

Mountain Projects, Inc. Head Start & Early Head Start

Annual Report 2018-2019



From the Director

I am pleased to present the 2018-2019 Head Start Annual Report. This report contains information about our program, services, and this year's accomplishments.

During 2018-2019, Mountain Projects, Inc. Head Start served a total of 194 children in the Head Start program and a total of 53 children in the Early Head Start program. We also served 2 children in private pay slots at Kneedler Child Development Center. Three of our classes participated in NC Pre-K, a state-sponsored school readiness program for 4-year-olds. Our funded enrollment is 163 children for Head Start and 48 for Early Head Start. Service areas are Haywood and Jackson Counties in western North Carolina.

During 2018-2019, we also completed a major renovation project at our Waynesville Head Start center. Our former administrative office space was converted into three classrooms. At the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year, the children from Bright Beginnings Head Start were moved into the new space. We are very proud of the successful renovation. We also completed some important safety upgrades at our centers.

I would like to thank our staff, parents, volunteers, and community partners for their support in making our year a success. We know that we could not do it without you!

Sincerely,

Joy Wallace

Head Start Director

Mountain Projects, Inc.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mountain Projects, Inc. Head Start program is dedicated to creating a comprehensive, culturally sensitive, nurturing, safe, and healthy learning environment in which children, families, and staff are inspired to reach their fullest potential.

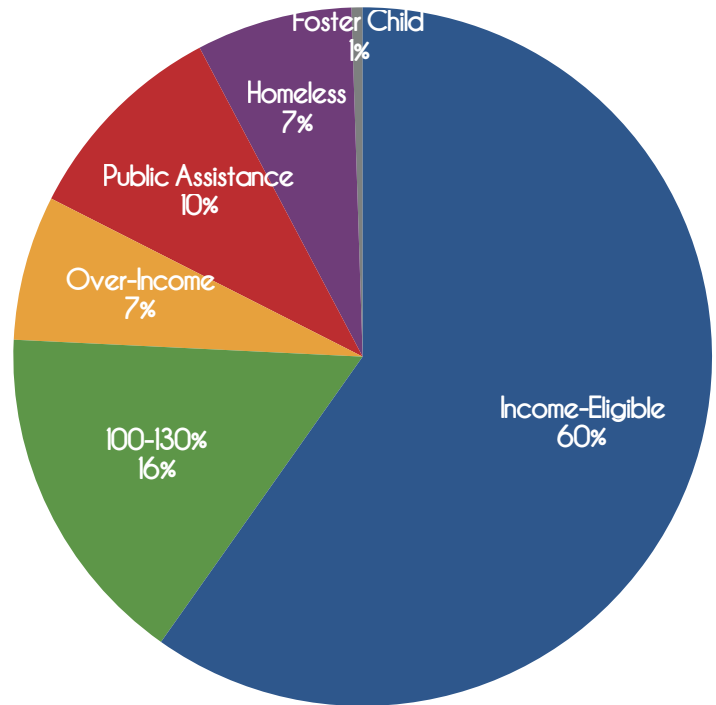
OVERVIEW OF ENROLLMENT

HEAD START

Funded Enrollment: 163
Ages 3-5
10 Classrooms (6 in Haywood County
and 4 in Jackson County)

Cumulative Enrollment: 194

Income-Eligible: 116 Children
101-130%: 31 Children
Over-Income: 13 Children
Public Assistance: 19 Children
Homeless: 14 Children
Foster Child: 1 Child

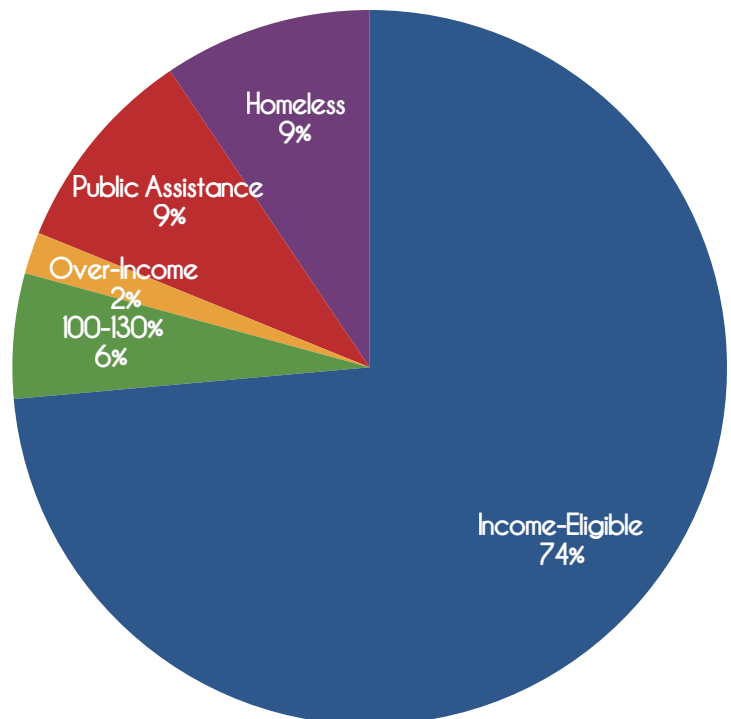


EARLY HEAD START

Funded Enrollment: 48
Pregnant Women & Children Ages 0-3
6 Classrooms (4 in Haywood County
and 2 in Jackson County)

Cumulative Enrollment: 53

Income-Eligible: 39 Children
101-130%: 3 Children
Over-Income: 1 Child
Public Assistance: 5 Children
Homeless: 5 Children



Cumulative total of Head Start and Early Head Start children served was 247.

