



April 2, 2025

Yesterday, five regional offices, including Region 9, were closed, impacting Arizona, Nevada, California and Hawaii.

The affected Head Start offices are crucial for overseeing grants, monitoring programs, and providing training and technical assistance. Without these offices, we expect delays in contract processing, slower support, and challenges ensuring program compliance.

This is a deeply unfortunate situation, and our association is saddened by the impact on our regional staff who have always dedicated themselves to serving our programs. Programs are committed to minimizing the disruption to their services and will continue supporting our families and staff during this transition. Head Start has been a vital resource for 60 years, and we are dedicated to maintaining that support despite these challenges. We appreciate the trust and partnership of our families, staff, and community as we adapt.

***To our members, this is how you can take action:***

- **Contact Your Elected Representatives:** Reach out to your Senators and Member of Congress to express how this action can impact Head Start programs in our state.
- **Raise Public Awareness:** Utilize social media platforms and media outlets to highlight the importance of Head Start.
- **Educate Your Community:** Talk to friends, family and colleagues about why Head Start is important and encourage them to take action.

**Arizona Senators and Member of Congress contact information:**

Senators	
<b>Senator Mark Kelly</b> PHX Office Phone: (602) 671-7901 TUC Office Phone: (520) 475-5177 D.C. Office Phone: (202) 224-2235 <b>Chief of Staff:</b> Carmen_frias@kelly.senate.gov <b>Education Staff:</b> Katherine_Phillips@kelly.senate.gov	<b>Senator Rueben Gallego</b> PHX Office Phone: (602) 671-7901 TUC Office Phone: (520) 475-5177 D.C. Office Phone: (202) 224-2235 <b>Chief of Staff:</b> Raphael_chavez-fernandez@gallego.senate.gov <b>Education Staff:</b> Nancy_Teutle@gallego.senate.gov

Members of Congress	
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**Here is a script for contacting Congressional offices if you work at a Head Start program:**

*Hello my name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am [share your role and program; e.g., I am the Executive Director of ABC Head Start, I am a parent who participates in Head Start] in CITY, STATE.*

*Today I learned that DOGE closed the regional office in [SEATTLE/ SAN FRANCISCO/ CHICAGO/ BOSTON/ NEW YORK].*

- This will have a negative impact on my state and my community, as this office provided critical support for our federal grants. The Administration has not provided me with a transition plan or contact information regarding my grant.
- I am concerned that delays in grant funds will impact our ability to continue services without federal staff to process federal funds.
- Technical assistance and support to protect child health and safety will be impacted in my community.
- This is a clear attempt to stifle early childhood programs by making it harder for them to function with fewer staff, especially regional staff that work directly with Head Start grantees.
- This is not effective or efficient—this is disruptive to services for children and families, and we’ve been left in the dark.

**Impacted ACF Regional Offices:**

- Region 1: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island
- Region 2: New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, USVI
- Region 5: Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota
- Region 9: California, Nevada, Arizona, Outlying Areas
- Region 10: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska