



**TED STRICKLAND**  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF OHIO

December 1, 2009

Peg Tazewell, Executive Director  
Knox County Head Start  
11700 Upper Gilchrist Rd., Box 1225  
Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050

Dear Ms. Tazewell:

Thank you for submitting an application to be nominated as a Center of Excellence in Early Childhood. As required by Section 657B of the Head Start Act, Ohio developed a competitive application process to identify those Head Start and/or Early Head Start providers that demonstrate high quality, innovative practices within their programs. I am pleased to inform you that your proposal was reviewed and Knox County Head Start is being nominated as a Center of Excellence in Early Childhood.

Ohio's review panel, consisting of representatives of Ohio's Early Childhood Advisory Council, recognized the innovative approach that you have developed through the Conscious Discipline® approach. As you know, this administration is deeply committed to the social and emotional development of young children. We are very interested in tracking your progress and work.

I am pleased that Knox County Head Start will be representing Ohio during the federal Centers of Excellence application process. I am hopeful that Knox County Head Start will be selected and that your work to help adults understand the importance of social and emotional development will be shared with other early childhood providers throughout this state and country. Should you have any questions, please contact Alicia Leatherman at 614-728-7757 or at [alicia.leatherman@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:alicia.leatherman@ode.state.oh.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ted Strickland".

Ted Strickland  
Governor, State of Ohio

cc: Alicia Leatherman, Early Childhood Cabinet Director  
James Scott, Ohio Head Start Collaboration Director