

PARENT / CHILD INCORPORATED Of San Antonio & Bexar County



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Please use this QR Code to access the National Head Start Association's Campaign to send a message to Members of Congress.

Dear Parent/Child Incorporated (PCI) Head Start and Early Head Start Families,

We're reaching out today to share some important information about the future of the Head Start program — and to let you know how much your voice matters right now.

There is concern that the upcoming **FY26 Presidential Budget Proposal** may include a recommendation to eliminate federal funding for Head Start and Early Head Start. While this is deeply concerning, we want to be clear: **this is not final**, and we are already working hard to make sure Head Start continues for your children and for generations to come.

Here's what you need to know:

- The President's budget is only a proposal. It is not a law or a decision just the start of a long process.
- Congress not the President decides how programs are funded.
- Head Start has strong supporters in Congress, and we're confident they will fight for the program just like they have in the past.

A Senate staff member recently told us:

"Please don't panic. As you know, any president's budget proposal is just that—a proposal. There are many in Congress, including Senator XXXXX, who support continued funding for Head Start. If the President's FY26 budget proposes zeroing out Head Start funding, we'll do as we've done before: work hard to maintain it."

We're sharing this with you not to scare you — but because **you are one of our strongest advocates**. You know better than anyone what a difference Head Start has made for your child and your family.

How You Can Help:

1. Speak up.

Call, email, or write your Members of Congress. Tell them your story. Let them know why Head Start matters to your child, your family, and your community.

2. Use your voice on social media.

Share a photo, video, or post about how Head Start has helped your family. Tag your elected officials and use your platform to raise awareness.

3. **Join us.**

Attend community meetings, advocacy events, or rallies to help show support for the program. Your presence matters.

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4. Invite others to act.

Ask your friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers to also contact their lawmakers. The more voices we have, the stronger we are.

Head Start is more than a program — it's a community, a support system, and a stepping stone for children and families. And thanks to your strength and advocacy, it has made a difference for millions. We believe, together, we will protect it.

If you have any questions or would like help taking action, please reach out to your Education Center Coordinator or Interim HS/EHS Operations Coordinator. We're here for you — and we're in this together.

With gratitude and hope,

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Dr. Sharon Small Chief Executive Officer/Head Start/Early Head Start Director

cc: Education Center Coordinators Catherine Padilla-Ortas Interim HS/EHS Operations Coordinator Candace Collins, Interim HS/EHS Operations Coordinator

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