

Tri-County Community Action Agency Head Start and Early Head Start

Southern Region

Annual Report 2017



Head Start

Tri-County Community Action Agency

Providing Head Start Services since 1970

Head Start is a comprehensive child development program that serves children from ages 3 to 5 and their families.

Early Head Start is dedicated to nurturing the development of infants and toddlers in the context of their family and supporting the health and well-being of pregnant women.

Early Head Start and Head Start programs are family centered, based on the belief that children develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents are respected as the primary educators and nurturers of their children. We help families identify their goals, provide access to community resources and help them however we can to make a better life for their children. Tri-County Community Action has a tradition of delivering high quality services that foster the healthy development of low-income children with the overall goal to impact positively on all facets of a child's life: education, early childhood development, health, safety, nutrition, and family

The South County Head Start Program continues to provide exemplary services.

The latest federal review, conducted in April 2011, concluded that no corrective actions were required and all areas reviewed were in compliance, including Health Services, Nutrition Services, Safe Environments, Mental Health Services, Disabilities Services, Family and Community Services, and Education and Early Childhood Development Services.

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

Children who participate in Head Start are offered a variety of school readiness activities to prepare them for kindergarten. Efforts to prepare children and families for kindergarten includes:

- ◆ Implementing a research-based preschool curriculum.
- ◆ Following the Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards.
- ◆ Conducting formal developmental assessments using Teaching Strategies GOLD
- ◆ Developing program wide School Readiness Goals that are aligned with Creative Curriculum, Teaching Strategies GOLD and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

- ◆ Distributing a Summer Learning Packet to support children's learning during the summer months.
- ◆ Providing each family with a written summary of their child's developmental strengths and goals.
- ◆ Providing families with transition specific information, including a suggestion to visit the school where the child will attend kindergarten, a list of books for family reading and a list of readiness skills that children should have before entering kindergarten.
- ◆ Providing families with information on family engagement activities in the public school.
- ◆ Sharing of Records with Elementary School staff, focusing on the child's academic and school readiness skills.
- ◆ Providing families with simple activities that they can do with their child to support what is being taught at school.
- ◆ *Be a Star Reader* encourages families to read with their children every night.
- ◆ *I am Moving, I am Learning* encourages families to engage their children in physical activities every day.



Enhancement Programs

Parents as Teachers

Born to Learn is a curriculum tool used in the Early Head Start home-based option. The goals of the program are to: Increase parent knowledge of early childhood development and improve parenting practices; provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues; prevent child abuse and neglect; and increase children's school readiness and school success

I am Moving, I am Learning (IMIL)

IMIL is a proactive approach to address childhood obesity in Head Start children. IMIL is:

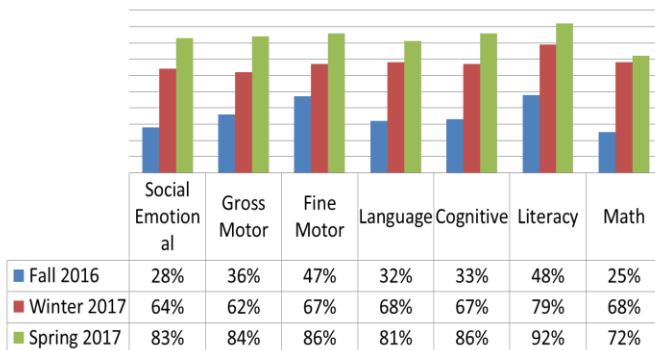
- ◆ Intentionally planned movement activities
- ◆ A reinforcement of healthy choices
- ◆ A framework customized by each classroom teacher
- ◆ Facilitated by teachers who are actively engaged
- ◆ A Positive impact on behavior
- ◆ Promotes engagement
- ◆ Movement + Learning = School Readiness

Bright Stars: Rhode Island's quality Rating and Improvement System

Each of the Head Start centers is rated by the Bright Stars Quality Rating System. Each center maintains a four star rating out of a possible five stars. Participation in Bright Stars means that a program has made a commitment to quality that goes beyond the required child care licensing regulations.

