

Head Start/EHS ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



South Central Iowa
Community Action Program



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SCICAP Head Start/EHS Program

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SCICAP HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START'S ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

SCICAP's Agency Mission

South Central Iowa Community Action Program will provide advocacy and services for persons striving for economic security while preserving their dignity and bring about change for the benefit of the people we serve and the community at large.

SCICAP Head Start's Mission Statement

To provide a quality program to empower children and families for lifelong learning and success.

Program Overview

SCICAP's age-appropriate, quality comprehensive Head Start and Early Head Start programs provide 212 children with school readiness skills, nutritious breakfasts, lunches and snacks, health screenings, social service supports, mental health support and family involvement opportunities. SCICAP has been serving children since 1966. In anticipation of our upcoming celebration of 55 years of SCICAP Head Start we updated our mission statement.

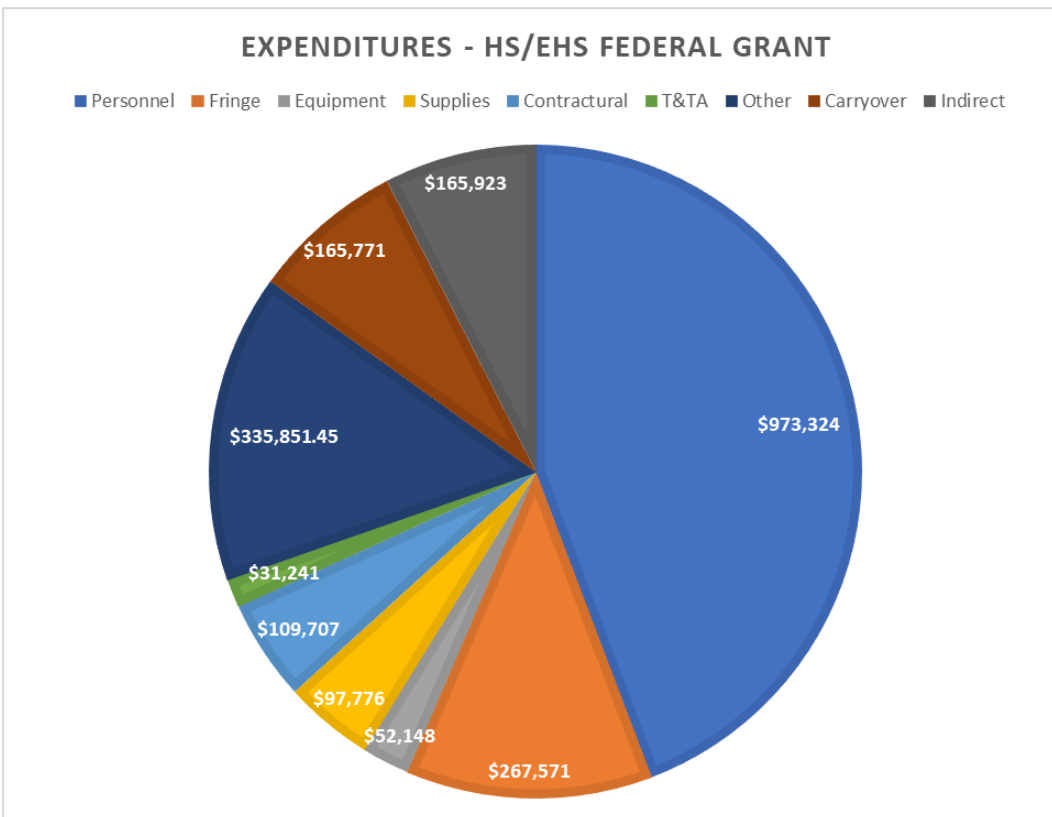
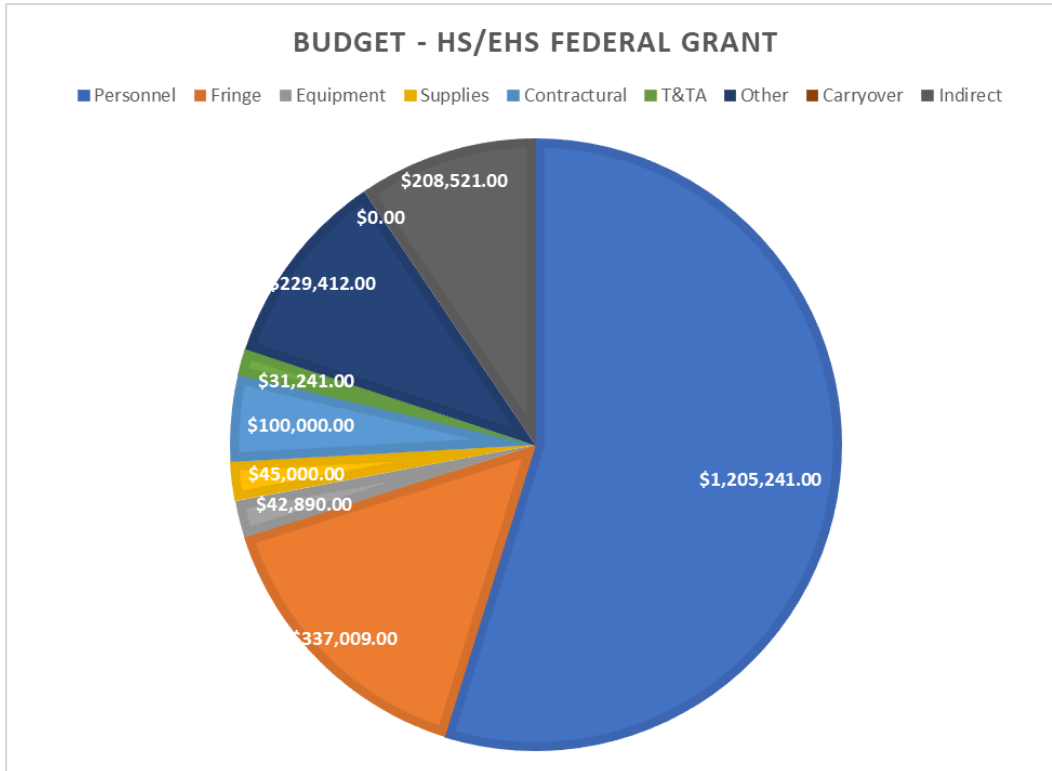
All classrooms in our five counties have qualified teachers, to best serve our children so they are school ready. Our goal is for Head Start children to be prepared for kindergarten, but more importantly to be lifelong learners. Head Start helps children build the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

