



Business and Education Media Alert

Major expansion announced for Miami Valley's Early Head Start preschool education program

**54-month federal grant will benefit partnering agencies and preschool children
in Butler, Clark, Greene, Madison, and Montgomery counties**

Dayton, Ohio – June 10, 2014 – Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc. (MVCDC) received notification from the Administration for Children and Families of an annual \$4.1 million Early Head Start education and family services grant. MVCDC, a nonprofit entity, will use the money to expand early child development education and comprehensive family services.

The Dayton-headquartered agency landed Ohio's largest competitive award. A total of 300 additional infants and toddlers, ages birth to 36 months, will be served through the grant.

New programming will be expanded to families residing in Butler and Greene counties. Enrollment slots will be available for 30 and 20 children in these respective communities. Approximately 250 additional youth will be served in Clark, Madison, and Montgomery counties.

Business partnership opportunities will be open to 18 private child care centers and 15 family child care providers. MVCDC is working to create and fill 20 new jobs.

"The news of this partnership expansion is great for the community, and particularly for the underserved families and children who ultimately will be the winners. The grant will allow us to now provide Early Head Start services to 688 Miami Valley children—a 600% increase over the past five years. We applied for these funds to broaden the impact of Early Head Start partnership providers and centers, said Mary Burns, MVCDC President.

Early Head Start serves youth ages birth to 3, while the traditional Head Start program serves children 3-years-old through Kindergarten.

MVCDC's \$18.5 million funding is part of a \$500 million national school preparedness initiative for families of low-income.

For more information on Early Head Start enrollment, call 937.226.5664

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ABOUT Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc.

Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc. was incorporated in 1964 as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. The agency began providing comprehensive Head Start services to low income children ages three to five years in 1965. Today, Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc. is funded to serve 2,421 children ages 3-5 years and 688 children ages 0-3 in Butler, Clark, Greene, Madison, and Montgomery counties, Ohio. Funding is provided through the US Department of Health and Human Services; Administration for Children and Families; and the Ohio Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education.

Head Start's long history of comprehensive services to children and families has been shown to positively impact some of the neediest children in the nation. The program prepares children ages zero to five for success in Kindergarten and beyond.

Each child is assessed at the beginning of the school year and periodically throughout the year. Results are regularly reviewed and tabulated to determine each child's progress and what is required to assist in their continued development. The program targets most of its services toward families of low income.

ABOUT Head Start

Created in 1965, Head Start is the most successful, longest-running, national school readiness program in the United States. It provides comprehensive education, health, nutrition, and parent involvement services to low-income children and their families. More than 22 million preschool aged children have benefited from Head Start.

ABOUT Administration for Children and Families and Early Childhood Development Grant

The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary and Interdepartmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development (ECD) promotes a joint approach at the federal level to improving the availability of high quality early learning and development programs. We are made up of the [Office of Child Care](#), the [Office of Head Start](#), and the Interagency Team.

ACF works with federal agencies, state and tribal councils and administrators, and a wide range of national organizations and nonprofit partners. Its interagency, collaborative programs and communications help ensure a complete and integrated approach to improving the nation's childhood learning and development.

ACF is supporting states and communities as they expand high quality early learning opportunities to infants and toddlers through EHS-CC Partnerships. The partnerships will support working families by providing a full-day, full-year program so that low-income children have the healthy and enriching early experiences they need to realize their full potential.

Early Head Start programs also provide comprehensive services that benefit children, families, and teachers, including:

- Health, developmental and behavioral screenings
- Higher health, safety and nutrition standards
- Increased professional development opportunities for teachers
- Increased parent engagement opportunities

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