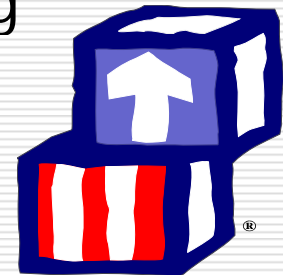
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(B) develop a strategic plan that is based on the assessment described in subparagraph (A) that will—



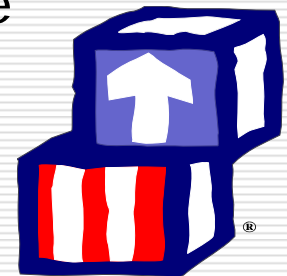
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(i) enhance collaboration and coordination of Head Start services by Head Start agencies with other entities providing early childhood education and development (such as child care or services offered by museums), health care, mental health care, welfare, child protective services, education and community service activities, family literacy services, reading readiness programs (including such programs offered by public and school libraries),



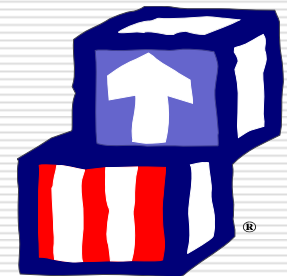
Nevada HSSCO Overview

... services relating to children with disabilities, other early childhood education and development for limited English proficient children and homeless children, and services provided for children in foster care and children referred to Head Start programs by child welfare agencies, including agencies and State officials responsible for services described in this clause;



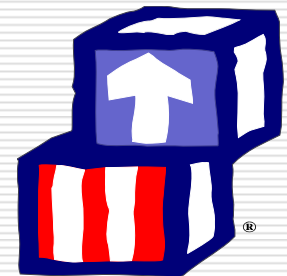
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(ii) assist Head Start agencies to develop a plan for the provision of full working-day, full calendar year services for children enrolled in Head Start programs who need such services;



Nevada HSSCO Overview

(iii) assist Head Start agencies to align curricula and assessments used in Head Start programs with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and, as appropriate, State early learning standards; and



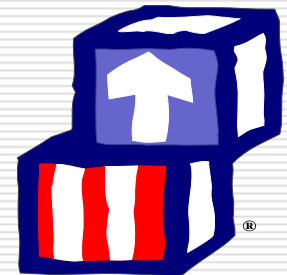
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(iv) enable Head Start agencies to better access professional development opportunities for Head Start staff, such as by working with Head Start agencies to enable the agencies to meet the degree requirements described in section 648A(a)(2)(A), including providing distance learning opportunities for Head Start staff, where needed to make higher education more accessible to Head Start staff; and



Nevada HSSCO Overview

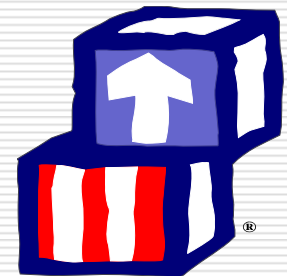
(v) enable the Head Start agencies to better conduct outreach to eligible families;



Nevada HSSCO Overview

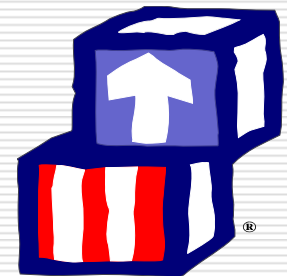
(C) promote partnerships between Head Start agencies, State and local governments, and the private sector to help ensure that children from low-income families, who are in Head Start programs or are preschool age, are receiving comprehensive services

to prepare the children for elementary school;



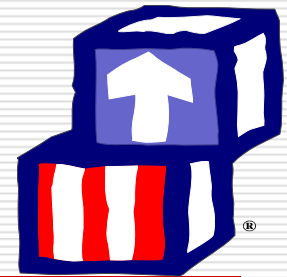
Nevada HSSCO Overview

D) consult with the chief State school officer, local educational agencies, and providers of early childhood education and development, at both the State and local levels;