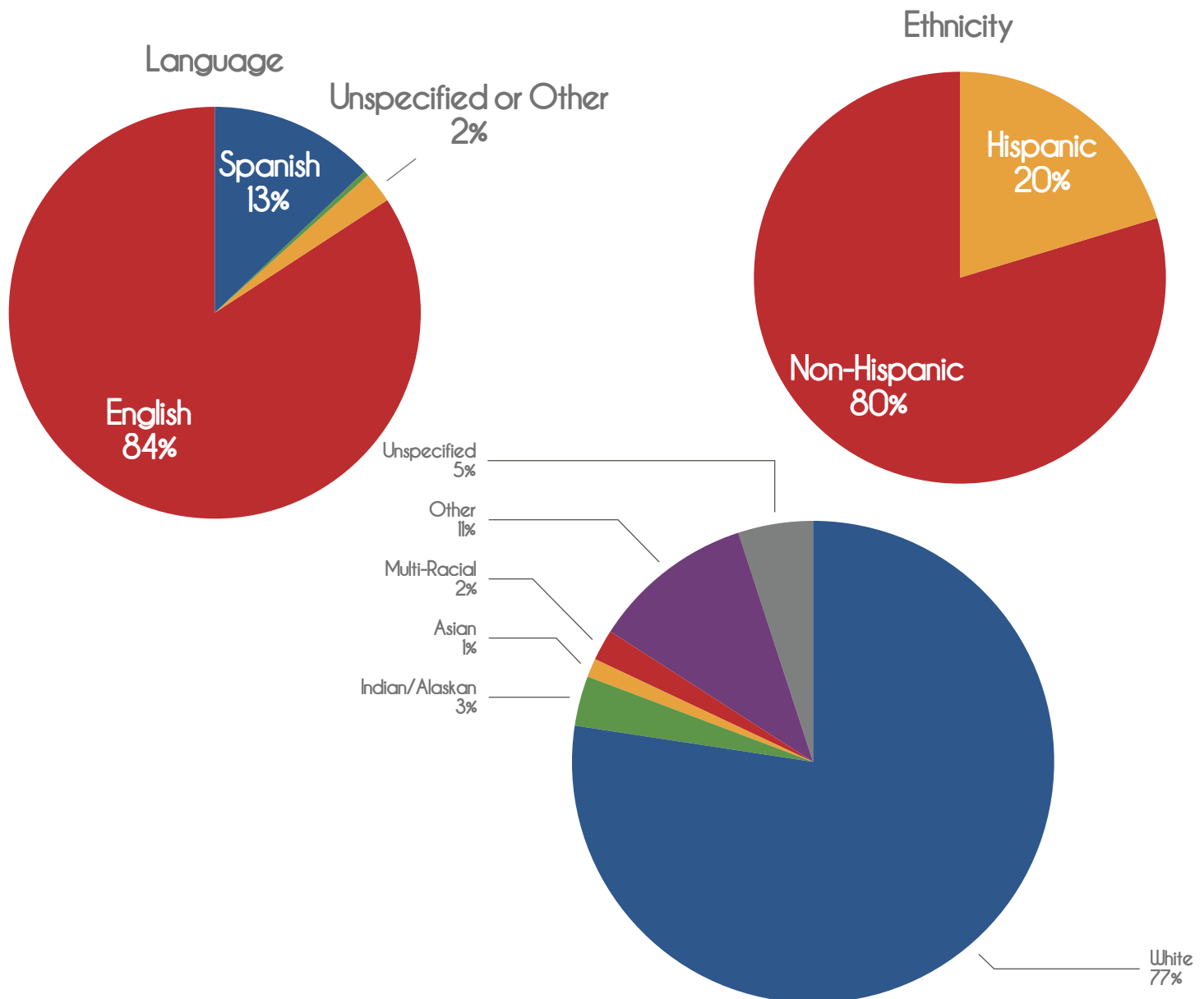
The total of Over-Income children served was 14, which is 6% of the overall total served.

Head Start and Early Head Start maintained 100% funded enrollment of 163 Head Start and 48 Early Head Start children all year.

Our program participated in the NC Pre-K program.

- 22 slots in 3 classrooms
- Classes at 2 centers in Haywood County and 1 center in Jackson County.
- Children dually enrolled in NC Pre-K and Head Start

PROFILE OF CHILDREN IN HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START



FEDERAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	# OF HEAD START FAMILIES		# OF EARLY HEAD START FAMILIES	
	AT ENROLLMENT	AT END OF YEAR	AT ENROLLMENT	AT END OF YEAR
TANF (Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)	8	9	3	4
SSI (Supplemental Security Income)	18	18	5	4
SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)	119	109	40	38
WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	101	96	39	39

HOMELESS AND FOSTER CARE

Head Start:

18 children from 9 families who were experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start during the program year. None of these families acquired their own housing during the year.

There was 1 child in Head Start who was in foster care during the program year.

Early Head Start:

5 children from 3 families experiencing homelessness were served by Early Head Start during the program year. One of these families acquired housing during the year.

No Early Head Start children were in foster care during 2018-2019.



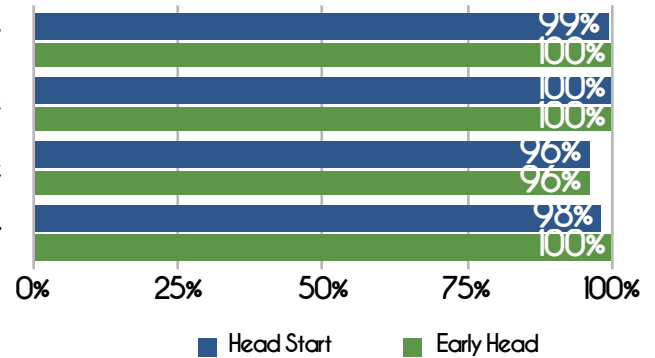
HEALTH SERVICES

Children with health insurance by end of year

Children with access to ongoing, continuous, accessible health care

Children who were up-to-date on age-appropriate health care

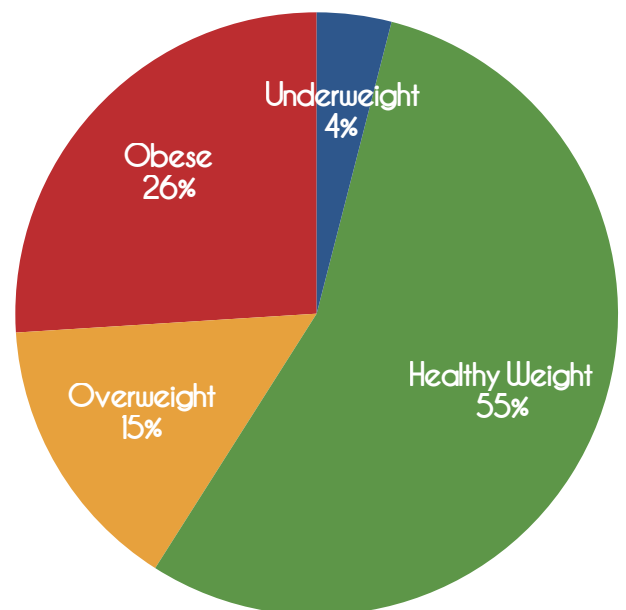
Children who were up-to-date on immunizations by the end of the year



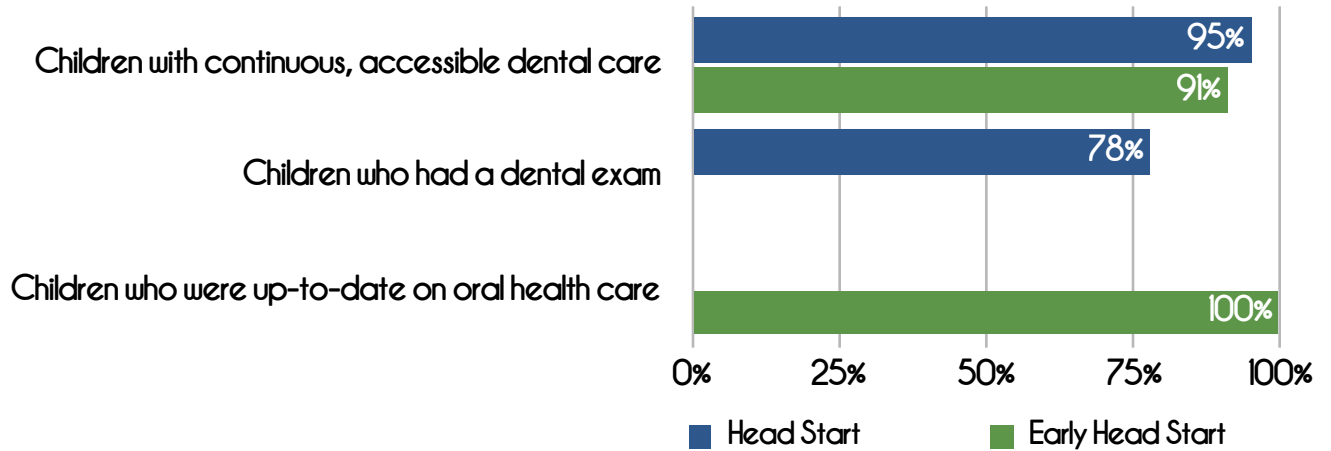
There were 4 children in Head Start and Early Head Start who were diagnosed with a chronic condition needing medical treatment. All 4 received treatment.



