

Our mission is to coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education.

# 2016 Homeless Head Start Children Fact Sheet



**130,524**

Children under age five who spent time in a homeless shelter in the U.S.

**31,741**

Homeless children in Head Start

**13,156**

Homeless children in Early Head Start

## Giving homeless children a Head Start...



Homeless children “lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.” This includes living in someone else’s home; a shelter; a motel, hotel, or campgrounds; or a place not designated for regular living, such as a car or bus station.

### Largest number of homeless children served by Head Start

- 3,259** Texas
- 3,089** California
- 2,784** New York
- 1,977** Illinois
- 1,896** Pennsylvania

### Highest percentage of homeless children served by Head Start

- 12.7%** Nevada
- 11.6%** Idaho
- 11.1%** Montana
- 10.2%** Wyoming
- 9.9%** Oregon



“A few years ago, I was living in a homeless shelter and working 12-hour days as a single mother of two. My family educator sat down with me right away and helped me set goals for me and my children. I decided I wanted to go back to school, get my GED, which I did, and then go to college. I enrolled in community college while still working part-time. I feel confident that I have broken the cycle of poverty for my two children.”

**Alesha M.**, Colorado

## Maryland Family Network. Inc.

**Baltimore, Maryland**

Maryland Family Network runs programs in local homeless shelters and maintains a health clinic partnership with a local hospital. The network provides social/emotional services to parents and children experiencing homelessness.

Maryland Family Network also assists families with housing transitions. Children can stay enrolled in the program or get help transitioning to a program closer to their new home.

1,001 children served: 128 homeless children



## Acelero Learning

**NJ, NY, PA, NV, WI**

Acelero collaborates with case managers at local shelters to identify and enroll homeless children. In dealing with these children and their families, Acelero adopts the public health framework to meet their varied needs.

10,932 children served: 1,050 homeless children



## Head Start of Greater Dallas, Inc.

**Dallas, Texas**

Head Start of Greater Dallas has a partnership with a local child development program focused on serving homeless children to give these children access to the Head Start model. Greater Dallas also employs licensed professional counselors to work with homeless children and families on any individual mental or emotional needs.

4,167 children served: 350 homeless children



## About NHSA

The National Head Start Association is a nonprofit organization committed to the belief that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to succeed in life. NHSA is the voice for more than 1 million children, 200,000 staff and 1,600 Head Start grantees in the United States.

For more info, please contact us: [go.nhsa.org/Contact](http://go.nhsa.org/Contact).

For citations and other state fact sheets, please visit [www.nhsa.org/Fact-Sheets](http://www.nhsa.org/Fact-Sheets)



NATIONAL HEAD START ASSOCIATION

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