

Head Start and Early Head Start

ANNUAL REPORT

2013



A PRIVATE NONPROFIT



Community Action Commission (CAC), a Private Non Profit Agency is the Grantee for Head Start and Early Head Start Services in Santa Barbara County, CA

Starting Early

Head Start is a national program that promotes school readiness locally by serving children who are among the most vulnerable in the community. Head Start is at the forefront of continuous improvement in Early Childhood Education and is a model of family engagement.

Early Head Start promotes healthy prenatal outcomes, enhances the development of infants and toddlers, and promotes healthy family functioning.

Sequestration

Significant Program Reduction

In March of 2013 Congress did not come to agreement on a budget, which resulted in automatic 5% cuts widely known as "sequestration". Our local Head Start program lost a total of 53 spaces for children. The budget cuts also forced us to lay off staff and end contracts.

Hundreds of families are on the waiting list for our local Head Start program. We serve approximately 73% of eligible preschool-age children and 14% of eligible infants and toddlers in the county as determined by federal poverty guidelines. Federal poverty thresholds are extremely low. For example, the maximum income for an eligible family of four is \$23,550 a year. In practical terms, poverty is not only determined by income alone; hundreds of families who are not income-eligible seek our services every year. They are struggling and although they do not meet the income guidelines most of these families lack security and/or stability. There are over one thousand families on the waiting list at all times. Many of these families do not meet the income-eligibility guidelines.

Community Support

We would like to thank our community for speaking out about sequestration cuts and stepping up to provide concrete support to the program. The media helped educate our community about the ways that sequestration impacted Head Start children. Mission and State, a local web-based news outlet, created a wonderful video about the effects of the cuts. Many individuals supported our "book drive", and individual donors came forward to make sure the program remained strong.



Ready for Success

Prepared for Kindergarten

519 Head Start children went to kindergarten in the Fall of 2013. An overwhelming majority of these children were rated "kindergarten ready" based on the California Department of Education, 2012 Desired Results Development Profile (DRDP):

- 87% were rated kindergarten ready for language and math development
- 91% were rated kindergarten ready in cognitive and social development

Qualified and Skilled Teachers

- 100% of Head Start teachers have state teaching certification
- 45% have Bachelor's degrees

A sample of preschool classroom observations using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) resulted in the following aggregate scores:

- Emotional Support = 6.10
- Classroom Organization = 5.89
- Instructional Support = 2.92

CLASS™ is an observational instrument developed at the University of Virginia to assess classroom quality in PK-12 classrooms. Scoring 1-2 is low range, 3-5 mid-range, 6-7 is high range.

Enrollment Statistics: 2012 – 2013

Total Enrollment

Total funded enrollment beginning of year	1,098
Spaces lost due to "sequester"	-53
End of year funded enrollment	1,045

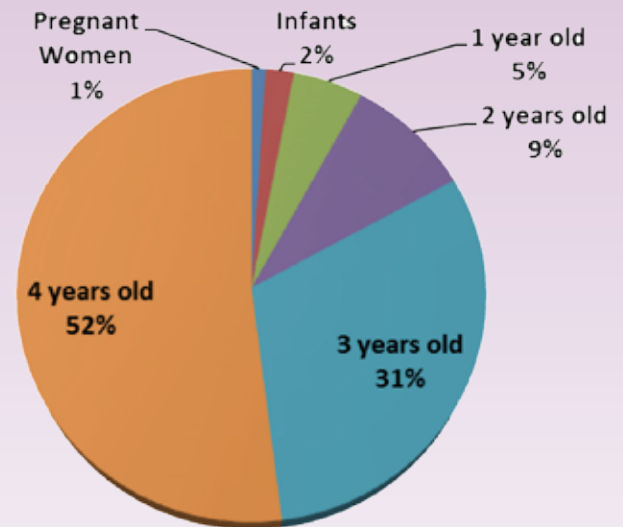
The program maintained full enrollment during the year. We coordinate with State preschools, school districts and the Child Care Planning Council to maximize the reach of school readiness and parent support services throughout the county.

