

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

UCHRA Van Buren Head Start

and

Tennessee Early Intervention System

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the terms and understanding between the UCHRA Van Buren Head Start (UCHRA VBHS) and the Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS) to aide in ensuring Head Start's ability to actively participate in Transition meetings from part c services to part b services and to support ongoing communications and relationships with all stakeholders.

Background

UCHRA Van Buren Head Start promotes the school readiness of young children from low-income families. UCHRA VBHS supports the mental, social, and emotional development of children from ages 3 to 5. In addition to education services, we provide children and their families with health, nutrition, social, and other services. We are responsive to each child and family's ethnic, cultural, and linguistic heritage. UCHRA VBHS encourages the role of parents as their child's first and most important teachers. Programs build relationships with families that support positive parent-child relationships, family well-being, and connections to peers and community. UCHRA VBHS offers services that support families and strengthen communities so that children are healthy, safe, and ready to learn. We focus on early identification, treatment, and health promotion. Staff use these health strategies to make sure children engage in learning.

Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS) is a voluntary educational program for families with children birth through age two with disabilities or developmental delays. The principles of Early Intervention are to: Support families in promoting their child's optimal development/ Facilitate the child's participation in family and community activities/ Encourage the active participation of families in the intervention by embedding strategies into family routines. TEIS firmly believes it is the parents who provide the real early intervention by creatively adapting their child care methods to facilitate the development of their child, while balancing the needs of the rest of the family.

Because of our similar visions for the promotion and support of children's well-being and education and awareness, UCHRA Van Buren Head Start (UCHRA VBHS) and the Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS) seek to work collaboratively.

Purpose

This MOU will aid in ensuring Head Start's ability to actively participate in Transition meetings from part c services to part b services and to support ongoing communications and relationships with all stakeholders.

The above goals will be accomplished by undertaking the following activities:

- >TEIS will participate as possible in the UCHRA VBHS annual Jobs, Education, Health, & Awareness FAIR to promote disability service options.
- >Head Start will provide TEIS and LEA with brochures/pamphlets about UCHRA VBHS services. (Upon revisions/updates.)
- >TEIS will communicate that UCHRA VBHS is a Pre-K option prior to Transition meetings.
- >TEIS will communicate upcoming Transition meeting information/details in as timely a manner as possible.
- >UCHRA VBHS will attend Transition meetings as possible to advocate for Head Start as a Pre-K option.

Reporting

UCHRA VBHS and TEIS can evaluate effectiveness and adherence to the agreement and discuss strategies for improvements upon seen need.

Funding

This MOU is not a commitment of funds.

Duration

This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from TEIS and/or UCHRA VBHS. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from the TEIS and UCHRA VBHS and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the partners by mutual consent. In the absence of mutual agreement by the authorized officials from TEIS and UCHRA VBHS this MOU shall end on July 1, 2025.

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Date: 04/08/19

(Partner signature)

(Jonathan Delk, TEIS, Service Coordinator)

Date: 04/08/19

(Partner signature)

(Lindsey Beach, UCHRA VBHS, Health & Disability Services Specialist)