

# Head Start Voices Newsletter



## From the Director's Desk

Welcome to a brand-new five-year project period! Thanks to everyone's hard work over the past five years, we aced all our reviews and earned this opportunity to continue serving children, families, and communities. Although we have faced cuts in our budget because of enrollment, we are still here. We need you all to help us recruit, enroll and maintain enrollment of 195 children going forward to prevent another cut. Remember, Head Start is here for the community!!!

LCBOE Head Start always focuses on reaching children in social economic disparity. According to the 2018 Alabama Kid Count Data Book, Lowndes County has about 30% of its children listed as being in extreme poverty. 73.1% of children under 18 live in single-parent families. 30.7% of children under 18 living in households with food insecurity. These numbers are on the rise. All of these circumstances can have a major impact on children's future success, but early intervention can make a positive difference. Let's see if we can reach at least 90% in these categories by the end of the program year.

The Office of Head Start has already informed us that we will receive our Focus Area One review in 2019-20. The federal review process has been redesigned as a progressive monitoring system that takes a systemic view across five years, rather than a snapshot of a single moment in time. Focus Area One will be a chance for us to share our story of how we implement and ensure comprehensive, high-quality services that meet the needs of children and families. We are confident that we will do well on this review.

Please continue to support Head Start, as we are a vital need in the community. We invite you to come and see the wonderful learning opportunities we are giving our children. Let's have a great year!

## Contents

### Special Interest Articles

From the Director's Desk	1
In-Kind Services	2
Education/Disabilities	2
Health	3
Family & Comm. Partnership	3
Center News	4
Census	4
Recruitment	4





## Do You Know About In-Kind Services?

The Head Start Act requires all Head Start and Early Head Start programs to gather in-kind contributions. In-kind contributions are donations of **time and services provided or donated goods that are received and used.**

One example of an in-kind contribution is when you spend time with your child doing fun activities that help prepare them for school. To help us keep track of your in-kind donations, a form has been developed to record the activities you do with your child each month. Speak to your family advocate practitioner for more information. Family advocate practitioners and teachers have

lots of fun ideas for activities that you can do at home to better prepare your child for school. Ask your child's teacher for more information.

Lashica Mason,  
Fiscal Manager



## Education/Disabilities

Welcome to all our new families, and welcome back returning families! We are so excited to start the new school year with your little ones. For new parents, we are excited to spend the year learning and growing with your child. We understand that this is going to be a new experience for you and your child in many ways. We look forward to a fun filled year of exploring, discovering and learning. Please help us by remembering to.....

- **Sign In/Out your child each day.** The clipboards are available upon entering and exiting the classroom.
- **See you by 8:30.** Our day officially starts at 7:30 am. Children arriving after 8:30 am may have a hard time with separation, since their friends are already in class and involved with their lessons. It can also be disruptive saying good-byes while everyone else is listening to the teacher. In addition, as required by the Head Start Performance Standards, we have to make contact with someone after 8:30 if the child is not in school to ensure the child is safe.
- **Bring extra clothes.** Spills and accidents happen. A full change of clothes in your child's book bag or a zip lock bag with your child's name should be in their cubby at all times. Please check on a daily basis for clothing that may need to be taken home and washed.
- **Make sure your child's pick up list is current.** Situations in life may cause changes. If someone has to be added to or removed from the pick up list, please contact your Family Advocate Practitioner. Head Start cannot release children to those who are not on the pick up list.
- **Phone numbers and address.** Please let your Family Advocate Practitioner, as well as the Head Start office, if you change your phone number/address. It is extremely important that we have a **current working** phone number for you in case of an emergency.

We are looking forward to a school year filled with fun learning experiences.



# “AARGH ye ready for a healthy school year.”

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year. We are focused on being safe and healthy “mateys.” We are going to make this year the best year yet. Remember to keep your child’s medical records up to date at all times. We are going green!! Update your email address and/or cell phone number so that you can receive messages from Head Start. Also, like and follow us on Facebook at Lowndes Head Start. You can also find useful information on our website, [www.lowndesboeheadstart.org](http://www.lowndesboeheadstart.org).

During the month of August the Head Start students were offered FREE vision exams through our partnership with Focus First/Impact Alabama. We will continue to offer other free health screenings throughout the school year. Allow your child/children to participate in these FREE screenings so they can be healthy “mateys.”

Parents, this is also the beginning of the cold and flu season. If your child is sick or you think they might be sick, please do not send them to school. Remember, if your child has a fever they must be fever free for 24 hours (without medication) before they can return to school (Refer to the Lowndes County BOE Head Start’s handbook for the exclusion policy) ~Let’s be safe and healthy “mateys!”



## Family & Community Partnership

The Family & Community Partnership department would like to welcome all parents and guardians to the 2019-2020 program year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing us to assist you with your Comprehensive Service needs.

The parent committee meetings have been conducted at all three Head Start sites. Please make every effort to attend your monthly meeting. If you can not attend due to work schedule issues please send a family member or friend in your absence. The meetings are held in order for you to plan and organize activities for your center.

**Central’s scheduled monthly parent committee meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.**

September 10, 2019  
November 12, 2019  
January 14, 2020  
March 10, 2020  
May 12, 2020

**Fort Deposit’s scheduled monthly parent committee meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.**

September 4, 2019  
November 6, 2019  
January 8, 2020  
March 4, 2020  
May 6, 2020

**Jackson-Steele’s scheduled monthly parent committee meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.**

September 5, 2019  
November 7, 2019  
January 9, 2020  
March 5, 2020  
May 7, 2020

**REMEMBER:**

“If you believe that the Lowndes County Board of Education Head Start is needed in our community continue to volunteer and support the program.”

