ENROLLMENT

To enroll, contact your county’s Child and Family Advocate (CFA) for an appointment.

To locate your county’s Child and Family Advocate (CFA) go to www.nekcap.org and click on Contact or call 785-742-2222, ext. 160 or 103 (toll free 888-904-8159). You will need to provide your income documents (for one year/most recent tax return or at least three months reflecting current situation of the family) and insurance cards. Child’s birth certificate (or hospital birth record) and immunization record are preferred but not required. If you do not have these documents the CFA will work with you to obtain them.

Early Head Start is funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

THE PROMISE OF COMMUNITY ACTION

Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

NEK-CAP, Inc.'s Vision

One by one all families and communities become self-reliant.
Early Head Start provides services to children ages 0-3 years old including infants, toddlers, and pregnant women in nine of NEK-CAP, Inc.’s 16-county service area. It promotes healthy prenatal outcomes, healthy babies, enhances the development of infants and toddlers, and promotes healthy/self-reliant families. Early Head Start services are FREE to eligible prenatal women and children!

SOCIALIZATION

The Early Head Start program focuses on socialization of infants and toddlers; the most important relationship at this age is between children and their parents. Socialization between infants and toddlers and their peers is important but is not the focus. Socialization gives parents a chance to be in a setting where they can interact with their child, other parents, and qualified staff to learn more about their child's development and develop more as a family. It is one more option for families to receive support and education. Socialization helps with community and team building by bringing many different members together and increasing communication and relationship.

Early Head Start works closely with parents to assist them in developing and using individual and family strengths to successfully meet personal and family objectives. Parents are encouraged to become involved in all aspects of the program, from participation in socializations to direct involvement Parent Committee and Policy Council.

HOME-BASED PROGRAM

Early Head Start home-based programs provide comprehensive and intensive services to pregnant women and children through age three (3). Early Head Start programs have many different goals, such as promoting healthy prenatal outcomes, enhancing the development of very young children, and promoting healthy family functioning.

This home-based program will provide all services through weekly home visits, and offers at least two socialization opportunities per month, as selected by NEK-CAP Policy Council, Multi-County Board, parents and staff.

GROWING GREAT KIDS™

NEK-CAP Inc. Early Head Start utilizes the Growing Great Kids™ Curriculum in our home-based program. This curriculum is parent and child development focused. Growing Great Kids™ is a user friendly and truly comprehensive strength-based approach to growing nurturing parent-child relationships and supporting healthy childhood development. This prenatal to 36-month curriculum is research and practice based that supports parenting, attachment, child development, and family building.

NEK-CAP, Inc. Early Head Start utilizes The Ounce Scale on-line assessment tool. This is a comprehensive assessment tool for early childhood education programs that is based on the latest research, proven valid and reliable, and is fully aligned with Kansas Early Learning Standards and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.