

AWARE Early Head Start has centers located in:

- Belgrade
- Billings
- Butte
- Helena

We also provide Early Head Start services in conjunction with private child care providers in partnership with AWARE.



For more information:

CALL:

406.652-5345 or 406-670-7549

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LEARN MORE AT:

www.Aware-inc.org/ecs



AWARE Early Head Start

AWARE Early Head Start is a federally funded child development program for 151 eligible children, age birth to three, and their families. Early Head Start provides children with services that encourage and promote social, emotional, physical growth and development, and cognitive skills.

Early Head Start combines and extends the comprehensive services of health, education, mental health, disability, family support services to the families and communities they live in to support children in all aspects of healthy development.



School Readiness

How can the business community strengthen families?

Ready Children + Ready Families + Ready Schools = School Readiness

Parenting presents many challenges today, from juggling work schedules, to finding quality child care, to maintaining basic needs such as housing, transportation and health care.

A focus on family well-being supports children's school readiness. Families that provide safety, nurturing and consistency promote children's growth and school readiness.

Parental protective factors can promote family strengths while buffering from potential risks. As community members, we can support the growth of these protective factors.

Studies have shown that offering support and recognition to working parents will prime how they feel about the company and drive performance; creating a positive workplace culture where everyone is appreciated.

Employers stand to gain a wealth of diverse priorities, skills, and perceptions when you incorporate working parents. Supporting parents in the workplace also widens the talent pool.



Parent Protective Factors:

1. Parental Resilience:

The ability to recover from difficult life experiences, and often to be strengthened.

2. Social Connections:

The ability and opportunity to develop positive relationships that lessen stress and isolation.

3. Concrete support in times of need:

Access to supports and services that reduce stress.

4. Knowledge of parenting and child development:

The ability to exercise effective parenting strategies to guide and know what to expect as children develop.

5. Social and Emotional Competence of Children:

Family and child interactions that help children develop the ability to communicate clearly, recognize and regulate their emotions and establish and maintain relationships.

*Center for the Study of Social Policy's Strengthening Families, A Protective Factor Framework, Children's Trust Fund Alliance



How Can You Help?

- Recognize and support employee parents in their role as decision makers and leaders.
- Recognize and support the challenges of working parents.
- Connect employees to community resources.
- Encourage your employee's engagement in their child's learning.
- Consider a flexible work schedule to allow involvement and volunteering at their child's school or activities.
- Encourage employee leadership and advocacy with their child, the school, or their community.
- VOLUNTEER! You and your employees can volunteer in our Early Head Start center, reading, playing, holding babies, help with our facility.
- Consider AWARE Early Head Start as part of your annual giving plan. Every dollar counts!
- It really does take a village, please be part of ours.

