

STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** Since its inception in May 1965, Head Start has provided health, nutritional, educational, and social services for nearly 40 million children from birth to age five; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Oregon is now in its 59th year of implementing Head Start programming that supports eligible children and their families in all 36 Oregon counties; and
- WHEREAS:** In 1987, Oregon established the state funded Oregon Pre-Kindergarten program, and later expanded it to offer prenatal to age three programming. The Oregon Prenatal to Kindergarten program is modeled after the successful federal Early Head Start and Head Start program; and
- WHEREAS:** Children enrolled in Head Start and Early Head Start programs are more likely to have positive educational outcomes and improved social, emotional, and behavioral development; and
- WHEREAS:** To achieve these goals, Head Start supports family outcomes and wellbeing by promoting families as lifelong educators and learners and fostering positive parent-child relationships; and
- WHEREAS:** Head Start ensures that parent voices inform policy and believes that family engagement and participation throughout the program is key to strong child outcomes because parents and families are a child's first and most influential teachers and lifelong advocates.

NOW,

THEREFORE: I, Tina Kotek, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **October 2024** to be

HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, September 19, 2024.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina Kotek".

Tina Kotek, Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LaVonne Griffin-Valade".

LaVonne Griffin-Valade, Secretary of State