

Lessons in Leadership: Lead, Learn, and Pass It On Part 1 – Introduction

[Music]

Leader 1: Being a leader is an honor. You're here to inspire. You're here to light a fire. You also have to come to know that you cannot do this alone.

Leader 2: Good leadership occurs in an interactive environment. It's all about just having those conversations. Once you get that relationship going, the possibilities just explode.

Leader 3: I want people to have the joy and the happiness of working with Head Start and Early Head Start. It's like I'm on a mission. In our little corner of the world, we're going to make a difference.

Angie Godfrey: Hello, everyone. I'm Angie Godfrey, Infant and Toddler Program Specialist at the Office of Head Start. On behalf of the Office of Head Start, I would like to extend congratulations to those of you who are in new positions in your Early Head Start program. The work that you are engaged in provides leadership and support to children and families, to staff, and to early childhood providers and services throughout your community. It is amazing and challenging work.

The transition to your new position comes with great opportunities and rewards, as well as ongoing challenges. I know you are committed to serving infants and toddlers and their families, and that is a wonderful place to start. But then there are the Head Start Program Performance Standards, the work with community partners, the needs of families, and the resources that may or may not exist for your families.

I am particularly glad to be here with you today to introduce this video. It is another example of the commitment of the Office of Head Start and the Early Head Start National Resource Center to provide resources to support you as you engage in the daily problem-solving and decision-making within your program. We are here to help and to connect you with the tools and people to support you.

One of the best resources for new leaders is the opportunity to listen and share and learn from your peers in the field. They offer wisdom and experience that we all can learn from. In this new leaders video, we visited with some seasoned leaders in two Early Head Start programs; one in West Virginia and the other in New Mexico. They have much to offer and share, so take the time to watch and reflect on their words as they talk about leadership. I think you will find their advice encouraging and inspirational.