

2010-2011



Head Start



Annual Report

Lois Butler Head Start/ Early Head Start Director
Head Start Central Office PO BOX 2288, 114 E. 11th Street, Kearney, NE 68848-2288
(308)865-5690 or www.communityactionmidne.com



“Helping People. Changing Lives.”

Our Promise ~ Our Purpose



Head Start (pregnant women, infants, toddlers and preschoolers)

Head Start had a funded enrollment of 426 preschool children and their families, as well as a funded enrollment of 48 pregnant women, infants or toddlers. Head Start/Early Head Start *actually* served 485 preschool children and their families and 68 pregnant women, infants or toddlers through home based and center based services.

The hard work of dedicated staff and volunteers has made a positive difference in the lives of families. The Agency's Board of Directors and the Head Start Policy Council contributed to the quality decision making process that made our comprehensive program a success. Head Start's partnerships with parents, higher education, businesses, organizations, and various funding resources ensure our standard of excellence. In addition to the federal grants received to operate Head Start and Early Head Start, funding was secured from six United Way agencies, and several local or regional enhancement funding awards.

A large and rewarding accomplishment this year was the opening of the new Early Head Start (EHS) program through American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds. Home based services to 20 pregnant women, infants or toddlers began in August 2010 and the center based services for 28 participants began on January 17, 2011 upon completion and certification of our newly renovated EHS facility. Early Head Start created and maintained 14 regular jobs in the Buffalo County service area (Center Director/Family Service Assistant, Office Manager, Nurse, 7 Early Childhood degreed Teachers, 2 Family Educators, Center Assistant, and Cook). Bilingual interpreters and classroom substitutes assist in our quality service delivery.

Early Head Start had their federal monitoring review the week of April 28 – 31, 2011; just two months after center based operation began. Early Head Start received a letter stating that the Peer Review found no non-compliances and is a program in good standing. The review report noted several strengths within our agency and our Head Start (0 – 5) program.

During this program year, several teaching staff has taken college classes to enhance their credentials; two Program Managers attended and are waiting certification in the Parents, Infants, Toddler Care (PITC) program; and four Program Mangers submitted their Candidate Forms and Executive Skills portfolios to pursue the Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP) credential.

Head Start concludes our program year with many positive outcomes for children and families, as you will note in our annual report.

Lois L. Butler, CCAP

Head Start/Early Head Start Director

Head Start/Early Head Start (pregnant women, infants, toddlers and preschoolers)

Philosophy

The mission of Head Start is to strengthen children, families and communities through quality education, comprehensive health and family services, and by fostering community partnerships.

The primary goal of the Head Start (HS) program is to provide comprehensive programming to pregnant women, infants, toddlers, preschool children and their families through family engagement and community partnerships. Head Start stands as a model for excellence in early childhood and family development as it continues to implement best practices. Utilizing the community assessments to ensure program options fit community and county needs, the program will pursue additional funding to serve the underserved populations and un-served counties through expansion and/or collaborations. Head Start celebrates the unique and special contributions of each child, family, community, and staff as all represent different ethnic, racial, religious, educational, and experiential backgrounds. Positive child and family outcomes are accomplished by implementation of intervention and prevention strategies, individualization, family goal setting and school readiness objectives. In partnership with public school districts, health organizations, universities, colleges, and other local or state early childhood and family development entities, Head Start serves the most vulnerable children and families.

Success

This is an e-mail our staff received from a parent in Furnas County Home Base at the end of the 2010-2011 program year

Our children are among those very fortunate children who were with the Head Start Home Based Program. Our son who's now 11 years old and our daughter who's 6 years old learned a lot of things while they were enrolled in the Head Start Home Based Program, it helped them with their reading skills, our son has been reading many books. He's been the top one reader (AR-Accelerated Reader) in his class and been the top one reader in the elementary level for two consecutive years now. We encourage him to maintain it this year. Reading becomes part of him. This is something that he enjoyed in his pre-school with Head Start. Our daughter is doing the same, at age 6, she's been reading chapter books, and she's looking forward to be able to take AR test which will be available for her when she gets into the 2nd Grade. Both are enjoying Summer Reading programs .Last year both of them were recipient of the \$100 bond sponsored by the banks in the area. It encourages them all the more to explore the Library, awesome experience. Head Start is a great program that allows the children to be more than ready as they enter school. As parents of Abe and Hannah we're so grateful for the opportunity that was given to them. The home-based program worked so well with our kids. The one-on-one class instruction was so effective in our Kids' early learning experiences. It was a lot of fun not only for them but for the parents as well. The socialization meetings were also a great plus. Children got the privilege of intermingling with other kids, they enjoyed the fun activities. We're so proud to be part of the Head Start family. To all the Head Start teachers and staff and to our family educator, we salute you. You're so dedicated and devoted to all that you do. THANK YOU HEAD START!

