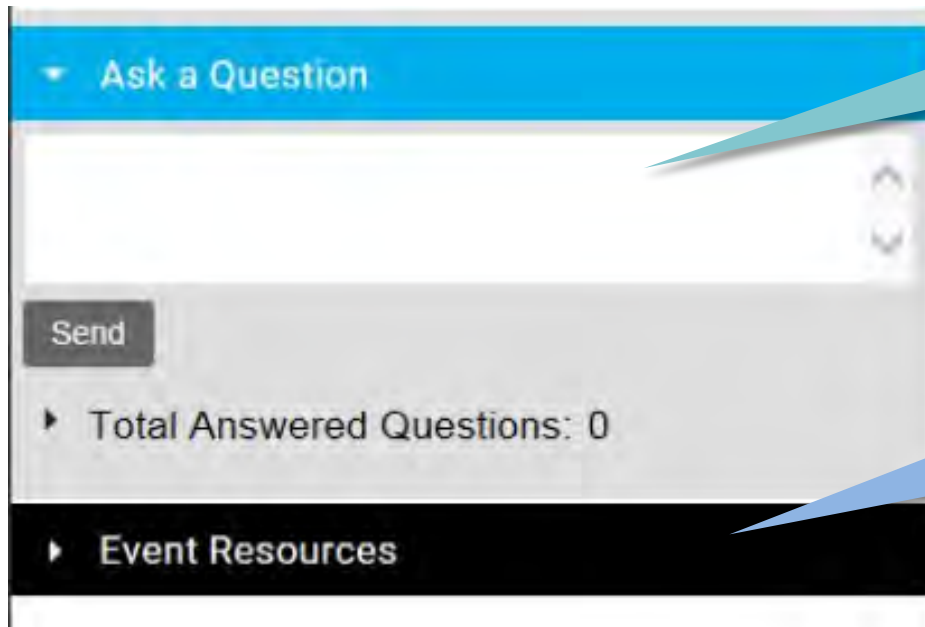


# ENROLLING CHILDREN AND YOUNG FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN EARLY HEAD START

OCTOBER 28, 2020  
3PM – 4PM EST



# Please Use the Left Side Bar to Ask Questions, Submit Comments, Or Download Handouts



Ask your questions and submit your comments here

Download power point handout from Event Resources





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**Office of Head Start**



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**Services Bureau**



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**Amy Rice**  
**St Ann's**



# AGENDA

- Welcoming Remarks
- Brief Overview of Maternity Group Home and Early Head Start Programs
- Maternity Group Home and Early Head Start Program Partnership Highlights
- Finding Your Partners & Partnership Ideas
- Questions and Answers



# WELCOMING REMARKS

Elizabeth Darling, Commissioner  
Administration on Children, Youth, and Families  
Administration For Children And Families



# YOUNG PARENTS, YOUNG CHILDREN & HOMELESSNESS

- Young parents are three times more at risk of experiencing homelessness compared to their non-parenting peers
- Infancy is the period of life when a child is at greatest risk of living in a homeless shelter across the country.
- For young children, homelessness can contribute to developmental, health, social and emotional, behavioral, and learning challenges.





Ann Linehan, Deputy Director  
Office of Head Start

Fostering resilience in children experiencing homelessness can help them feel stronger and more connected to others.



**Home at Head Start**

NATIONAL CENTER ON  
Parent, Family and Community Engagement

**“More than a million children under the age of 6 were identified as experiencing homelessness.”**

Administration of Children and Families, January 2016



**Give every child a “Home at Head Start”**

NATIONAL CENTER ON  
Parent, Family and Community Engagement



# MATERNITY GROUP HOME PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Habibah Sulayman Smith, MS**  
**Federal Project Officer, Region III**





# MATERNITY GROUP HOME (MGH) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Community-based, adult-supervised, long-term shelters, apartments and scattered-site apartments for **pregnant and/or parenting youth ages 16 to under 22 and their dependent child(ren) who are homeless and cannot safely live with their own families.**



# MGH PROGRAM OFFERINGS

- Safe and stable housing in extended residential shelter for 18 months and, under extenuating circumstances, up to 21 months
- Comprehensive service model and case management plan with a positive youth development approach
- Transitional Living and aftercare plan with services for at least 3 months upon exit



# COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES MODEL



- Record Keeping and Case Management for Infant/Toddler
- Child-Care Plan
- Child Development
- Parenting Skills
- Parenting curricula: Health and Nutrition
- Family Budgeting



# FOUR CORE OUTCOME MEASURES

1. Social and Emotional Wellbeing
2. Permanent connections
3. Education or Employment
4. Stable housing



# EARLY HEAD START OVERVIEW

**Kiersten Beigel**  
**Office of Head Start**



# HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START

- **Head Start**

Created in 1965. Serves families with children ages 3-5.

