



MASSACHUSETTS  
HEAD START ASSOCIATION



# 2023 Annual Report

# A Letter From Our Leadership

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Dear MHSA Members, Partners, and Friends,

2023 was a year of growth for Head Start and MHSA. We were thrilled to partner with the Commonwealth Children's Fund to accelerate our 2023-2025 strategic plan. With CCF's support, we brought on a fantastic new team member, Shannon Bell, to serve as MHSA's first Member Support and Professional Development Coordinator, adding enormous value to our programs and members of the early childhood community. Head Start programs have been busy as well, working to raise wages and support staff and educators. MHSA and Head Start programs have been dedicated to advocacy in 2023, for Head Start State Supplemental Grants, in support of Head Start funds and resources, and on behalf of our early childhood mixed delivery system. In this upcoming year, our exceptional Chair of the Board of Directors will be stepping off the Board after 6 years of service to MHSA. We thank Jill for her service and look forward to another year of change and growth for Head Start!

In Partnership,



Jill Fox  
MHSA Board Chair



Michelle Haimowitz  
MHSA Executive Director



Triumph Inc. Head Start @  
MHSA's Advocacy Day Event



# Head Start



Children from Martha's Vineyard  
Head Start



Children from YMCA Cape Cod  
Head Start



Children from Martha's Vineyard  
Head Start

It all began in 1965...

The idea for Head Start was simple - a federal program to help low income and vulnerable preschool children prepare for school. But it was revolutionary to recognize that the path to life and school success was through supporting both children and their families in a two generation model.

Today, Head Start still works to serve the most vulnerable young children and their families through a comprehensive model of services and care. Head Start provides:

- High quality early education and care, through center based, home visiting, family child care, and child care partnerships
- Health, mental health, and nutrition
- Services for children with disabilities
- Leadership, volunteer, and parent education opportunities
- Referrals to family advocacy and critical health and emergency services for families



Children from PACE Head Start



Family from Triumph Inc. Head  
Start

## Massachusetts Head Start Association

**Vision:** Head Start programs in Massachusetts are fully resourced, creating opportunities for vulnerable families, children, caregivers and communities to thrive.

**Mission:** MHSA serves as the voice of Head Start in Massachusetts by providing collaborative learning opportunities, leveraging partnerships, and advocating for Head Start programs.

# Head Start Data Highlights:

## Children and Family Data

In the 2022-2023 program year, Massachusetts Head Start and Early Head Start programs served:

**11,225** children

**105** pregnant women

10,499 children served in center-based classrooms

704 children served in home visiting

153 children served in family child care

1,445 children served at a child care partner

**30%** of enrolled children also received a child care subsidy

**1,074** children from **1001** families experiencing homelessness were served

**339** children in foster care were served

**21%** families received mental health services

**43%** families received emergency/crisis intervention

## Workforce Data

Massachusetts Head Start and Early Head Start employed **3,945** staff in the 2022-2023 program year

There are **1,621** center-based teachers in **677** classrooms

**63 %** of preschool classroom teachers hold a bachelor's degree or higher

**27%** of staff are current or former Head Start parents

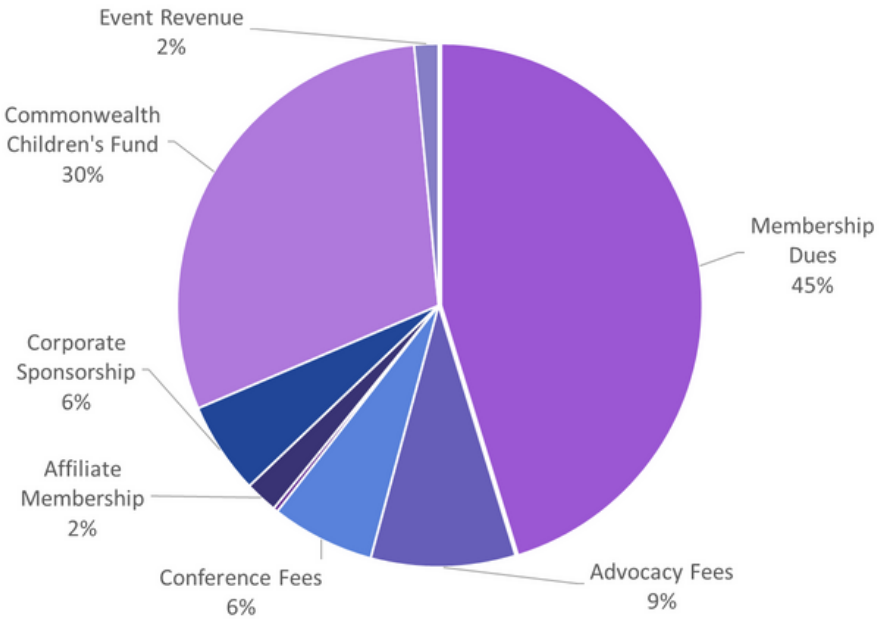
**17%** of staff left during the program year

