



# HEAD START/ EARLY HEAD START

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022





# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

HACAP is proud to have served children, families and communities for 57 years! On behalf of HACAP's Board of Directors, Policy Council and Staff we are pleased to share with you the outcomes achieved in the 2021-2022 Head Start/Early Head Start program year.

"The Head Start program to our family is such a blessing. All three of our children have attended the Head Start program, with two currently enrolled. One enrolled in Head Start and our youngest in Early Head Start. As a family who qualifies for food assistance, but not for childcare assistance, Head Start is everything for us.

I have a part time job and attending school full time to earn a degree in accounting. Their dad works full-time, so having Head Start allows us to not only work to provide for our family, but it also gives me the opportunity to pursue educational goals to get to a place where we can make more money, so we are not living paycheck to paycheck. If it were not for Head Start, we would not be able to build our family a future because we would not be able to afford childcare costs.

I know my children are in a safe place. I know they are fed and cared for. This eases our minds and allows us to work and go to school to give our children a better life. Head Start staff care for not only our children, but the parents as well. They allow us the opportunity to be comfortable saying that we need help whether that is support in paying a bill, putting food on the table or just someone to talk to mentally so that we can stay healthy. The services available to us are the help we need, and they are honestly the difference between struggling and maintaining our family."

Head Start Early Head Start is a leading early childhood program in the nation. Such recognition and excellence does not occur by chance. It is the result of caring and dedicated parents and guardians, it is our young children, and it involves our community partners and the committed and valued HS/EHS Team Members.





## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

I believe strength of the HACAP HS/EHS lies in the collective talents of our trained and dedicated team members working with our enrolled children and families. This could be a team member who has been with us for a matter of weeks or the team member who has had over 36 years of making an impact in HS/EHS.

Strength comes from the deeply embedded 26 community partners. These partners are school districts, local child care centers, the three AEA's that serve our nine county area, Visiting Nurse Association, Public Health, and local non-profits that support our mission and growth of the HS/EHS program. Strength comes from believing and knowing we make a difference in the lives of our children, the families and our communities.

Our work is not possible without the partnership with the families we were privileged to serve this past year. Thank you, families for sharing your time, talent and your children with us. Together we are making a difference in the school readiness of the children served and continued self-sufficiency for families served.

Policy Council members, thank you for your time and expertise in continuing to provide the feedback to us regarding the impact and concerns the programs provide to you and your family. And certainly I want to thank the dedicated staff members who share their time, talent and expertise to make HACAP a great place to work.

Sincerely,

*Christi Regan*

Early Childhood Programs Director





# CHILDREN & FAMILIES SERVED

HACAP was funded to serve 937 children, including services to pregnant women, during the 2021-2022 program year.

We did not reach full enrollment. COVID-19 still factored into a family's decision to enroll their child into group care. HACAP HS/EHS experienced staffing vacancies that affected the ability to fully enroll classrooms.

In the 2021-2022 Head Start/Early Head Start program year we served 719 children and pregnant women:

- 581 Head Start children
- 134 Early Head Start children and 4 pregnant women

Enrollment by Type of Eligibility <u>Head Start</u>	# children	% children
Income below 100% of federal poverty line	392	67%
Receipt of Public Assistance (TANF, SSI)	35	6%
Status as a foster child	1	.017%
Status as homeless	18	3%
Income between 100% and 130%	108	19%
Over income	27	4%

Enrollment by Type of Eligibility <u>Early Head Start</u>	# children	% children
Income below 100% of federal poverty line	94	68%
Receipt of Public Assistance (TANF, SSI)	4	.028%
Status as a foster child	2	.014%
Status as homeless	3	.021%
Income between 100% and 130%	31	22%
Over income	4	.028%

Families Served	HS	EHS
Total # of families	521	120
# two parent families	226	58
# one parent families	295	62

