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### **Bulleted Points regarding HRA's Early Childhood Education Facility:**

- In August HRA was awarded \$8,277,500 in DSS/CHEFA bond funds to renovate and expand its Early Childhood Education Building at 180 Clinton Street. This building currently houses 185 Federal Head Start slots, 57 School Readiness Slots, 35 State Head Start Slots, and 40 State Funded infant/toddler slots, for a total of 307 slots. This project will increase that number to 474 slots. The building, initially constructed in the 1920's, needs much renovation and the construction will add 16,000 – 18,000 sq ft.
- Funds are conditional on the cash match
- HRA will be conducting a Capital Campaign to raise \$ 3.5 million to raise the match and additional funds to create an endowment to ensure the future of high quality Early Childhood Education in New Britain
- There are 2,039 pre school age children (age three and four) in the City of New Britain.
- There is only enough licensable space for 1,112 pre school children – meaning that New Britain does not have enough space that would meet the codes necessary to be a licensed pre school.
- Only 46% of the pre school age children were in enrolled in a pre school program in 2002, the lowest percentage of all Connecticut municipalities (compare this to 76% of all Connecticut Children)
- The goal in New Britain is 80% participation of all three and four year olds or 1,946 – this means we need to get 834 more pre school slots into New Britain
- This project will add a total of 107 additional slots in New Britain, 13% of the goal
- New Britain, with a population of 71,538 has the sixth lowest family median income, the seventh highest percentage of young children living in poverty and the fifth highest percentage of children living below 200% of the federal poverty level
- Most the pre school slots at HRA are provided free of charge to low income families. A small number of slots are paid for on a sliding fee scale for those parents that do not meet the income guidelines

**Support for this project is vital to the future of  
New Britain's Early Childhood Education System**