



## MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY, 2019

**ADMINISTRATION:** For the first time ever, we have more subs than we need. I do not know if this is a summer phenomenon, or will we have them for the fall also. I will keep my fingers crossed!

**PARENT POLICY COUNCIL:** The Parent Policy Council will meet on the second week of July.

**EHS MANAGER:** Our EHS Manager resigned in June 2019. I appointed a temporary acting EHS Manager until the position is filled.

**CONTRACT TO ATTEND SCHOOL:** According to the Head Start Performance Standards, if Head Start pays for an employee's education, then that employee must work for Head Start 3 years after they complete their degree. This clause will be added to the contract that is required of each employee attending college. We have three(3) staff attending SCC for the summer.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:** The U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation to increase Head Start funding in fiscal year 2020 by more than 1.5 billion, including the following specific increases:

- 750 million for Quality Improvement Funding for Trauma-informed care (mental illness).
- 525 million for Early Head Start expansion and Child Care Partnerships.
- \$8 million to re-establish the Tribal Colleges and Universities Head Start Partnership Program.
- \$217 million for a cost-of-living adjustment.

The funding increase is a long way from final. The next step is in the hands of leaders in the U.S. Senate. Before the new fiscal year begins on October 1<sup>st</sup>, House leads will have to reach an agreement with the Senate leads who are also working with the President on a budget deal to set topline funding levels. If an agreement is not met across Congress, it is possible that federal funding would go into a spending freeze or sequestration, resulting in across the board cuts.

**WHAT CAN WE DO?** It is important that the Head Start community rallies together to ensure members of congress understand the importance of what Head Start needs in FY 2020. Write to your Legislators and congressional members to advocate increased funding for Head Start. NOTE: As Head Start Director, I sent letters of to my senators and representatives asking for an increase. I then sent this letter to the council members and to the PPC asking them to also send letters of support.

**MONTANA INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING:** Governor Bullock announced infrastructure funding for schools in Montana. I routed the funding contact information to RJS, as Head Start has a need for several infrastructure projects: (1) repair damages in the laundry room, one office, and one classroom, due to the roof leaking; (2) classroom carpeting; (3) tile replacement; (4) front door repair; (5) lawn repair (small pebbles are in the lawn, causing damage to the lawn mower and kids tracking in small rocks into the classrooms; (5) classrooms need painting.

**HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY 2019**