

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
WEBB COUNTY HEAD START/ EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM
and
NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
(CITY OF LAREDO HEALTH DEPARTMENT)

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a common understanding of the collaboration and relationship between the local Head Start/Early Head Start Program and the City of Laredo Health Department's (CLHD), Nurse-Family Partnership Program (NFP). It is essential to establish clear expectations and a reliable way of relating to one another for mutual cooperation. The Webb County Head Start/Early Head Start Program provides comprehensive developmental services for low-income pregnant women, and children birth to 5, as well as offering social services for their families. Early Head Start directs its services toward pregnant women and children ages birth through three years of age, and Head Start serves preschool children at least 3 years of age and not kindergarten age eligible, including children with disabilities, and their families. Webb County Head Start provides comprehensive child development and early education program. The program helps children become better prepared to succeed in school and in life by addressing the needs of the whole child. In addition to providing research-based academic curricula, Head Start also provides an array of comprehensive services, including health and mental health screenings and services, nutrition, dental and vision services, and extensive parental involvement and early childhood development. The entire range of Head Start services is responsive and appropriate to each child's and family's developmental, ethnic, cultural, and linguistic heritage and experience.

Webb County Head Start/Early Head Start Program commits to the following:

- Commit that HS/EHS will review recruitment and selection policies in order to prioritize enrollment of the CLHD/NFP.
- Jointly establish an agreed upon standardized referral process to HS/EHS programs by the CLHD/NFP to be used when making referrals of children.
- Inviting CLHD/NFP representatives to become community representatives on the Policy Council, the Health services Advisory Committee or other Head Start/ Early Head Start program advisory committees, such as self-assessment teams.

The City of Laredo Health Department/Nurse Family Partnership program:

1. Will do presentations of appropriate prenatal care, social and well child health care to school Head Start/Early Head Start program health fairs/meetings.
2. Enroll students to NFP program for first time mothers in which, if they qualify, pregnant mothers will have a registered BSN RN to case manage them through home visitation until child is 2 years old. NFP nurses have a set goal for student to have a healthy pregnancy and healthy child, become a better parent, build a strong network of support for mother and child, make the home a safe place for child to live and play, provide referrals for healthcare, childcare, other support systems, find ways to continue education, and develop job skills. When appropriate, encourage fathers, family members, and even friends to be involved in the visits and educate on how they can support mother and child.
3. Provides linkage and referrals to all appropriate health support agencies during pregnancy and postpartum such as Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP, Family Planning Clinic, WIC Clinic, social services PILLAR, Cancer Screening, and Immunization Clinic.
4. During home visits nurse will assure student has physician for the mother and new born throughout the first two (2) years of life either through a private source or the City of Laredo Health Department.

Confidentiality

Any reports, information, data or studies given to or assembles by the City of Laredo Health Department/Nurse Family Partnership Program and/or Webb County Head Start under this agreement shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization only with prior written approval, unless otherwise required by law.

The Term

The term of this agreement shall be for a period of thirty-six (36) months beginning on September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2017.

The parties hereto, through their authorized representatives have executed this Memorandum of Understanding effective for the dates written above.

Rocío Lona, BSN, RN
Nurse-Family Partnership Supervisor

Date

ATTEST:

Danny Valdez
Webb County Judge

Margie Ramirez Ibarra
Webb County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Marco A. Montemayor

Webb County Attorney

*By law, the county attorney's may only advise or approve contracts or legal documents on behalf of its clients. It may not advise or approve a contract or legal document on behalf of other parties. Our review of this document was conducted solely from the legal perspective of our client. Our approval of this document was offered solely for the benefit of our client. Other parties should not rely on this approval, and should seek review and approval of their own respective attorney(s).