Body Mass Index (BMI) of Head Start Children

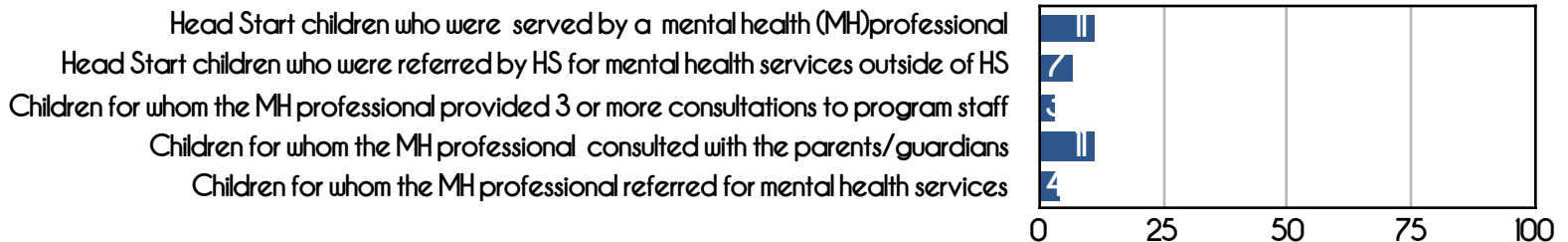


DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



Of the 151 Head Start children who had a dental exam, 13 were referred for additional treatment. All 13 of these received the treatment.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



No Early Head Start children were served by a mental health professional in 2018-2019.

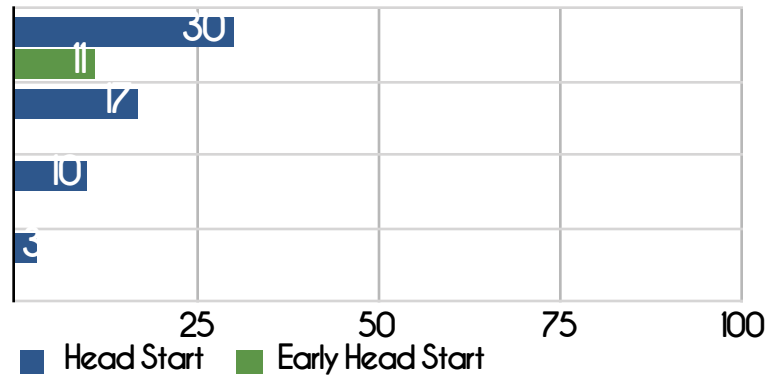
DISABILITY SERVICES

Number of Children with an IEP or IFSP

Primary Disability is Speech or Language

Primary Disability is Non-Categorical or Developmental Delay

Autism



18% of Head Start and 23% of Early Head Start children have been determined eligible for special education and related services.



WRAP AROUND SERVICES

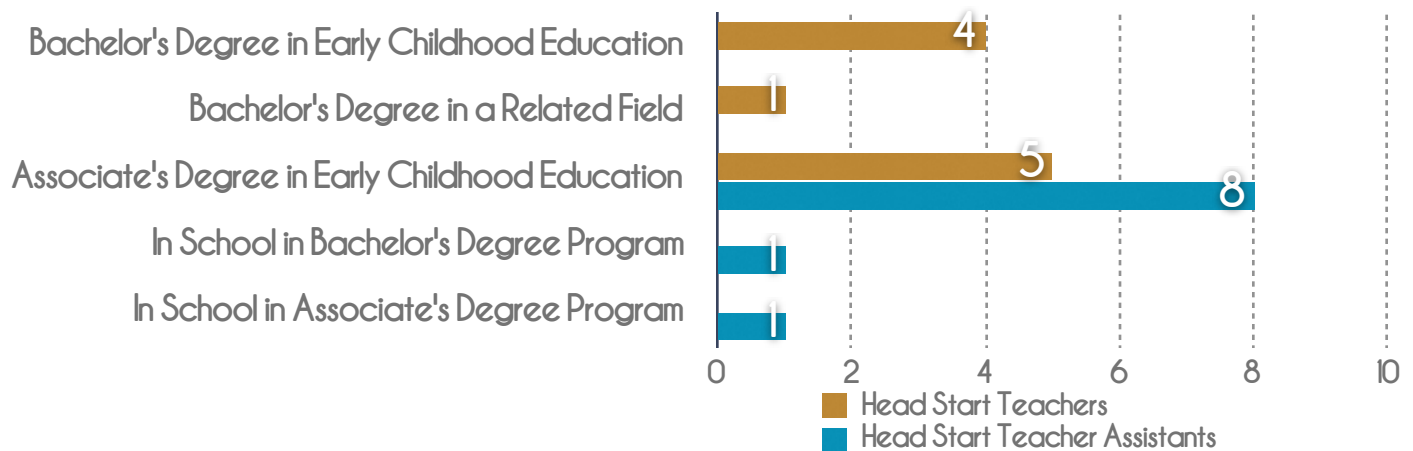


Wrap around services provided by state child subsidy to 17 Head Start and 8 Early Head Start children. Services were provided from 7:30 to 8:00 AM and 3:00 to 4:30 PM. These services were available for parents who were working or going to school.

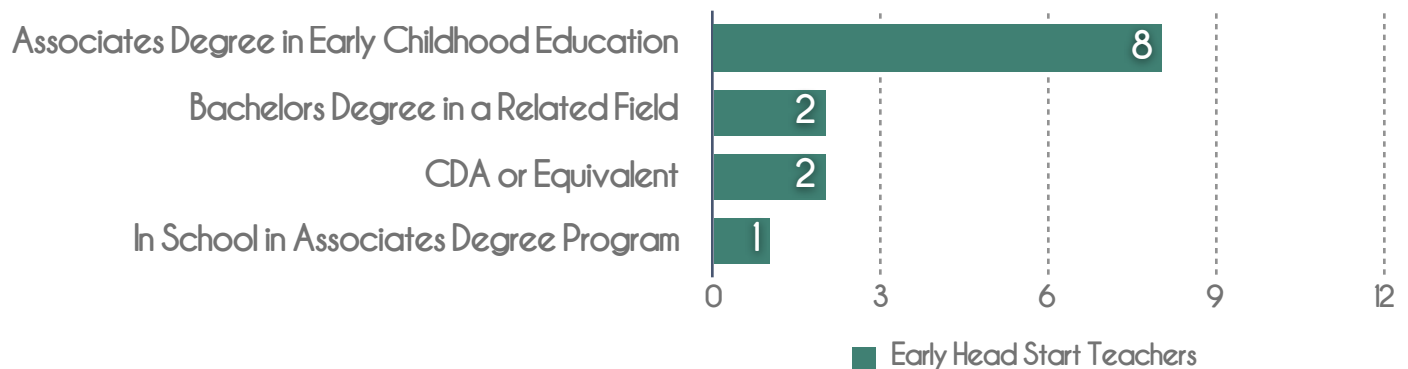
QUALIFIED STAFF

We have 10 Head Start teachers, 10 Head Start teacher assistants, and 12 Early Head Start teachers. We also have 6 Family Service Workers. Their qualifications are shown below.