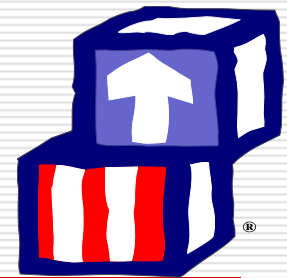
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(E) promote partnerships between Head Start agencies, schools, law enforcement, relevant community-based organizations, and substance abuse and mental health treatment agencies to strengthen family and community environments and to reduce the impact on child development of substance abuse, child abuse, domestic violence, and other high-risk behaviors that compromise healthy development;



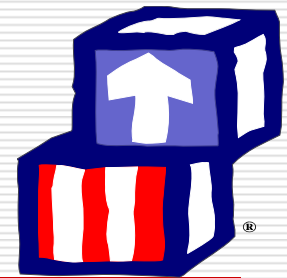
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(F) promote partnerships between Head Start agencies and other organizations in order to enhance Head Start program quality, including partnerships to promote inclusion of more books in Head Start classrooms;



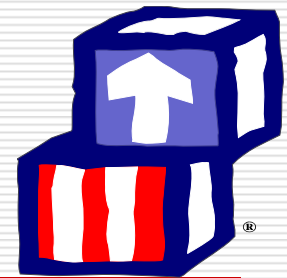
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(G) identify other resources and organizations (both public and private) for the provision of in-kind services to Head Start agencies in the State; and



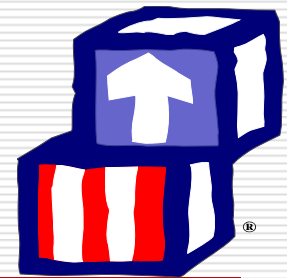
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(H) serve on the State Advisory Council in order to assist the efforts of Head Start agencies to engage in effective coordination and collaboration.



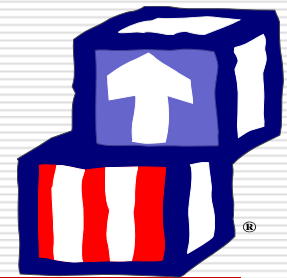
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(3) In order to improve coordination and delivery of early childhood education and development to children in the State, a State that receives a collaboration grant under paragraph (2) shall--



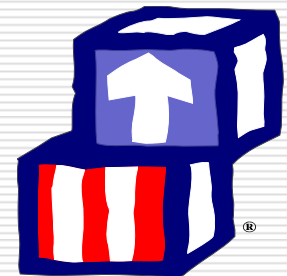
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(A) appoint or designate an individual to serve as, or carry out the responsibilities of, the State Director of Head Start Collaboration;



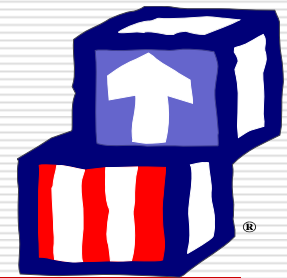
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(B) ensure that the State Director of Head Start Collaboration holds a position with sufficient authority and access to ensure that the collaboration described in paragraph (2) is effective and involves a range of State agencies; and



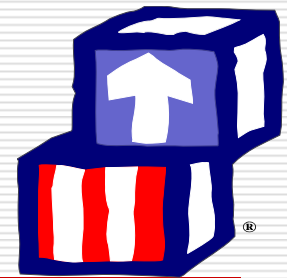
Nevada HSSCO Overview

(C) involve the State Head Start Association in the selection of the Director and involve the Association in determinations relating to the ongoing direction of the collaboration office involved.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

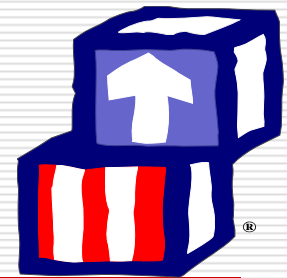
"Through statewide partnerships, the Nevada Head Start State Collaboration and Early Childhood Systems Office enhances relationships, builds systems, and promotes comprehensive quality services to meet the needs of young children and their families"



Nevada HSSCO Overview

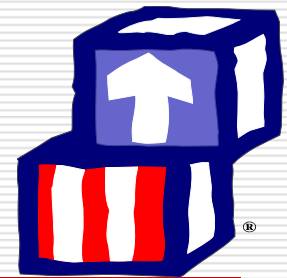
Eight Initiative Areas

- Health
- Homelessness
- Literacy
- Child Welfare
- Community Services
- Early Childhood Education
- Disabilities
- Child Care



Nevada HSSCO Overview

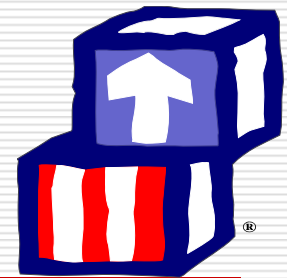
In December 2008, the HSA and Nevada's Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO) coordinated all ten Nevada Head Start grantees, including all tribal, migrant, and regional Head Start agencies, to participate in a needs assessment process.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

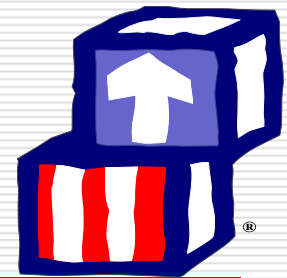
Nevada's Head Start Needs Assessment survey was administered to all ten Head Start Agencies, inclusive of Tribal Head Start programs and Nevada's one migrant/seasonal Head Start program during Fall 2008. Ten Head Start

Agencies (100%) completed surveys.



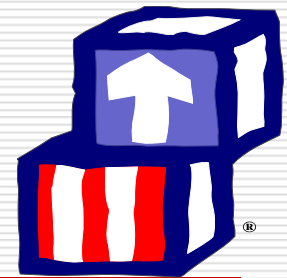
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Head Start grantees were asked to characterize their relationships with external organizations for each of ten areas of collaboration.



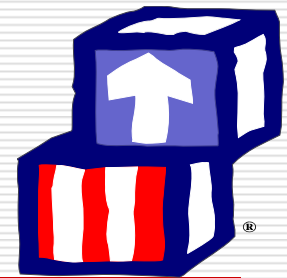
Nevada HSSCO Overview

- Health Care
- Services for Children Experiencing Homelessness
- Welfare/Child Welfare
- Child Care
- Family Literacy Services



Nevada HSSCO Overview

- Services for Children with Disabilities
- Community Services
- Partnerships with Local Education Agencies
- Head Start Transition and Alignment with K-12
- Professional Development

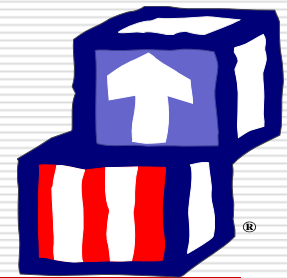


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Statewide Findings Within the Ten Areas of Collaboration

Common areas of concern within and across the ten areas of collaboration between local and statewide entities

were noted:



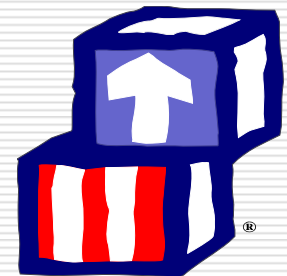
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Lack of providers-Issues relate to the absence of or limited resources, such as infant mental health providers, public health nurses, and physicians accepting Medicaid; formal MOUs with local providers, such as pre-K programs and preschools, Local Education Agencies

(LEA), and social services;

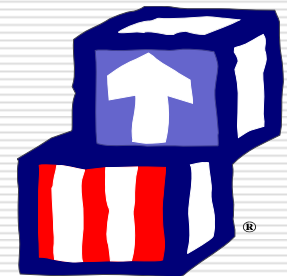
termination of services, such

as the Mobile Library, due to lack of funds.



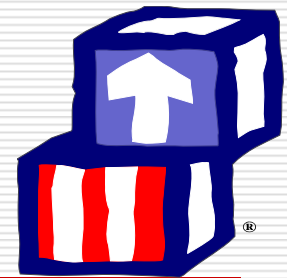
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Non-native families-Issues relate to an absence of medical insurance or eligibility for services, transiency related to migrant/undocumented status, and fear of the system.



