



**Tuesday, June 18, 2024**

<p><b>8:00 am - 11:30 am</b></p>	<p><b>Registration Opens</b> (no registration on Monday) <b>Breakfast on your own</b></p>
<p><b>8:15 am - 11:30 am</b></p> <p>Stretch break, time TBA as needed, coffee &amp; tea provided.</p> <p><i>Targeted for those with 3 years or less in current leadership position; however all leaders are welcome. The main conference starts at lunchtime with an afternoon agenda.</i></p>	<p><b>Title:</b> New Directors' Survival Tool Kit</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Yanick Goutier, Consultant, The Non-Profit Connection, Inc.</p> <p><b>Bio:</b> Ms. Goutier has experience in developing, implementing, and monitoring programs for children and families and performed in different aspects of early childhood education. Over the past 37 years, she worked as a Teacher and Director of early learning programs, Technical Assistance Specialist, Trainer, Grant Manager, Parent Engagement Specialist, Vice-President of Early Learning Services for Broward County including the Florida state sponsored VPK (Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) program. Most recently she has served as a Monitoring Review Lead for Head Start Monitoring &amp; Compliance nationwide with Danya / DHL Corporation. She also worked with several local, state, and national organizations as Validator, Trainer, Reviewer, Observer, Adjunct Faculty, Curriculum Reviewer and Advisory Board Chair. See the full bio on our website.</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The key to the success of a Head Start program is the ability of its leader to implement a culture of high-quality services for children and families. This session will explore the responsibilities and accountability of new program directors and the expectations of their positions. New Leaders will learn about the connection between data collection, and ongoing monitoring systems for alignment and compliance with the Head Start Performance Standards.</p>
<p><b>11:30 am - 12:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Directors Conference Officially Begins - Buffet Luncheon</b> Announcements - Dawn Ault</p>
<p><b>12:30 pm - 2:00 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Please sit with your VA Ready Region neighbors -see signs on tables to clarify</b></p> <p><b>Title:</b> How to Ace Your Monitoring Review</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Yanick Goutier, Consultant, The Non-Profit Connection, Inc.</p> <p><b>Description:</b> This training is designed to enhance Head Start and Early Head Start administrators' understanding of the review monitoring process for Focus Area I and Focus Area II. This session will provide an in-depth review of the protocols with proven strategies to prepare programs for successful monitoring reviews.</p>
<p><b>2:00 pm – 2:15 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Break:</b> coffee, tea, and iced tea provided</p>



<p><b>2:15 pm - 3:45 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Region 3 Office Updates</b> - Icelynn Baldwin, Regional Program Manager, and Nekeya O'Connor, Supervisory Program Specialist</p>
<p><b>3:45 pm – 4:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Head Start State Collaboration, VAHSA Updates, and Networking Time with your Ready Region neighboring colleagues</b> - Taundwa Jeffries, HSSCO Director, and Dawn Ault, VAHSA Executive Director</p>

**Wednesday, June 19, 2024**

<p><b><i>Breakfast on Your Own</i></b></p>	
<p><b>8:15 am to 11:30 am</b></p> <p>Stretch break, time TBA as needed, coffee &amp; tea provided.</p>	<p><b>Title: Leadership, Vision and Innovation for Head Start’s Future – Part 1</b></p> <p><b>Presenter: Paul Behrman, The Walnut Leadership</b></p> <p><b>Bio:</b> Paul Behrman is a consultant, trainer and keynote speaker with expertise in leadership and management, and a passion for social justice and the continued development and support of early care and education systems and the ECE workforce. For more than 20 years, he served as Director for Champlain Valley Head Start in Vermont, and as Chair for Vermont Head Start Association. Paul serves as a leadership and management mentor and coach and has participated in national workgroups convened by the federal Office of Head Start in Washington, D.C., the Head Start National Training &amp; Technical Assistance Center for Program Management and Fiscal Operations, and the National Head Start Association. He has served as a Gubernatorial Appointee to the Vermont Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing High Quality, Affordable Child Care, worked as an attorney on behalf of low-income clients, and provided pro bono work. Paul was a Johnson &amp; Johnson Management Program Fellow at Anderson School of Management at UCLA. He received a Juris Doctorate degree from UCLA School of Law, and B.A. degree in English and Communication from SUNY Albany.</p> <p><b>Description:</b> This full-day session for Head Start leaders and managers will focus on the leadership needed to cultivate high-performing program cultures of communication, teamwork, impact, and mutual support. We will look at critical targets for program quality, including pay parity with public schools, lower classroom group sizes and ratios, cost-per-child relevancy, and metrics, and more. The session will provide opportunities to discuss strategic pathways for bold Change in Scope applications, and considerations and tools around Head Start and Early Head Start collaborative partnerships with schools, childcare centers and other providers.</p>
<p><b>11:30 pm - 12:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Boxed Lunch</b> – feel free to take outside to enjoy the ocean air</p>