School Readiness

School Readiness goals have been established for the Early Head Start and Head Start programs based on a continuum of development from birth to age five. These goals reflect the skills and knowledge necessary for success in school and for later learning and life. Input for School Readiness Goals is obtained from local school departments, families, the Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards, and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework. Child assessment data children reaching age expectations for 2016-2017 is as follows:



Funded Enrollment

Head Start 76
Early Head Start 30
EHS Prenatal 5

Total Served

Head Start 87
Early Head Start 39
EHS Prenatal 4

Average Monthly Enrollment

The average monthly enrollment in Early Head Start and Head Start is 100%

Income Eligibility

Head Start

79% income eligible, 8% over-income, 10% receive public assistance, 3% homeless, 0% foster children

Early Head Start

62% income eligible, 8% over income, 8% receive public assistance, 15% homeless, 7% foster children

Children Receiving Medical & Dental Services

Head Start Children Receiving Medical 90%
Head Start Children Receiving Dental 95%
Early Head Start Children Receiving Medical 87%
Early Head Start Children Receiving Dental 85%

Family Engagement Activities

- ◆ Monthly Parent Meetings
- ◆ Monthly Parent Activities in each class
- ◆ "Be A Star Reader" & Homework
- ◆ "Books at Breakfast" & "Literacy Lunch"
- ◆ Health Fair
- ◆ Behavioral Fundamentals training
- ◆ CPR and First Aid Training
- ◆ End of Year Celebrations
- ◆ IMIL Dance
- ◆ Volunteer opportunities in the classroom
- ◆ Opportunities to prepare classroom materials at home
- ◆ Monthly Policy Council Meetings
- ◆ Parent Satisfaction Survey
- ◆ Self-Assessment
- ◆ Health Advisory Meetings
- ◆ Home Depot Workshops
- ◆ Earth Day Activities
- ◆ Volunteer/Substitute Training
- ◆ Employee Interview

TRI- COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY HEAD START 10/01/16 - 09/30/17

REVENUES

Federal DHHS ACF	1,236,535
USDA	45,535
State Head Start	56,130
Other Revenue	40,648
In-Kind	178,564

EXPENSES

	Actual	Budget
Personnel	823,695	823,695
Contractual	11,707	11,707
Program Supplies and Activities	86,068	86,068
Travel	11,894	11,894
Training	14,673	14,673
Facility	244,731	244,731
Other	164,919	164,919
Start-up/One Time Costs	80,279	80,279
Total Cash Expenditures	1,437,966	1,437,966
Total In-Kind	119,446	119,446
Total Head Start Budget	1,557,412	1,557,412

In addition to periodic reviews and audits from Federal and State agencies, South County has an annual audit performed by an independent accounting firm in accordance with OMB Circular A-133. The most recent external audit was for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017 and was completed by Baxter, Dansereau & Associates, LLP. The auditors rendered an Unqualified opinion on the financial statements and noted that there were no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. A complete copy of the audit is available by contacting the Agency.



Tri County Community Action Agency's comprehensive services available to families including:

- ◆ Family Care Community Partnership Program
- ◆ Youth and Family Services
- ◆ Employment and Training
- ◆ Adult Basic Education/GED
- ◆ LIHEAP/Weatherization
- ◆ Emergency Food and Shelter Services
- ◆ Basic Human Needs
- ◆ Child Care

For more information, contact:
 Rhonda Farrell, *Head Start Director*
 401-351-2750 x1926 -or- rfarrell@tricityri.org

Locations & Staffing

Charlestown (Head Start):

4350 South County Trail

North Kingstown (Head Start)

415 Tower Hill Road

South Kingstown (Head Start/ Early Head Start)

1935 Kingstown Road

Westerly (Head Start)

34 Pond Street

Staffing

- 6 Coordinators: Education, Social Service/ERSEA, Family Engagement/Program Support, Health, Nutrition, and Special Needs/Mental Health
- 2 Early Head Start and 5 Head Start Teachers
- 5 Teacher Assistants
- 4 Family Advocates
- 2 Early Head Start Home Visitors
- 1 Associate Head Start Director
- 1 Head Start Director



Main Office: 1126 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919
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www.tricityri.org