# Head Start/Early Head Start Annual Report 2022

Lily has been thriving since having been enrolled in EHS. After Christmas break, she has been talking more in class, playing with friends with improved social skills and has been communicating needs to the teacher more often.

Recenter and and a second













Respectfully,

Kelly Skwarek

Head Start/Early Head Start Director Region 10 ESC



# Message from the Head Start Director

**HE REGION 10** Head Start/Early Head Start program staff proudly worked with dedicated school professionals in 13 local school districts in Grayson, Collin, Rockwall, Ellis, and Kaufman counties. We served more than 1,030 children and families during the 2021-2022 school year, and, with our partner districts, we successfully operated 51 Head Start Pre-K classrooms and 32 Early Head Start classrooms. We also offered home-based services to 40 families.

Although services were provided in person, during a seemingly "normal" school year the impact of COVID-19 continued to present new challenges. Concerns such as teacher shortages, under-enrollment, staff burnout, and an increase in children with learning or behavior concerns all had to be addressed. As a result of these new challenges, additional staff were added to the classrooms, allowing teachers more opportunities to provide the individualized instruction needed for identified children. A marketing professional also worked with the team on recruitment strategies, resulting in increased enrollment throughout the school year. Additionally, staff wellness was addressed via a subscription to the Calm app. Other staff wellness efforts included a TEAMS channel dedicated to educating the team on trauma-informed practice and self-care, and staff High 5s, an internal process for complimenting teammates.

Thank you to the entire Head Start/Early Head Start community, including the Region 10 staff, school district staff and partners, the Region 10 Board of Directors, our Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council, our volunteers, advisory committee members, and of course, our families. We hope you find the Annual Report for 2021-2022 informative as we share the story of our children and families building

the foundation for success in school and beyond.

## Message from our Director



#### **New EHS location - Sherman ISD**

The Early Head Start site in partnership with Sherman ISD got a brand new location for the 21-22 Program Year! September 14, 2021, was the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for Jefferson Learning Center. Sherman ISD staff, families, and our Region 10 staff gathered to celebrate the newly remodeled school. "Sherman ISD has been a partner with the Region 10 Early Head Start/Head Start (EHS/HS) program for more than 25 years, and their commitment to families, children and community is evident from the first day a family enrolls their child in EHS until graduation and beyond," shared Kelly Skwarek, Region 10 EHS/HS Director. "There is nothing more exciting than to see a child learn and grow from the first day of school to the last day while at the same time seeing parents engaging with their children to extend the learning at home. This partnership is a shining example of surrounding families with love and support, so these students become tomorrow's leaders."

# **Program Highlights '21-'22**

#### **Monitoring Review**

From January 24 to 28, 2022, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a Focus Area Two (FA2) monitoring review of the Region 10 Education Service Center Head Start and Early Head Start programs, and found our program to be in full compliance.

#### **Recruitment and Enrollment**

- Launched a marketing campaign designed to drive enrollment and raise awareness with prospective parents and community stakeholders, in collaboration with the Region 10 Communications department
- ERSEA Program Coordinator added to highlight focus on recruitment/marketing

#### **Birth-5 Conference**

- Region 10 HS/EHS hosted the 2nd annual Birth-5 Conference for all program staff in July 2022
- Keynote speakers were Dr. Jill Siler, Logan Weber, and Dr. Michael Goddard
- Topics for breakout sessions included family engagement, brain development, outdoor play, and trauma-informed practices

#### **UCLA Health Care Institute - Focus on Staff Wellness**

- Six Region 10 HS/EHS staff members participated in the Training Series
- The focus was on promoting resilience and healing in Head Start and Early Head Start staff
- Trauma-informed practices that support attunement and relationship-building in the workplace, emphasizing reflection and inquiry, parallel process, and reflective supervision grounded in relationship-based practice were learned
- A baseline self-assessment of the organization that helped identify current practices and next steps for building a trauma-sensitive and-responsive organization was conducted

