

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here!

We will get started shortly.
In the meantime, we invite you to
intentionally enter this space.



Silence your cell phone



Close the door



Close browser windows



Check your audio and video



Stretch



Take a few deep breaths



Emotionally release your to-do list



Take a bio break

MATCHS Mentoring Program Informational Webinar
Thursday, January 29 from 2:30-3:30 pm ET



A photograph of two women smiling and interacting with a baby at a table. The woman on the left is holding the baby, and the woman on the right is leaning in towards the baby. There is a white cup and saucer on the table, and a small cake with colorful candles. The background is slightly blurred, showing an outdoor setting.

MATCHS Mentoring Program

Thursday, January 29, 2026

The Healthy Start TA & Support Center is operated by the National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ). This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number 1 UF5MC327500100 titled Supporting Healthy Start Performance Project.



This session is being recorded.



All participants are muted upon entry. We ask that you remain muted to limit background noise.



Participants are encouraged to share comments and ask questions using the chat box.

Agenda

Housekeeping	Tess Pierson Healthy Start TASC
Welcome & Introductions	Tess Pierson
Overview of MATCHS Mentoring Program	Tess Pierson
Q&A	All
Next Steps & Closing	Tess Pierson





Welcome & Introduction

Tess Pierson

Healthy Start TA &
Support Center

MATCHS Mentoring Program Informational Webinar
Hosted by the Healthy Start TA & Support Center at NICHQ





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Overview of MATCHS Mentoring Program

What is the MATCHS Mentoring Program?

Mentoring Assistance & Technical Coaching for Healthy Start (MATCHS) Mentoring Program:

- Provides **peer-to-peer learning** and mentoring support to HS and HSE Project Directors
- Aims to strengthen **organizational leadership** and **program performance**

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Who Should Participate?

Mentor Candidates

- Project Directors who work with an established HS program (at least one full five-year grant cycle)
- Those who have not experienced a change in management/leadership in the last two years
- Tenure as a Project Director (at least four years)
- Willing to commit to building a relationship with a newer PD

Mentee Candidates

- Newly appointed Project Director (less than three years in the role)
- Newly funded HS program (2024-2029 grant cycle is the first HS funding award)
- Willing to commit to building a relationship with a seasoned PD

Mentor/Mentee Pairs

Pairs will be assigned intentionally based on:

- Grantee demographics (i.e., urban, rural, etc.)
- Grantee type (i.e., HS, HSE)
- Organizational type (i.e., FQHC, health department, etc.)
- Population served
- Focus area

What to Expect:

Six-month commitment

2-3 hours per month

- Orientation Webinar
- Monthly mentor/mentee meetings & brief reports
 - Optional drop-in sessions
 - Closed mentor/mentee group on the HS Hub
- Tools & Resources, including The Mentoring Manual for mentors & Full Focus planner for mentees
 - Mentors will receive \$2,000

Questions?



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To apply for the MATCHS
Mentoring Program, please
scan the link below or follow
the link in the chat.



Applications for MATCHS Mentoring Program group will close on
Friday, February 20.



Seeking Additional Support?

Visit the Healthy Start TASC website or scan the QR code below to submit a TA request.



Your input is important to us!
***Please take a moment to complete the
satisfaction survey.***

A close-up photograph of a family of three. On the left, a man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a light-colored t-shirt, looks down at a baby. In the center, a baby with dark hair and a yellow and white plaid onesie is laughing with its mouth open. On the right, a woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a grey cardigan over a pink top, holds the baby and looks at the camera with a smile. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color.

Thank you!

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start
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