Children are served utilizing 10 different facilities with a total of 18 classrooms and EHS homebased services across five counties. Most center-based/collaboration students are enrolled in full-day classes.

***Five County Service Area:
Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe, and Wayne Counties***

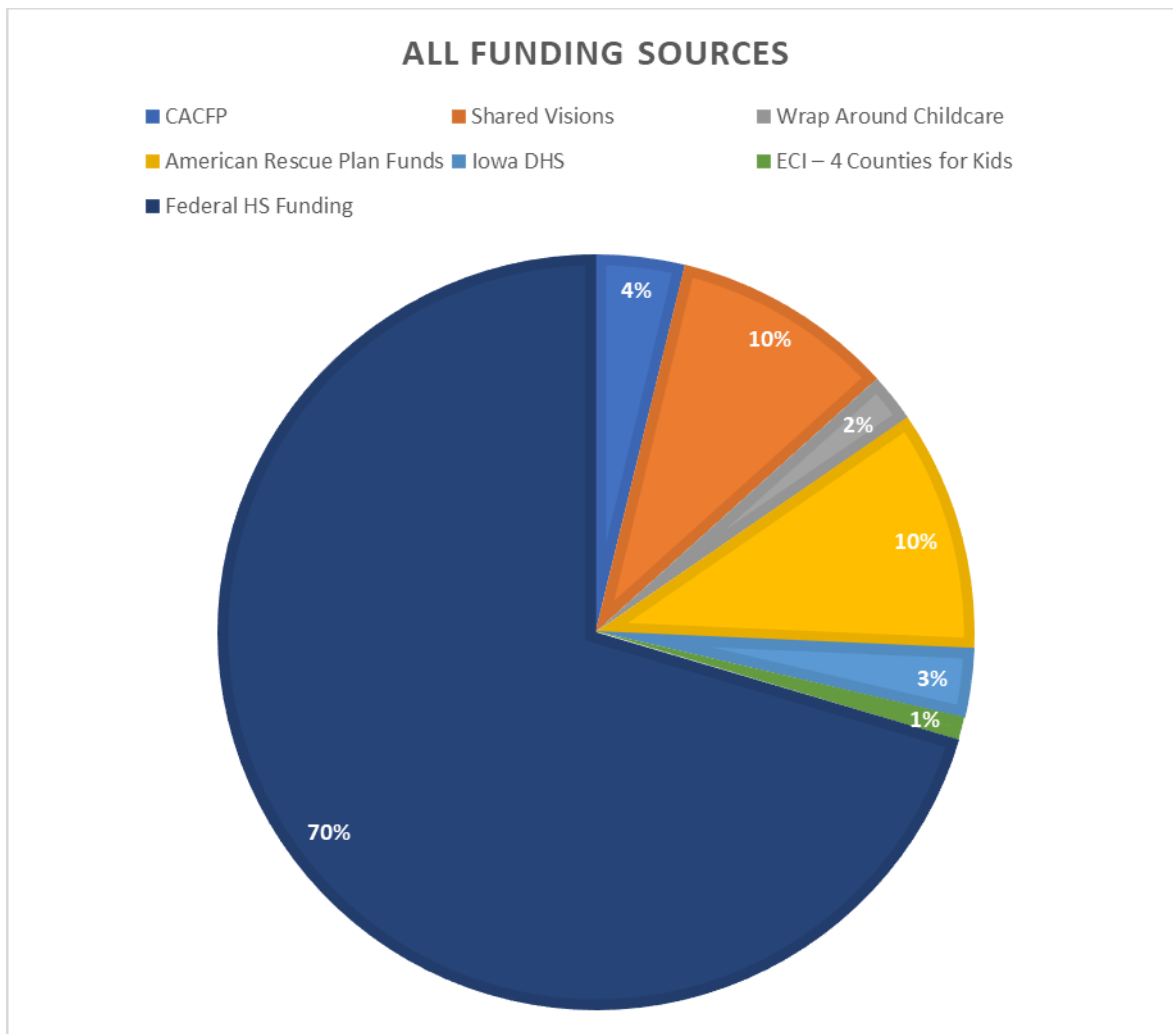
Federal Funding

Head Start Federal Funding	\$ 2,136,832.00
Head Start Training	\$ 31,241.00
Total Federal Funding	\$ 2,168,073.00
Non-Federal Share	\$ 535,580.00



All Funding Sources

CACFP	\$ 116,540.00
Shared Visions	\$ 293,046.00
Wrap Around Childcare	\$ 64,200.00
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$ 317,463.00
Iowa DHS	\$ 90,000.00
ECI – 4 Counties for Kids	\$ 30,000.00
Federal HS Funding	\$ 2,168,073.00
Total Funding	\$ 3,079,322.00



Non-Federal Match Funds - Program In-Kind \$ 535,580.00