- of those, only 42% were replaced
- the average annual salary of a classroom teacher is \$43,987

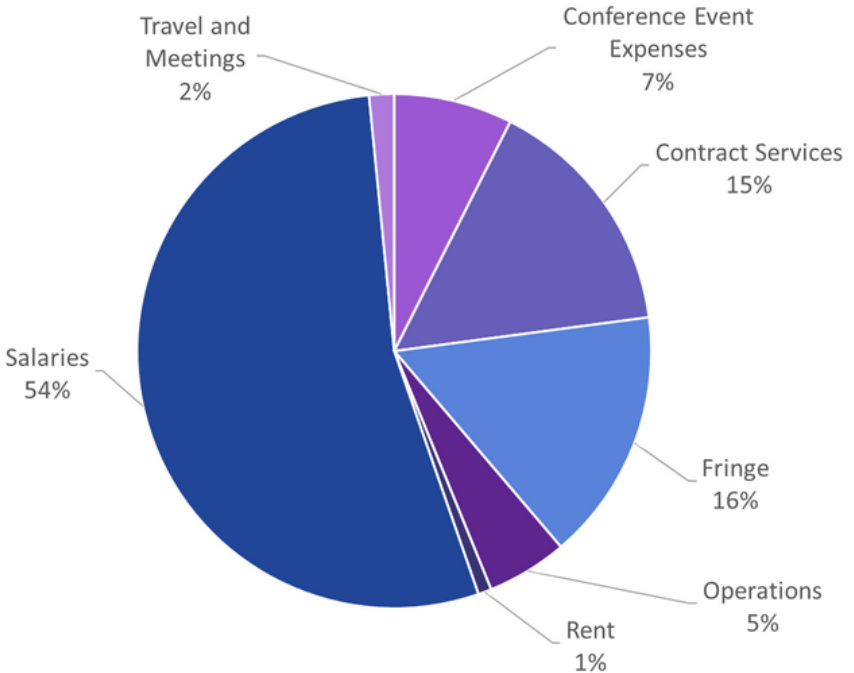
\*All data from the 2022-2023 Office of Head Start Massachusetts Program Information Report

# MHSA Financials

## 2023 Revenues



## 2023 Expenses



# Board of Directors and staff

## Board Position

## Name

## Agency

Chair	Jill Fox	PACE Head Start
Vice Chair	Meghan Siembor	Community Teamwork Inc.
Treasurer	Nicole Blais	Holyoke Chicopee Springfield Head Start
Secretary	Nancy Mahoney	MOC Head Start
	Flossy Calderon	ABCD Head Start
	Justine Donovan	GLCAC Head Start
	Kristen Hayes	Friend of MHSA
	Chris Hosman	Friend of MHSA, Director SomerPromise
	Mariel Silverio	Friend of MHSA, former Head Start parent
	Nancy Sullivan	Self Help Inc. Head Start

## Staff

Executive Director	Michelle Haimowitz
Operations Coordinator	Amber Cichowski
Member Support and Professional Development Coordinator	Shannon Bell



## 2023 Members

Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) Inc. Head Start & Early Head Start  
Associates for Human Services Early Head Start and Early Learning Programs  
Berkshire County Head Start  
Citizens for Citizens Head Start & Early Head Start  
Communities United Inc.  
Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS) Head Start  
Community Action Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start  
Community Action Pioneer Valley, Head Start and Early Learning Program  
Community Action Programs Inter-City (CAPIC) Head Start  
Community Teamwork Inc.  
The Dimock Center Early Head Start & Head Start Programs  
Greater Lawrence Community Action Council Inc. Head Start  
Holyoke Chicopee Springfield Head Start, Inc.  
Lawrence Community Day Care Early Head Start  
LEO Inc. Head Start  
Making Opportunity Count (MOC) Child Care & Head Start  
Martha's Vineyard Community Services Head Start  
Pathways for Children  
People Acting in Community Endeavors (PACE) Head Start & Early Head Start  
Quincy Community Action Programs (QCAP) Head Start & Early Head Start  
Riverside Community Care Early Head Start  
Self-Help, Inc. Head Start  
South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC) Child Care & Head Start  
South Shore Community Action Council (SSCAC)  
Triumph Inc. Head Start, Early Head Start & Early Childhood Programs  
Worcester Child Development Head Start  
Worcester Community Action Council Head Start  
YMCA Cape Cod Head Start & Early Head Start

Staff at PACE Head Start



## **CONTACT :**

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Website : [www.massheadstart.org](http://www.massheadstart.org)

*Stay connected*