State/Regional Profile Survey

• Designed to assess **structure** and **capacity** of associations and state early learning systems

• Conducted December 2013– March 2014

• 43 associations responded to date
  – 40 state
  – 3 regional and other

• 80% of states reporting
Membership

• Average number of grantee members is 31 (with median of 28 and range of 5 to 93)

• Members serve between 1,500 and over 100,000 children and families.

• 657,594 children and families served (78% of total state Head Start enrollment)
Staffing

- 72% (31 of 43 associations) have paid staff
  - 24 assns. have an Executive Director
  - 5 have an Associate or Asst. Director
  - 35 have other staff (average of 2)

- 39% of staff are salaried; 35% contracted and 26% a combination of the two
## Primary Sources of Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Average % Revenue</th>
<th>Average % Reporting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences/Meetings</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants/Contracts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Sponsorships</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Board Size and Structure

- Average Board size is 23, median is 17, with a range from 9 to 132.
- Structure
  - 95% of associations have Director members
  - 80% have Staff and Parent members
  - 66% -- Partners
  - 54% -- Other categories
Resource Sharing

• Percent willing to share materials (of 41 responses)
  – 83% Bylaws
  – 61% Executive Director Position Description
  – 49% Advocacy Materials
  – 46% Strategic Plan
  – 46% Annual Report
  – 44% Board Policies
State Early Learning Systems

• 39 states funded preschool programs in 2013-2014.

• In 27 of these 39 states, Head Start enrollment exceeds the number of children in state-funded preschool.

• Two additional states (Indiana, Mississippi) approved pre-K bills this session.
Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)

- Early Head Start is included as an evidence-based model in 23 of 32 states (72%).
- 12 of these states fund Early Head Start through their MIECHV grants.
- In 20 of 32 states (63%) MIECHV is not administered by the primary early childhood agency.
Agencies with Primary Responsibility for Early Learning

- 52% in Department of Education
- 21% in designated Office of Early Learning
- 12% in Human Services/Public Welfare
- 15% shared or other
State Advisory Councils

- 88% of respondents (29 of 33 states) have active State Advisory Councils.

- 77% of respondents rate them as “somewhat” (58%) to “very effective” (19%) in providing leadership and influence.
State Advisory Councils

- Average number of Head Start representatives is 2.

- 90% of responding states believe Head Start is represented on Advisory Councils (issues and perspectives are adequately voiced)
  - 30% “well-represented”
  - 60% “moderately represented”
State Advocacy Coalitions

• 26 associations report active state-level advocacy councils.

• 80% rate them “somewhat” to “very effective” in influencing state-level policy and funding.

• Head Start is “very” (47%) to “somewhat” (37%) involved in these coalitions.
Quality Rating Improvement Systems

- 70% (23 of 33 responding states) have fully or partially implemented QRIS.

- 21% (7 states) are developing systems, while only 9% (3 states) are not yet planning QRIS.
Head Start in QRIS

• Three-quarters (16 of 21 states) give special consideration to Head Start:
  – 8 recognize Head Start at a defined or minimum quality level.
  – 8 allow an accelerated or simplified application process.
  – 7 each receive financial incentives or other special considerations.
Head Start Engagement in QRIS

- 20 states reported on grantee participation in QRIS

- 6 have 80% or more participation, with 2 states at 100%.

- Over 8 in 10 states believe that Head Start is represented in QRIS decision making.
Data Aggregation Across Head Start Programs

n = 31

- 29% Aggregate data from all programs
- 23% Aggregate data from some programs
- 48% Not aggregating data at this time
Types of Data Aggregation by Lead Organization

n = 24

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Association</td>
<td>Quality Improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collab. Office</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. of Early Learning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. of Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19
# Types of Data Shared with State Data Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>n = 25</th>
<th>Child/Family</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Workforce</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Head Start Programs</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Head Start Programs</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Head Start Programs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How Else Is Head Start Involved in State Systems?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child Assessment</strong> (developing or revising assessment tools, identifying common measures across programs, etc.)</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Engagement</strong> (mentoring other providers, incorporating Head Start standards in QRIS, aligning family engagement approaches)</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professional Development/Workforce</strong></td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How Can NHSA Be Helpful?

• Data for advocacy and templates for use at the state level

• Leadership training for association Boards and staff

• Updates, information and resources on state and national initiatives
How Can NHSA Be Helpful?

• Ensuring parent advocacy is included at all levels

• Continued participation in state conferences

• Outreach to state child care partners
Conclusions

1. Associations are highly diverse in their size and scope, ranging in membership from 5 to 92, with a range of 1,500 to over 100,000 children and families served.

2. Three-quarters have paid staff, but only 24 have Executive Directors. This number has remained relatively constant over the past decade.
Conclusions (Continued)

3. Majority of associations are receiving revenue from grants and contracts, with 61 percent reporting state funding.

4. Average Board size is 23, with a range of 9 to 132. Nonprofit Boards average 19, with a trend toward smaller Boards.

5. A quarter of respondents did not enter data on state early learning systems and Head Start engagement.
Conclusions (Continued)

6. **State Advisory Councils** are more active and more effective than 2 years ago. Almost every state has Head Start representation.

7. **State Advocacy Coalitions** are also perceived to be effective, but only half of associations are “very involved.”
Conclusions (Continued)

8. Majority of states give special considerations to Head Start in QRIS, reflecting success in state-level advocacy. QRIS offers opportunities for statewide conversations about quality.

9. Increase in association work with data systems is very positive, with 24 of 31 states aggregating data across programs.
Conclusions *(Continued)*

10. Survey respondents suggested that NHSA can help in their state-level work through:

- Advocacy data and materials at the state level (e.g., data templates)
- Connecting associations with state partners through NHSA’s national affiliations
- Leadership development targeted to state-level opportunities and challenges
- Ongoing education and resource sharing around initiatives, innovations and strategies