Volunteers' time and other contributions are an integral part of the program. Volunteers include Governing Board, Policy Council, Parent Meetings, community partners, parents support of curriculum activities, classroom support and facility/center assistance.

Collaborations contribute utilities, maintenance, space and staffing support.



Children and Families Served

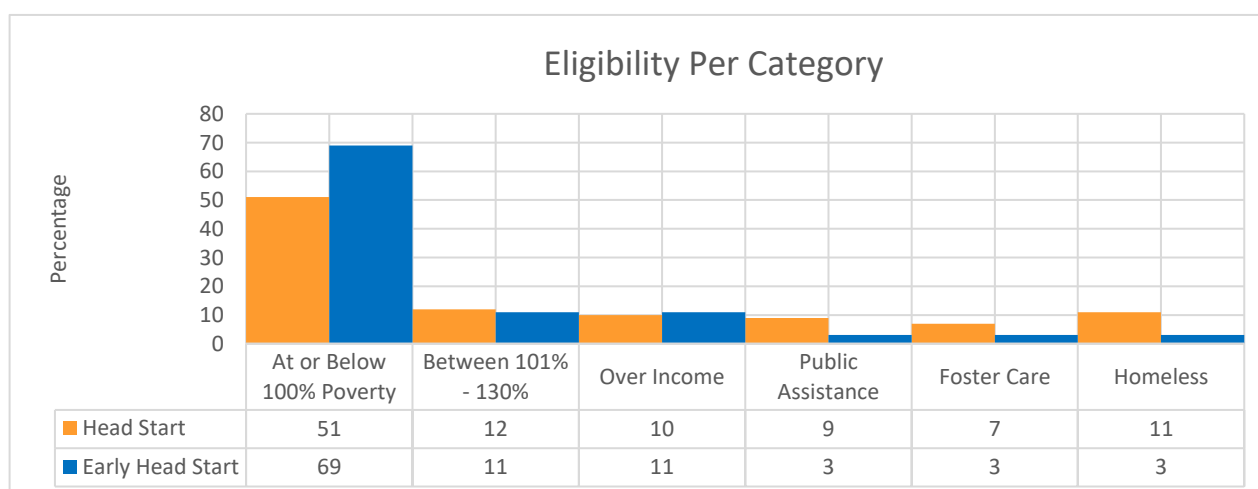
The SCICAP Early Childhood Program served a total of 178 Head Start children and 35 Early Head Start children. A total of 213 children were served representing 188 families. Due to continued challenges with Covid our program averaged 155 enrolled students of the 180 total allotted HS slots. EHS averaged 32 children enrolled of the 32 allotted EHS allotted slots. Funded enrollment for Head Start is 180. Due to Covid we only served 178 children in SCICAP's Head Start Program during 2020-2021 program year across five counties in south central Iowa.

