



INTERAGENCY
HEADSTART
NETWORK

Staff, Did You Know?

Our Head Start program is a member of Interagency Head Start Network. IHSN is a collaborative group that came together in the 80's. It is now a network of nine agencies that work together developing a stronger voice for Head Start in the Edmonton area. One of the tasks of IHSN is to implement our Community Response plan, which sets our strategic goals and action plans. Across nine agencies we serve 1500 children and their families, who represent over 20 countries and 30 languages.

Head Start describes a continuum of early learning programs that includes: Half-day Head Start, Early Head Start, Aboriginal Head Start, Full-day Head Start, Resource Supports for Early Learning & Care and Francophone Head Start.

Our Accomplishments

The goal of the Network is to work collaboratively in promoting best program practice, advocacy, fund development and coordination of services. We work together with a broad range of community partners to access the best possible services for low-income families throughout the Edmonton area.

The Interagency Head Start Network has adopted a Partnership Protocol and a common Logic Model. The Community Response Plan, developed in 2005, facilitates the:

- Defining of and agreement on our common core services
- Adopting common standards of best practice
- Drafting a tool for documenting successful program practice, areas for improvement and an ongoing action plan
- Reaching out to the community together through various events and strategies
- Participating in a mapping process to better coordinate services and addressing some common funding issues
- Establishing of an ongoing means of working together.

How Can You Help?

Actively use the Quality Enhancement Plan which is IHSN's tool for communication among its members. Tell your friends and colleagues about IHSN's program practices and how we implement best practice in our agencies and throughout the network.