



LULAC Head Start Inc.



Newsletter for Program Year 2026-27

LULAC HEAD START- OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Letter from the Executive Director - Dear LULAC Community,

Welcome to our first full month of Fall 2026! The colors of the season are beautiful and a great reminder of the power of nature. Please take the time to take in the sights of the changing colors of the leaves and the trees. Some of my most favorite memories as a child are those of collecting fall leaves of different colors and sizes, or watching the squirrels collect acorns as they prepare for the winter. These are great activities that you can share with your own children, talking about the changing nature around them.

This month, we will have our annual fall festival where we will have family activities, fall-themed snacks, pumpkins and gift bags. This event is a great way for families and staff to connect, and celebrate the season together.

As for updates, I am excited to announce that our new program, **Joyful Beginnings** is starting! This new program is for families not enrolled in our program but would like to experience the benefits of Early Head Start and Childcare weekly for 2 hours on Saturdays. Families will participate in group play and learning with other children and their families, and receive Early Head Start benefits like diapers, wipes, learning materials and health and developmental screenings. For more information or to enroll, please speak with your Family Advocate.

Wishing you all a great October!

Best,

Dr. Mikyle Byrd-Vaughn, Executive Director



Future Leader Center
106 Haven Street
New Haven, CT 06513



Fay Miller Center
250 Cedar Street
New Haven, CT 06519



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HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Welcome Our New Team Members!

We are excited to welcome three new staff members to the LULAC Head Start family this month!

Please join us in welcoming:

- Angelis Sanchez - Classroom Assistant, FMC Room 5
- Sara Manzi - Education & Inclusion Coordinator, FMC Infants & Toddlers
- Sandrie Blank - Education Manager

We are happy to have you join our team and look forward to the experience, knowledge, and dedication you will bring to LULAC Head Start. Welcome!

Congratulations, Deja!

Please join us in congratulating Deja Taylor on obtaining her Preschool CDA (Child Development Associate) Credential with a high score! 🎉

September Attendance Raffle Winners!

Congratulations to our September Attendance Raffle winners!

- FMC: Helen Alvarez
- FLC: Mariela Zamora

Thank you to everyone for your continued commitment to attendance and reliability. Your dedication helps support our classrooms, children, families, and fellow team members.

Congratulations, Helen and Mariela!

We're Hiring!

LULAC Head Start is currently recruiting for:

- Head Teachers
- Teachers
- Teacher Assistants
- Classroom Assistants

Do you know someone who loves working with children and has the experience, education, or credentials needed to join our team?

Please refer them to the HR Office! Your referral could help us find our next great LULAC team member.





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INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

Updates from the Individual Support Services -

This month, LULAC teachers are conducting developmental screenings for newly enrolled children. We do this to learn more about each child's strengths, skills and areas where they may benefit from additional support. The screenings provide us with information in areas such as communication, social/emotional skills, motor development and early learning. The purpose is not to label or diagnose children, but rather to help us understand how we can best support each child's individual needs. Teachers will meet with parents to discuss results. This gives us an opportunity to share what we have observed, answer any questions and learn from parents about their child's development at home. Working together, families and teachers can use this information to create meaningful goals and provide children the support they need to have a successful start to the school year.



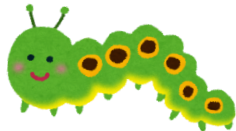
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Education Updates -

The teachers are welcoming new children into their classroom, getting to know new children and their families. We are also partnering with families in completing developmental screenings for children to better assess their development and areas of needs, establishing a rapport through communication.

This month, classrooms are preparing activities to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month where families are invited to share and celebrate their culture by participating in a cultural art activities and share family traditions and experiences with other families. Other classrooms are planning family engagement activities celebrating the fall.





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FAMILY ADVOCATE DEPARTMENT

Updates to Family Information -

Our Family Advocates will be meeting with families to assist with updating CACFP applications and collecting proof of address. Please remember that proof of address must be updated annually. If there have been any changes to your household, address, contact information, income, or family circumstances, please make sure to inform your Family Advocate so we can keep your family's information up to date.

Thank you for helping us maintain accurate records and ensuring your family receives the services and resources you are eligible for!

Fall Festival - You're Invited!

Join us for a fun-filled Fall Festival for our Head Start families! Come enjoy a morning of family fun, activities, and opportunities to connect with other Head Start families and staff. We hope to see you there! Saturday, October 24th

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM - Fay Miller Center

Parenting with Purpose Events!

You are invited to join us for our Parenting with Purpose sessions! These sessions are designed to provide families with helpful tools, strategies, and support to strengthen relationships and promote positive parenting. We encourage our families to participate and take advantage of this opportunity to learn, share, and grow together!

Tuesdays: October 13th, 20th & 27th

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Fay Miller Center - Large Conference Room

We Are Recruiting!

We are currently accepting applications and recruiting for the following programs:

- Children ages 2 months-4 years
- Prenatal participants for our Prenatal Program for pregnant families at least
- ***Our New Home-Based Program for Infants/Toddlers: Joyful Beginnings

Head Start provides families with comprehensive services designed to support children's learning, development, health, and overall well-being. Spread the word! Help us connect with families in our community who may benefit from our programs.

Thank you for being part of our Head Start family!





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NUTRITION DEPARTMENT

Flu season is here! The health and safety of our students remain our top priority. Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness that can cause mild to severe illness, and getting vaccinated is the best way to protect your child, your family, and our school community.

The State of Connecticut requires an annual seasonal influenza (flu) vaccination for all children aged 6 months through 59 months (6 months to under 5 years old) enrolled in licensed child care facilities.

Key Requirements and Timelines:

- **Age Group:** Children aged 6 to 59 months in licensed child care programs.
- **Vaccination Window:** Must receive at least 1 dose between August 1 and December 31 each year.
- **Deadline & Exclusion:** Proof of immunization must be submitted by December 31. Children who are non-compliant by December 31 will be excluded from the program until the proof of vaccination is received. Appointment cards will not be accepted.

Please make an appointment with your child's primary care provider today!



OPERATIONS/ FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

October is a busy month at LULAC! Our Operations team continues to work to support safe, welcoming, and well-prepared learning environments at both centers. This month, staff will participate in professional development focused on mental health, family-style dining, mandated reporting, and team collaboration.

Regarding facilities, we will continue with winter preparations to ensure that our centers and property are ready for the winter weather ahead. FPT inspections are continuing to ensure the safe environment that both the staff and families deserve.





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STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

For the month of October:

Danielle Abel - 10 years

Joan Acevedo - 1 year

Nilda Alejandro - 20 years

Monica Duran - 4 years

Gilberto Lugo - 10 years

Nidia Rivas - 10 years

Deja Taylor - 4 years

Sarah Yineman - 1 year



LOOKING AHEAD INTO NOVEMBER

- November 11 - Veterans Day Center Closed
- November 23 - Centers Closed, Staff PD
- November 24 & 25 - Thanksgiving Recess- Centers Closed
- November 26 - Thanksgiving Day - Holiday
- November 27 - Thanksgiving Recess - Centers Closed