Funded enrollment for Early Head Start is 32 with 35 Early Head Start children being served.

Eligibility

Many children served by the program are eligible in multiple categories, however, Head Start programs may report only one eligibility category per family.

Please see the percentage of eligible children in each category below.



Student Average Daily Attendance

Head Start

- 89%

Early Head Start

- 80%

Responding to Covid

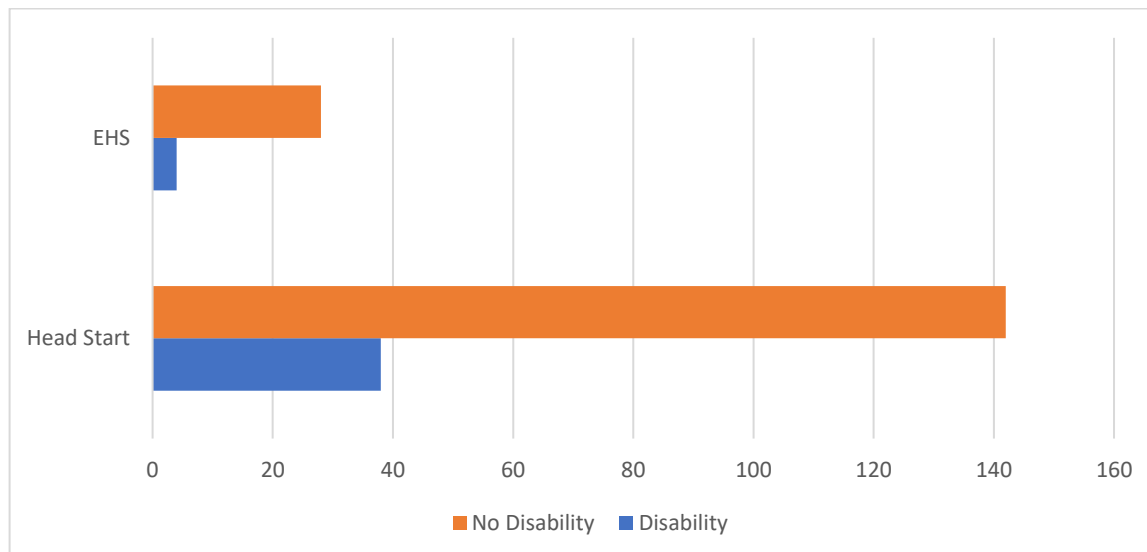
The Head Start and Early Head Start centers had an above average absence rate due to families and children having Covid or other illnesses.

Several center closures occurred during the year to prevent the spread of Covid and other illnesses.