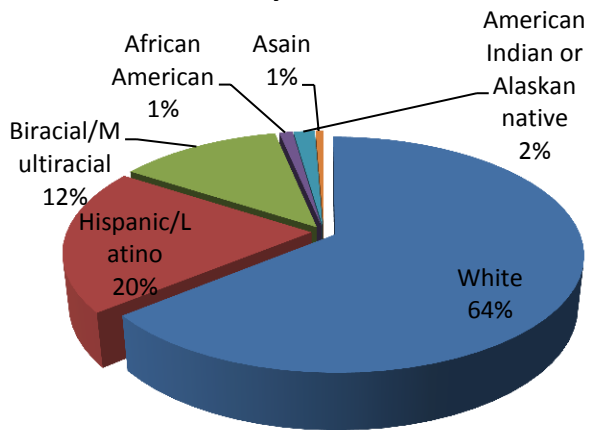
God bless.

Dale and Loida

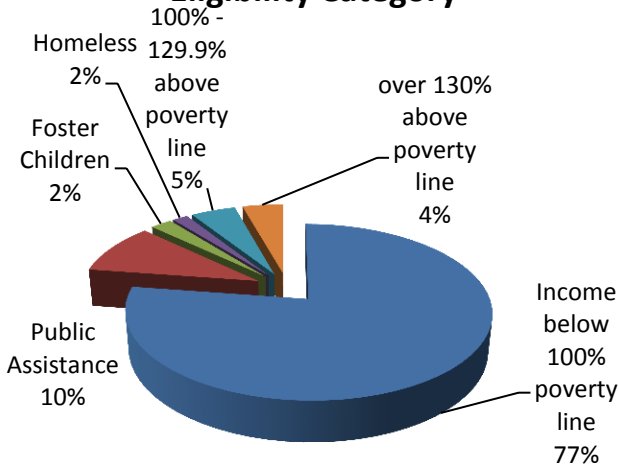
Head Start (3-5) Snapshot Program Year 8/01/10 – 7/31/11

- Center Based: 17
- Home Based: 13
- Funded Enrollment: 426
 - Center Base Enrollment: 296
 - Home Base Enrollment: 130
- Head Start Actual Enrollment: 485
 - Returning Children: 155
 - New Children: 330
- Head Start is an inclusive program that is the least restrictive environment for many children with diagnosed disabilities. During this year 15% of the 485 Head Start children served were children with diagnosed disabilities.

Race/Ethnicity of Enrolled Children



Eligibility Category



- Average Monthly Enrollment
 - Center Base: 82%
 - Reasons for absences: Health Reasons, Doctor Appointments, etc...
- Annual number of home visits completed
 - Home Base: 2,894 visits
 - Reasons for absences: Health Reasons, Other obligations, etc...
- Head Start serves nutritious foods to our enrolled children through meals and snacks.
- Breakdown of meals served in 10-11 year
 - Breakfast: 28,821
 - AM Snack : 20,334
 - Lunch: 14,128
 - PM Snack: 5,627
- Percentages of enrolled children that received their exams are as follows:
 - Dental: 92%
 - Medical: 94%
 - Vision: 93%
- Out of 86 parents, seven were pursuing their GED. Of the seven, two completed the GED requirements.
- Head Start employs 78 staff
- Head Start meets/exceeds the Head Start requirements for teachers to have an AA or BA in early childhood.
- The last Peer Review indicated that Head Start is a program in good standing.
- The most recent financial audit was completed for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. There were no audit findings.

