



NEW YORK STATE HEAD START ASSOCIATION

December, 2010

Dear New York State Head Start Programs,

As always, it gives me great pleasure to bring you greetings and warm wishes from the New York State Head Start Association Board of Directors. The 2009/2010 program year has afforded us the opportunity to share and work with you on a number of important initiatives across the State. We assure you that we will continue our efforts to provide quality leadership and advocacy for our very diverse Head Start families and children.

During the upcoming year we expect that the challenges facing Head Start will become more difficult and our joint support will become more important than ever before. Re-competition of Head Start grants is major force that we will have to contend with. We must be united in our efforts to ensure our mutual survival and we will face this challenge head-on, hand-in-hand.

In order for us to move ahead with one voice, we will need to strengthen our commitment by renewing our NYSHSA membership. In this effort, we look forward and urge you to support your Association today. As in the past, you may choose to register your full agency for one fee, or pay individual membership fees. As you know, full agency registrations provide overall membership to everyone in your agency; this is a tremendous savings for spring conference attendance.

We must continue to stay connected, to provide opportunities to share, learn and grow together. Adverse local, State and National policies affect us all adversely. There is greater strength in numbers and your NYSHSA is one of the avenues by which we make our joint voices heard. Your membership is crucial to this effort.

Our annual conference was held in the western part of the state in the spring of 2010, we are planning to meet this spring in the mid-section of the State. The official date and location will be announced shortly. As always, we need your input in the development of the agenda and workshops. We want to ensure that this conference addresses the specific needs of our program parents, staff and board members. Please send us your views.

We look forward to your continued support and we sincerely thank you. Please join today.

Sincerely,

*Frances Phipps, VP
Membership Chair*