

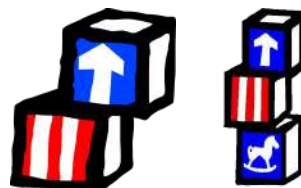


REGION IX

HEAD START/EHS

ANNUAL REPORT

2020



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"Children
are likely
to live up
to what
you
believe of
them."

Lady Bird Johnson

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Whew! 2020 was a very difficult year! Who knew we would have to completely change the way we taught children, conducted meetings, provided professional development, served meals, and so many other things we take for granted. This year we lost two staff members. Julieta Herrera was a young, talented, and special person. Her love for teaching was evident when you walked into her classroom. She filled our halls with laughter and love that can't be replaced. Joanie Bingerman was our Health & Transportation Manager but she was so much more beyond her title. She poured her heart and soul into Head Start and Region IX. She was one in a million and she will be missed by so many. Julieta's and Joanie's memories will live on forever in our hearts and our programs will never be the same without them.

Despite all the challenges we faced, we made it through to the other side with a positive outlook on the year to come. To say I am proud of my team is an understatement! We pulled together to do things we thought were impossible. Virtual learning is not ideal for children birth to five but we made it work by using SeeSaw, we provided educational packets, and conducted virtual meetings with children and families. We provided care packages, meals, diapers, and wipes to our families in need, and so much more! We realized we can accomplish anything if we put our minds to it and work as a team!

I would like to thank RMSD, Capitan School District, and Hondo School District for their continued support. I would also like to thank Region IX staff for all that you do for us and our programs. Last but not least, I would like to thank Phyllis Strathmann for allowing EHS to be at Mountain Annies. We appreciate all that you do for EHS!

I'm excited to share the results we've achieved in 2020. This 2020-2021 Annual Report provides an overview of our program and highlights achievements.

Region IX and Head Start Proud!
Sincerely,

CALLA GOELLER
HEAD START/EHS DIRECTOR



R9 Vision Statement:
Region 9 - Your innovative Regional Education Cooperative providing exceptional services to children, families, and communities across New Mexico.

R9 Head Start/EHS mission is to provide quality comprehensive services through learning environments that are safe, nurturing, respectful, and that fosters independence, strength, and hope in order to prepare children and families for success in school and life.



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVED



During the 2020-2021 school year, 192 children were enrolled in our program at least one day. As of April 1, 2021, Ninety-nine children were enrolled in Head Start. 82 children are attending in person, and 17 children are virtual only. Early Head Start reached full enrollment March 29, 2021 with 44 children attending. 35 children are attending in person and 9 are virtual only. Due to COVID-19 we did not reach full enrollment of 115 for Head Start across Ruidoso, Capitan, and Hondo.

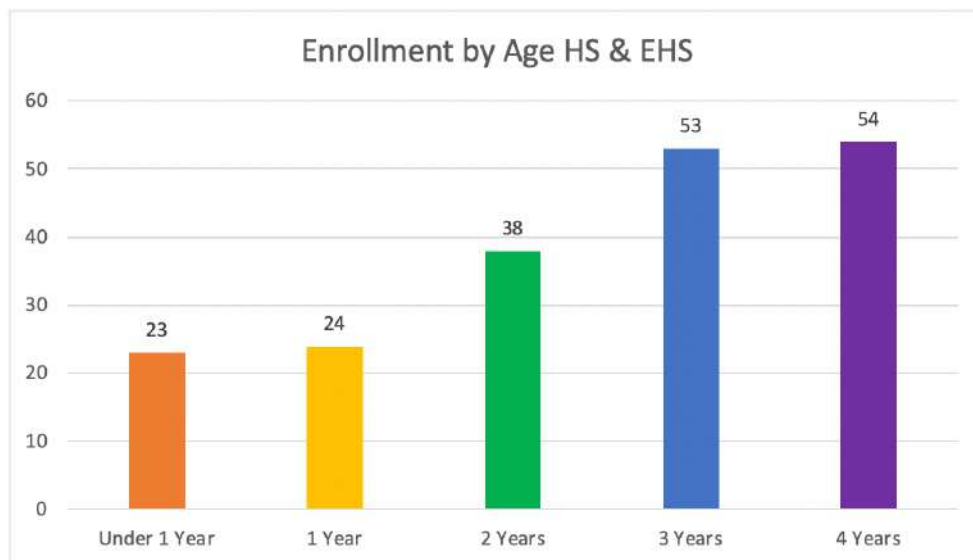
New and Returning Enrollees:

44% new applications and 56% returning children

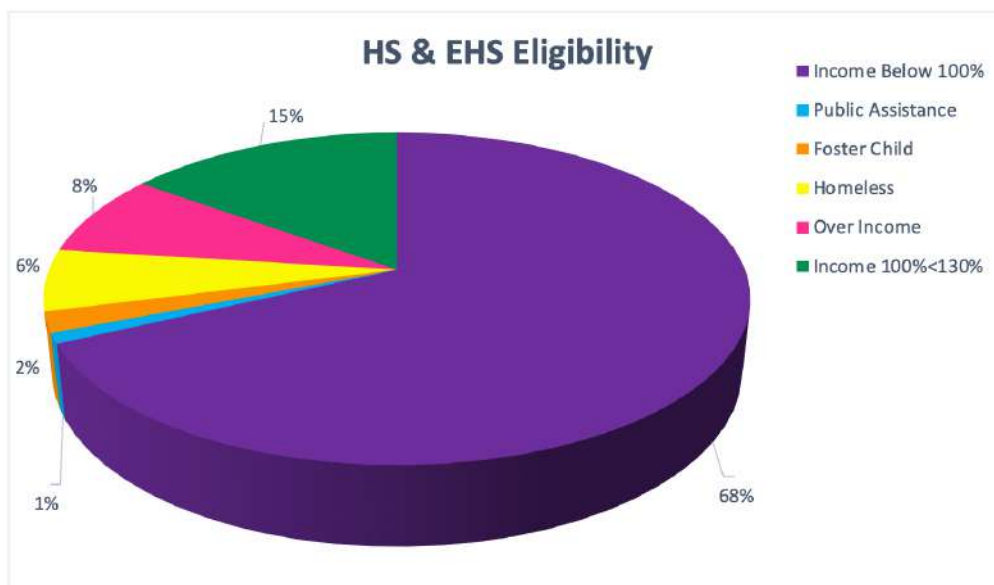
37% new applications and 63% returning children

28 out of 99 Head Start children transitioned to kindergarten at the end of the 20-21 school year.

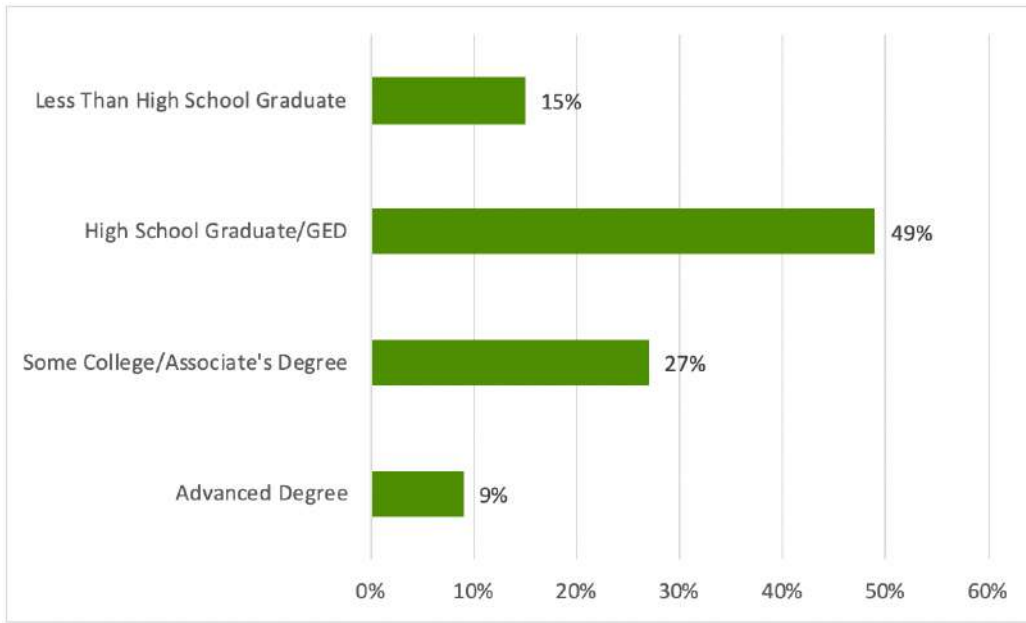
ENROLLMENT BY AGE



TYPE OF ELIGIBILITY



PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION

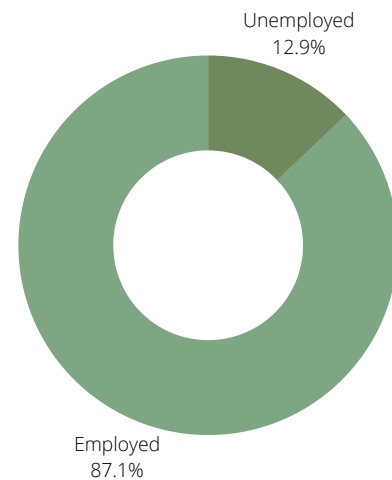


PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) EMPLOYMENT

ONE-PARENT FAMILIES



TWO-PARENT FAMILIES

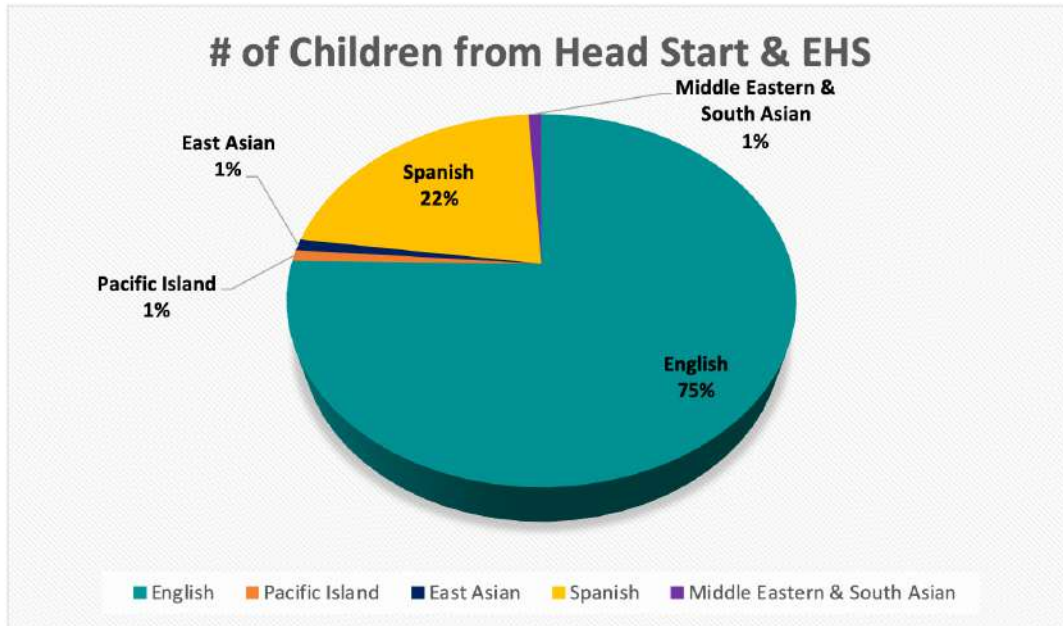


Compared to the 2019-2020 school year employment for two parent families increased by 4%. Single parent families unemployment increased from last year by 5%. This could be due to COVID-19 and the impact it had on businesses in our area. We also saw an increase in families who receive federal or other assistance due to COVID-19.

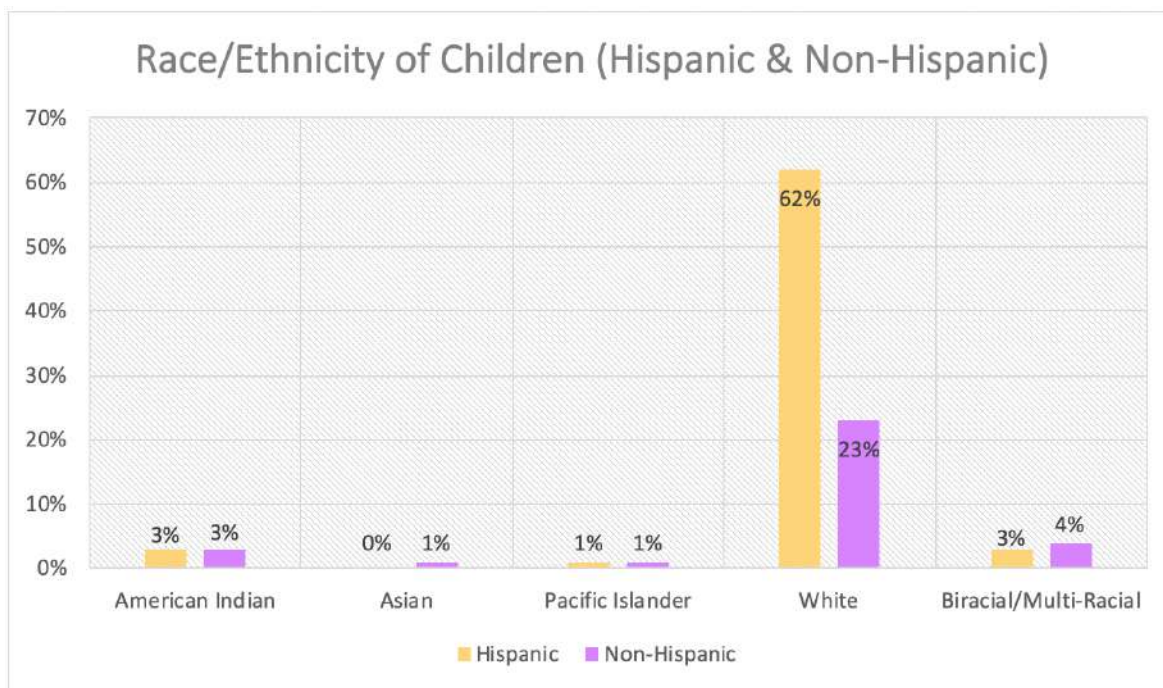
Federal or Other Assistance

- 3** Families who received any cash benefits or TANF
- 5** Families who received Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- 61** Families who received WIC (Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Services)
- 102** Families who received SNAP (formally known as food stamps)

PRIMARY LANGUAGE IN CHILD'S HOME



RACE/ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN



ENROLLMENT



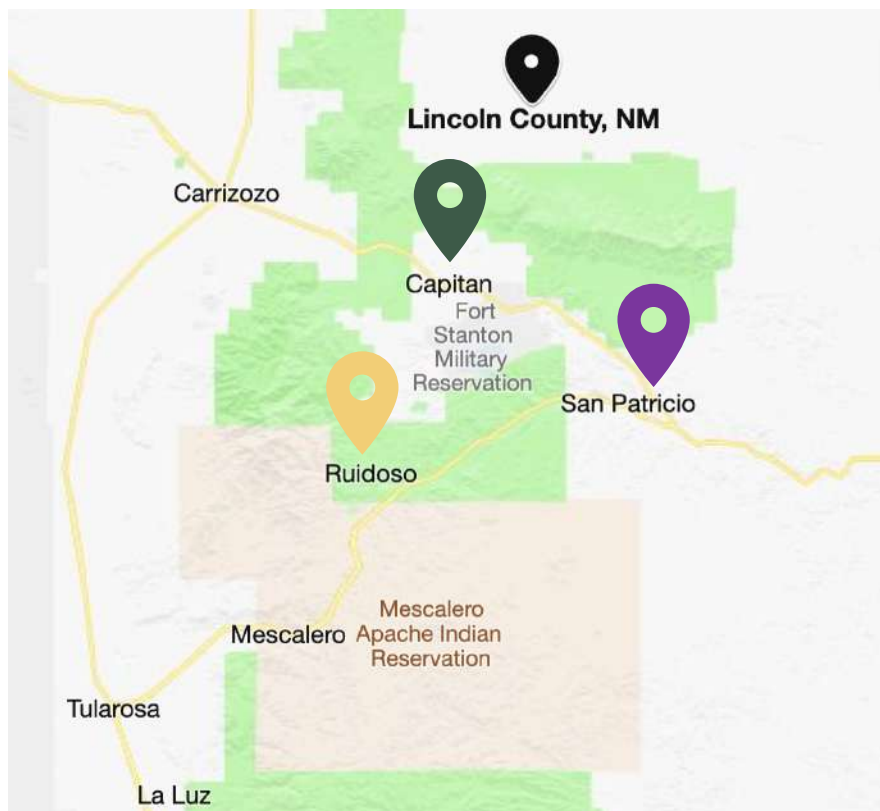
Our program enrollment decreased from 19-20 due to COVID-19. In March 2020, both programs had to close and provide virtual learning and services. When school re-opened we provided an option at Head Start for students to be virtual or in-person with a limit on the number of children allowed in the classroom. Early Head Start completely reopened in July 2020 but parents and families were still unsure and scared to send their children back to school/childcare unless it was absolutely necessary. We finally reached full enrollment for EHS in March 2021 with 44 students enrolled. As of March 2021 we are close to full enrollment for Head Start at 100 students when we need 115.

Normal our programs operate at full enrollment with an active waiting list of children ready to fill vacancies at all 4 sites. If vacancies become available homeless, foster, and Early Head Start children who have aged out of EHS get first priority into the Head Start program. Homeless and Foster children get first priority in either program all year long.

Head Start Applications: 143
Over-Income Applications: 42
Enrolled: 100
Abandoned: 4
Waitlisted: 7
Dropped: 25
New: 7

EHS Applications: 85
Over-Income Applications: 19
Enrolled: 44
Abandoned: 2
Waitlisted: 6
Dropped: 3
Completed Program: 24
New: 6

HEAD START/EHS PROGRAM MAP



-  Capitan Head Start
-  Hondo Head Start
-  Ruidoso Head Start & R9 Early Head Start

SERVICES



The Head Start/EHS Health & Safety Manager worked closely with the local LEAs, local child mental health specialist, a nutritionist, our in house Social-Emotional Specialist, and other community members to provide quality health and nutrition services to our children in both programs. She worked collaboratively with Head Start/EHS Family Advocates to connect parents to resources in the community in order to get their immediate, and short-term needs met.

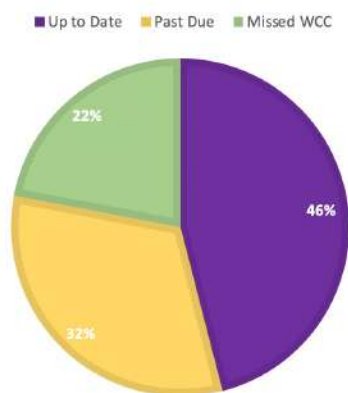
Head Start staff assist families with making health appointments and attending appointments with families if necessary. They also assist families in obtaining medical insurance. If a family does not have medical insurance for themselves or their children and cannot pay for emergency medical or dental needs the program can help those families after Family Advocates have exhausted all the resources available in our community.

HEALTH SERVICES

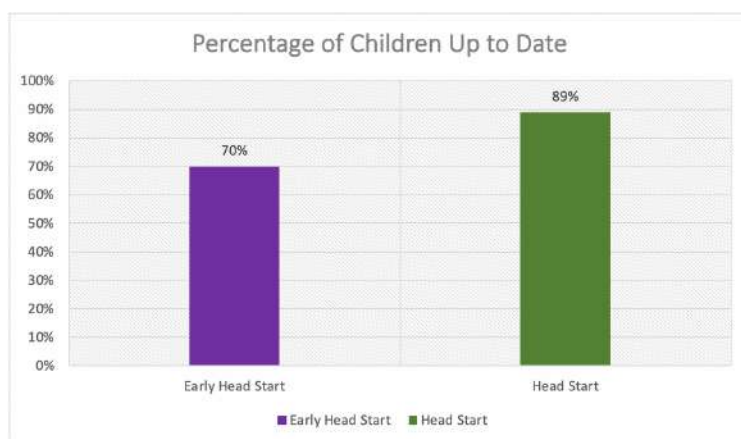
- 91% of enrolled children had health insurance by the end of the year.
- 100% of newly enrolled children received vision, hearing, developmental, nutritional, and behavioral screenings.
- 76% of physical exams were completed and entered within 90 days of enrollment for Head Start
- 55% of dental exams (HS only) were completed within 90 days of enrollment.
- 79% of the 1 year dental exams for EHS were completed.

Early Head Start Well Child Checks

EHS WELL CHILD CHECK STATUS



Children's Immunization Status



CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS

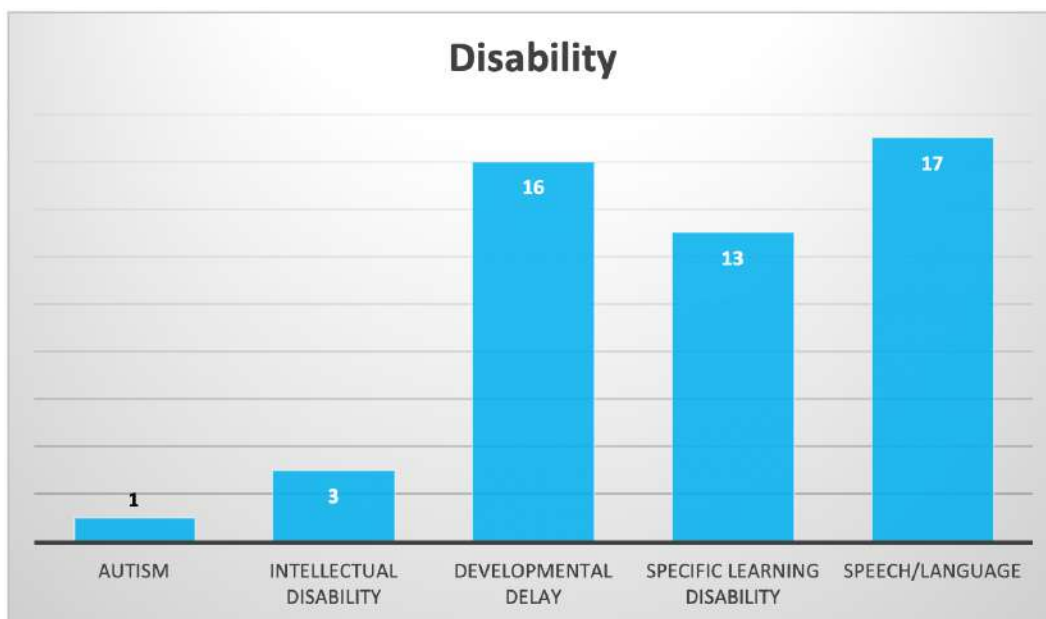
- 1 Child receives treatment for chronic asthma.
- 3 Children received treatment for chronic vision problems.
- 2 Children received treatment for chronic hearing problems
- 1 Child was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- 3 Children were diagnosed with life threatening allergies.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- 5 Children referred outside of Head Start for mental health services
- 3 Children who received mental health services from a mental health professional.

DISABILITIES SERVICES

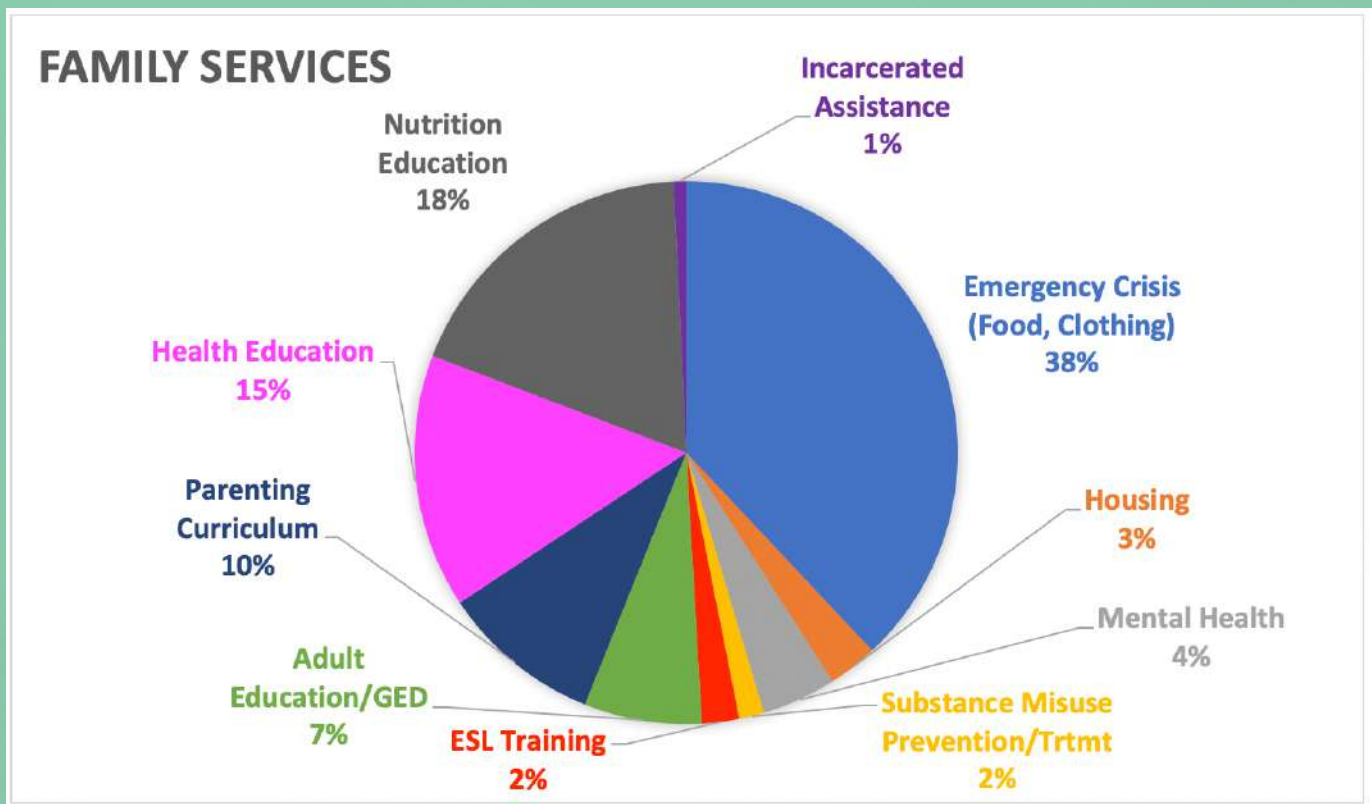
- 16 Children enrolled in Early Head Start have an open IFSP.
- 18 Children enrolled in Head Start have an open IEP.



- 9 Children enrolled in Head Start and EHS have open concerns in the following categories:
 - 4 Speech/Language
 - 2 Language
 - 2 Gross Motor
 - 1 Social-Emotional

FAMILY SERVICES

Our Head Start/EHS Family Advocates provided assistance to meet the basic, immediate, and specialized needs of our families. Below are the services that families received:



CHILD OUTCOMES & SCHOOL READINESS



Head Start and EHS focus on the areas of the *Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework* which includes: Approaches to Learning, Language and Literacy, Math Cognition, Science Cognition, Communication, Social Emotional, and Physical Development. Both programs use the framework and Teaching Strategies GOLD child outcomes assessment data to develop goals.

This school year we revisited how we conduct School Readiness Goal meetings, and develop goals. We found that teachers were overwhelmed with the amount of goals set for each age group and domain. We narrowed down our data analysis to the lowest areas under each domain, and the lowest area overall for each program.

In the 2020-2021 school year, scores remained the lowest in the communication & language/literacy and math domains for Head Start. Early Head Start is broken down into different ages because of the different stages of development. Below are the goals Head Start and EHS developed as a sub-committee, and will strive to meet during the Spring checkpoint periods. We will conduct another data collection and analysis before the end of the school year and determine if we met these goals or not and possibly develop new goals for the beginning of the year.

EARLY HEAD START GOALS

Birth to 1 year:

- 100% will be able to demonstrate traveling skills by end of year.

1 to 2 Years:

- 85% of 1 to 2 year-olds will use language to express thoughts and needs by EOY.
- 65% of 1 to 2 Year olds will be able to demonstrate their knowledge of patterns by EOY.
- 85% will be able to demonstrate traveling skills by EOY.

2 to 3 Years:

- 85% of 2 to 3 year-olds will use language to express thoughts and needs by EOY.

HEAD START GOALS

Language, Communication, & Literacy:

- 75% of students will recognize letters and their sounds by EOY.

Cognition: MATH

- 80% of students will be able to connect numerals with their quantities by EOY.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Region IX Head Start and Early Head Start operate on federal funds. Early Head Start also receives state funding through the Child and Adult Care Food Program which provides reimbursement for meals. Region IX Education Cooperative provides both programs with fiscal/financial services, human resource services, payroll services, and technology services. Eight percent of each budget is allocated to Region IX for these services as part of the indirect cost rate. Head Starts Fiscal Year is January 1 - December 31. Early Head Start's Fiscal Year is August 1 - July 31.

Head Start and EHS both received CARES Act Funding. The funding was offered based on funded enrollment. The CARES act funds (COVID-19 funds) were given to grantees to support preventative, preparedness, and responsive activities during the Coronavirus pandemic. The COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) supports a 1.22 percent increase above FY20 funding levels to increase staff salaries and fringe benefits, and to offset higher operating costs.

FUNDS RECEIVED

Head Start FY 2021:

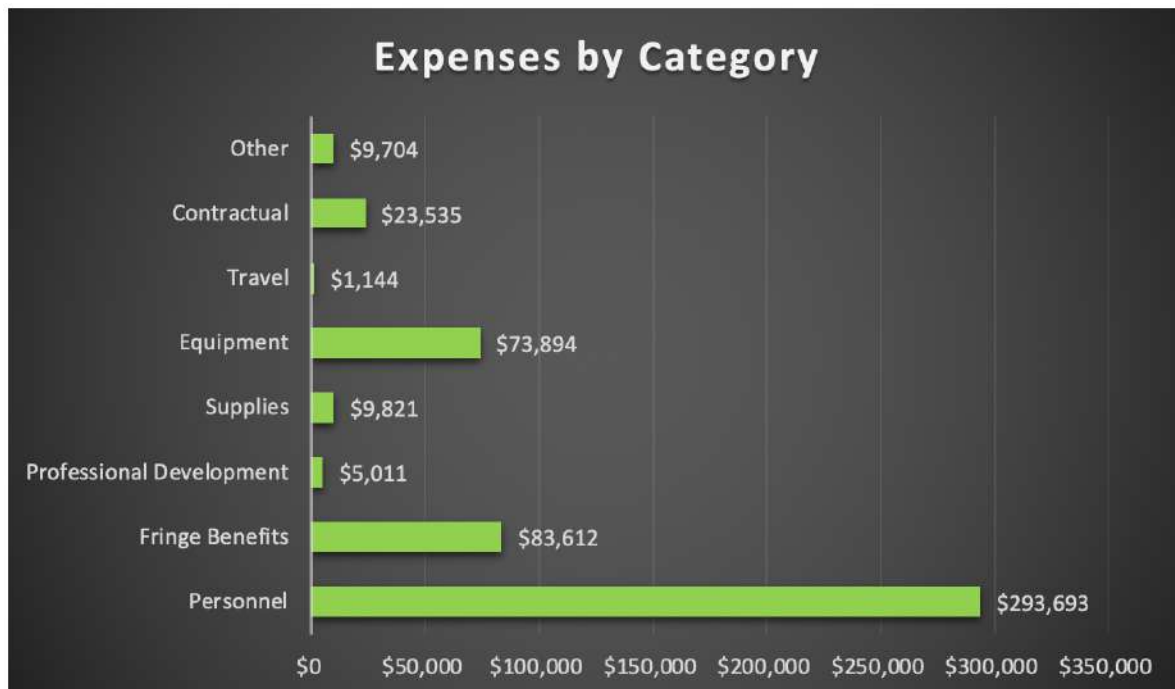
Program Operations	\$1,152,898
Training & Technical Assistance	\$16,175
Cost of Living Adjustment	\$13,868
CARES Act Funds	\$101,063

Early Head Start FY 2020:

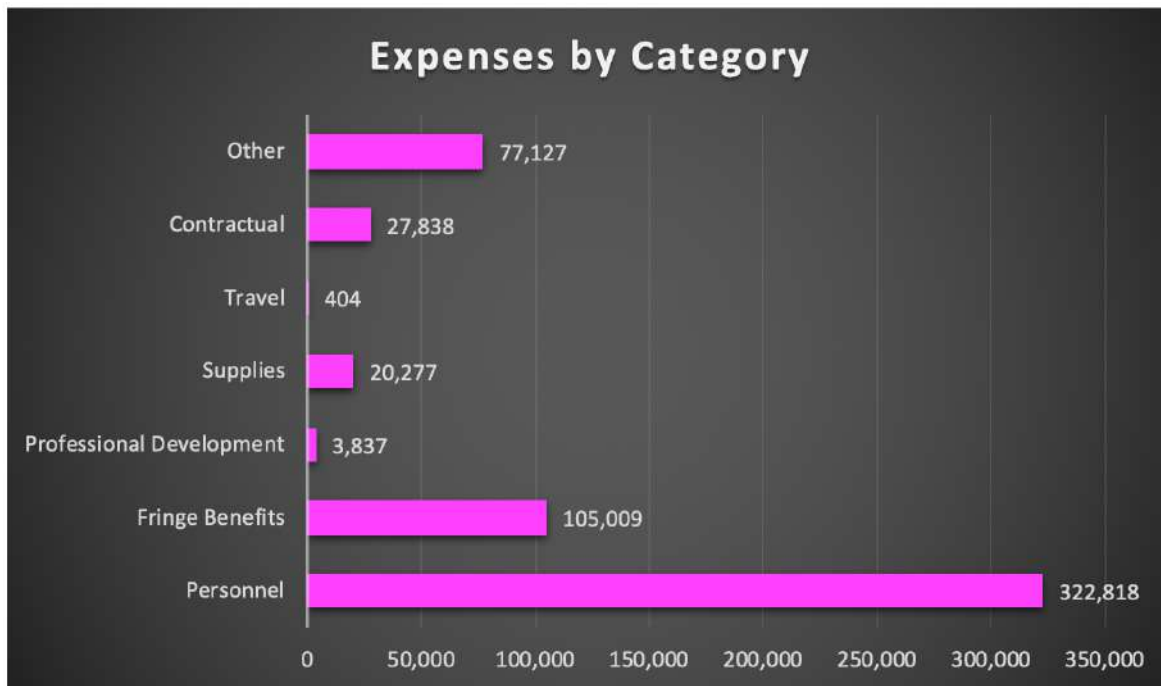
Program Operations	\$803,340
Training & Technical Assistance	\$18,281
Cost of Living Adjustment	\$10,196
CACFP (Oct. 20 - Feb. 21)	\$6,070
CARES Act Funds	\$38,668

EXPENSES BY PROGRAM

HEAD START FY20 EXPENSES



EARLY HEAD START FY20 EXPENSES



PROPOSED BUDGETS

Head Start Proposed Budget FY2021

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT
Salaries	\$660,141
Fringe	\$190,309
Supplies	\$26,444
Equipment	\$62,536
Travel	\$8,314
Contractual	\$55,014
Other	\$48,565
Indirect Costs to Region IX	\$85,400

Early Head Start Proposed Budget FY2020

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT
Salaries	\$454,769
Fringe	\$124,153
Supplies	\$31,040
Contractual	\$41,870
Other	\$75,075
Indirect Costs to Region IX	\$58,152

RESULTS OF THE MOST RECENT REVIEW BY OHS

Focus Area 1 Monitoring Review

From January 11, 2021 to January 14, 2021, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a Focus Area One (FA1) monitoring review of the Region IX Education Cooperative Head Start and Early Head Start programs. All areas were found in compliance except "Supporting Teachers in Promoting School Readiness" under Designing Quality Education and Child Development Program Services which is shown in the chart below. The areas that were in compliance were: Program. Design, Management, and Quality Improvement, Alignment with School Readiness, Effective and Intentional Teaching Practices, Designing Quality Health Program Services, Designing Quality Family and Community Engagement Services, and Developing ERSEA Strategies and Fiscal Infrastructure.

The Areas of Noncompliance are shown below. The timeframe for correction of the Non-Compliance is 120 days from the date of the report which was 2/26/2021.