- **Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS)**, Created in 1969

- Serves migrant and seasonal farmworker families with children ages birth-5.

- **Early Head Start (EHS)**

Created in 1995. Serves families with children ages birth-3 and pregnant women.

- **EHS – Child Care Partnerships**

Created in 2014

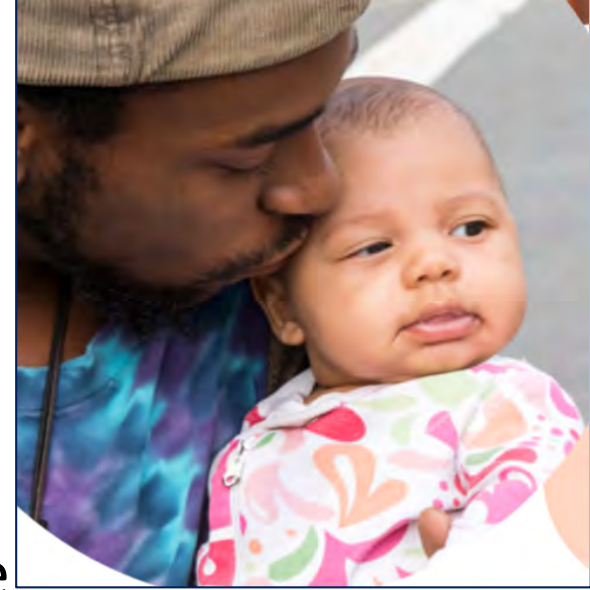
- Funds EHS programs partnering with regulated child care and FCC providers



# EARLY HEAD START PURPOSE

To promote school readiness by:

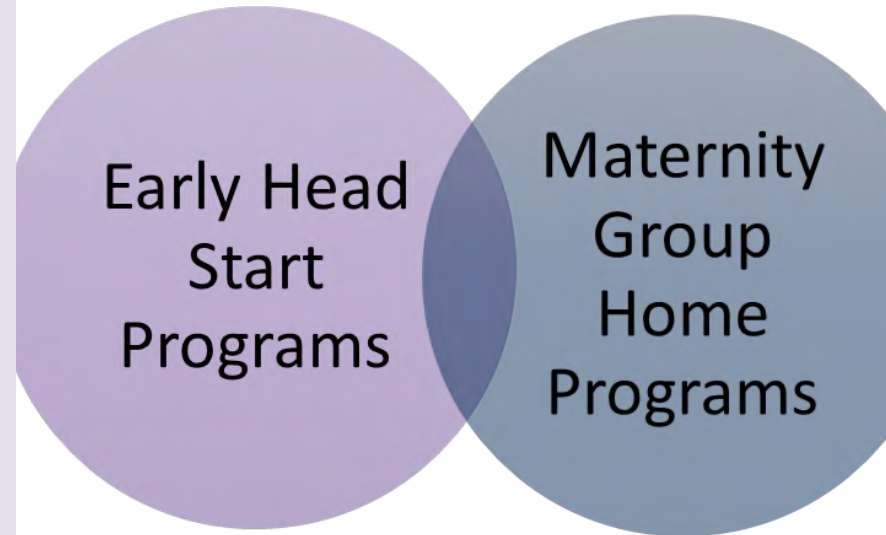
- Providing early care and education and comprehensive services
- Providing family-centered, culturally and linguistically responsive services
- Promoting parent-child relationships and the development of children
- Fostering parent engagement, parents as partners and as their child's lifelong teachers
- Supporting family wellbeing –health, safety & financial capability
- Engaging with community partners to support comprehensive service delivery



# PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY – COMPLEMENTARY SERVICES

## EHS

- ✓ Prioritize homelessness for enrollment
- ✓ Access to prenatal care
- ✓ Family/father engagement
- ✓ Health & development screenings,
- ✓ Nutritious meals
- ✓ Oral health and mental health support
- ✓ Early learning/school readiness



**Serving Pregnant and Parenting  
Young Families Experiencing  
Homelessness**

## MGH

- Automatic eligibility for EHS
- Positive Youth Development Model
- Coordinated case management  
Individual/group counseling
- Education in basic life skills
- Interpersonal skill building
- Referral to health, social services, education, and training opportunities



# ST. ANN'S CENTER FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Caring for Mothers and Children for 160 Years

**Amy Rice, Vice President of Programs**



# ST. ANN'S MISSION

St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families strengthens and supports families on their journey toward stability. Inspired by Catholic social teaching and Gospel values, St. Ann's Center provides a nurturing community where families heal from the past, overcome barriers, and take hold of their future.



# ST. ANN'S RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

- **Grace House**

- The home of our Teen Mother & Baby Program, Grace House offers residential care for pregnant adolescents and young mothers (ages 13-21) and their babies.