HEAD START



EARLY HEAD START

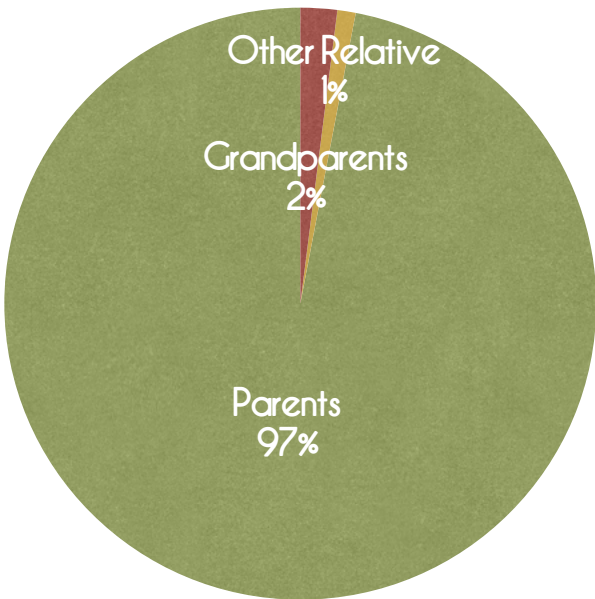
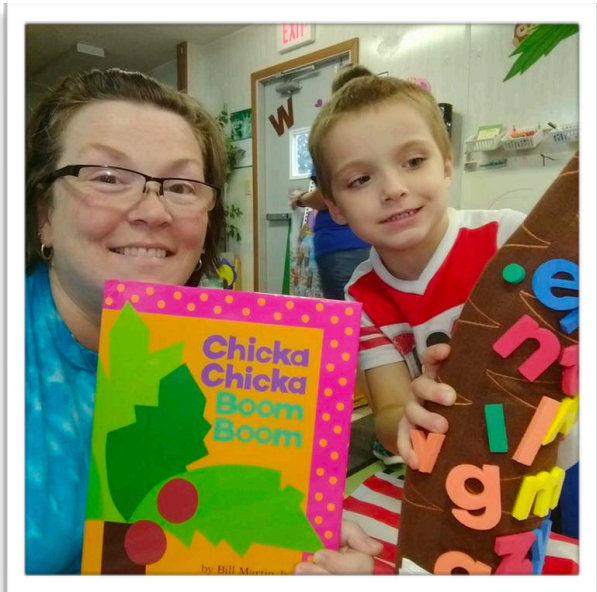


FAMILY SERVICE WORKERS



COMPOSITION OF FAMILIES

Head Start:
180 families were served by Head Start. There were 87 two-parent families and 93 one-parent families.

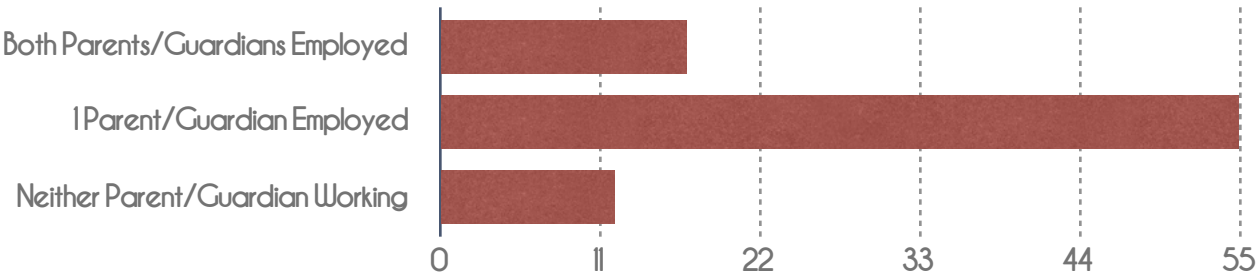


In one Head Start family, at least 1 parent/guardian was a member of the military on active duty.

In three families, at least 1 parent/guardian was a veteran of the US military.