Early Head Start (0-3) Snapshot Enrollment Year 08/13/10 – 8/12/11

The Enrollment Year for Early Head Start is different this year than their budget year. The enrollment Year for Mandates, home visits, etc. ended 8/12/11 however, this year was prorated for Center Base as the center did not open until mid January

- Center Base: 7
- Home Base: 2
- Funded Enrollment: 48
 - Center Base Enrollment: 28
 - Home Base Enrollment: 20
 -
- Early Head Start Actual Enrollment: 68
 - Pregnant Women: 3
 - Infants and Toddlers: 65

- Early Head Start is an inclusive program that is the least restrictive environment for many children with diagnosed disabilities. During this year 8.33% of the 65 Early Head Start children served were children with diagnosed disabilities.

- Average Monthly Enrollment
 - Center Base: 74%
 - Reasons for absences: Health Reasons, Doctor Appointments, etc...

- Annual number of home visits completed
 - Home Base: 680 visits
 - Reasons for absences: Health Reasons, Other obligations, etc...

- Early Head Start serves nutritious foods to our enrolled children through meals and snacks.

- Breakdown of meals served in 10-11 year
 - Breakfast: 2,523
 - Lunch: 2,619
 - PM Snack: 2,296

- Percentages of enrolled children that received their exams are as follows:
 - Dental: 92%
 - Medical: 91%
 - Vision: 100%

- Out of 13 parents, two were pursuing their GED.

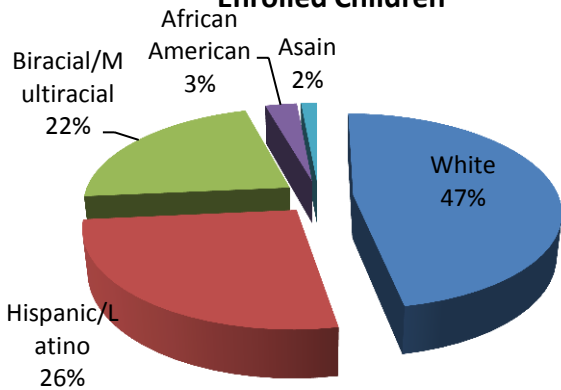
- Early Head Start employs 14 staff

- Early Head Start meets/exceeds the Early Head Start requirements for teachers to have an AA or BA in early childhood.

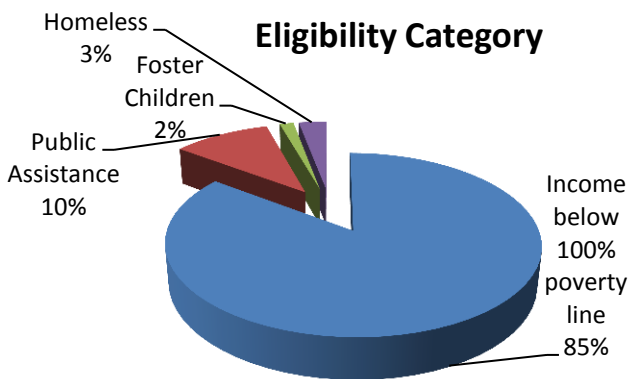
- The EHS ARRA initial year Peer Review indicated that Early Head Start is a program in good standing.

- The most recent financial audit was completed for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. There were no audit findings

