

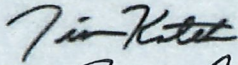
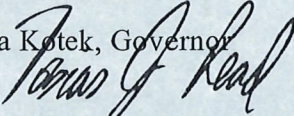
STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** Since its inception in May 1965, over 40 million children and families have gained access to early education, health care, and additional supports they might not have had otherwise had, including 55% of Head Start programs serving rural communities; and
- WHEREAS:** Head Start continues to be a national success story with a proven track record and long-standing reputation of over 61 years of transformative results — helping children and their families succeed regardless of income, zip code, or circumstance; and
- WHEREAS:** State partnerships expand the Head Start impact beyond federal funding, to support millions more children. 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 supports eligible children and their families in all 36 Oregon counties; and
- WHEREAS:** Children enrolled in Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs are more likely to have successful 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 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; and
- WHEREAS:** Head Start programs have nurtured millions of children, strengthened family stability, and continue to demonstrate positive impact by providing comprehensive, community and family driven services
- NOW,
THEREFORE:** I, Tina Kotek, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim October 2026 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 25, 2026.


Tina Kotek, Governor


Tobias Read, Secretary of State