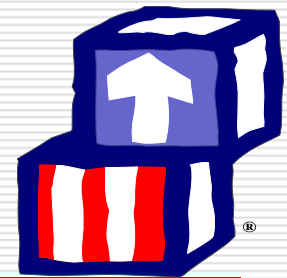
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Educating Parents-Issues relate to parents following through for appointments and processes related to paperwork, or understanding the importance of ongoing medical care.



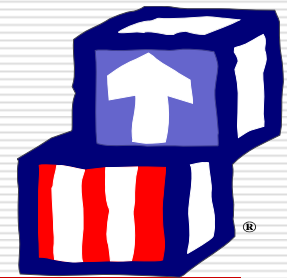
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Costs- Transitions from Head Start to preschool or K-12 systems often involve costs for families for child care that are prohibitive; lack of subsidies for services such as child care, medical/dental care or assessments/evaluations and other community services.



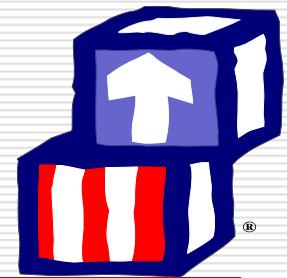
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Other Access Issues-Transportation was identified as a barrier for families whose children attend other child care programs off site, or need transportation to other community services; systemic barriers, such as those with LEAs for transitioning children to public school.



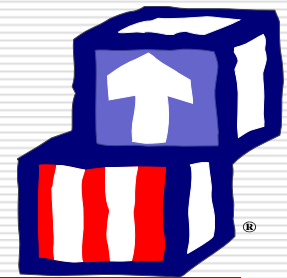
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Waiting lists- Issues involve long waiting lists for services, such as low-income affordable housing.



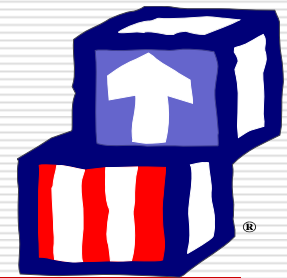
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Staffing-In rural areas, staff are often only in the office on a weekly basis. Staff may not be aware of existing services, particularly as relates to the McKinney-Vento homeless liaison in their area which is often the result of a lack of training, lack of local training opportunities or institutions or a lack of adequate time for training.



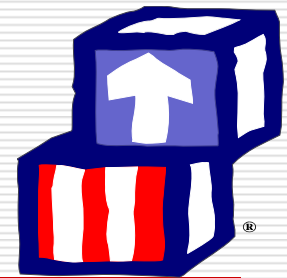
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Head Start Agencies and
Head Start Collaboration
Office Strengths



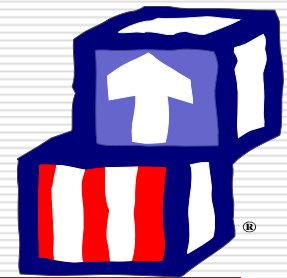
Nevada HSSCO Overview

The Nevada Head Start Association has provided a support system and network for improving relationships between and among the Head Start Agencies, many of whom in the rural areas or on tribal lands would otherwise operate in isolation without a peer support network.



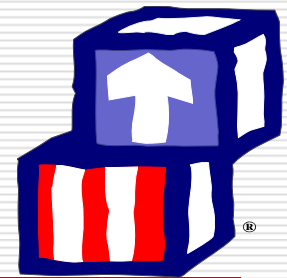
Nevada HSSCO Overview

The areas in which the Head Start programs report the **greatest collaboration** with local and statewide entities are: Child Care (24%); Children with Disabilities (22%); and Professional Development (21%).



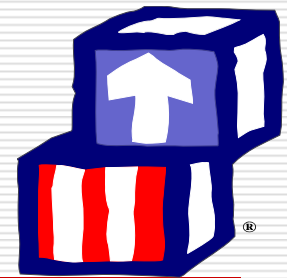
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Five of the ten Head Start collaboration areas representing the quality of relationships with designated entities emerged as the highest need areas for strategic planning.



