

### **SUPPORT EVEN START WITH CALLS ON NOVEMBER 9:**

- On Wednesday, November 9, both the House and Senate in Washington, D.C. will be debating Budget Reconciliation Bills, which include Even Start funding.

- Even Start advocates are among ABE's allies and have helped advocate for additional ABE funding. Now, it's time for us to help them advocate for funding for this important program.

- Our goal is to make **50 calls to Senator Kennedy, 50 calls to Senator Kerry, and 50 calls to each congressional representative who has an Even Start program in his district.**

- Calls by program staff should be sufficient **so we are not asking for a full mobilization of students.**

- **If you are not sure who your congressional representative is,** go to [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov), type in your Zip+4 digit zip code (e.g., 01234-5555) and click Go. If you do not know your Zip+4 zip code, go to [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) and click on Find a Zip Code.

### **CALL SENATORS KENNEDY AND KERRY AND YOUR LOCAL CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE USING THE FOLLOWING EASY SCRIPT:**

- Give your name and address.

- Say you are a constituent and a registered voter (if you are not registered and are eligible, please register).

- Say that you are calling to urge their support for Even Start program funding at the FY2005 level of \$225 million.

- Thank the aide.

### **IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:**

#### **Senators:**

Senator Ted Kennedy (202.224.4543)

Senator John Kerry (202.224.2742)

#### **Congressional Reps:**

Rep. Michael Capuano (202.225.5111)

Rep. Bill Delahunt (202.225.3111)

Rep. Barney Frank (202. 225.5931)

Rep. Stephen Lynch (202.225.8273)

Rep. James McGovern (202.225.6101)

Rep. Ed Markey (202-225-2836)

Rep. Marty Meehan (202.225.3411)

Rep. Richard Neal (202.225.5601)

Rep. John Olver (202.225.5335)

Rep. John Tierney (202.225.8020)

### **THANK YOU AND PLEASE REPORT BACK:**

- As always it is important for us to know **how many calls were made and to whom.**

- Please report back to your local **Program Point Person** who will then report to the Regional Coordinator.

- **If you don't know who your Program Point Person is**, please report back directly to your Regional Coordinator:

- Boston: Mary Mello ([mello@bostonabcd.org](mailto:mello@bostonabcd.org))
- Central: Cathy Gannon ([cgannon@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:cgannon@qcc.mass.edu))
- Northeast: Don Edwards ([edwardsdon@mindspring.com](mailto:edwardsdon@mindspring.com))
- Southeast: Suzanne Martin ([suzannemartin@brocktonpublicschools.com](mailto:suzannemartin@brocktonpublicschools.com))
- West: George Kohout ([gkohout@hcc.mass.edu](mailto:gkohout@hcc.mass.edu))

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT EVEN START:**

- There are Even Start programs in the following Massachusetts communities:  
**Amesbury/Salisbury/Newburyport, Attleboro, Boston/Allston-Brighton, Boston/East Boston, Cambridge, Clinton, Fall River, Greenfield, Haverhill, Holyoke, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, Malden, Methuen, New Bedford, Northampton, North Quabbin (Orange), Pittsfield, Springfield, Waltham, Watertown and Worcester.**
- Even Start is a "double duty" investment using a holistic approach to serving both parents and their children.
- Even Start supports parents and children develop a strong educational foundation in order to reach their full personal, social and economic potential.
- Families are empowered by literacy so parents can successfully fulfill their roles as parent, workers and community members, and support their children's education and success in school.
- 80% of children who attended family literacy programs in their preschool years were rated at or above grade level in elementary schools.
- Children whose parents participated in a family literacy program performed at average or above in formal assessments: 60% in reading, 73% in math, and 80% in language.

### **QUESTIONS:**

- Contact either Roberta Soolman ([litvolma@aol.com](mailto:litvolma@aol.com)) or Steve Reuys ([steve.reuys@umb.edu](mailto:steve.reuys@umb.edu)).

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO MAKE THESE IMPORTANT CALLS!**