

Dear

We know many of you continue to struggle to fill critical positions in your organizations. We wanted to share information that may be of help — especially when you have a job applicant who would like to come to work for you but can't afford child care.

Ohio's Head Start agencies (which operate in every county) offer **FREE child care** and early learning to children in families earning at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level. **Don't be put off by that eligibility standard. A single head of household with two children can earn \$14 per hour, work 30 hours per week and possibly qualify.**

As important, many people who have been out of the workforce and now need to take a job can qualify. **Families providing kinship or foster care or who have children with a disability automatically qualify — regardless of income.**

Best of all, once a family is enrolled, they can continue to receive FREE child care until their child ages out of Early Head Start (for children from 6 weeks to age 3) or traditional Head Start (for children from age 3 to 5).

You may know that Ohio's Publicly Funded Child Care program discourages people from taking raises, accepting promotions or working more hours because families' child care co-payments can increase, or they can lose their subsidy altogether. Head Start has different rules.

Full-time child care can cost \$200 per week for just one child. When families can avoid paying \$800 per month for this expense, working pays off.

The Head Start agency that serves Montgomery, Clark and Madison counties — Miami Valley Child Development Centers — is getting the word out to employers by distributing the attached brochure. Take a look!

We're planning a webinar where we'll share more details, and Head Start administrators will take your questions. Meanwhile, if you want to reach out to your local Head Start agency and ask how they can support your prospective employees and how you can connect applicants to Head Start, click on [this map](#) to find contact information.

Again, watch for an announcement about the upcoming webinar.

Pete