



**LUZERNE COUNTY
HEAD START** INC.

VIRTUAL EARLY HEAD START SERVICES



Children participate in an early Head Start virtual group socialization event on Zoom

At-home learning toolkits purchased with federal relief funds for Early Head Start children

Help your children learn and grow at home with our Early Head Start virtual services

At Luzerne County Head Start, Inc. (LCHS) our belief has always been that a parent is a child's first and most important teacher. As we navigate through these uncertain times, we believe this is the case now more than ever. Until we can safely resume in-person services, our Early Head Start (EHS) trained professionals are here to help you monitor your child's growth and progress through our virtual home visiting program. Here are some examples of what we are doing to ensure you and your child get the most out of LCHS's virtual Early Head Start experience:

- 30-minute minimum (or more, if needed) virtual weekly home visits scheduled at your family's convenience.
- Developmental screenings – Each enrolled child will receive an at-home learning toolkit upon enrollment. These bags are filled with age-appropriate educational materials that will help each family, along with the help of their family educator, assess their child.
- Materials inside of the toolkits can also be used for activities that go along with our EHS program's early learning assessment.
- Our family educators virtually observe the child and assess his or her growth and progress, based on age. Family educators will observe the child and family member interact to determine what milestones they have met, as well as anticipate what skills they will work on.
- Checklist screenings will be completed with each child's family to make sure their child's developmental, oral, hearing, and vision needs are being met.
- Family educators will use conversational input, such as observation from parents, Early Intervention educators, or other sources to help assess the needs of the child.
- Goal setting will continue to take place among families, along with referrals to outside agencies for services the family or child may need; i.e., Early Intervention, dental/medical needs, food sources, mental health services, etc.
- Each child enrolled in the program will receive a weekly

\$10 WIC-approved food voucher (or food bag) to use at select locations.

- Families will be invited to take part in bi-monthly virtual group socialization events via "Zoom" that will include 8-12 families.

Children and their families can take part in story time and musical activities with their family educator, children and other families. Parents and children can connect with one another while participating in these activities.

Snacks are also provided to families, prior to the group socialization event.



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"My husband had to quarantine for one month, leaving us without two incomes during the COVID-19 pandemic. Without the help of Early Head Start, I would not have been able to afford new eyeglasses for my daughter. I would recommend this program to anyone – the staff is reliable and they make sure your children have what they need."

-Keisha, EHS mom

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