



July 2, 2021

Office of Management and Budget
Paperwork Reduction Project
Attn: Desk Officer for the Administration for Children and Families

Comments on the Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (OMB #0970-0151)

On behalf of the Head Start community, the National Head Start Association (NHSA) thanks the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (FACES) (OMB #0970-0151) data collection that has been submitted for OMB Review (Federal Register. Vol. 86, pp. 30463-30465. June 8, 2021).

NHSA is a nonprofit organization committed to the belief that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to succeed in life. NHSA is the voice for more than one million children and their families, 250,000 staff, and 1,600 Head Start grantees.

For more than 20 years, FACES has deepened our understanding of the experiences of the children and families served by Head Start; adding a fall 2021 data collection to understand how families are faring during the COVID-19 pandemic will bolster these efforts, teach us more about Head Start families during these challenging times, and help programs better meet their needs in the post-pandemic recovery period.

NHSA appreciates that the study team carefully considered feedback we submitted in response to calls for comments on prior data collections, and that many nuances we have raised have been incorporated into the survey tools for FACES as well as BabyFACES. Collaboration with the Head Start field allows practitioner insights to improve the clarity, utility, and future use of research.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed collection for FACES. We believe that research and continuous learning are the core of Head Start's ability to serve our nation's most vulnerable children and families with the highest quality of care and service. If you have questions, please contact me at yvinci@nhsa.org.

Sincerely,

Yasmina Vinci
Executive Director
National Head Start Association