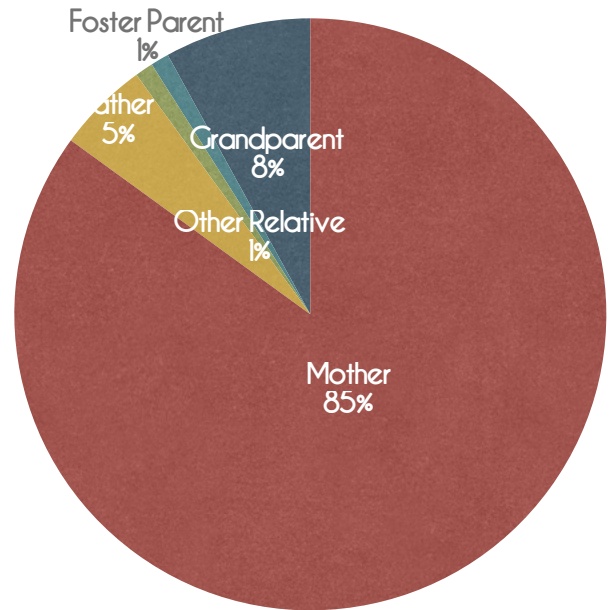
COMPOSITION OF 2-PARENT HS FAMILIES

HS 2-Parent Families

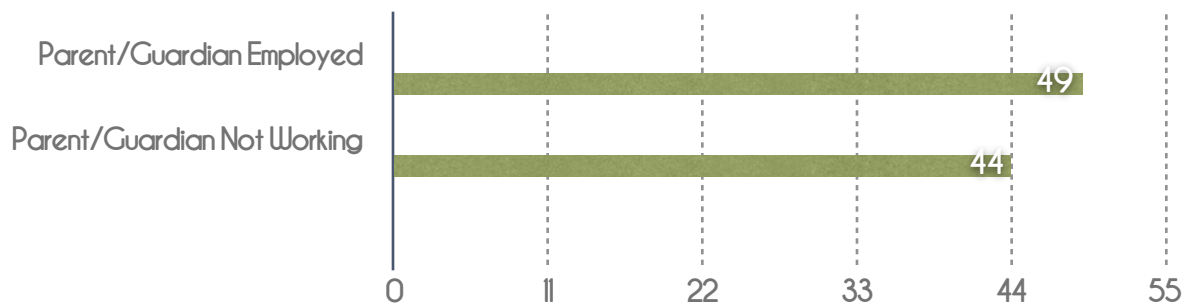




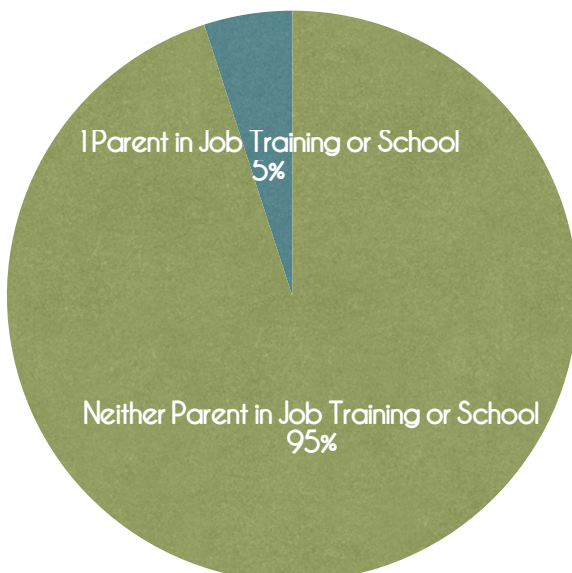
COMPOSITION OF I-PARENT HS FAMILIES



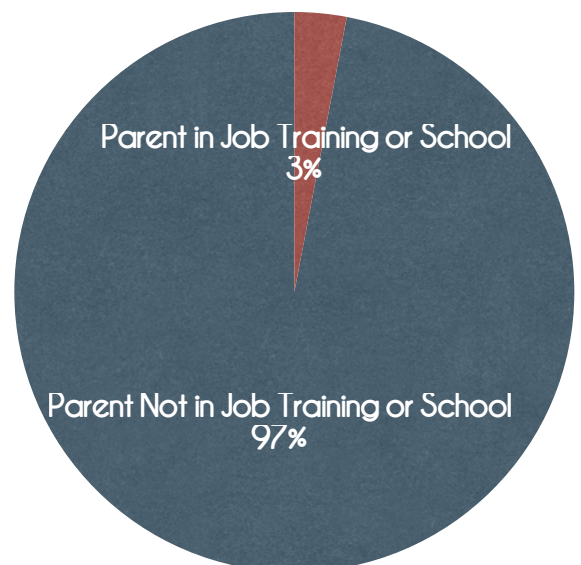
I-PARENT HEAD START FAMILIES



2-PARENT HEAD START FAMILIES



I-PARENT HEAD START FAMILIES



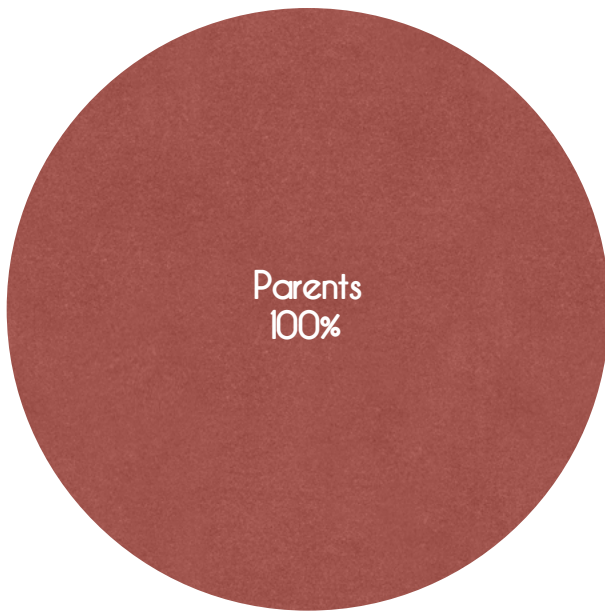
Early Head Start:

53 families were served by Head Start. There were 35 two-parent families and 18 one-parent families. In all of the two-parent families, the child lived with parents, and in all the one-parent families, the parent/guardian figure was a mother.

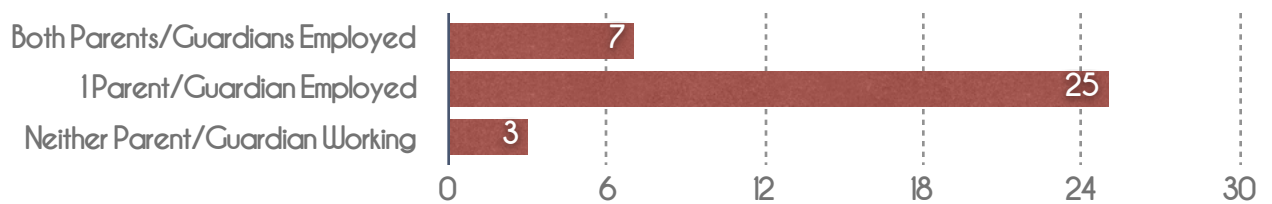


COMPOSITION OF EHS 2-PARENT FAMILIES

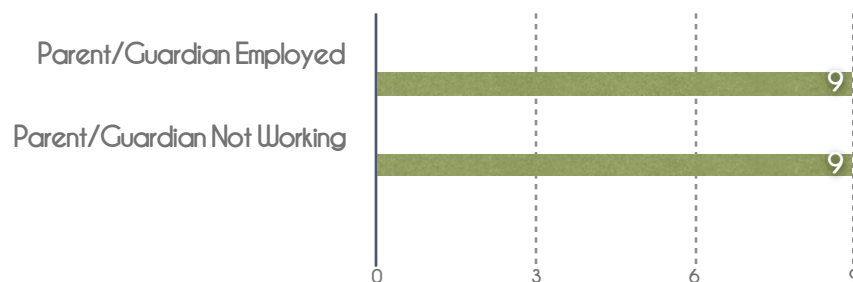
COMPOSITION OF EHS 1-PARENT FAMILIES



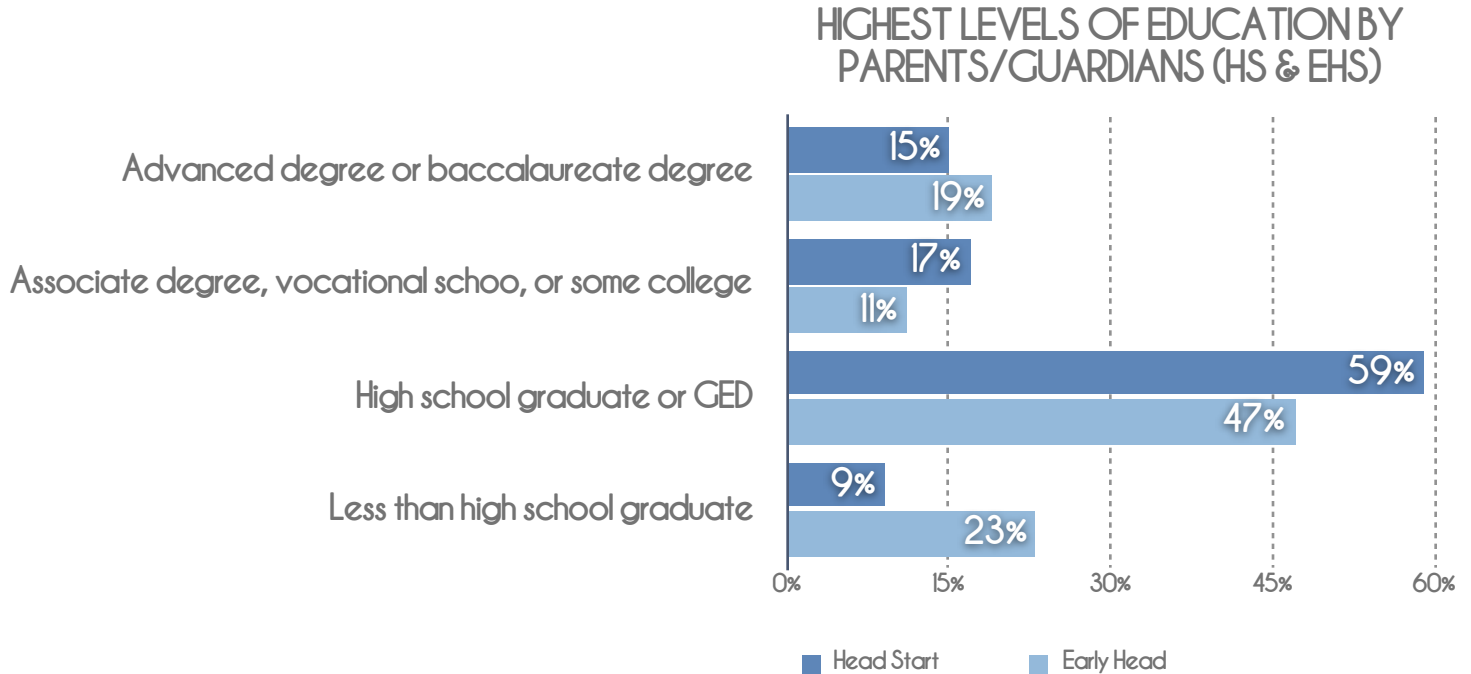
EHS 2-Parent Families



EHS 1-Parent Families



EDUCATION LEVELS OF FAMILIES



EDUCATION COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR

During the program year, a parent/guardian in one HS family completed high school or was awarded a GED. A parent/guardian in five families completed an associates degree, and a parent/guardian in 48 families completed a professional certificate or license or a job training program.

There was 1 EHS family with a parent/guardian who completed high school or was awarded a GED during the program year. 14 EHS families had a parent or guardian who completed a professional license or certificate or a job training program.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Parent representatives were elected by the parents at each center to be Policy Council representatives. Members received orientation in September, and annual Shared Governance Training in November and December.

Policy Council representatives participate in the annual self-assessment process, as well as other guiding activities during the year.

The Policy Council chairman serves on the Mountain Projects, Inc. Board of Directors, providing a direct link between the two groups.



Parents requested training on topics they were interested in. Trainings included:

- CPR & First Aid
- Transition to Kindergarten
- Budgeting
- Violence Prevention
- Parent-Child Interaction/Early Intervention
- "Darkness to Light"
- Fire Safety

All Head Start and Early Head Start parents spent time completing home activities with their children. These activities supported classroom instruction and were assigned by the teachers.

In Haywood County, there were 267 volunteers who provided 34,769 hours of service.

In Jackson County, 92 volunteers provided 8,853 hours of service.

We appreciate all our volunteers!



PREPARING CHILDREN FOR KINDERGARTEN

73 children in Haywood and Jackson Counties transitioned to kindergarten in May 2019.

Activities to help with the transition included:

- Education Coordinator worked with teachers to complete portfolios to be sent to each child's school.
- Kindergarten registration dates were shared with parents so they could take their children to see their new school and register for kindergarten.
- Kindergarten readiness parent meetings were held for parents at each center.
- IEP Transition Meetings were held for children with special needs.



ONGOING ASSESSMENT

Creative Curriculum is used in all Head Start and Early Head Start classrooms. Creative Curriculum builds on current skills and uses children's interests to increase growth in the areas of:

- Social-Emotional
- Physical Development
- Language Development
- Cognitive Development
- Literacy
- Mathematical Development

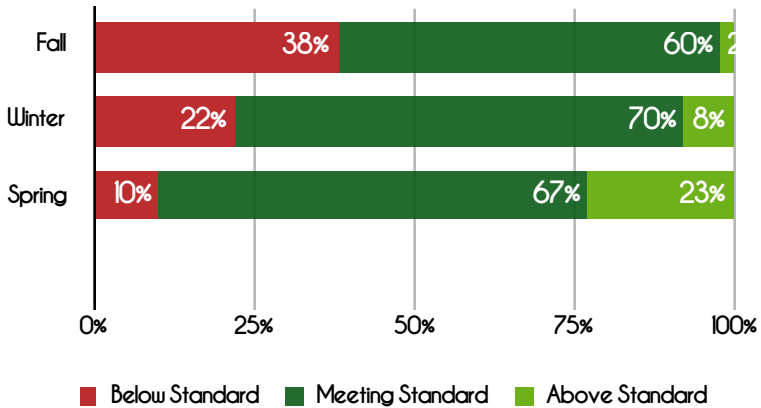
Teaching Strategies GOLD is used for ongoing assessment. Observation and intentional teaching strategies allow teachers to obtain important information to help them plan individual activities for children.

Children are assessed three times per year. Formal and informal observations, as well as anecdotal notes, are used. Children's growth is compared to widely held expectations for most children of the same age.

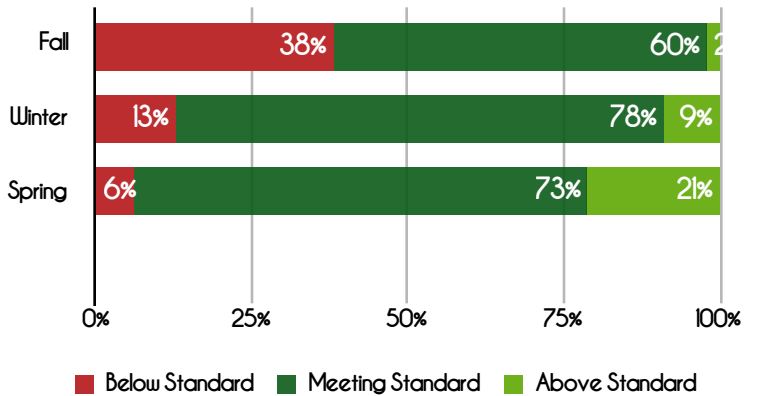
Teachers address each child's strengths and/or developmental needs. Program staff work with families to incorporate home activities to bring consistency and increase skills to meet milestones.

During the 2018-2019 school year, areas of strength included physical development and cognitive development. Mathematical development and literacy were weaker areas.

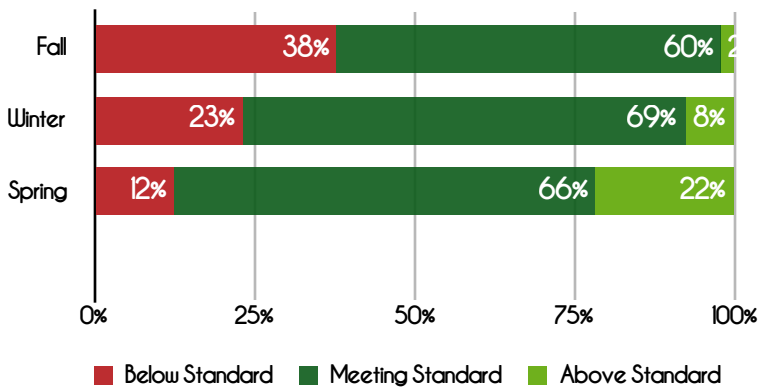
Social Emotional Development



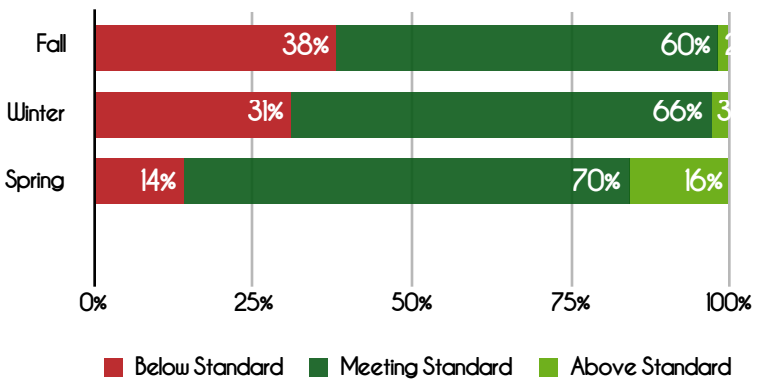
Physical Development



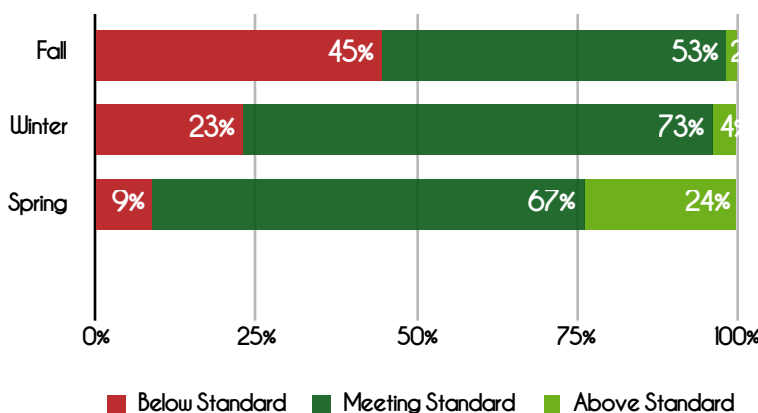
Language Development



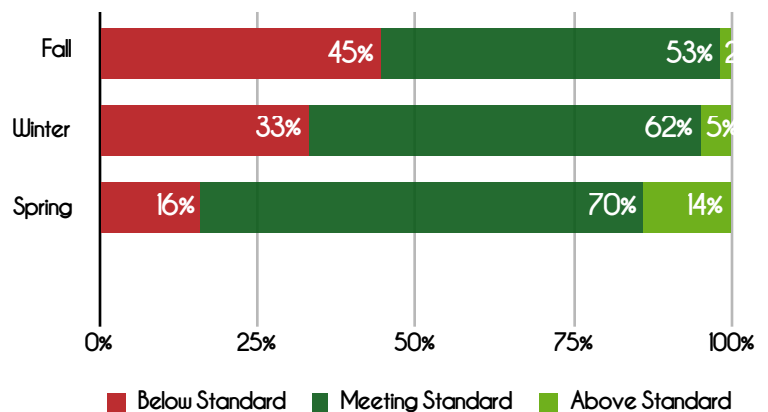
Literacy



Cognitive Development



Mathematical Development

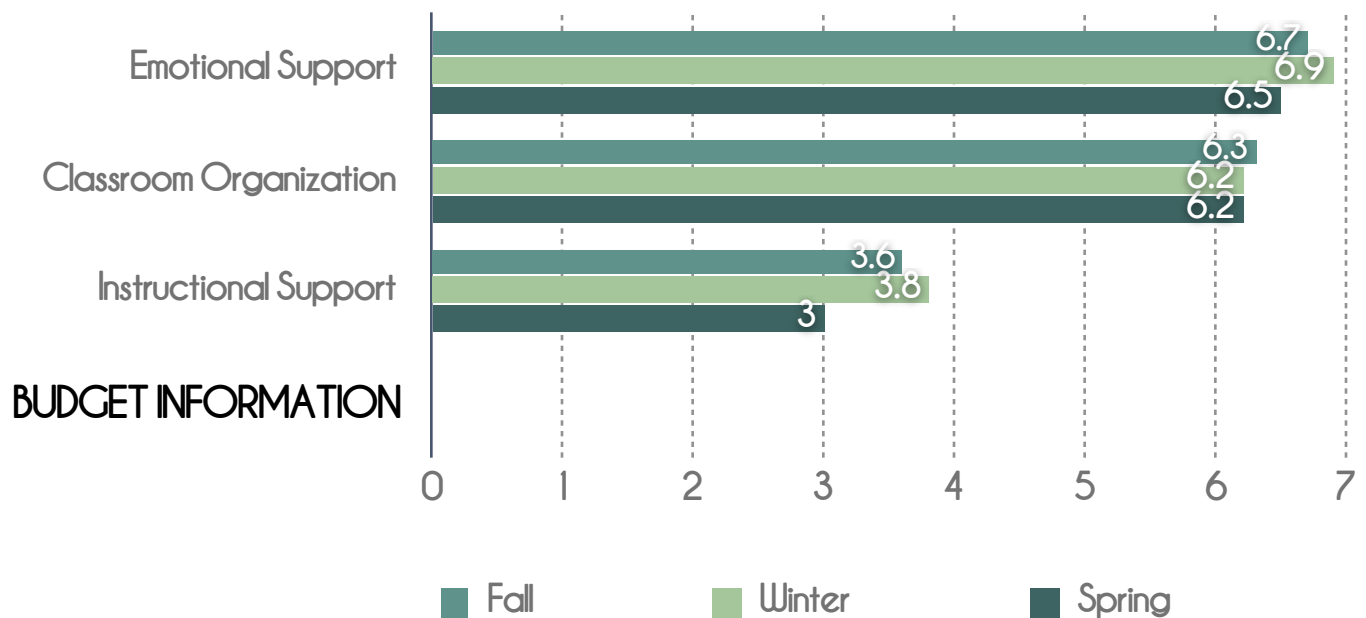


HEAD START CLASS DATA

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is used to support teacher-child interactions. The tool measures the classroom physical environment, as well as interactions between teachers and children. CLASS observations occur three times a year and are only shared with the teachers to encourage and help measure their personal professional development.



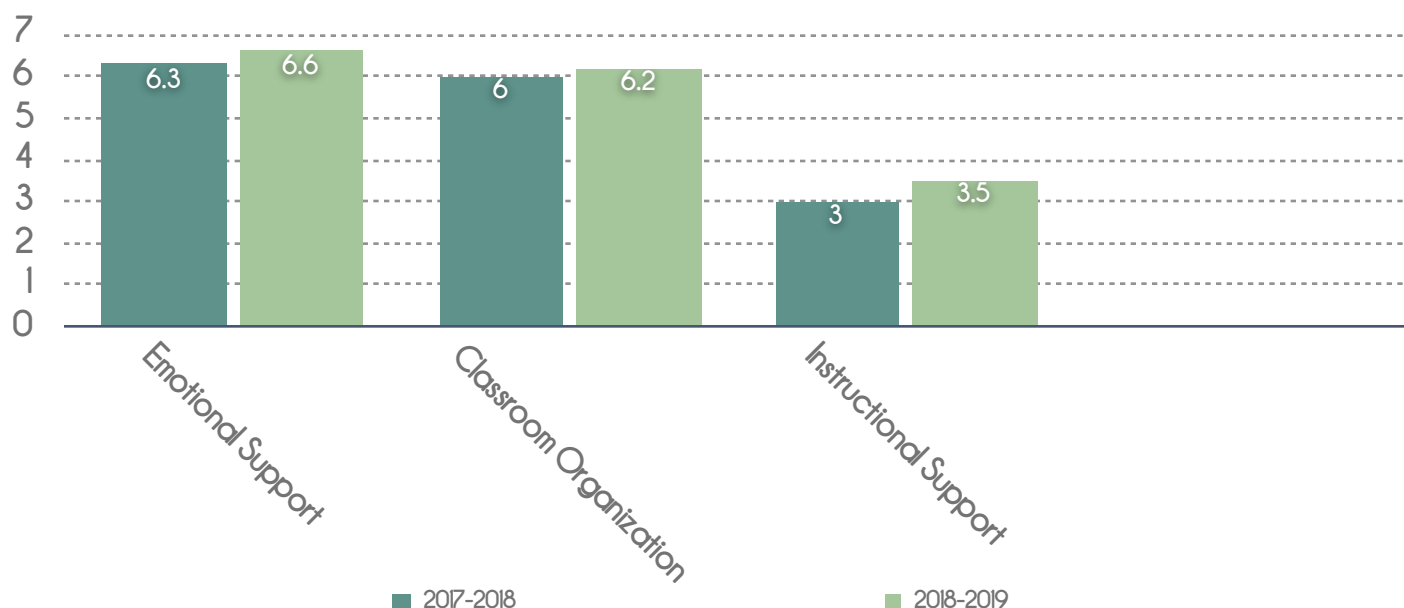
2018-2019 CLASS DATA



BUDGET INFORMATION

CLASS scores in all areas were above the national average. However, our scores dropped in the spring. Our hypothesis is that this was caused by the spring observations being completed too close to the end of the year. Our program has decided that during the 2019-2020 year, no observations will be completed in May to see if the decline was related to the end of the year and teacher burnout.