Laura James-Hunter  
Family & Community Partnership Manager LCBOEHS Central Office

Family Advocate Practitioners

Shirley A. Davis-Central Head Start  
Creshenda Edwards-Jackson-Steele Head Start/Fort Deposit Head Start  
Lori A. Malisham-Fort Deposit Head Start



**Officers for 2019-2020**

Central Head Start Parent Committee

Antoinette Sellers-President  
Sharonda Coleman-Vice President  
Beverly Nelson-Secretary  
Ashley Cornner-Safford-Assistant Secretary  
Renita Smith-Treasurer  
Vacant-Assistant Treasurer

Policy Council Representatives

Terranoice Bennett  
Michael Burke

Alternate Policy Council Representatives

Vacant  
Vacant

Fort Deposit Head Start

John Woods- President  
Ra’Sean Fountain-Vice President  
Debra Sellers-Secretary  
Jessica Moore- Assistant Secretary  
Adriana Sellers-Treasurer  
Vacant-Assistant Treasurer

Policy Council Representatives

Stacy Rudolph  
John Woods

Alternate Policy Council Representatives

Jessica Moore  
Adriana Sellers

Jackson-Steele Head Start Parent Committee

Lexus McGhee-President  
Sammie Gordon-Vice President  
Laquetta Barganier-Secretary  
Vacant-Assistant Secretary  
Latonya Howard-Treasurer

Policy Council Representatives

Lexus McGhee  
Laquetta Barganier

Alternate Policy Council Representatives

Sammie Gordon  
Latonya Howard

## Center News

### Lowndes County BOE Head Start

141 Main Street  
P.O. Box 158  
Hayneville, AL 36040  
334.548.2145  
334.548.2021  
headstart@lowndesboe.org

*"Over 50 years of service to families  
and children"*

Find us on the Web:

[www.lowndesboeheadstart.org](http://www.lowndesboeheadstart.org)



Hello Everyone. We are indeed grateful to be back for another school year. We are excited about becoming acquainted with our children and parents. We would like to welcome Ms. Robinson, Ms. Williams, and Mrs. Akinsola to our team. We would also like to congratulate Mrs. Taylor on her retirement. We had a great time during our "Family Night Out" in October; be on the lookout for upcoming events on your schools calendar.

## The Census Is Coming in 2020

Every 10 years, the Census counts ALL people living in the United States. On April 1, 2020, everyone must be counted, not just citizens—or adults. It does not matter if you are an immigrant, or in high school, or a baby. All family members count! Because an accurate Census is so vital, we are asking our parents to help get the message out.

The Census is important because the information it gathers helps our communities. It brings more money to improve our schools, clinics, housing, roads, and parks. You will be able to complete the Census online, by phone, or by mail. Some schools, libraries, and city buildings will be providing access to a computer to fill out the Census. The personal information given to the Census is confidential. The government cannot use it against anyone. It is a safe process.

Our children's futures are brighter when everybody is counted!

## Recruitment Information:

We are now taking applications for all sites for the 2019-2020 school year. If you know of any children that are three (3), and/or four (4) years old, **please call 334.548.2145 and 334.548.2511** for more information.

You must have the following:



*Proof of age, Proof of Income, and current Immunization Record.*

McKenzlee Shuford 08-01  
Jimmy Brown 08-04  
Alanna Dubose 08-07  
Santayonna Similton 08-08  
Blakleigh Taylor 08-08  
De'Lyssa James 08-10  
Aitana Fonseca 08-12  
Daveon Fleeton 08-13  
Dae'Driauna Perryman 08-14  
KingSiah McDaniel 08-15  
Kamaria McCall 08-18  
Tywan McCall 08-23  
Ja'Vontae McQueen 08-24  
McKylee Warren 08-24  
Kyrie Coleman 08-25  
Dontae Thornton 08-26  
Jakayla Myles 08-26  
Elijah McCray 08-27  
La'Jada Rudolph 08-27  
A'Rylah Crenshaw 08-30

DreShawn Robinson 09-04  
De'Shun James 09-05  
Dixie Collins 09-08  
Kendarrious Rivers 09-09  
JaKayden Young 09-10  
Camren Lewis 09-11  
Symone Hinson 09-12  
Frank Milton 09-21  
Aiden Perkins 09-26  
Jakobi Ingram 09-28  
Jayce Esco 10-02  
Morgan Fountain 10-05  
Christopher Cushenberry 10-06  
Riley Harris 10-06  
King Alexander 10-07  
Ariyah Hyde 10-08  
Rayah Hyde 10-08  
Brayden McWilliams 10-13  
Cadence Crawford 10-21  
De'Mireyah Thigpen 10-22

McKenzie Warren 10-22  
Demani McCray 10-30  
Kyra Henry Central 11-04  
Andreana Lewis 11-04  
Kendriquez Simmons 11-06  
Sa'Miya Mabien 11-10  
NaTalya West 11-15  
Jasper Fails 11-17  
JaMya Fails 11-17  
Trayvon Mason 11-20  
Travon Mason 11-20  
Jase Gordon 11-24  
Karson Williams 11-25  
NaTaeshia West 11-27  
Malik Howard 11-29  
Chayse Coleman 11-30

*Birthday wishes for everyone  
celebrating in the months of August,  
September, October and November.*