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Former Colorado woman directs Head Start Program

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MISSOULA--

A former Greeley, Colo., woman has been named regional training officer for the Head Start Program in Montana.

Appointment of Mrs. James E. Wood to that position is result of a $21,957 grant from the Office of Economic Opportunity to the University of Montana. Mr. and Mrs. Wood and the couple's two children are establishing permanent residence in Missoula.

Mrs. Wood's appointment was announced recently by Mrs. Emma Briscoe, chairman of the University's home economics department.

As Head Start regional training officer Mrs. Wood will provide assistance for local Head Start programs throughout the state in developing staff training classes.

Head Start is a federal program encompassing areas of health and education for preschool children from low income families. The program also strives for parent involvement and depends heavily on volunteers from local communities.

The University in Missoula was chosen as the base location for Mrs. Wood's office "because of the excellence of the preschool program and facilities here" and because of the school's potential for training Head Start personnel, Mrs. Briscoe said.

Mrs. Wood will devote 20 per cent of her time to duties on the University campus. Her other professional duties will include strengthening of training for Head Start staffs throughout Montana.

Mrs. Wood formerly was director of Head Start for El Paso County, Colo., a program serving 300 children and families, with a staff of 80.

A graduate of the New York State College of Home Economics at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., Mrs. Wood also attended the Merrill Palmer Institute of Child Development and went on to receive her master's degree in child development at Iowa State University, Ames.

She has taught at several institutions of higher learning. During World War II Mrs. Wood worked four years for the American Red Cross in Europe.