

Congratulations to Head Start Staff

At the end of October our Head Start Program experienced the first of two on-site federal reviews that will take place this program year. The Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 requires that the Office of Head Start include in its on-going monitoring of agencies a valid and reliable research based observation instrument that evaluates classroom quality, including the assessment of teacher-child interactions that are linked to positive outcomes for children. The tool used by reviewers is referred to as CLASS. It measures three domains of classroom quality: emotional support, classroom organization and instructional support. All six of our Head Start Center-Based classes were evaluated by federal reviewers.

We are pleased to report that we recently received the results and we scored very well! In the area of emotional support we scored 6.15, which is a score in the top 25% of programs in the nation, in classroom organization we scored 6.10, which is in the top 15% of programs in the nation, and in instructional support we scored 3.31, where we are in the top 15% of programs.

The scores from CLASS observations are used for a variety of purposes, including professional development, program improvement, goal-setting and monitoring. These scores reflect the dedication and skill of our staff members, who work so hard each day to positively impact the lives of children. Thank you to all of you! This is a wonderful reflection of program quality.

