



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Kara
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Hope
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
Representative Penelope Tsernoglou
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Capital Area Community Services, Inc. Head Start and Early Head Start Programs
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
101 E Willow, Lansing, MI 48906
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
n/a
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Rep. Rachelle Smit (District 43), Rep. Brian BeGole (District 71), Rep. Julie Brixie (District 73), Rep. Kara Hope (District 74), Rep. Penelope Tsernoglou (District 75), Rep. Angela Witwer (District 76), Rep. Emily Dievendorf (District 77), Rep. Gina Johnsen (District 78), and Rep. Tim Kelly (District 93)
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution. Head Start programs support children's growth from birth to age 5 through services centered around early learning and development, health, and family well-being, working with state funded preschool options through the mixed delivery model. They have been operating for the past 60 years and are publicly funded at the state and federal level.

Capital Area Community Services, Inc. Head Start and Early Head Start Programs serve 16 hundred children in Ingham, Eaton, Clinton and Shiawassee Counties. In addition to childcare, CACS Head Start offers health, nutrition and social services to families participating in the program.

This funding would allow CACS Head Start and Early Head Start to meet mandates in the recently approved federal Head Start Performance Standards. These new performance standards require livable wages for all staff with a commitment to offering competitive wages with state kindergarten teachers. In addition, these federal performance standards require lower caseloads for family service staff to better serve in the Head Start families. This means hiring more staff and offering competitive wages comparable to social service and social work staff in the state. CACS Head Start and Early Head Start are delighted that these new standards support our early childhood workforce. However, being unfunded, they are impossible to meet.

Without this funding, CACS Head Start and Early Head Start will not be able to meet the needs of all the children and families who currently benefit from the support of these programs. Funding this gap allows for minimal disruption of services in Ingham, Eaton, Clinton and Shiawassee counties. Children and families in these counties are receiving a public benefit by having access to the childcare, health services, and social services that CACS Head Start and Early Head Start provides.

9. **Attach documents here if needed:**

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. **The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.**

950000

11. **Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.**

["Federal","State"]

12. **Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:**

Non-profit organization

13. **For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?**

Yes

14. **For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?**

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

As of 02/07/2025: Dwight Washington (President), William Doxie ( 1st Vice President) Su A'lyn Holbrook (2nd Vice President), Bob Pena (Treasurer), Kierra Hughey (Secretary), Dewain Vallie, Jr. (Member at large), Gary Gosaynie (Member at large), Zhamilya Yessirkepova (Member at large), Dairus Reynnet, Alan Fox, Jennifer Flanders-Shouse, Anne Martin, Dwight Royale, Heather Pope, Gwen Coney, Willard Walker, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Joann Kinne, Cindy Garber, Ryan Kauffman, Emma Henry, DeLisa Fountain, Mohamed Abukar, Tekea Norwood

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

August 2025 through 2026

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes