Spokane Head Start/Early Head Start 2016-17 Annual Report

Enhancing lives of children and families for success in school and life.







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Introduction

The Community Colleges of Spokane is the grantee for the Spokane Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS) program, which serves Spokane residents. Although 967 children are funded, not all families remain throughout the year, so more children are served than awarded. This year the program served 1269 children. A Program Information Report (PIR) is completed and submitted each year for the Office of Head Start showing data collected on the children, their families, and staff. The statistics include facts regarding the comprehensive services (education, health, nutrition, disabilities, and social services) provided. Some of what follows is from the PIR.

Funded Number of Children



Children and Families

Children and Families Served



Types of Eligibility

Children with Disabilities



<100% Federal Poverty Level



100-130% Federal Poverty Level







Homeless



Public Assistance

Foster Children



About our Families

Households



Parent Educational Level



Enrolled Children Up-to-Date on Medical and Dental Exams

Medical



Dental



Vaccine Completions and Exemptions



Early Head Start Expansion



CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System)

As a grantee in the State of Washington, all Spokane Head Start/EHS sites participate in Early Achievers, the State Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS). CLASS is used along with Environmental Rating Scales to determine classroom quality and the site Early Achievers rating. CLASS observations were completed by the Early Achievers reliable assessors for the preschool and toddler tools. All Head Start/EHS sites were reviewed in Spring, 2017, and achieved a quality rating of 4 on a scale of 0-5.

The classroom observation instrument looks at teacher/child interactions, as well as interactions between children. The three areas observed for preschool are:



The mean scores from the Early Achievers observations for preschool are as follows:



In 2016, at the national level, 319 Head Start grantees received CLASS® reviews. The table below reflects the results of the reviews with the fourth column reflecting the result from the program's spring observations.

OHS CLASS Descriptive Statistics, 2016 National Distribution of Grantee-Level Domain Scores

Domain	Lowest 10%	Median (50%)	Highest 10%	Spokane Scores*
Emotional Support	5.59	6.04	6.35	6.23
Classroom Organization	5.25	5.76	6.15	5.65
Instructional Support	2.22	2.74	3.53	2.50

*Spokane Head Start Early Achievers data added for comparison.

Early Achievers collects CLASS data for toddler classrooms as part of the QRIS process. The Toddler CLASS evaluates two main areas:



Early Head Start classrooms were observed and evaluated by Early Achievers observers with mean scores as follows:



CLASS is not used as a part of OHS monitoring. There are no national-level statistics available for comparison.

Kindergarten Readiness

Spokane Head Start staff facilitates transition from preschool to kindergarten for children and families. Staff encourages families to participate in site and classroom transition activities such as, field trips in neighborhood elementary schools, transition nights, and mock kindergartens in the classrooms. Staff provide a variety of parent training opportunities including inviting past parents to attend parent committee meetings to share their experiences, and brochures on kindergarten skills and how to prepare children for kindergarten. Kindergarten registration information is provided at Policy Council and at sites in March when local elementary schools begin the registration process.

Meetings with Head Start and School District staff are conducted for children with Individual Education Plans or as needed for the success of the individual child. Staff completes the Kindergarten Transition Checklist, including transition information from parents, for all kindergarten-bound children during the final parent/teacher conference of the program year. With parent permission, these forms are forwarded to the child's Spokane public school.

Child Outcomes/Kindergarten Readiness Data

The Office of Head Start requires that programs assess children's progress and school readiness using a valid and reliable assessment tool. Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) assessment system is our adopted tool for assessment in combination with the Creative Curriculum. According to Teaching Strategies, "widely held expectations" for children have been determined by researchers. This allows teaching staff to see what skills children demonstrate according to their age in comparison to their age expectations. Teachers and parents use this information to set goals for children, as well as help the program provide staff with training and resources.

Below shows the 2016/2017 school year's assessment data at the Fall, Winter, and Spring checkpoints in the percentage of children meeting or exceeding their age expectations. The second graph shows the gains made from Fall to Spring. Gains were made in all areas of development with Literacy and Math showing the highest gains at an increase of 24% more children meeting or exceeding their age expectations in each area. These results indicate children build school readiness skills throughout their enrollment and leave Head Start ready for kindergarten.