## Average Monthly Attendance:

Head Start (August 24, 2021-May 31, 2022) = 78%

Early Head Start (August 24, 2021-August 11, 2022) = 77%







# HEALTH & NUTRITION

## Disability/Mental Health

HACAP continues to partner with our local AEA's to provide Disability and Mental Health Services to children and families. Our nine counties are served by three AEA's: Grant Wood, Keystone, and Mississippi Bend. Through the child find process children are referred, and evaluated for needed services. We work with our local school districts to coordinate the best programming option to meet the child and family needs. Mental Health Consultants from the AEA work closely with staff to observe and provide feedback related to Mental Health/Social Emotional skills. In the 2021-2022 school year, we served 74 children in Head Start with IEP's and 15 children in Early Head Start with an IFSP.

## Nutrition

HACAP HS/EHS provides children with nutritious meals in an environment where children and staff eat family-style, allowing children to practice social and developmental skills while staff serve as a positive role model. Other ways staff influence children's lifelong eating habits is by regular nutrition education activities in the classroom (or even a center garden) and by providing parents encouragement and support in offering good nutrition for their families at home. HACAP continues to take advantage of special grant funds available for the purchase of local foods, which enhances meals and expands introduction and exploration of new foods. HACAP greatly values the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program resources, which help fund our meals. In January 2022, HACAP Head Start's CACFP program had their triennial audit by the Department of Education, receiving many commendations and addressing a minor corrective action prior to audit completion. We have completed a kitchen remodel project at our largest center, Waterfront, and are working on additional food service improvement projects at some of our other centers.

Meal Served	#
Breakfast	62,961
Lunch	67,881
Snack	53,905





# HEALTH & NUTRITION

## Health

HACAP's Head Start/Early Head Start health services program assesses each child's health status throughout their enrollment and assists families if health care services are needed. Child health status including access to health insurance and a primary care provider are determined at enrollment and continually throughout the school year to identify any new or recurring health concerns. In collaboration with community partners; hearing, vision, lead, growth, anemia, and oral health screenings are completed at Head Start. If concerns are identified through the screenings, the Head Start nurse works with families to get children treated if necessary. During the 2021-2022 school year, Head Start screenings identified 188 children as having a potential health concern, 127 of those children received a follow up evaluation by a health care provider, and 59 received treatment for a diagnosed health condition.

PIR Indicator 2021-2022	Head Start	Early Head Start
Percentage of children up-to-date on a schedule of preventative and primary health care per the state's EPSDT schedule	77%	39%
Percentage of children with up-to-date immunizations or all possible immunizations to date	95%	83%
Percentage of preschool children completing professional dental exams	83%	41%
Percentage of preschool children needing professional dental treatment	8%	N/A
Percentage of preschool children receiving dental treatment	55%	N/A



# FUNDING

REVENUE	FY 22 Annual Budget	FY 23 Proposed Budget
Government Grants	\$9,921,595	\$9,921,595
CARES Grants - Government Grants	\$1,942,650	\$0
FY22 HS/EHS Carryover & EHS CCP Extension	\$695,559	\$0
DHS Wraparound	\$739,200	\$739,200
Dept. Education (Shared Visions)	\$725,886	\$725,886
Dept. Education (CACFP)	\$500,000	\$500,000
Linn County Early Childhood Iowa	\$185,700	\$191,272
Johnson County Early Childhood Iowa	\$65,000	\$73,250
Clinton/Jackson Early Childhood Iowa	\$22,817	\$22,817
Better Tomorrow's Early Childhood Iowa	\$0	\$15,000
Cedar/Jones County Early Childhood Iowa	\$0	\$41,133
UWECI Partner Funding	\$122,400	\$117,994
UWJW Partner Funding	\$22,000	\$22,000
City of Iowa City	\$24,923	\$26,706
Jones County Board Supervisors	\$31,415	\$31,415
Johnson County Board Supervisors	\$12,480	\$12,480
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$15,011,625</b>	<b>\$12,440,751</b>

EXPENSES	FY 22 Annual Budget	FY 23 Proposed Budget
Personnel	\$5,220,298	\$5,080,418
Fringe Benefits	\$3,491,005	\$3,197,023
Equipment	\$180,555	\$0
Travel	\$96,381	\$146,276
Supplies	\$828,218	\$578,890
Contractual	\$596,325	\$629,194
Other	\$3,555,666	\$1,757,306
Indirect	\$1,043,176	\$1,051,644
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$15,011,625</b>	<b>\$12,440,751</b>

## Financial Audit

Wipfli LLP conducted HACAP's most recent audit and provided an independent audit report that was presented to the Board of Directors January 27, 2022. Wipfli LLP reported no instances of noncompliance or other matters. The audit did not identify any deficiencies in the internal control over compliance that were considered material weaknesses. HACAP was determined to be a low-risk auditee. A copy of the full audit report is available on our website at [www.hacap.org](http://www.hacap.org).





## PARENT FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Parent and family engagement in Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS) is about building relationships with families that support family well-being, strong relationships between parents and their children, and ongoing learning and development for both parents and children. The Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework is a road map for progress in achieving outcomes that lead to positive and enduring change for children and families. HACAP Head Start/Early Head Start engage parents in a number of ways over the course of the school year. They provide important resource referrals that are available within the agency and the community. They assist families with identifying goals for themselves and their children and partner with them to assist them in meeting those goals. They provide parent-child events at their sites to encourage parents to engage in fun learning activities together. In addition, encourage parents to volunteer and participate in leadership activities in their local Parent Committees, in the Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council and in the HACAP Board of Directors.

**Referrals:** Over the course of this school year, HACAP Head Start families received 3,091 referrals to HACAP and other community services. Food resources were the highest number of referrals across our service area. The Dubuque area had a high number of families referred for Housing vouchers and Housing Support services (i.e. rent assistance). Referrals to the Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank were high for Linn County Early Head Start families. LiHeap was a high number of referrals for families in all counties.

**Family Assessments:** Over the course of the school year, staff complete a beginning of the year Family Summary (Assessment) and an end of the year Family Assessment. This year 96% of HS/EHS families completed a Family Summary (Assessment) over the course of the school year. The information received while completing this document with families is used to assist them with setting goals for themselves and for their children over the course of the school year.







# PARENT FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**Family Partnerships Agreements / Family Goals:** After learning about each individual family through conversations related to the Family Summary staff members, talk with families related to their individual goals related to their family's well-being and school readiness goals for their children. This year our families set 644 Family Well Being Goals and 793 School Readiness Goals. Approximately 55% of families met one or both of their goals. 17% partially met one or both of their goals. 10% declined the opportunity to set a goal or dropped from the program before their goals could be discussed.

The Top 4 Family Well-Being Goals included:

- Financial Stability
- Education
- Health
- Employment

The Top 4 School Readiness Goals Included:

- Language
- Literacy
- Social Emotional Skills
- Transitions



**Parent – Child Activities:** During the 21-22 school year 124 Parent – Child activities were offered at our HS/EHS centers. 1,667 individuals attended these events. Events included activities such as making photos into homemade puzzles, trips to the Children's Museum, family photo days and end of the year celebrations. Evaluation forms from parents related to these events are always very positive.

"Thanks a lot for the activities! It helps us connect with our kids and meet other parents who have children the same age."







# PARENT FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**Adopt A Classroom:** The Adopt A Classroom project is one way that HACAP HS/EHS engages members of the community in supporting our kids. Donors come from a variety of backgrounds such as businesses, community or church groups and individual families. Donors often hold supply drives to purchase toys, books and supplies that are used by the children at the location they are supporting. After completing their project, they then deliver their donations to the classroom they adopted and share their items with the children. It is a win-win experience for our donors and our kids and everyone walks away from the experience with a new friend.



