



National Head Start Association

May 13, 2008

Dear Colleagues:

The National Head Start Association's 2007-2008 Dollar Per Child campaign is quickly coming to a close. This year's contributions were invaluable in helping us accomplish so much of what we set out to do on behalf of the Head Start community. Our year-long efforts culminated with two key events: the enactment of the Head Start Reauthorization and the NHSA's 35th Annual Training Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

During the NHSA Annual Conference, the 2007-2008 Dollar Per Child fundraising event was kicked off by Luis Burguillo Jr., NHSA's director of Government Affairs, who then introduced Dr. Wayne J. Riley, president and chief executive officer of Meharry Medical College and vice dean for health affairs and governmental relations at Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Riley stressed to those in attendance how critical it is that members of the Head Start community educate their elected officials about the importance and value of the Head Start program. At the end of his speech, Dr. Riley generously donated \$1,000 to the Dollar Per Child campaign.

The Dollar Per Child campaign supports NHSA's advocacy activities before the U.S. Congress and the executive branch, ensuring that the voices of over one million children and their low-income families are heard.

During the lengthy reauthorization process, NHSA successfully fought to have provisions that would have weakened the policy council and would have allowed religious discrimination and unfair re-competition removed from the new legislation and supported language that will improve the quality of the program.

Even though the reauthorization bill has been signed, there is still much work that remains to be done. We must...

- Develop a voter information campaign for the upcoming presidential election that highlights and describes the candidates' positions on Head Start and other important programs.
- Develop a voter registration campaign for the Head Start community.
- Continue our efforts to strengthen the policy council.
- Establish an even greater presence on Capitol Hill.
- Continue to educate Capitol Hill staffers about Head Start's invaluable role and its needs.
- Work to secure an increase in Head Start funding.

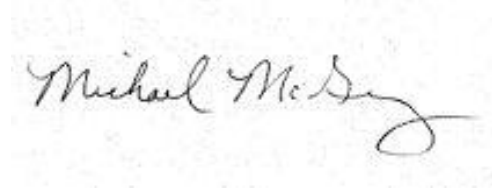
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NHSA is the membership organization representing Head Start parents, staff, directors, and friends across the nation whose purpose is to nurture and advocate for Head Start children and families.

In order to continue our work on behalf of the Head Start community, we need the help of all Head Start programs and staff members. If you have not sent in your contributions for the 2007-2008 Dollar Per Child campaign, we urge you to do so.

[On our Web site is a list of the state-by-state donations that have been received.](#) If you have any questions regarding the Dollar Per Child campaign, please contact Luis Burguillo Jr. by e-mail at lbarguillo@nhsa.org or telephone at (703) 739-7560.

Thank you! Your continued support is greatly appreciated and needed now more than ever.
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael McGrady". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Michael McGrady
Interim Executive Director