

ALABAMA HEAD START STATE COLLABORATION OFFICE



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ON THE HORIZON



ALABAMA QRIS

Head Start programs that would like to attend a QRIS orientation, specifically planned for Head Start programs, should email Dr. Trellis Smith: (a) the name of the interested program, and (b) names of staff members who would like to attend **by Friday, August 18, 2017;**

trellis.smith@ece.alabama.gov. This information will provide an estimate of the number of potential participants and cost for the orientation used to help plan funding.

WAGE COMPARABILITY STUDY

The Alabama Head Start Association and State Collaboration Office have entered an agreement with the Center for Community Futures from Berkeley, California to conduct a Wage and Benefits Comparability Study. This study is projected to be completed by the end of October, 2017 and shared with Alabama Head Start programs on the AHSA (www.alabamahsa.org) and AHSSCO (children.alabama.gov/head-start) websites .

EARLY INTERVENTION/SPECIAL NEEDS:

Head Start programs that need assistance with coordinating special needs services for children through local LEAs should contact Ms. Crystal Richardson, Program Coordinator, Alabama Department of Education – Special Education Services (crystair@alsde.edu; 334-242-8114).



Dr. Trellis Smith

Head Start Collaboration Director
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PARTNERSHIPS

MAKING THE MOST OF CLASSROOM INTERACTIONS (MMCI)

MMCI is an interactive course for teachers and care providers led by a Teachstone-trained instructor in your organization. Over the course of ten sessions, your instructor provides in-person training to a team of teachers, preparing them to identify, understand, and apply stronger CLASS interactions to their classrooms.

On **Sept. 12-14, 2017**, The Alabama Head Start Collaboration Office will sponsor a *MMCI training* for Head Start grantees at *United Way, Birmingham (8:30 am – 4:30 pm)*. During this training, a Teachstone representative will train and provide support to selected Head Start staff, who will then deliver MMCI to teachers and care providers in their organizations. Programs selected for this training are as follows: **(1) Lowndes Co. BOE Head Start, (2) Community Action Partnership of North Alabama (CAPNA), (3) Gadsden-Etowah County Head Start, (4) Pickens Co. Community Action Committee CDC, (5) South East AL Regional Planning & Development, and (6) Montgomery CAA Head Start**. These programs were selected on a first-come, first-serve basis. Other programs have been placed on a wait list for future trainings. Only ONE person may attend from each program.

Selected programs are responsible for their own travel, hotel, and foods costs. For more information about the training, please contact Tara Skiles, at tara.skiles@ece.alabama.gov.

COACHING

To assist Alabama Head Start grantees with the OHS coaching mandate, the professional development team within the Department of Early Childhood Education has developed a survey to assess individualized coaching needs for each Head Start grantee. A link to the survey will be promptly emailed to each program. Please complete and submit each survey to the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education by **August, 18th**. Tara Skiles will review each survey by August 31 and contact your program to discuss a plan of action. For more information regarding coaching, please contact Tara Skiles at tara.skiles@ece.alabama.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1) **State and Territory CCDF Administrators Meeting (STAM)** – August 8-10, 2017; Marriott Wardman Park; Washington, D.C.
- 2) **Home Visitation Conference** – September 26-28, 2017; Renaissance Hotel, Montgomery; for more information see DECE website www.children.alabama.gov, Office of Early Learning
- 3) **Mental Health Association** – “First 5 Alabama” – accepting members; for more information, contact Dallas Rabig; 334-430-9340; dallas.rabig@ece.alabama.gov
- 4) **Alabama Head Start Association Conference** – October 23-25, 2017; Perdido Beach Alabama
- 5) **2017 Early Intervention and Preschool Conference** – October 23-25, 2017 – Huntsville, Alabama; Westin Hotel; <http://ucpalabama.org/conference/registration>
- 6) **12th Annual Alabama First Class Pre-K Conference** – January 3 – 5th, 2018 – Arthur R. Outlaw Convention Center; Mobile, Al.; www.children.alabama.gov

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