Early Head Start Race/Ethnicity of Enrolled Children



Eligibility Category

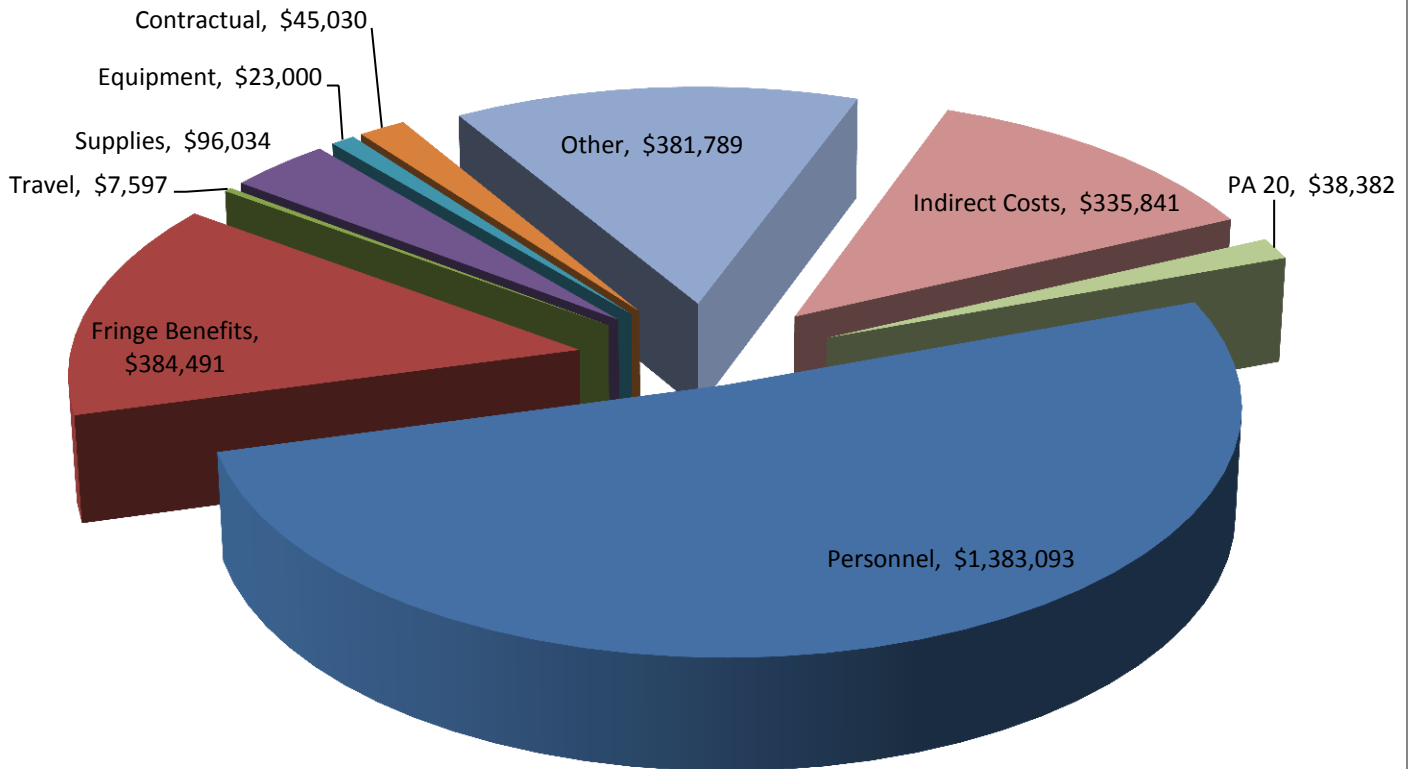


Head Start Budget

Total funds received for Head Start for the budget year 8/1/10-7/31/11 was \$2,695,257.
Non Federal match - \$673,814 (including \$31,165.88 funding from 6 United Ways
Kearney Area, Lexington, Cozad, McCook, Mid Plains – North Platte, and Gothenburg)
CACFP meal reimbursements - \$105,286

