



INDIANA



ASSOCIATION

# IHSA Newsletter

April 2021 | Issue #1 | INDIANA HEAD START ASSOCIATION

## *Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the new IHSA Quarterly Newsletter*

Welcome to the first edition of the new Indiana Head Start Association's Quarterly Newsletter. Inside this newsletter, you'll find that we're going to introduce you to the IHSA Team, one of our Program Partners, and an update on IHSA Professional Development events and training opportunities. Enjoy this newsletter and we hope to hear from you soon!

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## IHSA Board Member Spotlight Robyn Duffy

It is our pleasure to introduce to you the Treasurer of the Indiana Head Start Association and a member of our Board of Directors, Robyn Duffy. Robyn joined the IHSA Board of Directors in 2019 and serves as the Child Development and Disabilities Coordinator with Carey Services Early Head Start program in Marion, IN.

Outside of work, Robyn is a proud mom to Michael who is a LTJG in the USN, currently serving as a Navigator on a Destroyer. Robyn states that Michael found her the most awesome daughter-in-law, Kiley. While Robyn waits for grandchildren, they have given her grandkitties, Keyli and Fievel. Robyn holds a Nidan (second degree) black belt in Judo and am an assistant instructor with the Marion PAL Club Judo Program. She loves anything with a warm beach by the ocean, puzzles, reading, and listening to audiobooks.



## Floyd County Head Start Birth to Five

Floyd County Head Start Birth to Five serves 356 pregnant women, infants and toddlers, and preschoolers. FCHS Birth to Five has three locations within New Albany, Indiana to serve our families. We expanded services to 80 expectant mothers, infants, and toddlers in 2019. We are currently focusing on Recruitment and Enrollment for the next school year, promoting the utilization of our online application process and planning an all-staff Recruitment Effort across the county. Our focus over the next three months is staff mental health; we established a Wellness Committee that has created a plan to ensure a priority of all staff well-being including Walking Club, Yoga, Ugly Mask Contest and Derby Hat Day (donate a \$1.00 to join that will go to Dollar per Child), and Monthly Stress Relief Meetings that include Adult Coloring Day, Hungry Hippo Day, Spa Day to ensure we add positivity and creativity back into our workdays.

**INDIANA HEAD  
START ASSOCIATION'S  
HELP THE HELPERS  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
ACADEMY**

**IHSA's Help the Helpers  
Professional Development Academy**

The Indiana Head Start Association is ready, willing, and able to answer the call to help the helpers! We are excited to kick-off our brand-new Professional Development and Training initiative for our front-line staff. The Help the Helpers Academy from the Indiana Head Start Association will offer one-day (and sometimes two-day) professional development training opportunities each month of 2021!

The Help the Helpers Professional Development Academy is designed for our Family Services Staff, Home Visiting Staff, Teaching Staff, and other essential staff who work directly with the families our programs serve to provide expertise & important insight and tools to help them address families in crisis, set family goals and improve our individual child, parent, and family outcomes.



**Upcoming IHSA Professional  
Development Training Opportunities**

- 1 April 29, 2021 – IHSA Help the Helpers Cohort #4 – Human Trafficking & Mental Health & Addiction Services in Indiana

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- 2 May 19, 2021 – IHSA Help the Helpers Cohort #5 – Motivational Interviewing

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- 3 June 16 & 17, 2021 – IHSA Director & Program Leadership Conference

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- 4 October 4 & 5, 2021 – IHSA Annual Fall Conference (Live in Noblesville, IN)