Performance Summary

Service Area	Grant Number(s)	Compliance Level	Applicable Standards	Timeframe for Correction
Designing Quality Education and Child Development Program Services	06HP000256	Area of Noncompliance	1302.91(e)(1)	120 days
Designing Quality Education and Child Development Program Services	06CH011308	Area of Noncompliance	1302.91(e)(2)(ii)	120 days

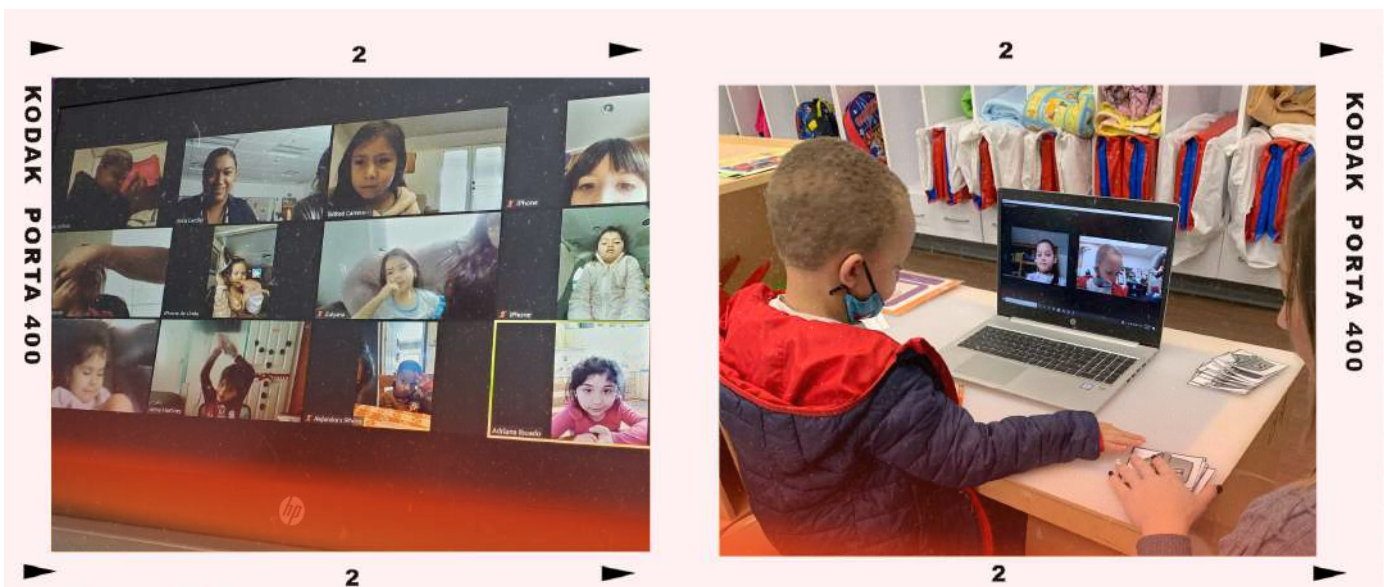
PARENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Due to COVID-19 and the closure of our sites, we were not able to provide as much Parent, Family and Community Engagement as usual. However, in March 2020 we provided families with care packages that included toilet paper, diapers, wipes, food, cleaning supplies, and educational supplies. That was at the beginning of the pandemic and as time went on we provided educational packets weekly with the needed supplies for activities, we delivered meals using our buses, and did our usual Thanksgiving baskets and Angel Trees.

PFCE ACTIVITIES:

- SeeSaw/Education Packets for Virtual Learning
- Home Activity Logs
- Parent Teacher Conferences and Home Visits via Zoom or Facetime
- "Fill the Bus" Event at Albertsons
- Thanksgiving Baskets
- Angel Tree and Baby Bundles
- Circle of Security for parents via Zoom
- Online trainings for parents including Pedestrian Safety and CPR/1st Aid
- Ready Rosie Parenting Curriculum





FATHER/MALE INVOLVEMENT

Number of Fathers/Father Figures who were engaged in activities:

- Family Assessment: 41
- Family Goal Setting: 42
- Home Visits/PTC: 53
- Policy Council: 1
- Parent Education Workshops: 29

VOLUNTEERS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS



We had 200 individuals providing volunteer services to the program. 155 of these volunteers were current or former Head Start parents. We continue to have strong partnerships with community agencies who support the Head Start and EHS programs, students, and their families in Lincoln County. Thank you to all the Head Start and EHS staff who put packets together, delivered meals and angel tree gifts, and who went out of their way to make sure our families and children received services during a pandemic.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Ruidoso Municipal School District | • Ruidoso Parks and Recreation | • R9 Developmental Services |
| • Capitan School District | • Children in Need of Services | • Jean Ballard |
| • Hondo Valley School District | • Global Nutrition | • The Lion's Club of Ruidoso |
| • Phyllis Strathmann | • Children, Youth, and Families Dept. | • The Kiwanis Club of Ruidoso |
| • Region IX Education Cooperative | • Women, Infants & Children | • Walgreens |
| • Albertson's Market | • ENMU - Ruidoso | |
| • St. Eleanor's Catholic Church | • Episcopal Church | |
| • First Presbyterian Church | • Income Support Division | |
| • Boys and Girls Club | • Walmart | |





Region IX Head Start/EHS
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