

*A Message to our East County Families from the Board of Directors and Executive Director
of
All Kids Academy Head Start*

AKA Head Start has been a presence in the East County since 1978, only thirteen years after the start of the Head Start program in 1965, a time when our country was under social reform due to racial injustices and inequality in our communities. Today, as racial oppressions and discriminations continue in our nation, Head Start has remained rooted as a grassroots, bipartisan, parent-led program.

We at AKA Head Start want our communities to know that we are in this together. We believe in the Black Lives Matter movement, and stay convicted that AKA Head Start is a catalyst for hope and change. We support and stand together in unity with our neighbors and local business providers, our colleagues, children and families, and are hopeful of a future in which lives are valued unequivocally. We acknowledge our families in the City of La Mesa for coming together after the riots, to build back, hand-in-hand with fellow neighbors, an act that was a true testament and lesson of unity.

We are honored to lead the program, and want it to be known that we support equality and inclusion as all children and families are welcome to the AKA Head Start program. In the spirit of community awareness, we are committed to the East County families to staying present, aware, and listening to what our constituents have to say. We are all in this together.

For our parents from our friends at PBS, a resource list of books, podcasts, social media, and TV to help with the discussion about race:

<https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/using-media-to-talk-with-children-about-race>

Office of Head Start
Teacher Training Series

ALL AKA HEAD START TEACHERS ARE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING TRAINING

ADVANCING RACIAL AND ETHNIC EQUITY IN HEAD START

-Anti-Bias Teaching and Learning Environments in Head Start and Early Head Start Programs

-Health Disparities: Responding with a Lens on Race and Ethnicity

-Engaging in Conversations About Racial and Ethnic Equity

A MESSAGE FROM YASMINA VINCI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL HEAD START ASSOCIATION

<https://www.nhsa.org/pr-update/remarks-nhsa-executive-director-yasmina-vinci-head-start-community>

