



P.E.A.C.E., Inc.

People's Equal Action and Community Effort, Inc.

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Joseph E. O'Hara, Executive Director

November 24, 2008

President Elect Barack Obama
John C. Kluczynski Federal Office Building
230 South Dearborn St.
Suite 3900 (39th Floor)
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear President Elect Barack Obama:

P.E.A.C.E., Inc. Head Start / Early Head Start would like to take this opportunity to share with you this flyer on the Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) pilot program that was begun in January, 2008 through the determined efforts of Congressman Walsh.

We thought you might enjoy reading about our success in servicing our children.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (315) 470-3300 extension 715.

Sincerely,

Jernois D. Ridley, Director
Head Start/Early Head Start

Enclosure

Cc: File

Head Start • Early Head Start • Family and Community Development • Food Services • Project R.O.S.E. •

• Foster Grandparent Program • Big Brothers Big Sisters • K.I.C.K.S. • Healthy Marriage Educational Program

"Helping People in The Community Realize Their Potential For Becoming Self-Sufficient"

A Community Action Agency Serving Syracuse and Onondaga County

Project Connection • Frank DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center • Energy & Housing Services



On January 7, 2008 Congressman James Walsh visited P.E.A.C.E., Inc. of Onondaga County to create a linkage between our Head Start Program and the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM).

Through the concerned efforts of Congressman Walsh the Head Start/ Early Head Start Program now has the capability to screen children birth to five (5) years of age for possible hearing disorders using State of the Art technology called Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE). During the pilot initiative 108 children, six (6) months to three (3) years of age, were screened for hearing disorders. The results were as follows:

- 7 Seven children were found to need follow-up medical care for middle ear treatment.
- 5 Five children were referred to Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist for more extensive invasive screenings.
- 4 Of the five referred, four children went on to undergo surgery to insert tubes.
- 1 One child was referred and has received the proper treatment through an allergist.

The common theme is that all these children have an improved quality of life.

P.E.A.C.E., Inc., Head Start would like to extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation to The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM), specifically Dr. William Eiserman for his kind support in this process and to Congressman Walsh for being a champion for children's health and wellness issues.