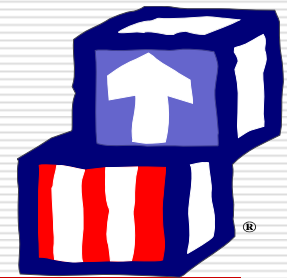
Nevada HSSCO Overview

- Services for Children Experiencing Homelessness
- Services for Children with Disabilities
- Family Literacy Services
- Child Care
- Child Welfare



Nevada HSSCO Overview

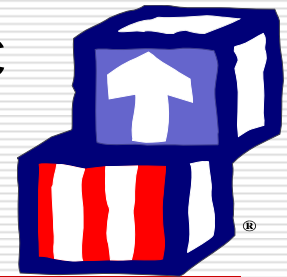
In addition, in two service areas, the overall composite percentages for collaboration were “0”, thereby warranting attention: “Partnerships with Local Education Agencies” and “Transition and Alignment with K-12.”



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Defining Issues for Consideration in Strategic Planning.

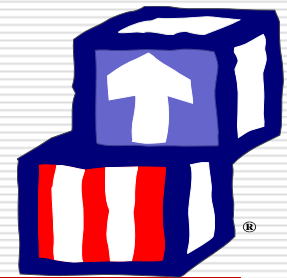
“It is imperative to focus on the specific areas of relationships with local and statewide entities within the top two-to-three priority areas posing as *difficult to very difficult* during strategic planning.”



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Homelessness

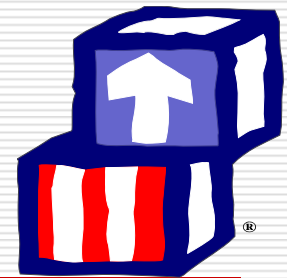
1) Engaging community partners including local McKinney-Vento Liaison, in conducting staff cross-training and planning activities;



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Homelessness

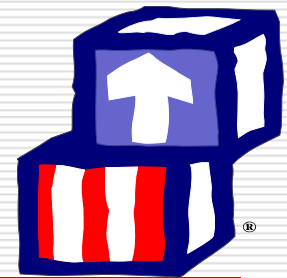
2) Entering into an MOU with the appropriate local entity responsible for managing publicly funded preschool that includes a plan to coordinate selection priorities for eligible children, including children experiencing homelessness.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Homelessness

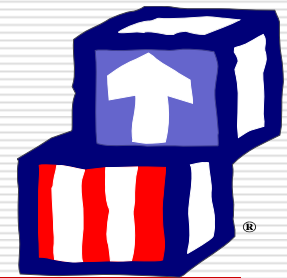
3) In coordination with LEA, developing and implementing family outreach and support efforts under McKinney-Vento and transition planning for children experiencing homelessness.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Children with Disabilities

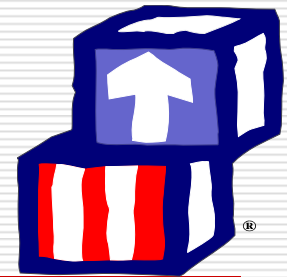
- 1) Obtaining timely evaluations of children.
- 2) Coordinating services with Part C providers.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Family Literacy

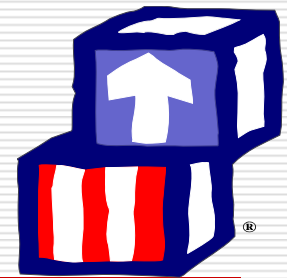
- 1) Establishing linkages/partnerships with key local level organizations/programs (other than libraries).
- 2) Exchanging information with other providers/organizations regarding roles and resources related to family literacy.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Child Welfare

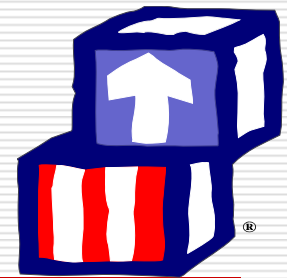
- 1) Obtaining information and data for community assessment and planning.
- 2) Getting involved in state level planning and policy development.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Child Care