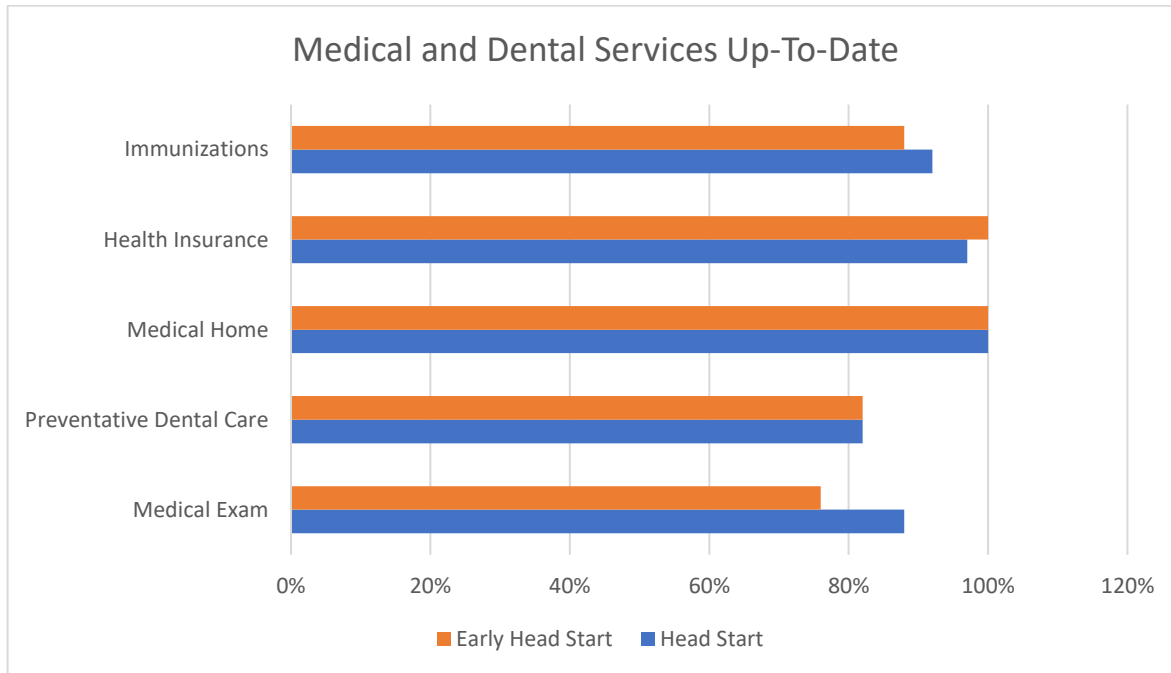
Disabilities

EHS students had a total of four children with disabilities or 12.5% of our students. Head Start had a total of 38 students with disabilities or 21% of our students. This meets the 10% requirement in the Head Start Program Performance Standards.



Health Services

Our program has a nurse and licensed and registered dietician on staff. Our staff conducted hearing, vision, and developmental screenings. Health and nutrition education and resources were provided to all families. We partner with the Lions Club for vision screening and ISmiles for preventative dental care and screenings. Mental health services are contracted through Community Health Centers of Southern Iowa.



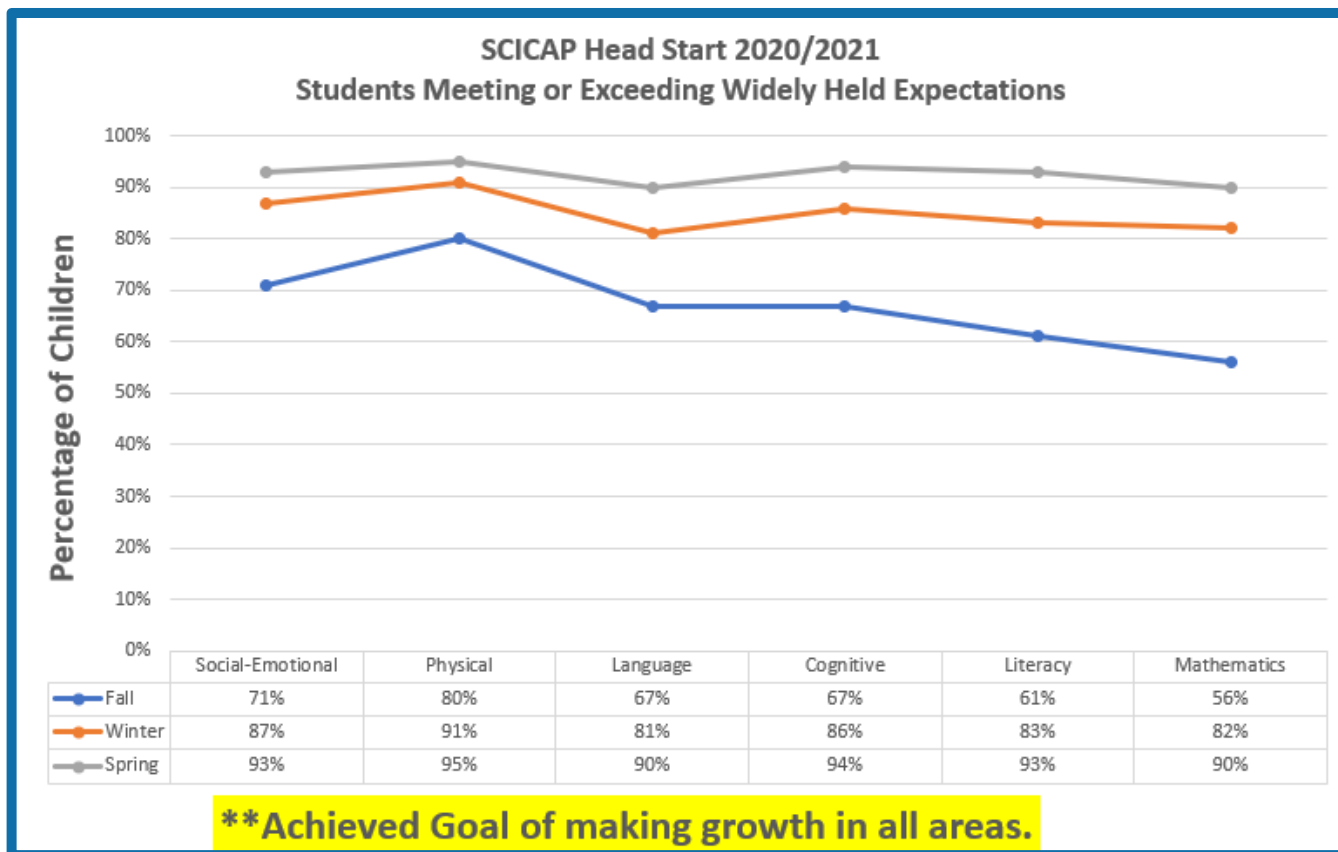
Students at collaborations and students receiving homebased services had lower medical exam and dental screening completion rates when compared to center-based students.