Full Day Care

373 families, or 34% of enrolled families, were provided with full-day childcare so parents could go to work.

Enrollment by Age

Three and four year-olds comprised over 80% of enrollment.

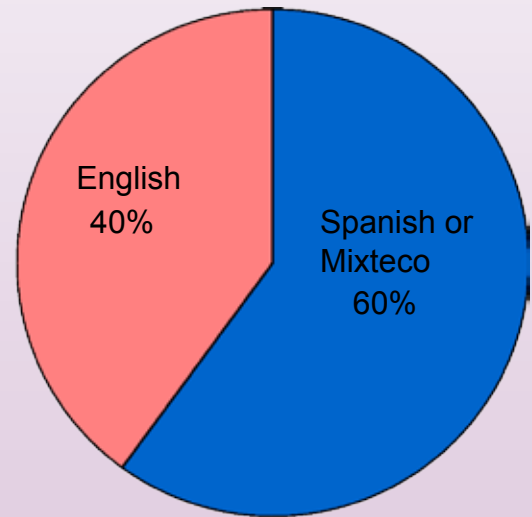


English Language Learners

Six out of every 10 children served come from households in which English is not the home language.

Health Care and Treatment

- 97% of children were up to date on their Preventative Schedule of Primary Health Care with their doctor.
- 94% of enrolled children received a dental exam
- 400 children needed dental treatment
- 374 of those children (94%) received treatment for dental decay



Early Identification and “Universal Design”

The Program is universally designed for all children, including those with special needs. Five classrooms employ a team teaching approach with special education teachers. This provides an inclusive natural setting for children with more involved disabilities.

- A total of 164 children (14%) had a diagnosed disability such as language delay, autism or intellectual disability
- 29% of the disabled children in Head Start were identified by staff

Fifty-six children qualified for Special Education services. These children were identified by CAC teachers during early screenings.

105 children needed special behavioral support. These children received mental health services in the classroom setting through a contract with Santa Barbara County Alcohol Drug and Mental Health Services.

Parents are a Child’s First Teacher

Staff members create a welcoming environment and engage parents in the program by building positive relationships. Parents voluntarily participate in monthly parent meetings, parent workshops and conferences as they grow together with their children and strive for their own goals for a better life.



2014 Federal Review Results

A monitoring review of Community Action Commission Head Start and Early Head Start Programs was conducted by the Health and Human Services Department in January 2014. No area of noncompliance was found during the course of the review.

The 2014 review found **FULL COMPLIANCE** in all areas:

1. Fiscal
2. Management Systems
3. Health Services
4. Nutrition Services
5. Transportation Services
6. Disabilities Services
7. Mental Health Services
8. Family and Community Partnerships
9. Education and Early Childhood Development
10. Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance





PROGRAM LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

The following CAC Head Start Centers are located on elementary school campuses:

Center Name (Enrollment)

Adam (20)*
 Alvin (40) *
 Tanglewood (30)*
 Oakley (34)*
 Los Padres (66)*
 Cuyama (20)*
 Fillmore (40)*
 Oak Valley (20)*
 Carpinteria Main Center (60)*

Facility Owner

Santa Maria Bonita School District
 Santa Maria Bonita School District
 Santa Maria Bonita School District
 Santa Maria Bonita School District
 Santa Maria Bonita School District
 Cuyama School District
 Lompoc School District
 Buellton School District
 Carpinteria Unified School District, Childrens Project at Main

The following centers are located within low income housing complexes with enrollment preference for the residents:

Center Name (Enrollment)

College, Lompoc (30)*
 Los Adobes de Maria,Santa Maria (34)*
 Buena Vista, Santa Maria (66)*
 Meridian, Santa Maria (34)*
 Westgate, Santa Maria (48)*
 Coronel, Santa Barbara (20)

Facility Owner

Peoples' Self-Help Housing
 Good Samaritan Shelter
 Viscaya Apartments
 Westgate Apartments
 Santa Barbara Community Housing Corp