Community Action Partnership of Nebraska Head Start 2010-2011 Budget

Total Budget:
\$2,695,257

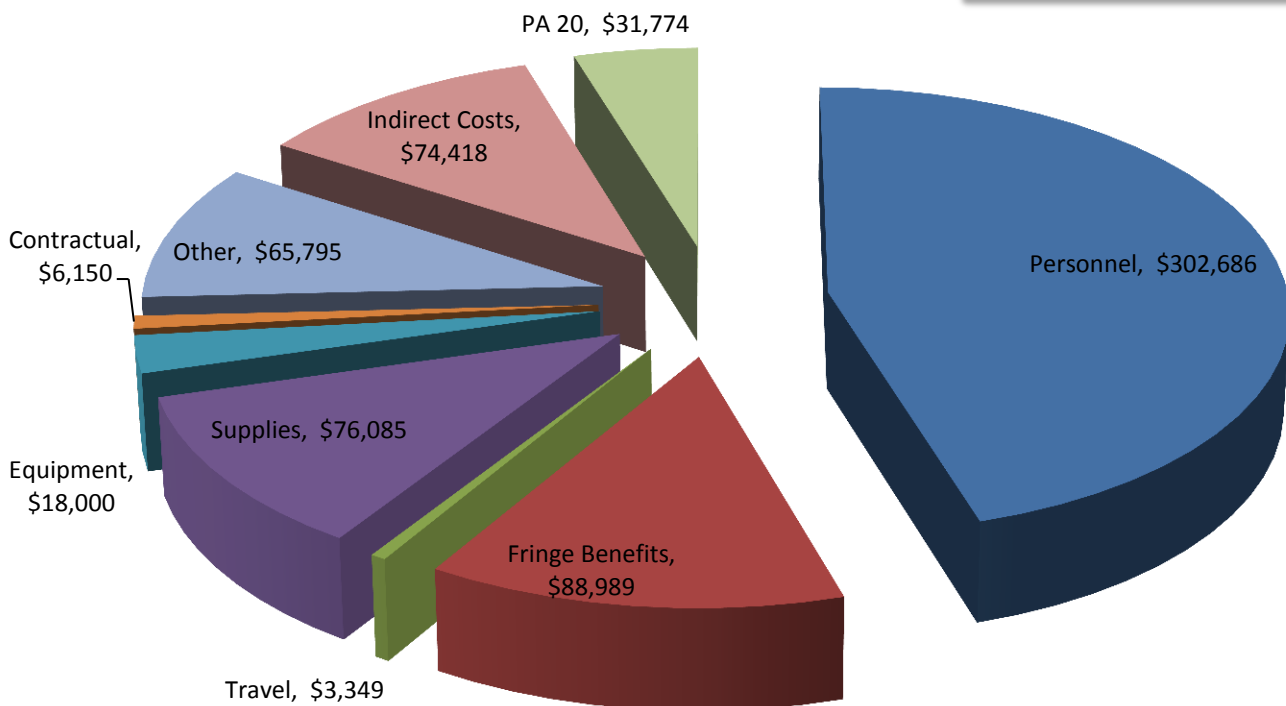


Early Head Start Budget

Total funds received for Early Head Start was \$ 667,246
Non Federal match - \$166,812 (including \$500 funding from Kearney Area United Way)
CACFP meal reimbursement is \$29,484

Community Action Partnership of Nebraska Early Head Start 2010-2011 Budget

Total Budget:
\$667,246



School Readiness

Community Action Partnership of Nebraska Head Start/Early Head Start's efforts to prepare Children for Kindergarten are as follows:

Cognition and General Knowledge

- Children will demonstrate understanding of basic concepts such as scientific concepts including but not limited to: cause and effect, deductive reasoning (predicting and experimenting to get solutions), and effective questioning through exploration, hands on and discovery based learning activities.
- Children will apply early mathematic concepts into daily learning by counting, sorting, patterning, analyzing characteristics of objects, comparing/contrasting and sequencing.

Language and Literacy

- Children who are dual language learners will demonstrate progress and competency within their home language as well as obtaining proficiency in English.
- Children will name and identify 10 letters of the alphabet, primarily letters in their names, upon leaving the Head Start program.
- Children will apply understanding that print carries meaning including but not limited to: environmental print, their names, and sight words.

Approaches to Learning

- Child will exhibit an interest in a variety of genres, topics, and activities to promote active learning as well as individualized learning.
- Children will engage, at their developmental level, activities that extend their knowledge and desire to adhere to a task through a variety of teaching activities that meet the needs of all learning modalities. (visual, auditory, tactile and kinesthetic)

Social and Emotional Development

- Children will demonstrate self-regulation through social stories, role playing, daily interaction with peers and positive guidance strategies such as PBS and Conscious Discipline.