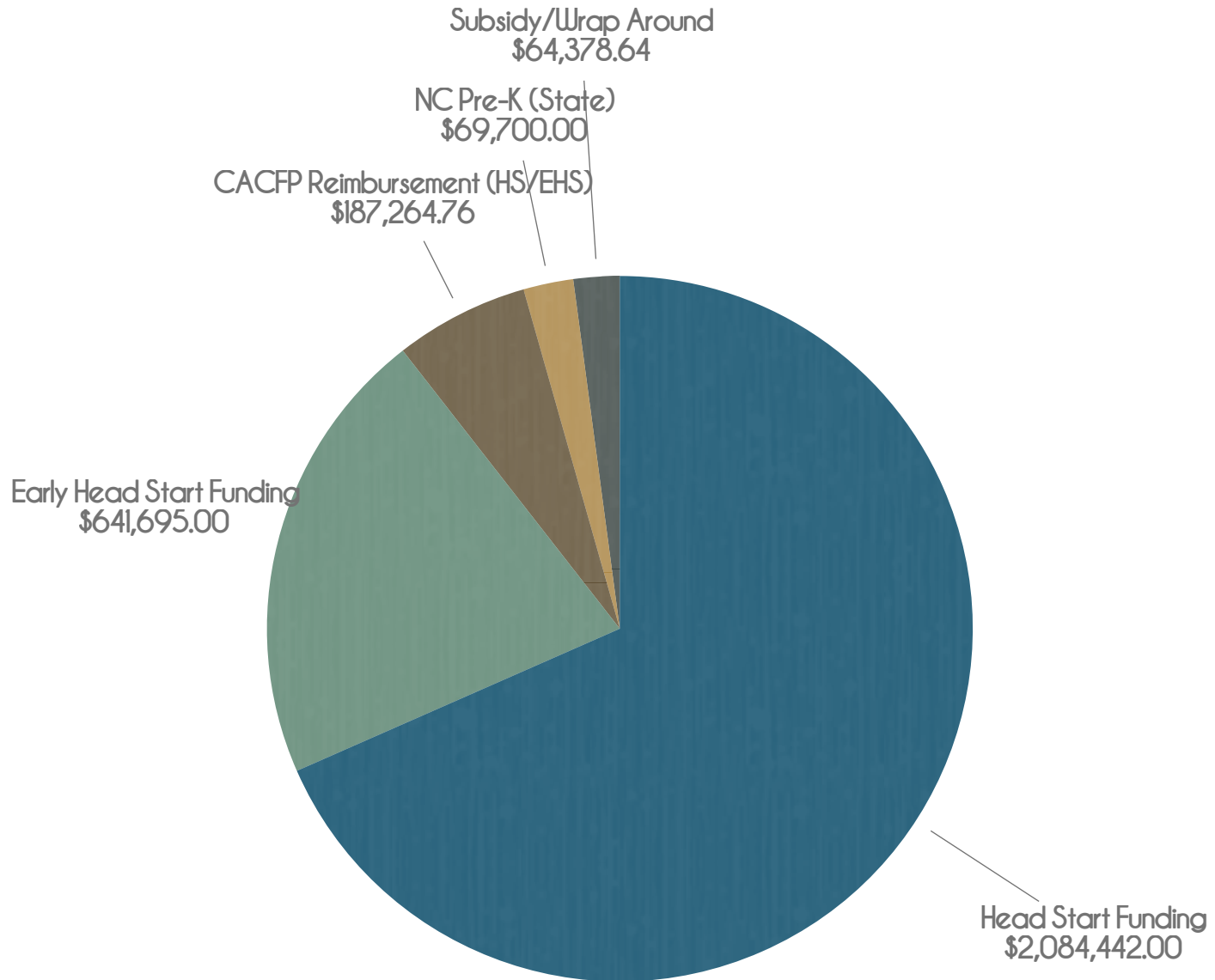
The graph below shows the comparison of our CLASS data from 2017-2018 to our data from 2018-2019. Our scores increased in 2018-2019, and all scores were at or above the national averages, shown in the table.



National Averages for CLASS Domains	2017	2018
Emotional Support	6.07	6.08
Classroom Organization	5.83	5.80
Instructional Support	3	2.96



BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES



Total Funds Received: \$3,047,480.30

PROPOSED BUDGET AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

2018-2019 PROPOSED BUDGET	HEAD START	EARLY HEAD START
Personnel	\$904,130	\$444,803
Fringe Benefits	\$361,051	\$177,715
Professional Development	\$22,090	\$16,339
Supplies	\$119,762	\$37,500
Contractual	\$49,633	\$8,766
Other	\$166,722	\$39,384
Indirect Costs	\$184,178	\$81,248
TOTAL	\$1,807,566	\$805,755

2018-2019 ACTUAL SPENDING	HEAD START	EARLY HEAD START
Personnel	\$870,487	\$406,978
Fringe Benefits	\$347,614	\$164,763
Professional Development	\$14,111	\$9,457
Supplies	\$92,189	\$37,600
Contractual	\$64,170	\$16,659
Other	\$196,662	\$37,611
Indirect Costs	\$205,536	\$78,301
TOTAL	\$1,790,769	\$751,369



PROPOSED BUDGET-MAJOR RENOVATION & SAFETY UPGRADES	HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START
Security Cameras & Locks	\$29,025
Major Renovation	\$353,790
Personnel/Fringe	\$30,000
TOTAL	\$412,815

ACTUAL SPENDING-MAJOR RENOVATION & SAFETY UPGRADES	HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START
Security Cameras & Locks	\$29,233
Major Renovation	\$365,995
Personnel/Fringe	\$0
TOTAL	\$395,228



This year we completed a major renovation of our former administrative office space into three classrooms. We closed our Bright Beginnings center at the end of the year and moved their classrooms into the new space. We also completed some safety upgrades at our centers.

NON-FEDERAL MATCH

NON-FEDERAL MATCH (IN KIND)	MATCH REQUIRED	MATCH EARNED
Head Start	\$443,823	\$604,420
Early Head Start	\$190,661	\$148,421
TOTAL	\$634,484	\$752,841

MOST RECENT FEDERAL REVIEW

CLASS REVIEW (JANUARY 2018)

- Emotional Support: 5.8875
- Classroom Organization: 5.7000
- Instructional Support: 3.8167

FOCUS AREA 2 REVIEW (JANUARY 2018)

- Program Management—All requirements met
- Program Governance—All requirements met
- Financial Management—All requirements met
- ERSEA—All requirements met
- Education & Child Development Program Services—One area of concern, which has been corrected
- Health Program Services—All requirements met
- Family & Community Engagement—All requirements met

MOST RECENT AUDIT RESULTS

(Included as a separate document.)