- **Hope House and Faith House**

- Transitional and supportive housing programs for pregnant and parenting women 18 and older experiencing homelessness and instability.



# MATERNITY GROUP HOME/RHY PROGRAM



- Housed in Grace House and Hope House
- Young mothers aged 16-22, either pregnant or parenting
- Working on education (HS, GED or College) and/or employment skills
- Engaged in parenting classes
- Provides trauma-informed, strengths based, developmentally based services through a reflective lens.
- Homeless Families are categorically eligible for EHS



# CHILD CARE CENTER

- St. Ann's has offered high quality and safe child care to our residents and neighborhood families for more than 35 years
- First Infant Child Care Center licensed in the state of Maryland outside of a hospital
- Early Head Start Program began in 2018



# THE LOURIE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

**Angela Card, Head Start Director**



# LOURIE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

Founded in 1983, by Drs. Reginald S. Lourie, T.B. Brazelton, & Stanley Greenspan, the Lourie Center for Children's Social & Emotional Wellness is a private, non-profit agency with a mission to improve the social and emotional health of young children and their families through prevention, early intervention, education, research and training.



# LOURIE CENTER HEAD START (LCHS)

- **Our Mission:** To improve the social and emotional health of young children and families through prevention, early intervention, and education.
- **Our Core Purpose:** To provide year-round, child and family development services for vulnerable families with children, prenatal to five years old, that support school readiness and family engagement through comprehensive services.





# ST. ANN'S AND LCHS

## EXPLORING THE BENEFITS OF A PARTNERSHIP

- Each partners' strengths, individually and together
- Similarities and differences of each partners' model
- Staff introductions and buy-in
- Access to quality programming for vulnerable children and families
- Expanded comprehensive services
- Additional professional development opportunities



# ST. ANN'S AND LCHS PARTNERSHIP –GETTING STARTED



- Agreeing on contractual terms of the partnership
- Ensuring that there would be complimentary, rather than duplicative services
- Assessing partnership needs
- Holding introductory staff meetings and EHS “service area” trainings



# PARTNERSHIP STRENGTHS

## **Lourie Center brings:**

- Experience and expertise with birth to 5
- Years in EHS-CC Partnerships
- Highly qualified HS service area managers
- Professional development

## **St Ann's brings:**

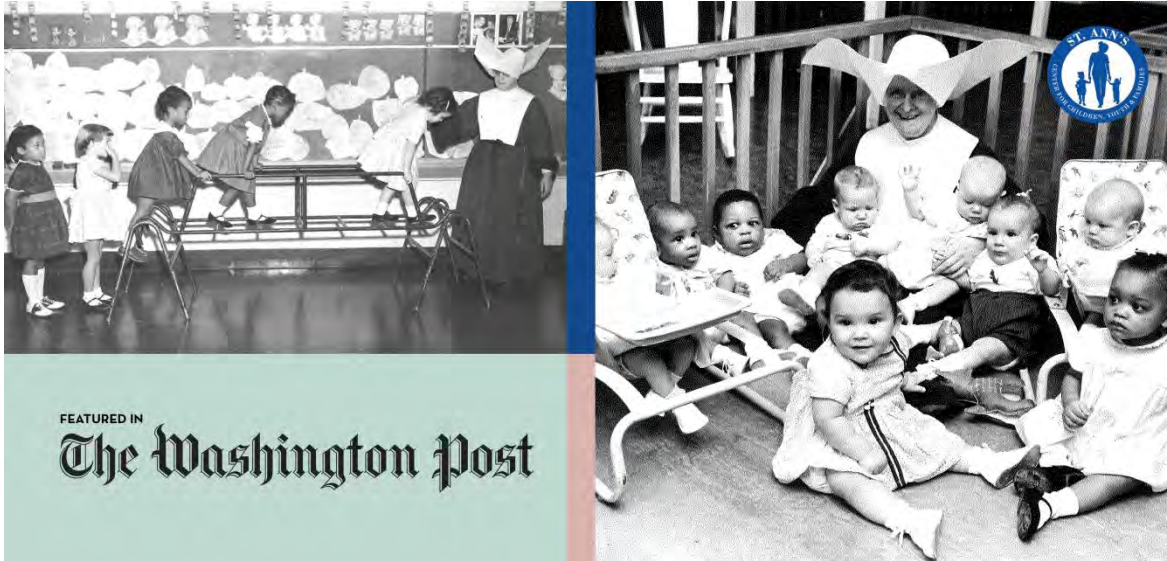
- Experience and expertise with youth homelessness and young pregnant women
- Dynamic service management team
- Experienced child care center

# EHS-CHILD CARE (EHS-CC) PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ **Screening, Ongoing Child Assessment Support**
- ✓ **Technical Assistance for children with disabilities**
- ✓ **Mental Health Consultants**
- ✓ **Nurse Consultants**
- ✓ **Learning Materials for Classrooms and Outdoors**
- ✓ **Replace items that need updating**

