

## Higher Horizons Day Care Center, Inc. Receives \$1 million in Recovery Funding for Early Head Start in Bailey's Crossroads and Falls Church, VA

Bailey's Crossroads, VA

January 22, 2010

Virginia's Governor Timothy Kaine announced on December 17, 2009 that Higher Horizons was one of the recipients of Early Head Start expansion funding made possible from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Higher Horizons is a private non profit provider of early childhood services in the Bailey's Crossroads/Falls Church Community of Fairfax County, VA. Early Head Start expansion funds totaling \$1,023,146 will provide services to an additional 76 pregnant women, infants, and young children under age three. The organization currently serves over 200 children in Head Start and Early Head Start. The newly funded Early Head Start program will offer home based and center based options. This award of funding will support the organization's goal of capacity building and continue the mission of providing quality early childhood development and family services.

Early Head Start is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. This federal program enhances children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development; assists pregnant women with access to comprehensive prenatal and postpartum care; supports parent's efforts to fulfill their parental roles; and helps parents move toward self sufficiency. Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross shares " This is very good news. Higher Horizons is a leader in early childhood education and has provided tremendous support for Mason District families for decades. The Early Head Start expansion funds will enable Higher Horizons to continue services to new generations of students and their families."

Higher Horizons has a strong local and national reputation for sharing success stories with other agencies regarding the role of culture and family in early childhood education and meeting the needs of English Language learners and preserving native languages. The agency is located in one of the most culturally diverse communities in the Washington metropolitan area.

Board Chairman, Ethel Rollins-Cross stated "The Board of Directors and I are pleased to expand services to additional families in the community. Twenty jobs will be available at the new site and enrolled parents can seek employment or remain employed realizing that their early care needs will be met by participating in the Early Head Start program."

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