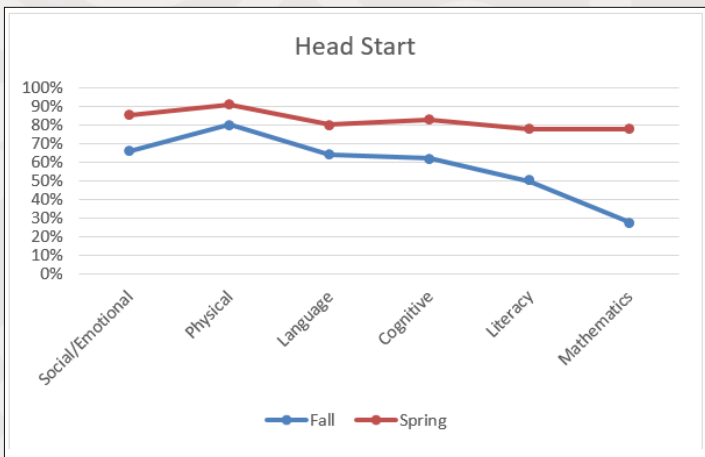




# SCHOOL READINESS

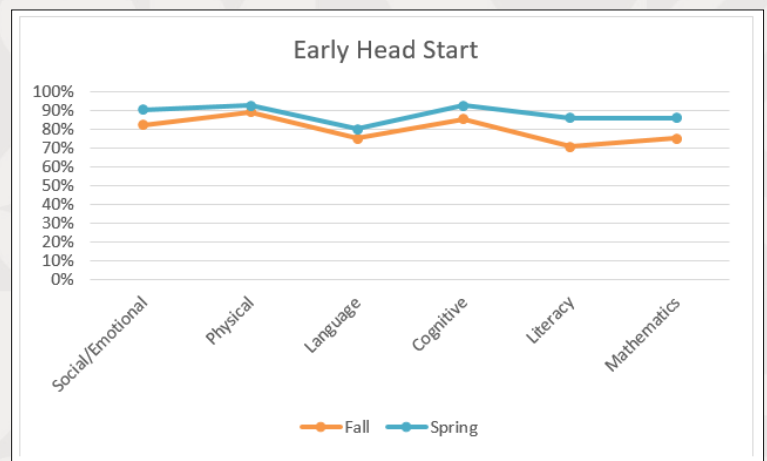
Each Head Start location works with the local school district to provide parents of children who will be entering Kindergarten with information about Kindergarten registration/round-up events in the school districts. They talk with parents about obtaining the child's birth certificate and taking proof of residency with them to the registration/round-up. Staff also provide parents with the documents that they need for these events (current physical and immunization card, vision screening and hearing screening). Teachers also identify Kindergarten Readiness Activities in their weekly lesson plans. These activities might include: teaching of social skills, like getting a friend's attention or sharing or teaching self-help skills, like hand washing and zipping up coats.

All Head Start and Early Head Start children are assessed using My Teaching Strategies Gold. We continued to use The Gold Resource Guide, a resource for teachers to help them with documentation and completing assessments in My Teaching Strategies Gold. The resource guide allowed teachers to be better prepared for each assessment period. Head Start aged children are assessed in the Fall, Winter and Spring. Early Head Start aged children are assessed in the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. The assessment focuses on social/emotional, physical, language, cognitive development, literacy and mathematics. The graphs below show the percentage of children meeting and/or exceeding expectations for their age at the fall and spring checkpoints. The Head Start graph shows growth in every area between the Fall (blue line) and Spring (red line) assessments. The lowest area of growth was in physical development with 11 points and the highest area of growth was in mathematics at 50 points.



The Early Head Start graph shows growth in every area between the Fall (orange line) and Spring (turquoise line) assessments. The lowest area of growth was in physical development with 5 points and the highest area of growth was in literacy at 15 points.

During the 2020 – 2021 Program Year most Teacher and Assistant Teacher Meetings were held via Zoom due to COVID-19. We did purchase Creative Curriculum Kits for every Head Start and Early Head Start Classroom. Additional information is available from the HS and/or the EHS Education Coordinators upon request.





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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.