- ✓ **Food/formula and other financial assistance**
- ✓ **Food, supplies, materials for parent workshops**
- ✓ **Family engagement through leadership and program Governance**
- ✓ **Connecting to additional community resources**

# ST. ANN'S IN THE NEWS



FEATURED IN  
**The Washington Post**



FEATURED IN  
**The New York Times**

New York Times

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/18/opinion/coronavirus-homeless.html>

- Washington Post <https://www.stanns.org/news/2020/05/washington-post-orphanage-created-help-women-and-children-during-civil-war-adjusts-once>



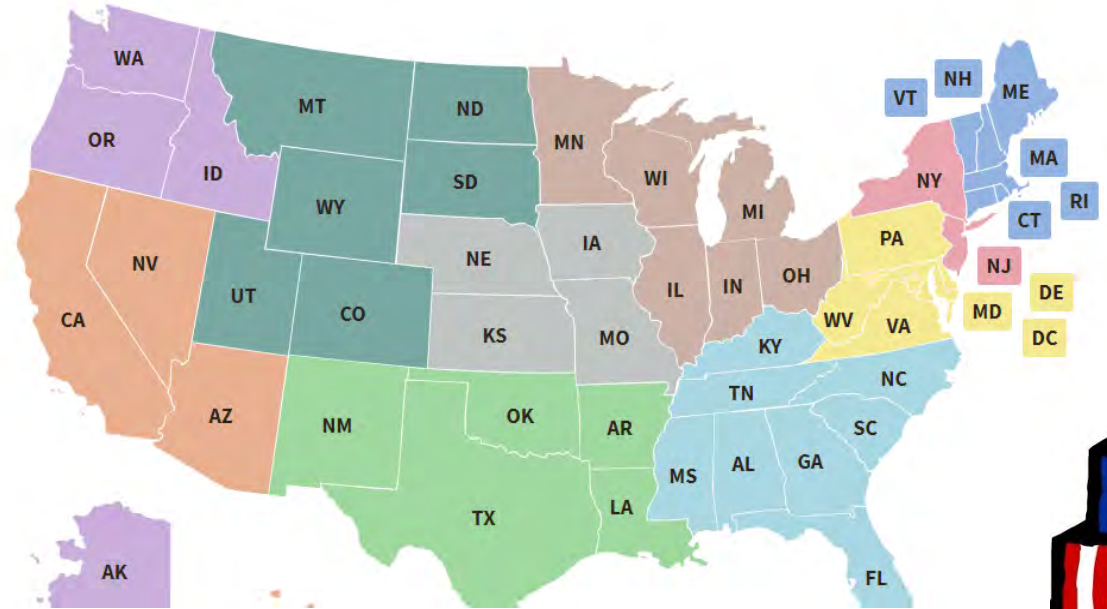
IF YOU ARE AN EHS PROGRAM.....

FIND A MGH PROGRAM HERE!

Map of FYSB grantees can be found here:

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/map/grantees-family-and-youth-services-bureau>

Contact information for RHY program grantees by State.



IF YOU ARE AN RHY/MGH PROGRAM....

FIND A HS/EHS PROGRAM HERE



## Locate a Head Start Program

Enter your city, state, or zip code.

Search

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/center-locator>



# KEY TAKEAWAYS

The complementary services your programs provide can help build strong foundations for young parents and their children and lessen the negative impact of family homelessness on young children.



Explore collaboration!

McKinney-Vento liaisons can help.





# KEY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES

- Hold staffing presentations to understand each program's services
- Establish referral protocols that prioritize EHS enrollment of pregnant young women, infants, and toddlers living in MGHs
- Ensure that young children in MGHs receive developmental screening and any needed follow up services
- Talk with your local Mc-Kinney Vento homeless liaisons to ensure that young parents and children are receiving any services for which they may be eligible



# KEY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES

- Share ideas about creating early learning friendly environments in MGHs
- Leverage each program's resources to support young parents' employment, education, and career options
- Invite MGH parents to EHS parenting groups and activities, including those designed to involve fathers



# ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

## **Early Head Start Program:**

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/programs/article/early-head-start-programs>

## **Runaway and Homeless Youth Program:**

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/programs/runaway-homeless-youth>

## **Maternity and Group Homes Program:**

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/programs/runaway-homeless-youth/programs/maternity-group-homes>

## **FYSB FY2019 Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Maternity Group Homes Grantees (18 Grantees)**

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/resource/fysb-fy2019-runaway-and-homeless-youth-maternity-group-homes-grantees>

**FYSB RHY Contact:** Habibah Sulayman Smith – [Habibah.Sulayman@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:Habibah.Sulayman@acf.hhs.gov)





# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Thank you!