Other locations within low income neighborhoods:

Center Name (Enrollment)

Sierra Madre, Santa Maria (40)*
 Guadalupe (64)*
 Los Niños, Santa Barbara (20)
 Little Village Toddler, Santa Maria (36)*
 Chestnut Toddler, Lompoc (26)*
 I Street, Lompoc (80)*
 Maple, Lompoc (40)*
 JC Washington, Santa Maria 34*
 Goleta Center,Goleta (82)*

Facility Owner

First Church of the Nazarene
 Guadalupe Cemetery District
 Kiwanis Foundation of Santa Barbara
 Private Owner
 CAC
 CAC
 CAC and city of Lompoc
 CAC
 Goleta Community Center

Notes: * NAEYC Accredited center

Contracted Providers of Head Start and Early Head Start Services July 2012-May 2013

Storyteller Childrens Center - partial funding for 47 Head Start, Early Head Start and State Pre-school enrolled children.
 Harding Early Years Program at Harding University Partnership School – Santa Barbara School District (27 Children)

Contracted Family Childcare Providers: Follow the Yellow Brick Road, Gomez Family Childcare, Karina's Day Care, Love to Learn, Lundin Family Childcare, Paz Family Childcare, Petra's Place, Rodriguez Family Childcare, Saucedo Family Childcare.

Community Partners (partial list)

Santa Maria Public Library
Santa Maria Airport District
Santa Barbara Public Library
Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Santa Maria Bonita School District
Carpinteria Unified School District
Cuyama Elementary School
Guadalupe School District
Buellton School District
Lompoc Unified School District
Hutton Parker Foundation
Orfaea Foundation
Santa Barbara Foundation
First Five of Santa Barbara County
Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services



Health and Disabilities Advisory Committee

Public Health Department – CMS, MCH, ADMHS, WIC/Nutrition Services
CenCal Health
Dr. Sam Burg, DDS
Dr. Keith Tam, DDS
Tri Counties Regional Center
SBCEO – Welcome Every Baby, Children’s Health Initiative, Oral Health Initiative
SBCEO - Special Education
Families First/ Alpha Resource Center
First Five of Santa Barbara County

2013 Research and Special Projects

- UCSB Researcher Amy Kyratzis, Ph.D., Gevirtz School of Education: Latino U.S. Mexican-Heritage Children Language Socialization in Peer Groups – CAC Goleta Center.
- UCSB, First Five: Longitudinal Research on the effectiveness of pre-school in children’s school success, Mike Furlong, Ph.D., UCSB. “Thrive” public-private partnership in designated areas of the county, including Carpinteria, Guadalupe and Santa Maria.
- Picturing America Curriculum: Learning history through great works of art. Monthly community displays. Annual family “Night at the Museum” and “Reading under the Stars”. A curriculum of the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- The Outdoor Classroom: increasing children’s opportunities to learn outdoors with natural spaces and extended time to explore and investigate. Includes establishing center gardens.
- Green Childcare: A concerted effort to reduce children’s exposures to toxins and limit use of potentially harmful chemicals. Includes the use of integrated pest management.
- Preschool Food Initiative: fresh local produce, children’s gardens at centers.
- Teacher coaching for professional development in intentional teaching.



Parent Activities:

- Reading with children at home
- “Make it take it” educational games
- Healthy eating for the family
- Meetings with Kindergarten Teachers
- Dad’s breakfast
- Emergency preparedness and safety

Parents Furthering Their Goals

- 450 parents took part in parenting education
- 206 attended English as a Second Language
- 249 attended Adult Education courses

Parent Volunteers

- 1,496 people volunteered
- 90% of the volunteers were Head Start/Early Head Start parents

Parent Leadership

Parents engage in evaluating the quality of the Head Start program. They participate on interview panels for new staff and help to plan the future of the program through participation in the countywide Parent Policy Council.



Carpinteria Center parent volunteer.