Parent Involvement Activities

SCICAP Head Start encourages families to engage in their child's learning and development through parent education, leadership opportunities in program governance, and parent/child activities. Each county has separate parent trainings and activities. The following involvement activities were offered in all the counties we serve: family orientations, scheduled parent meetings, Policy Council, Governing Board, scheduled family activities, volunteering, home visits, transition activities, parent evaluations, parent meetings, parent/teacher conferences, fatherhood activities and remote learning with parental involvement.

Due to Covid-19 health concerns, our program limited volunteers in the classrooms and many activities/meetings were modified and/or offered via Zoom.

Kindergarten Readiness



This graph demonstrates that Head Start children showed remarkable growth in all six domains with 90% or greater proficiency in all areas. HS and EHS children are assessed three times per program year using Teaching Strategies GOLD child assessments.

The six domains include: social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, and mathematics.

Transition Activities

School districts in the service area partner with our program each year to provide collaborative transitions for our students. They agree that Head Start preschool and kindergarten teachers, parents and appropriate agency representatives will meet to discuss specific needs of children to preview what transitioning Head Start students' projected proficiency levels will be at the beginning of the school year. Head Start children visit kindergarten classrooms they will be attending in the upcoming year. Some of the kindergarten teachers are able to come to Head Start for visits.

School Readiness Goals for Ages Three to Five Years

1. Children ages 3-5 will show progress in the areas of; purposefully and persistently initiate in experiences and play with creativity, independence, and positive behavior by the end of the school year
2. Children ages 3-5 will show progress in the areas of; engage in positive relationships with adults and peers through interactions and working through resolving conflicts by the end of the school year
3. Children ages 3-5 will show progress in the areas of; comprehend and engage in appropriate conversations while demonstrating a knowledge of alphabet/phonics and print concepts by the end of the school year
4. Children ages 3-5 will show progress in the areas of; connecting experiences through recognition, classification, and investigation by the end of the school year
5. Children ages 3-5 will show progress in the areas of; demonstrating strength and coordination including gross and fine motor skills by the end of the school year

Curriculum

Our program uses Creative Curriculum, Jump Start to Literacy Curriculum, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Conscious Discipline strategies, I am Moving I Am Learning (IMIL) and everyday classroom interactions to support meeting our school readiness goals.

Monitoring Review and Audit Findings

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Head Start (OHS) conducted a monitoring review of the program in 2019. Findings were corrected in the areas of Monitoring and Implementing Quality Education and Child Development Services and Program Management and Quality Improvement.

SCICAP met all requirements of the Financial Audit Report. The audit report can be found on the SCICAP website - www.SCICAP.org