



## Our Partners

ABC Head Start relies on the help of other agencies and services in order to meet the diverse needs of Head Start families. Many of these partner agencies work directly in Head Start classrooms and others work in the community and continue to work with families even once they have left Head Start. Listed below are a number of partners we work with:

**ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES (AHS)** Provides Public Health Nurses and Dental Hygienists who visit Head Start. They provide child health screening and assist families with referrals for any health concerns. The team also gives parents information on a number of health topics related to them and their children.

**CHILD AND ADOLESCENT SERVICES AGENCY (CASA)** CASA works with our parents and staff in assisting those children who may have social-emotional challenges. They also provide quick access (the usual wait is many months long) to mental health assessment and treatment for our children with mental health and/or severe social-emotional challenges.

**EDMONTON SCHOOL BOARDS** ABC Head Start works closely with all three of the Edmonton School Boards: Edmonton Public School Board (EPSB), Edmonton Catholic School District (ECSD), and Conseil Scolaire Centre Nord (CSCN). With their help we can ensure a successful transition from Head Start to Kindergarten.

**EDMONTON STUDENT HEALTH INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP (ESHIP)** Through ESHIP we have increased access to Occupational Therapy assessment and treatment for those children that may have difficulty with things like cutting and holding a pencil. This partnership allows us the option of accessing additional nursing, emotional behavioral, services, physiotherapy and other services.

**EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY** The library provides information to families about accessing library services in addition to visiting our classes and sharing appropriate library resources.

**GLENROSE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL** Children we think may have difficulties learning are assessed through the Glenrose Preschool Assessment Services program. A psychologist then assists our families along with our staff in deciding what kinds of programs are most helpful for the child.

**MULTICULTURAL HEALTH BROKERS (MCHB) & CENTRALIZED INTERPRETER SERVICES (CIS)** provides intercultural and multilingual language supports to ABC Head Start staff and families. We work closely with brokers and interpreters to help understand and to build relationships with all families.

**AND MANY MORE!** In addition, we have a number of other informal partnerships with agencies through referral processes, community initiatives and complementary services offered by other agencies. We also work with numerous community agencies with whom our families are also involved e.g. Region 6 Edmonton and Area Child and Family Services, Kids Kottage, Kara, Roots and Wings, to name only a few.

### OTHER HEAD START PROGRAMS

Interagency Head Start Network (IHSN) is a collaborative group that came together in the 1980's. It is now a network of 6 agencies that work together developing a stronger voice for Head Start in the Edmonton area. Each agency, while providing head start services to children and families, may also provide other services in their communities.

Ben Calf Robe Society - (3 locations) Mother Earth & Me Aboriginal Head Start Program: 477-6648

Bent Arrow - (2 locations) White Cloud Aboriginal Head Start Program: 481-3451

Clareview Head Start: 475-1020 Early Head Start (ages birth - 5yrs): 426-3666

Norwood Child & Family Resource Centre Norwood Head Start Program: 471-3737

Oliver Centre, Early Learning Programs for Children & Families

Calder Head Start Program: 451-2191

Oliver Head Start Program: 482-2116