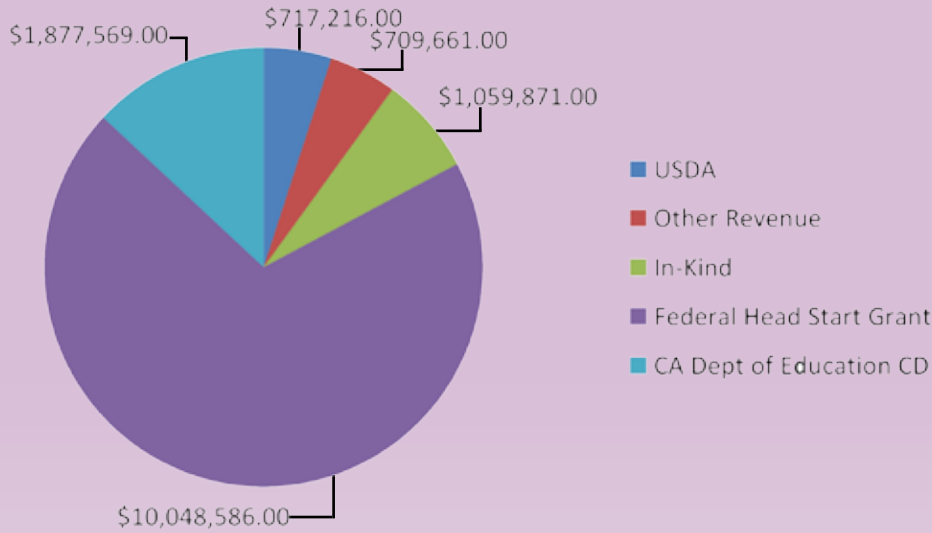


Policy Council Training, Oct. 2013, Los Alamos, CA

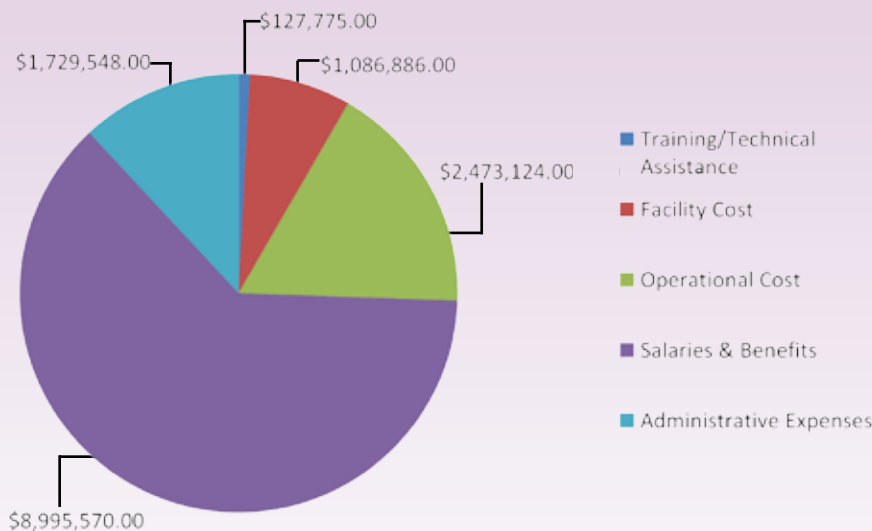
Financial Report

Head Start and Early Head Start are supported by parent and community volunteers, local grants and trainings, and in kind donations of space and supplies. Local community support accounts for 20% of the total budget.

SUMMARY OF CAC HEAD START FUNDS FOR 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM/HEAD START PROGRAM 2012-2013 Funding Source Total \$14,412,903



HEAD START PROGRAM 2012-2013 Budget Expenses Total \$14,412,903



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CAC - Creating Opportunities for Santa Barbara County Families to Achieve Stability.

Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara County is a private, non profit agency. CAC's programs include Children's Services, Energy Services, Nutrition Services, and Family and Youth Services.

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