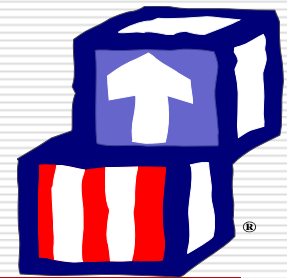
- 1) Aligning policies and practices with other service providers.
- 2) Assisting families to access full-day, full year services.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Final Recommendations:

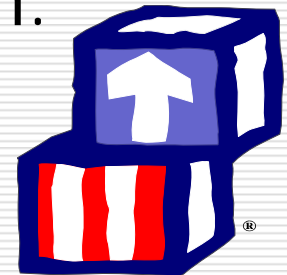
“Forming alliances and negotiating common ground and shared visions for low-income families and children will be critical to obtaining resources and defining policy.”



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Final Recommendations:

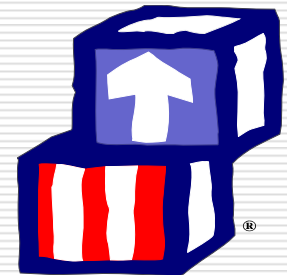
“...discrepancies among Tribal, Migrant and Regional Head Starts needs to figure into the thinking about how to provide equitable services for all of Nevada’s low-income families and children.”



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Final Recommendations:

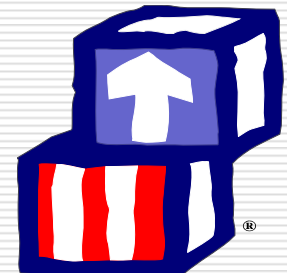
As one Head Start Director noted, “the landscape is changing, so it’s hard to know what we need; we need help thinking differently and changing the way we do business.”



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Final Recommendations:

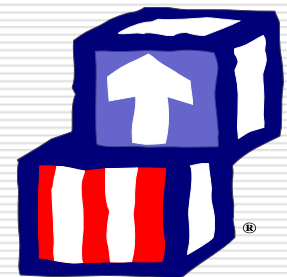
Examples of thinking differently and forming new alliances offered during the Head Start Agencies Directors meeting include,



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Final Recommendations:

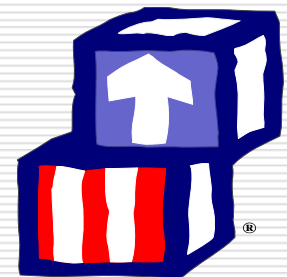
“ talking about the elephant in the room—the families we serve, a number of whom are non-citizens,”



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Final Recommendations:

“encouraging the community to adopt families,” and “redoubling our effort with faith-based organizations related to the citizenship issue and also food issues.”

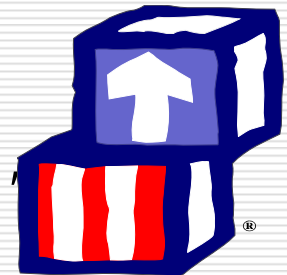


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Final Recommendations:

More than focusing on any single or set of priorities, the strategic planning process should strive to help both the Head Start Agencies and the Head Start State Collaboration Office think differently about how they can forge ahead and work collaboratively with both traditional and non-traditional stakeholders in addressing the

needs of low-income families and children with an eye toward “reorganizing versus doing with less.”

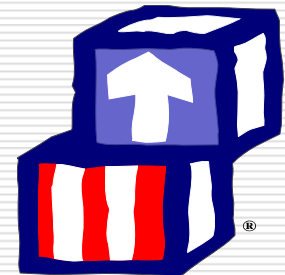


Nevada HSSCO Overview

The vision that guided the strategic planning work, and was endorsed by the Head Start agencies, is:

“Nevada communities, agencies, associations and State government work together to enhance, coordinate and expand programs and services for children ages birth through eight by fostering accessible, age and individually appropriate,

coordinated systems of services that identify and direct resources, create community and organize efforts.”

