

Dear Parent(s):

We want to welcome you, your child, and your family to the Head Start/Early Head Start Program. In order to individualize your child's education, our program will be conducting a series of screenings during the first 45 days of school. The screenings will inform teachers of the skills/milestones that your child has mastered. Additionally, it will benefit teachers as they plan activities that will introduce the next set of skills that your child will eventually master. Your child's teacher will conduct screenings in the classroom, as it is the most natural and familiar setting. Since the success of your child is our priority, teachers will be mindful to conduct the screenings during a time when your child will be most willing to participate. Results of the screenings will be reviewed with you during the first home visits.

As your child's first teacher, you play an active role in the screening process. Your observations, ideas, and concerns about your child are very important and we are asking you to share them with your child's teacher. Your involvement helps to ensure that the planned activities are appropriate to your child, family and culture.

The screenings being conducted will be:

Head Start

• **Developmental Screening:**

ACUSCREEN - This developmental screening is based on observations of your child engaged in daily activities, as well as a series of teacher-directed tasks that your child will need to perform. This should take approximately 30 minutes to conduct.

• **Social, Emotional, and Behavior Screening:**

DECA (Devereux Early Childhood Assessment) - This screening will be based on the teacher's observations of your child's social, emotional behavioral interactions during the daily activities. This will help to measure how your child is developing in the areas of initiative, attachment, self-control and behavior. The same questionnaire will also be given to you so that you can provide information about your child. These observations will be conducted over the 45 day period.

• **Speech Screening** - This speech screening will assess the status of your child's spoken language development. You will need to let the teacher know what your child's first language is so that the screening can be conducted in that language. This screening will take approximately 15 minutes.

Early Head Start

• **Denver II** - The Denver II will screen for developmental, behavioral, language and motor abilities. This screening will take approximately 15 minutes.

• **DECA (Devereux Early Childhood Assessment)** - See above.

Should you have any questions, regarding these screenings please feel free to speak with your child's teacher.

I acknowledge that the above information was discussed with me and I agree to work in partnership with the Community Action and Human Services Department Head Start/Early Head Start Program staff regarding my child's development.

Parent Signature

Staff Signature

Date

Date