



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

East Coast Migrant Head Start Project Ready to Open Seven New Centers in Indiana

Raleigh, North Carolina, May 28, 2021 – East Coast Migrant Head Start Project (ECMHSP) is ready to bring its successful proven model of Head Start services to the hard-working farmworker families residing in Indiana. During the first week of June, about 100 children of agricultural workers will begin to receive high-quality and comprehensive Head Start services throughout seven cities in Indiana.

Head Start services will be at no cost for families harvesting apples, berries, beets, cabbage, corn, carrots, cauliflower, onions, and melons. “Our program believes parents are a child’s first teacher. We will work hand in hand with parents to build their trust and the community’s as well,” said Maria C. Garza, ECMHSP Chief Executive Officer. For all children, ECMHSP ensures they have a medical home, up to date immunizations, and nutritional supports to help them develop and grow.

The opening of our new seven Head Start centers will have great economic impact in Indiana. Since the beginning of the year, more than 75 job opportunities have been created throughout this new ECMHSP service area. Sheila Klinker, a member of the Indiana House District 27, will be present during our ribbon cutting ceremony on June 9, to take place at our Indiana state office and early childhood education center. In addition, members of the Indiana Migrant & Seasonal Farmworker Coalition (IMSF), will also witness this memorable day for ECMHSP. We thank the community for their warm welcome.

East Coast Migrant Head Start Project was established in 1974 through a grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Under the leadership of Sister Geraldine O’Brien, Head Start centers were opened along the east coast of the United States to ensure continuity of services, as families migrated to work in agriculture. Currently, ECMHSP operates 47 Head Start Centers in nine states.

Additional information about ECMHSP can be found by visiting www.ecmhsp.org.

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