Holistic Support for Children and Caregivers in Head Start Programs

The Importance of Whole-Person Support

Head Start is a federal program that supports early learning and development for children in families with low incomes. The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation's (OPRE) work evaluating Head Start sheds light on how a holistic approach to early childhood education affects children and families. Mathematica collaborates with OPRE on research using Head Start data to understand and meet families' needs and improve professional learning for educators, ultimately supporting children's outcomes.

Understanding the Head Start Experience

The Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (FACES) provides national information about Head Start programs and participants. FACES and studies on the economic conditions of Head Start families reveal that comprehensive support systems foster family stability.

Integrated Support Systems

Head Start programs that integrate their educational services with economic assistance, social supports, and health care are better able to address the multifaceted needs of families with low incomes.

Promoting Child and Family Well-being

This holistic approach considers a family's full continuum of needs to help create a supportive environment that promotes child and family well-being.

Let's Progress Together. Learn more about OPRE's portfolio of work and how Mathematica is supporting it.

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