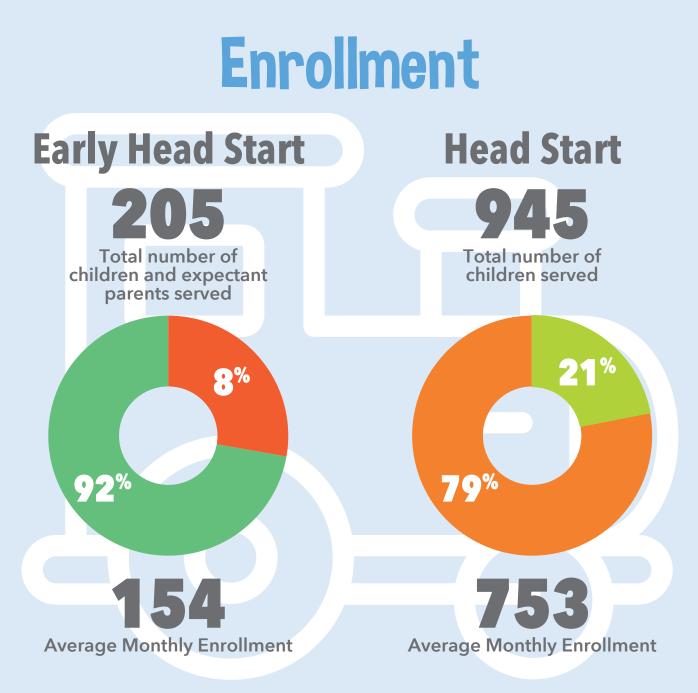
## **Program Highlights '21-'22**



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I love the Head Start program. As a single mother of 3, I would not be able to attend school and obtain my degree without this program. Every single teacher my children have had so far have been absolutely amazing.





Total funded enrollment is 1,120. Although the number of children served surpassed 1,120, the average enrollment fell below full enrollment due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Enrollment

99

Love the staff. My child's teachers do a phenomenal job with their students in their classroom. Love their vibe that carry on with the younger children.



# **Families Goal Setting**



#### **Goal Examples:**

Continuing education, career goals, and housing.

Head Start Families Completed a Goal

# **Families Needs Assessment**

Early Head Start Families Completed a Needs Assessment

69

Head Start Families Completed a Needs Assessment

621

# **Transition Activity Participation**

Early Head Start Families Head Start Families

Transition Events included: Head Start Kindergarten Visits, Kindergarten Round-up, Kindergarten Parent Transition Meetings, EHS Transition Meeting, EHS 30-Month Transition meeting to discuss next steps beyond EHS.

## **Family Services**

At first I had many doubts about my daughter's development and also about my self-esteem; the home-based program has really helped me.

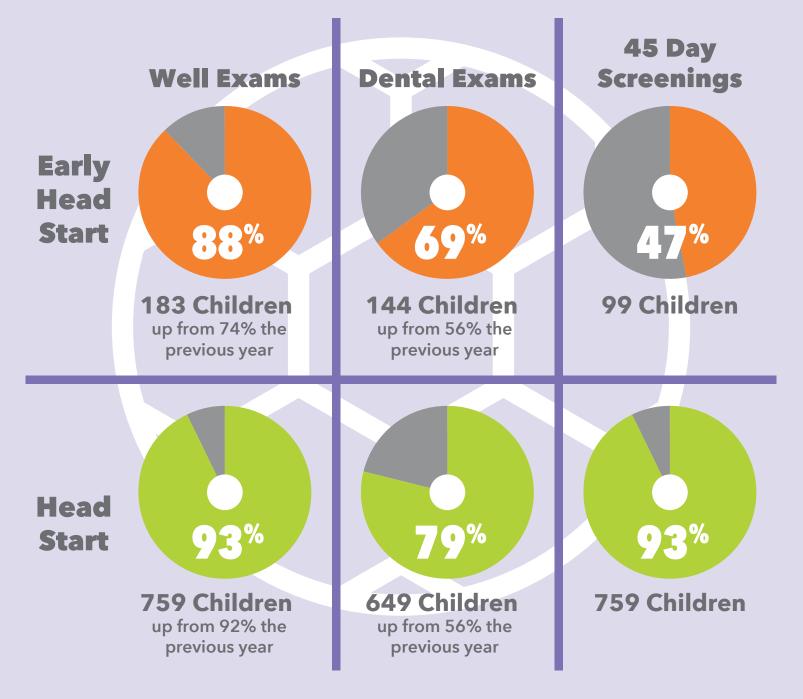
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ADDITIONAL screening equipment was purchased to assist with meeting our 45 day requirements and improving our on-time completion rates for the coming 2022-2023 school year.