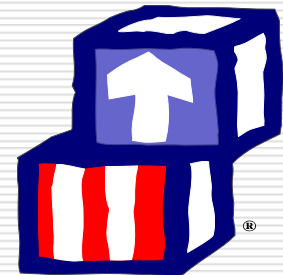


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Overarching Long Term Outcomes:

- All children are supported and ready to make a successful transition to school.
- All children have access to early childhood services that are accredited or meet national standards.
- Parents know child development.
- Parents know what to expect from programs & advocate for their children or self.

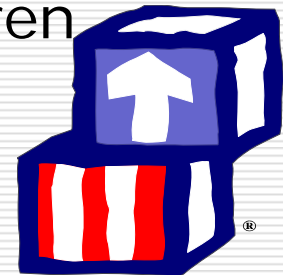


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Long Term Outcomes:

- Families partner in decision making at all levels and are satisfied with the services they receive.
- Families with young children are supported in their communities (employment, education, etc).
- All children have access to medical home & health insurance.
- Social, emotional, mental health and developmental needs of young children & their families are supported by community-based services.

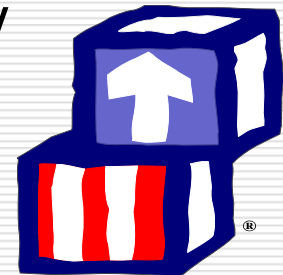


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Long Term Outcomes:

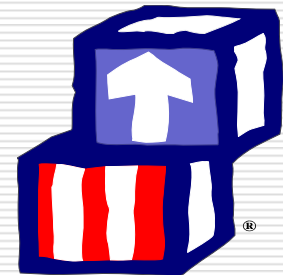
- Early childhood service provider workforce stabilizes
- Early childhood workforce receives professional development to ensure quality services for all children e.g. mental health, disabilities, etc.
- More families report that community-based services are organized so they can use them easily.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Strategy 1.0 Enhance collaboration and coordination of Head Start services by Head Start agencies with other entities providing early childhood education and development health care, mental health care, welfare, child protective services, education and community service activities, family literacy services, reading and readiness programs, services relating to children with disabilities, other early childhood education and development for LEP children and homeless children, and services provided for children in foster care and children referred to Head Start programs by child welfare agencies and State officials responsible for services.

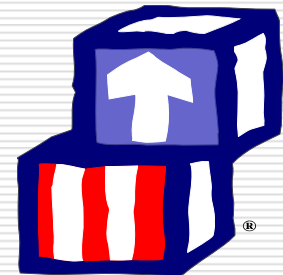


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Short Term Outcomes:

- 1.0 Decreased duplication of services: increased collaboration
- 1.0 HSA has representation on appropriate and various child-serving committees and task forces.

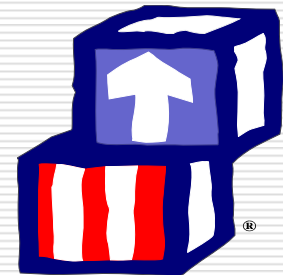


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Intermediate Outcomes:

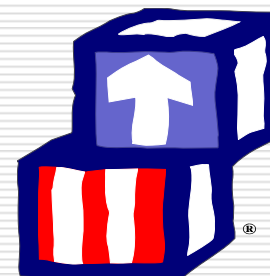
- 1.0 Reciprocal relationships are strong between Head Start agencies and their partners.
- 1.0 Relationships between LEAs and Head Start agencies are strengthened.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Strategy 2.0: Assist Head Start Agencies to develop a plan for the provision of full working-day, full calendar year services for children enrolled in Head Start programs who need such services.

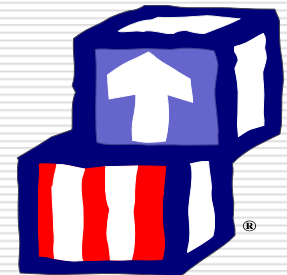


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

2.0 Short Term Outcome:

- A plan has been developed that identifies increased hours of services for families and children.

