



## Hidalgo County Head Start Program

### Policy Council Agenda

**DATE:** May 18, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Discussion/Approval of Hidalgo County Head Start Program Self-Assessment Results

**RATIONALE/NEED:** The purpose of the Self-Assessment is to improve program effectiveness. The Self-Assessment was conducted during the week of March 28 - April 1, 2011.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Administration recommends approval.

**COST:** N/A

**RELATED INFORMATION INCLUDES:** Hidalgo County Head Start Program Self-Assessment Results

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**INITIATED BY:** Nora S. Munoz, Assistant Program Director *NM*

**REVIEWED BY:** Teresa Flores, Executive Director

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:** *Teresa Flores*



## Hidalgo County Head Start Program

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P.O. Box 0117 Edinburg, TX. 78540-0117

To: Teresa Flores, Executive Director  
From: Nora S. Munoz, Assistant Program Director *NSM*  
Date: April 26, 2011  
Subject: Self Assessment Results  
CC: Edmundo Garcia, Assistant Program Director

Please be advised that the Program has once again successfully completed the annual Self Assessment. The Self Assessment teams were thorough in their review of the documentation and observations of the centers they visited. We are very pleased with the level of professionalism demonstrated both by the members of the teams and the staff at the centers. This activity was taken very seriously and all efforts have been put forth to ensure accuracy and accountability across the Program.

All teams have identified areas of strength for the Program. The only Potential Area of Non Compliance (PANC) is in Sec. 640 (d) (1) of the Head Start Act *Allotment of Funds; Limitations on Assistance*. The Program did not ensure 10 percent of the total number of children enrolled was children with special needs as determined eligible for Special Education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). However, an official waiver addressing the issues was submitted and has been approved by Regional Office. This waiver allows the Program to maintain its full compliance (see attachment).

The Program will continue to work diligently with the local school districts, to ensure that at a minimum of 10 percent of children with special needs are enrolled in the Program.

Also attached, is a list of the Blue Ribbon Centers identified by each team. We would like to formally recognize these centers at the next Policy Council meeting.

I would like to once again recognize the Program staff for their support, cooperation, and dedication throughout this process.

We would like to also thank you for your continued support and leadership. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to call me.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Regional Office VI  
1301 Young St, Room 937  
Dallas, TX 75202

April 26, 2011

Ms. Teresa Flores, Executive Director  
Hidalgo County Head Start Program  
PO Box 117  
Edinburg, Texas 78540-0117

RE: 06CH0183

Dear Ms. Flores:

We received your disability waiver request dated February 07, 2011.

Section 620(d)(4) of the Head Start Act states "*The Secretary shall establish policies and procedures to provide Head Start agencies with waivers of the requirements of paragraph (1) for not more than 3 years. Such policies and procedures shall require Head Start agencies, in order to receive such waivers, to provide evidence demonstrating that the Head Start agencies are making reasonable efforts on an annual basis to comply with the requirements of that paragraph.*"

Your waiver request has been found consistent with all relevant statutory requirements, as articulated above and is, therefore, approved. The waivers are effective as of 08/26//2010 through 5/25/2011.

If you have any questions, please contact your Program Specialist, Alfredo Huerta at 214-767-8859 or email at [alfredo.huerta@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:alfredo.huerta@acf.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Deborah Drake  
Acting Regional Program Manager

