

TO: EHS/HS Parents and Guardians

FROM: Kari Walker, President & CEO
The Guidance Center

RE: Changes for Head Start and Early Head Start 2016-17 school year

DATE: July 21, 2016

As you know, in December 2015 The Guidance Center submitted a grant to the Office of Head Start to continue to provide early childhood services for children and families in our community.

At this time, we are pleased to announce that the agency has been awarded a five-year Early Head Start/Head Start grant. We will continue to provide comprehensive services to pregnant women, birth to five children and their families to support healthy development, school readiness, and family and community engagement.

The new grant reflects the direction of the Office of Head Start to increase services for pregnant women and children from birth to three and to focus on more full day and full year programs for older children in Head Start.

As of July 1, 2016 The Guidance Center will provide services to 513 children and families. We will continue to serve all of our current geographic areas but will no longer have a physical location in Flat Rock and Huron Township. Families in the Flat Rock and Huron areas are eligible to explore enrollment at any of our many remaining locations. We have enough available slots across all of our locations to serve all returning children.

Children who were previously enrolled in part-day classrooms will be eligible for enrollment in the new full day classrooms during this transition year. The new program structure has converted a significant number of part-day classrooms into full-day Head Start classrooms and has also increased the number of Early Head Start slots.

The first day of school of the new school year will begin on **September 6, 2016**. We are now in the process of enrolling and selecting children for the upcoming school year. Please contact The Guidance Center at (734) 785-7702 to schedule an enrollment appointment.

We look forward to continuing to provide a high quality early childhood program for children and families in our community.