Another challenge for completion was the intermittent campus closings related to COVID-19 infection rates.

# Health & Wellness



**Health & Wellness** 

55

Good job done so far by the teachers handling the head start program. As a father, I have seen a great improvement in my child, especially in the area of communication and ability to express oneself.





# **Mental Health**

Teachers receiving support for an identified child or family concern

Referrals

Completed

(Aug 21- June 22)

## Head Start



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## Trainings conducted:

Provided individualized and campus based training throughout the school year as needed/requested by teachers/administrators. Provided training during the Birth 2 Five Conference in July 2022.

# **Disabilities**

## Children Referrals

for an evaluation to determine eligibility under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) during the program year. Disabilities consultants conducted summer training for teachers and staff such as understanding the expectations of a child's IEP, implementing accommodations in the classroom, and how to use visuals and materials to meet the needs of children with special needs in the classroom

Disabilities consultants purchased materials such as visuals, timers, and adaptive seating for use in the classroom to support children with disabilities and behaviors

## **Mental Health & Disabilities**

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## Essential Domains of Development

**1** Cognitive

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- 2 Language and Literacy
- **3** Approaches to Learning
- 4 Social-Emotional
- **5** Physical Development



# **School Readiness Alignment**

Our ultimate goal is to move children from where they are when they start our program to meeting or exceeding outcomes for their age level by the time they transition to their next learning opportunity. The Head Start/Early Head Start program utilizes the following early learning guidelines to support kindergarten readiness.

- Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework Ages Birth to Five ELOF
- Texas Early Learning Guidelines
- Texas Pre K Guidelines

## **Education & Child Development**

# **Ensure Children's Success**



CLASS is a research-based classroom observation tool used to help improve teacher-child interactions and child outcomes.

## **Screenings and Assessments**

Screening Tools	Ongoing Child Assessment Tools Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) (Early Head Start) Circle Progress Monitoring (Head Start)	
ASQ:3 ASQ:SE-2 (Early Head Start)		
Brigance Brigance SEL (Head Start)		

#### Early Head Start Education: DRDP (ongoing child assessment)

- The DRDP, or Desired Results Developmental Profile, is an assessment to measure young children's learning and development
- Teachers plan activities to support individual child development and use photos, video and written observations to show growth across the program year
- Individual child development reports are shared with parents at each Benchmark Period



	Domain	Benchmark Period	% of Children At or Above Developmental Progress Expectations
DRDP Child Development Data	Cognition	Fall 2021	43%
		Spring 2022	76%
	Language & Literacy	Fall 2021	44%
		Spring 2022	66%
	Learning: Self-Reg	Fall 2021	70%
		Spring 2022	87%
	Social & Emotional	Fall 2021	63%
		Spring 2022	80%

#### Research-based curricula used by partnering school districts







Three Cheers for Pre-K

The Creative Curriculum<sup>•</sup> for Preschool

## **Education & Child Development**



#### **Original Budget Actual Expenditures** \$10,250,930.00 \$10,079,869.00 47% Personnel **Fringe Benefits** 12% 30% <1% Travel Equipment 0% 47% **Supplies** 3% Contractual <1% 3% **Facilities Construction** 0% 12% Other 30%

COVID-19 related staff vacancies and reduced travel contributed to reduced expenditures.

# HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM 2022

## **Non-Federal Share**

The program received \$2,562,733 in non-federal share, meeting the federal requirement of 20%. Non-federal share included donations of goods and services, volunteer time, medical and dental services, and support from the school districts for a portion of the teachers' salaries and benefits, classroom space, office space, and administrative support.

#### **Public and Private Funds Received**

Head Start and Early Head Start funds were received from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start. No other public or private funds were received.

## Results of Audit for Year Ending August 31, 2022

The certified public accounting firm of Edgin, Parkman, Fleming, and Fleming, PC conducted the annual audit. The Region 10 ESC Board of Directors approved the report of the 21-22 audit on December 16, 2022. The auditors determined that the ESC complied in all material respects with the type of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major program. Also, the firm did not identify any deficiencies in internal controls that could be considered to be material weaknesses.



Budget

# **Region 10 ESC** Head Start/Early Head Start Programs