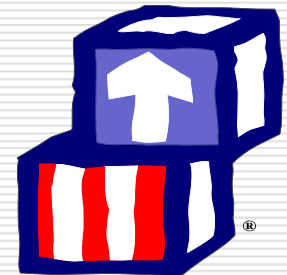


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

2.0 Intermediate Outcomes:

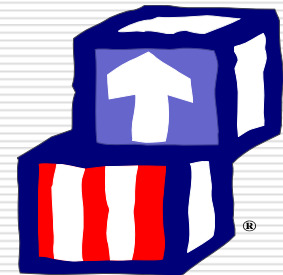
- Increased numbers of Head Start agencies provide full day/full year services.
- Partnerships exist to insure Children and families have seamless experiences for full day/full year services.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Strategy 3.0 Assist Head Start agencies to align curricula and assessments used in Head Start programs with Head Start Child Outcomes Framework, and, as appropriate, State early learning standards



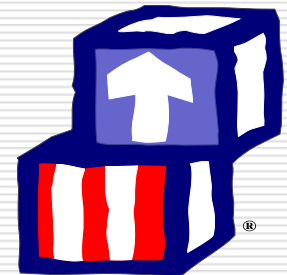
Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

3.0 Intermediate Outcome:

- All HS programs are using Nevada Pre-K Standards in conjunction with their curricula and assessments.

*only one intermediate outcome for this strategy; no short term outcomes

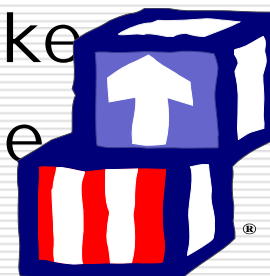


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Strategy 4.0 Enable Head Start agencies to better access professional development opportunities for Head Start staff, to meet the degree requirements, including providing distance learning opportunities for Head

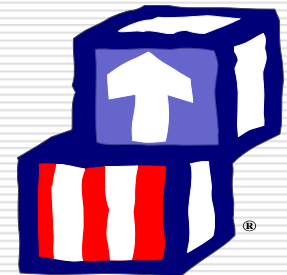
Start staff, where needed to make higher education more accessible



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

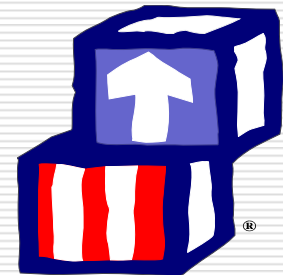
- **4.0 Short-term Outcome:** Courses are available and schedules compatible with a M-F work week.
- **4.0 Intermediate Outcome:** Head Start staff meet degree requirements.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

Strategy 5.0: Enable the Head Start Agencies to better conduct outreach to eligible families.

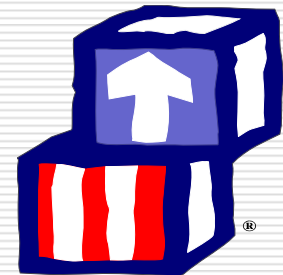


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

5.0 Short-term Outcomes:

- Specific outreach strategies for more vulnerable populations are developed: homeless, special needs, substance-abusing/mental health challenged families, children in foster care, etc.
- Statewide/local entities serving vulnerable populations are aware of Head Start services.

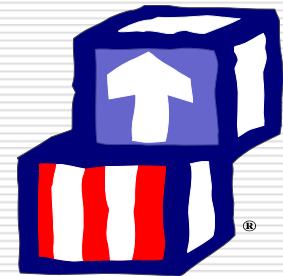


Nevada HSSCO Overview

Strategic Plan Priorities 2009-2014

5.0 Intermediate Outcome:

Vulnerable populations will be eligible to receive wrap-around services and Head Start agencies will be compensated for serving them.



Nevada HSSCO Overview

Head Start State Collaboration and Early Childhood Systems Office

Margot Chappel, Director

4126 Technology Way, Suite 100

Carson City, NV 89706

(775) 684-4195 (phone)

(775) 671-2257 (cell)

(775) 684-4010 (FAX)

Email: mchappel@dhhs.nv.gov