Physical Development and Health

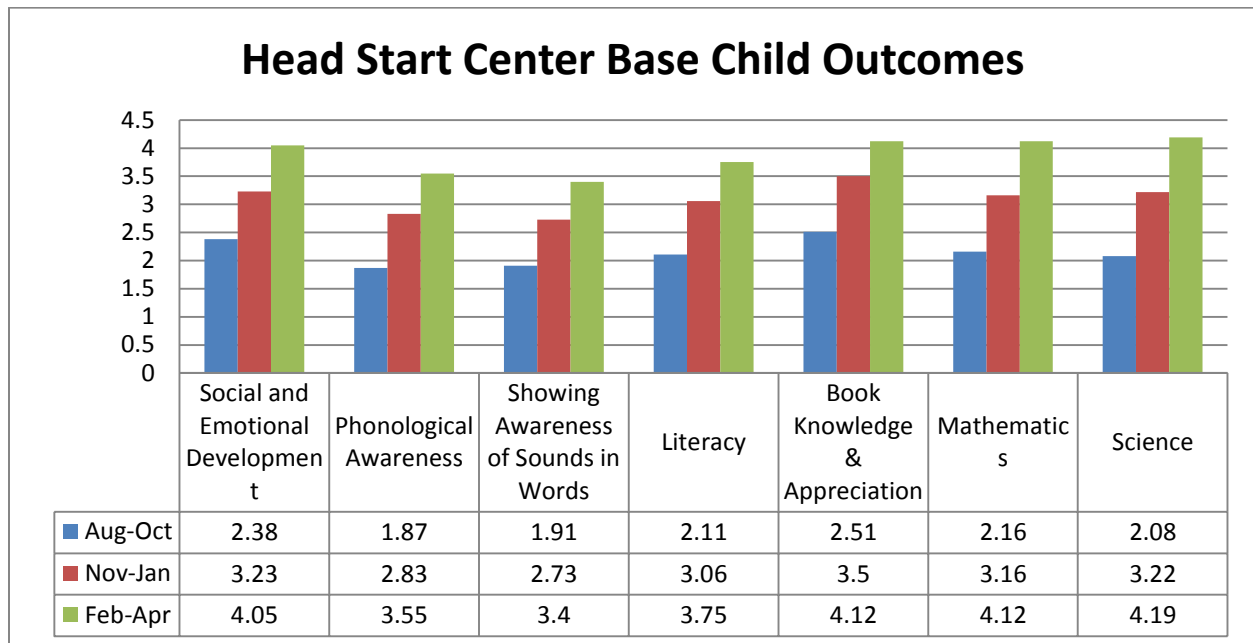
- Children will strengthen gross motor muscles by daily music and movement activities. (NIKE, IMIL, outside time-riding trikes, climbing steps to slides, balancing, etc)
- Children will strengthen and develop fine motor muscles by engaging in lacing, building, grasping, and manipulating materials.
- Children will apply knowledge of My Plate to be able to choose healthy snacks and meals to eat .

