

What is Health Services Advisory Committee...

The Health Services Advisory Committee is an opportunity for parents to have input and learn about health needs including medical, dental, nutrition, mental health, that affect children, families, and our community.

What does the Health Advisory Committee do:

The Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) is an advisory group that brings together staff, parents, and local health care providers to talk about the planning, operation, and evaluation of the health services in our Early Head Start and Head Start program. Each committee determines how to best meet the needs of children and families in its community.

The following are some of the ways HSACs are supporting the wellness of our children and families:

- ✓ Linking children to ongoing sources of health care
- ✓ Ensuring that learning environments in the home and Head Start centers support each child's social, emotional, cognitive and physical development
- ✓ Suggesting policies and procedures for responding to medical and dental health needs.
- ✓ Assist parents in locating health services and resources that meet their needs, interests, and goals.
- ✓ Help our program form community partnerships that make it easier for children and families to access health services.
- ✓ Help EHS/HS staff evaluate the program's effectiveness

The Health Advisory Committee meets two (2) times per year, usually in the fall and spring, on a date and time set by the facilitator. Meetings last about two (2) hours and are open to anyone who wants to attend. Light refreshments are usually served.

What do Health Services Advisory Members do:

- Attend meetings to discuss and learn about health needs in our programs and community.
- We don't expect you to know everything about health, nutrition or dental needs! This is an opportunity to learn about health concerns and community resources and to share your ideas.

Who attends Health Advisory?

- All Head Start and Early Head Start parents are welcome to attend each meeting.
- A variety of other community members may attend including Head Start and Early Head Start staff, School Nurses, Mental Health Professionals, Nutritionists, Dental Hygienists, Dentists, Doctors, Public Health Staff, Mental Health Consultants, Child Health Staff, Chiropractors and Community Volunteers

As an Early Head Start parent, joining your local HSAC allows your voice to be heard on the issues that are important to you in the area of health, nutrition, medical, mental health and dental care for your child and all children we serve.

_____ Yes, I am interested in attending Health Services Advisory Committee meetings.

_____ No, I am not interested in attending Health Services Advisory Committee meetings at this time.

Parent Signature

Date

Child Name: _____