**V A H S A 2024**  
**DIRECTORS  
 CONFERENCE**

<p><b>12:30 pm - 4:15 pm</b>          Stretch break,          time TBA as needed,          coffee &amp; tea provided.</p>	<p><b>Leadership, Vision and Innovation for Head Start’s Future – Part 2</b>          This is a continuation of the morning session, refer to Part 1 description above.</p>
<p><b>4:15 pm – 4:30 pm</b></p>	<p>Parking Lot Questions and Level Setting for Tomorrow – Dawn Ault</p>

**Thursday, June 20, 2024**

<p><b><i>Breakfast on Your Own</i></b></p>	
<p><b>8:15 am - 10:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>Title:</b> The Current National Head Start Landscape, Tommy Style!  <b>Presenter:</b> Tommy Sheridan, Deputy Director, NHSA  <b>Description:</b> Back by popular demand every year, Tommy will provide NHSA updates, updates on the President’s Budget Proposal, Budget Appropriations, ongoing issues related to Covid19, Reauthorization, time for Q &amp; A etc.</p>
<p><b>10:00 am – 10:15 am</b></p>	<p><b>Stretch / Coffee Break</b></p>
<p><b>10:15 am-10:30 am</b></p>	<p><b>Dr. Winn</b>, Massey Cancer Center, Head Start Alumnae, will share his motivational story of how Head Start impacted his early childhood development and his successful future trajectory in life.</p>
<p><b>10:30am to 11:45 am</b></p>	<p><b>Title:</b> Be the Gift That Keeps on Giving: Nurturing Seeds of Impact  <b>Presenter:</b> Dr. El Brown  <b>Bio:</b> Dr. El Brown is the Founder of KinderJam and host of the podcast Straight Talk with Dr. El. She is also a faculty member in the Early Childhood Education Master of Arts in Teaching Program in the American University, School of Education, in Washington DC. Dr. El began her career as an Early Childhood educator in Atlanta Public Schools. After which, she relocated to Asia and taught 2nd grade in Japan and South Korea with the Department of Defense Education Activity. In 2008, after her return to the United States, as a stay-at-home mom, Dr. El founded KinderJam, an Early Childhood Education enrichment, care, and training agency, which grew to serve Military and State Department Families in 11 countries and 16 states. The program was founded in response to Dr. El’s</p>



experience as a mother parenting a young child with disabilities and with a purpose to promote early intervention and family engagement in military communities. This endeavor earned Dr. El the title of 2012 Army Spouse of the Year, an invitation to the White House, and a feature on The Oprah Winfrey Show. To further develop KinderJam and ensure the professional integrity of the program, she earned a master's degree in Early Childhood Education. Then, to better position herself to effectively advocate for young children with disabilities and their families, Dr. El later earned a Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education with a secondary emphasis in Educational Psychology from George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. Dr. El has authored four books and created a music and movement curriculum for young children. But, above all she is a proud Head Start alumna and mother of a 17-year-old son on the autism spectrum, affectionately known as Super Duper Young Man.

**Description:** Embark on a transformative journey of inspiration and renewal in this closing presentation designed to offer hope and healing to Virginia Head Start Directors as they step into a new school year marked by significant turnover and staff changes. Through the metaphor of an acorn developing into an oak tree, we will explore the profound parallels between early childhood education and the nurturing of seeds. Our keynote speaker, a former Head Start student turned founder and CEO of an international Early Childhood Education and Family Solutions agency, will share a powerful narrative of growth, emphasizing that the work of Head Start Directors is essential in cultivating the potential within every child and family.