Family Services

Parent and Family Engagement

The program recognizes the importance of parents as their child's first teacher and encourages parents to take an active role in their child's education. From the first meeting with parents to developing a plan for transitioning to kindergarten, parents are given numerous opportunities to be involved with their child's experience at Head Start/Early Head Start. The following are some ways in which parents can become involved.

Partnership Agreements and Family Goals	Families and their Family Service Coordinator partner and complete a Strengths and Needs Assessment to develop Family Goals.
Policy Council (PC)	Elected parent representatives from each site attend monthly meetings and participate in program decision-making. The PC Executive Committee reviews evaluations and plans the next meeting.
Parent Committee Meetings	Parents are invited to attend monthly site meetings to receive program updates from PC representatives, parent education and community resource information.
Program Committee Meetings	Parents are offered opportunities to participate in program committees such as personnel hiring/search, school readiness and the annual self-assessment.
Self-Assessment	Parent leadership is developed through facilitating the site parent committee meeting during the annual self-assessment, completing site health and safety checklist and parent satisfaction surveys.
Volunteer Opportunities	Volunteering is encouraged in all areas of the program, such as helping teachers with classroom projects, supporting site projects and/or recruiting at a community event.
Male Involvement	Men are encouraged to engage in activities/events with their child such as bingo, science fun and outdoor play. Fathers are encouraged to attend the local annual Engaging Fatherhood Conference.
In-Home Activities	Through home activities and collaboration with their child's teacher, parents support their child's education goals and make connections between their child's development in the program and at home.
Parent Trainings	Training topics include: pedestrian safety, emergency/fire safety, nutrition and health, first aid/CPR, mental health and well-being, parenting skills, budget/credit repair, leadership and advocacy.
Home Visits/Conferences	Two education visits and parent/teacher conferences are held to discuss child development, family services and school readiness. Early Head Start home base program has weekly home visits for prenatal moms and children birth to age three.
Family Activity Nights	Throughout the year families have the opportunity to participate in activities such as cooking, cultural awareness and literacy.

Education Staff Qualifications



* CDA – Child Development Associate

Head Start/Early Head Start

Reflects initial 12 months of a 22 month budget period.

Funding November 2016 - October 2017:	
Federal DHHS: Head Start/Early Head Start	\$13,046,345
Local Student Government	\$161,470
Local Child Care/Other	\$764,449
	\$13,972,264
Budget Expenditures November 2016 - October 2017:	
Personnel	\$4,780,762
Fringe Benefits	\$2,503,704
Travel	\$22,471
Equipment	\$6,051
Supplies/Materials: Includes non-consumables	\$180,410
Other	\$487,965
Indirect Costs	\$609,571
	\$8,590,934
Balance available through August 31, 2018:	\$5,381,330
1 Includes duration funding for two major building renovations, start-up, and program service costs.	\$3,898,842
2 Includes one-time program improvement funds for disposition and demolition of a modular unit.	\$180,999

Early Head Start Expansion

Funding FY 2016 – 2017:	
Federal DHHS: Early Head Start Child Care Expansion	\$1,334,706
Federal DHHS: Carryover Balance from year 1 grant period	\$360,855
Local Student Government	\$19,530
Local Child Care/Other	\$368,405
	\$2,083,496
Budget Expenditures FY 2016-2017:	
Personnel	\$1,107,534
Fringe Benefits	\$487,072
Travel	\$5,679
Equipment	\$5,156
Supplies/Materials: Includes non-consumables	\$95,176
Other	\$135,726
Indirect Costs	\$135,645
	\$1,971,988
Carryover to year 3 grant period	\$111,508

Early Head Start Expansion – Second Expansion Grant

Reflects initial 12 months of an 18 month budget period.

Funding March 2017 – February 2018:	
Federal DHHS: Early Head Start Child Care Expansion	\$1,958,000
Budget Expenditures March 2017 – February 2018:	
Personnel	\$66,419
Fringe Benefits	\$25,977
Travel	\$544
Supplies/Materials: Includes non-consumables	\$76,976
Other	\$3,026
Indirect Costs	\$24,887
	\$197,829
Balance available through August 31, 2018:	\$1,760,171
¹ Includes funding for a major building renovation, new program start-up costs, and costs of services.	\$950,000