Child Outcomes

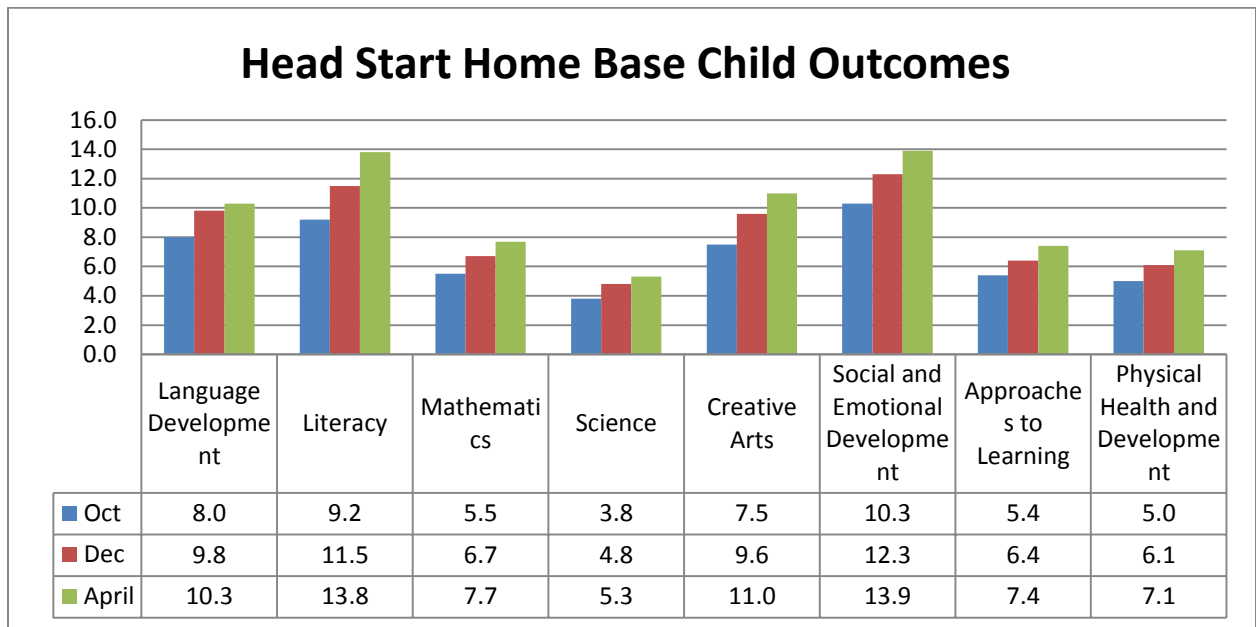
Head Start is a quality Early Childhood program that specializes in providing our students with the most optimal learning experiences possible to give the students a “Head Start” when beginning kindergarten. Head Start utilizes quality research based curriculums, assessment tools and best practice. The assessment tool that we utilize at Head Start is the Child Observation Record (COR). The students at our Center Based Head Starts learn best through the interactions with their peers and teachers in their natural learning environment. COR enables the teachers to monitor development and achievement in areas such as Social Relations, Mathematics, and Science using authentic anecdotal notes that occur naturally throughout the day. The teachers are required to submit their Child Outcomes three times a year so the administrative staff to monitor progress and the success of each student in the Head Start Program.

Head Start is fortunate to possess twelve center base sites, which consist of 17 centers: 14 part-day part-year, 3 full-day full year, and 13 home base centers. The center base centers utilize the Child Observation Record (COR); however (take our sentence), Head Start’s home base centers utilize a quality research based curriculum- the Hawaiian Early Learning Profile (HELP). HELP is similar to COR as the staff is required to submit outcomes three times a year to the Head Start administrative staff. HELP monitors the students’ progress in areas such as Cognitive, Language, Fine Motor and Gross Motor development. Each of the Head Start Home Base programs has Family Educators (FE’s) that visit the homes of their students. The FE’s are required to make 32 home visits among the ten families they serve in which they coach the parents to work with the children by providing strategies and ideas to the families. Head Start is a quality early childhood program that places priority on best practice and quality education.

*The outcomes below are based on The Child Observation Record



*The outcomes below are based on the Hawaii Early Learning Profile



Parent Involvement

Parents are the foundation of Head Start through their involvement in:

- Program planning (input into menus, curriculum, etc...)
- Decision-making opportunities
- Participation in program activities
- Planning family engagement activities, group socializations
- Parent Committees
- Volunteering and working with their child
- Policy Council
- Health Services Advisory Council (HSAC)

ROMA DATA:

