

INTERAGENCY COUNCIL FOR ENDING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

September 16, 2022

Virtual Meeting

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.



OPENING REMARKS & ROLL CALL

The Honorable Susan Bysiewicz, Lieutenant Governor
State of Connecticut

Member Agencies

Roll Call – Kari Sullivan, State Department of Education

- Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
- Department of Administrative Services
- Department of Children and Families
- Department of Economic and Community Development
- Department of Housing
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Social Services
- Judicial Branch
- Office of Early Childhood
- Office of Policy and Management
- State Department of Education

Agenda

- I. **Opening Remarks & Roll Call**
The Honorable Susan Bysiewicz
Lieutenant Governor, State of Connecticut
- II. **Acceptance of Minutes and Follow-up from Last Meeting Discussion**
- III. **Annual Report per Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-16nn(b)(3)**
- IV. **Connecting Housing and Child Care**
Beth Bye, Commissioner, Office of Early Childhood
Shanté Hanks, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Housing
- IV. **Next Steps**
- V. **Closing/Meeting Adjourned**



**ANNUAL REPORT
PER CONN. GEN. STAT. § 10-16NN(B)(3)**



COMMISSIONER BETH BYE

Office of Early Childhood

A HEAD START ON HOUSING FOR CONNECTICUT'S FAMILIES

Meeting of the Interagency Council

September 16, 2022



Connecticut Office
of Early Childhood



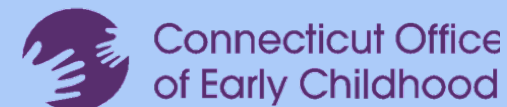
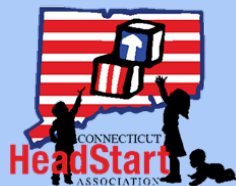
What We Will Discuss Today

- Introductions & Overview
- Initiative Partners & Head Start grantees
- Families & Partners Behind the Vouchers
- Where We Are
- What's Next
- Question & Answer

National-level data on Family Homelessness

- In 2018 nearly 1.5 million children experienced homelessness
- 6% of these minor children were under the age of six.
- About nine percent of children under age six experiencing homelessness (127,227 children*) were enrolled in **Head Start, Early Head Start**, or programs funded with federal dollars through the McKinney-Vento (homeless assistance) grants.

**This number does not include state and locally funded programs.*



Overview of Head Start on Housing Initiative

The Connecticut Department of Housing earmarked 25 Rental Assistance Program (RAP) vouchers for families whose children are participating in CT's Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS) programs.

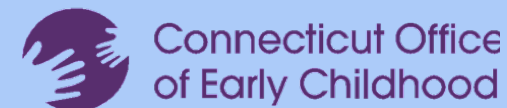
In June 2022, Governor Lamont and the state agencies announced an additional 35 Section 8 vouchers for this initiative.

Supporting and aligning with the current Coordinated Access Network (CAN) system with the goal of ending family homelessness in Connecticut



Housing is a platform for healthy child and family development

- The importance of stable housing and economic security in a child's life cannot be overstated. Children in owned or affordably rented homes consistently fare better on health, developmental, and academic variables
- The ***Family Options Study*** is a randomized controlled study of the impact of permanent affordable housing subsidies for homeless families funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 - Access to deep permanent housing subsidies produces substantial benefits for families



Initiative Partners



- Connecticut Department of Housing
- Connecticut Office of Early Childhood
- National Center for Housing and Child Welfare
- Connecticut Head Start Association



Head Start Programs

- Alliance for Community Empowerment, Bridgeport
- LULAC Head Start, New Haven
- ACES Early Head Start, Middletown
- Stowe Early Learning Center, Enfield
- ECHN Early Head Start, Manchester/Vernon
- More programs currently being onboarded



Families & Partners Behind the Vouchers



*Meghan & Donald
Head Start family housed through
initiative*



*Dr. Monette Ferguson, Executive Director of the
Alliance for Community Empowerment
Steve DiLella, Department of Housing*



ACES Head Start Staff



Connecticut Office
of Early Childhood

A HEAD START ON HOUSING FOR CT FAMILIES



Families love stability. When you rent to a family with young children, you're looking at years of long-term tenants with little turnover.

WHY RENT TO HEAD START FAMILIES?

- ◆ Head Start is a national program that promotes school readiness for infants, toddlers, and preschool-aged children
- ◆ Programs support the whole family with resources and mentors to be successful
- ◆ Rental assistance guarantees reliable, on-time payments

Interested in finding families to rent to?
Would you like to be a part of this initiative?
Call Betsy (XXX)XXX-XXXX.



Connecticut Office
of Early Childhood

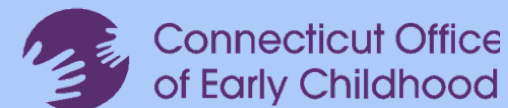
A statewide Landlord Recruitment Campaign

Where We Are

- As of September 2022:
 - 21 RAP vouchers assigned to Head Start families
 - 16 families housed!
 - 3 apartment inspections pending
 - 2 apartment searches underway

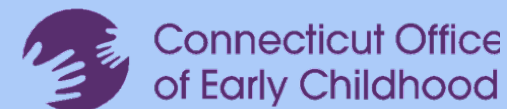


Erica & her son
Early Head Start family housed through initiative



What's Next?

- Facilitating housing search and successful lease-up of identified HS families
- Expanding pool of landlords and recruitment efforts
- Continue to on-board more Head Start programs to receive vouchers and support families
- Phase 2 – Currently expanding access to Section 8 with the Department of Housing administration plan revision and additional 35 vouchers



Question, Answer & Thank You!

Learn more at <https://headstartonhousingct.com/>





DEPUTY
COMMISSIONER
Shanté Hanks

Department of Housing

Acceptance of Minutes and Follow Up from Last Meeting

Topic	Notes
Minutes from the June 7, 2022, Meeting	

Next Steps

- 2022 Meeting Schedule (all meetings will be held from 1 to 3 p.m.)
 - *Tuesday, December 13, 2022*
- Preparation for next meeting

Closure/Meeting Adjourned