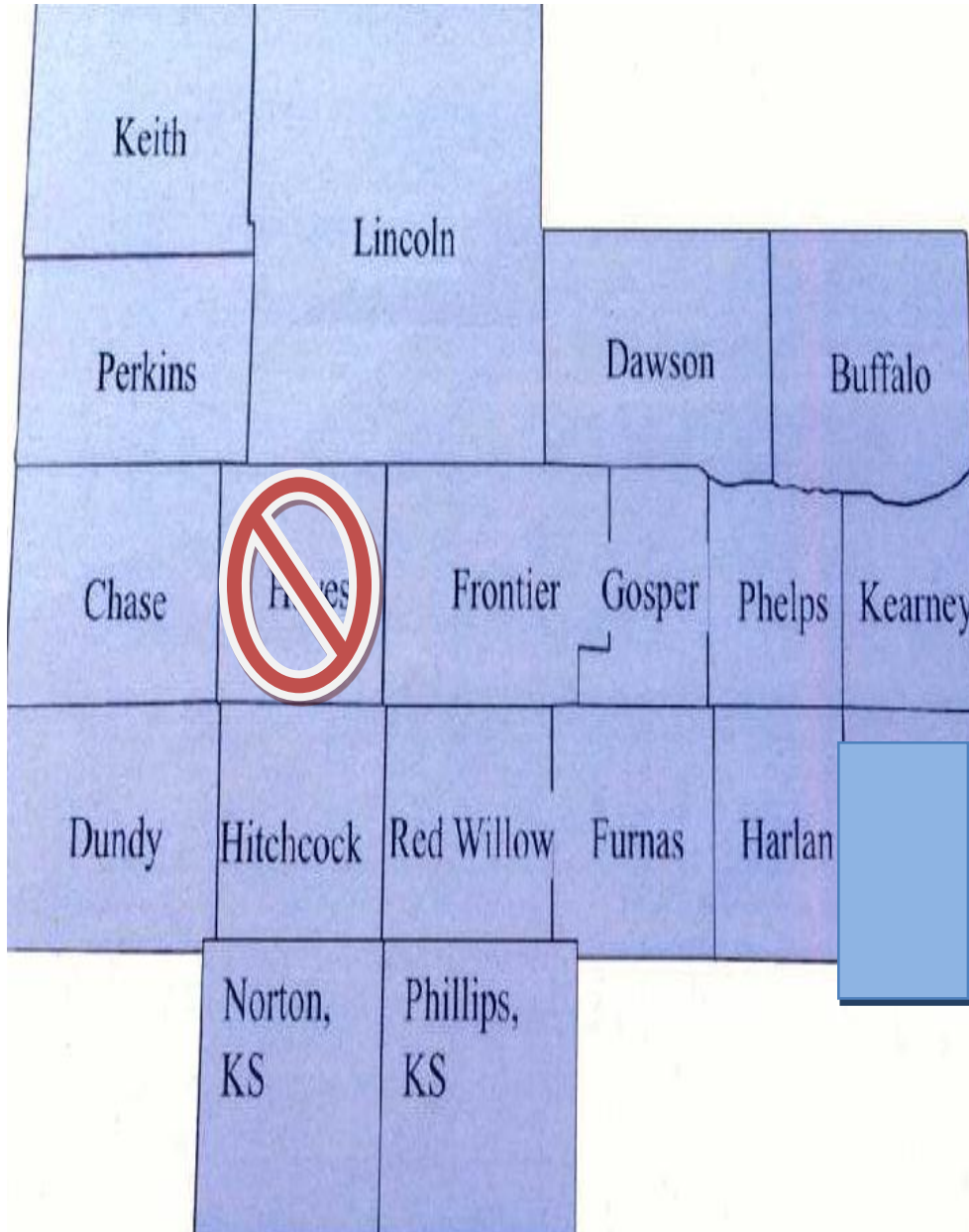
Head Start

- There were 24 families who have discontinued state services. The value of those state services is \$6,841.
- There were 55 families that entered Head Start unemployed and over the program year obtained a job.

Early Head Start

- There were 2 families who have discontinued state services. The value of those state services is \$200.
- There were 4 families that entered Head Start unemployed and over the program year obtained a job.

Community Partnership of Nebraska Head Start/Early Head Start Counties Served



Center Based Option:

1. Cozad
2. Gibbon
3. Holdrege
4. Kearney Green
5. Kearney Blue
6. Kearney Red
7. Kearney Purple-full day/full year
8. Early Head Start Blue I
9. Early Head Start Blue II
10. Early Head Start Green I
11. Early Head Start Green II
12. Early Head Start Red
13. Early Head Start Yellow I
14. Early Head Start Yellow II
15. Lexington AM
16. Lexington PM
17. McCook – full day/full year
18. Minden
19. North Platte 3's
20. North Platte 4's AM
21. North Platte 4's PM
22. North Platte Full Day/Full Year
23. Ogallala
24. Ravenna

Home Based Option:

- Buffalo County
- EHS Buffalo I
- EHS Buffalo II
- Chase County
- Dawson County
- Dundy County
- Frontier County
- Furnas I County
- Furnas II County
- Gosper County
- Harlan County
- Hitchcock County
- Norton County
- Perkins County
- Phillips County

**Community Action Partnership of
Nebraska - Head Start/Early Head Start
proudly serves:**

15 Counties in Nebraska

2 Counties in Kansas