

TRANSITIONING CHILDREN INTO KINDERGARTEN

The program collects child outcome data through Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) three times per year and results from these outcome measures are shared with teachers and parents. Since the ECLC Head Start program typically turns over close to 60% of the children as a result of Kindergarten transitions, the fall scores are used as a baseline plan quantitative improvement for progress in all domains.

The Head Start Program benefits from being a part of the public-school system by enhancing the program's transition process. The program works with the families and the school district to create a smooth and successful transition as the children move into their formal educational journey. The children's health and education records are forwarded to their respective school. On June 4, 2021, the end of 2020-2021 school year, 94 children transitioned to kindergarten. The staff had discussions with the parents on the final home visit (Zoom), required by Head Start administration. In addition, the Head Staff teachers provided kindergarten teachers information both academically and behaviorally on children entering into Kindergarten. Below are additional activities the program and the EHPS does to assist the children and families to transition out of the Head Staff program:

Preschool staff are available to kindergarten teachers after the transition takes place, as well as throughout the year.

A PPT meeting is conducted in the receiving elementary school to discuss transition for children with disabilities.

Children records are transferred to the appropriate school.

Student files are part of the permanent school record, both educational and health.

Transition planning takes place annually for preschool and kindergarten staff.

East Hartford Public Schools Board Meeting minutes and policies are available on the school website for public viewing. www.easthartford.org

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East Hartford Public Schools Head Start Program at Hockanum School is one of the three grantees in the Hartford County; the program is an entity in East Hartford Public Schools and is located at the Hockanum Early Learning Center (ECLC) at 191 Main Street in East Hartford, Connecticut. East Hartford Public Schools Head Start Program at Hockanum School is a federal and state funded program and serves low-income families with children 3 and 4 years old. The grants are awarded by Regional Offices within the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Early Childhood, State of Connecticut. The program provides high quality preschool services for children and families, through a shared service arrangement with School Readiness, Special Education and Smart Start. The Head Start program benefits from being a part of the East Hartford Public Schools. The relationship strengthens the program's ability to meet the needs of the children and families and to deliver quality early childhood education while providing a comprehensive service delivery

Total Estimated Awards	\$ 2,002,962
Federal Head Start Award for 2022	\$ 1,740,464
Federal Head Start Training & Technical Assistance	\$ 19,303
State Head Start Award for 2022	\$ 243,195

The East Hartford Public School Head Start Program received an additional total \$20,978 for Cost of Living Assistance (COLA) for the operation of the program for 2020-2021. An additional \$48,757 CRRSA (COVID-19) and a \$110,730 one-time COVID-19 Supplemental Funds.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2020-2021 BUDGET

The funding level for 2020 was \$1,738,789. This budget includes the regular operating grant and the allowance for training and technical assistance funds. Head Start programs are required to provide at least a 20% match of their total funding in order to spend federal dollars. East Hartford Head Start meets this requirement through the East Hartford Board of Education Public Schools. The required non-federal share for the operating period was \$434,697 (20%). See below: 2020-2021 budget broken down into the following components:

Total Federal Head Start Award	\$ 1,738,789
Expenditures Categories	Program Operation
Personnel	\$ 1,333,110
Fringe Benefits	\$ 348,376
Operational Spending	\$ 38,000
Training and Technical Assistance Award	\$ 19,303

The Head Start program benefits from being a part of the East Hartford Public Schools. The relationship strengthens the program's ability to meet the needs of the children and families and to deliver quality early childhood education while providing a comprehensive service delivery model. In the 2020 school year, the program funded 162 children. The program is governed under the same residential requirement as the public school. All children enrolled in the program must be residents of East Hartford. The Head Start program operates 15 classrooms mix funding (Head Start, School Readiness and Smart Start) 18 children in each class. All classrooms are open for 6 hours per day. There are 32 full-time staff and 5 part-time staff that support program goals and objectives.

Total State Head Start Award	\$ 243,195
Expenditures Categories	Program Operation
Personnel	\$ 229,890
Fringe Benefits	\$ 13,305

Total Cost of Living	\$ 20,978
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Additional Federal Funds Received	
CRRSA (COVID-19)	\$ 48,757
COVID Funds	\$ 110,730

FINANCIAL AUDIT AND REVIEW

The last annual agency financial audit was conducted by Blumshapiro Accounting Firm in June 2020 with no findings of non-compliance. Report is also posted on the town website.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVED IN 2020-2021

FAMILIES

NUMBER OF FAMILIES(155)

One parent Families	101	65%
Two-parent Families	54	35%

The Head Start program served 155 families for 2020-2021 school year, 54 two parent families and 101 single parent families. 18% of the families had less than a high school education, 34% had a High school Diploma or General Equivalency Diploma, 39% had an associates degree and 14% had an advance degree. See chart below for Employment breakdown.

PARENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS (155)

Employed	99	64%
Parent Unemployed	56	36%

PARENTS EDUCATION ATTAINMENT (155)

Advance Degree	18	11%
Associate Degree	64	40%
High School or GED	50	31%
Less than High School	28	18%

PARENTS IN JOB TRAINING

20 13%

FAMILIES RECEIVING FEDERAL OR OTHER ASSISTANCE

CASH	10	6%
SSI	20	14%
WIC	74	48%
SNAP (FOOD)	95	61%

CHILDREN

East Hartford Public Schools Head Start Program at Hockanum School is funded to serve 162 children ages 3 to 5 years and provide services in the town of East Hartford. Of the 163 children, 61% were 4 years old and 39% were 3 years old. Of the total children enrolled 39% (65) returned for the second-year. 4 children enrolled for less than 45 days. 14 (9%) children dropped from the program and did not return. The open slots were filled with a child from the program's waitlist.

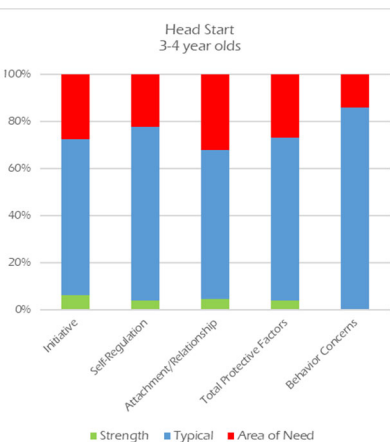
ENROLLMENT BY INCOME STATUS (163)

Below Poverty Level	113	68%
Public Assistance	26	16%
Foster	3	2%
Homeless	1	1%
Over-income	16	10%
Income Between 100-130%	5	3%

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY

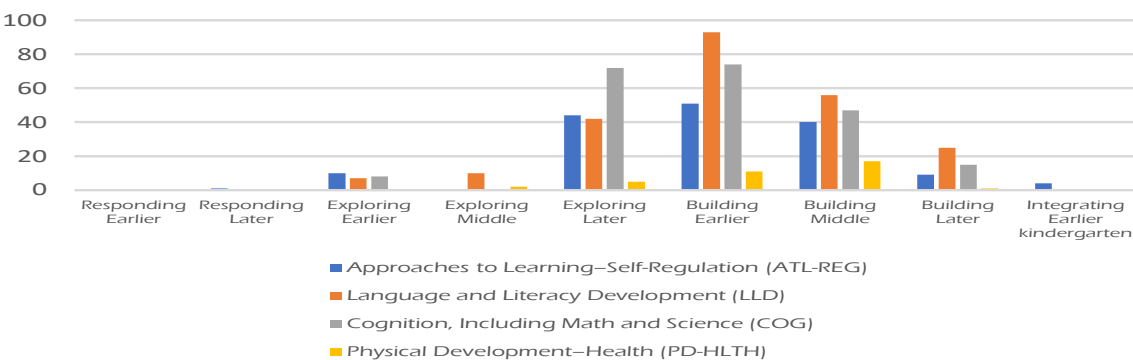
# of Children with a Individual Education Plan (IEP)	24	14.7%
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EDUCATION



As shown in the chart to the left, Initiative was the strongest area amongst the 3 and 4-year-old Head Start students with 6% of the students showing this as a *strength*. The majority of the student displayed typically developing skills in all areas with an average of 71.6% of the population falling into the *typical* range across all areas assessed. Attachment/Relationships is a focus area for the program with 32% of 3 and 4-year-old Head Start students showing this as an area of need. To address this area of need, our program is implementing Pyramid Model strategies throughout the building as well as sharing relevant Pyramid Model resources with the families to synchronize interventions used at home with the interventions used at school. These interventions are aimed to help increase pro-social relationship building and appropriate adult and peer attachments.

EDUCATION DEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENT -DRDP (CHILDREN BASELINE RESULTS) 2020- 2021



ENROLLED CHILDREN BY AGE (175)

3-year-old	65	37%
4-year-old	110	63%

RACE & ETHNICITY (163)

African American	64	40%
White	79	48%
Asian	2	1%
Multi-racial	15	9%
Other	3	2%

Hispanic	90	55%
Non-Hispanic	73	45%

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME (CHILDREN)

English	115	70%
Spanish	35	21%
Middle Eastern/ South Asian	1	1%
African	7	4%
Other	5	3%
Total	163	100%

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

MEDICAL

In 2020 –2021 school year, all 163 enrolled children had health insurance and a medical home; 141 had continuous accessible dental care provided by a dentist. At the end of the program year, 148 of 162 were up-to-date on a scheduled child well care, 162 children were up-to-date on all immunizations appropriate for their age, and 63 had a completed professional dental exam. (Parents were reluctant in taking their children to the dentist during the h pandemic).

# of children with update annual physical examination	148
# of Children with who are up to date on all immunizations	162
# of Children who diagnosed with a chronic condition	8
# of Children with who received treatment	8
# of Children with who mental health services	15
# of Children with are overweight or obese	59
# of Children with are underweight	5

DENTAL

# of children with continuous dental care by a dentist	141
# of Children with who received preventative care	63
# of Children with who diagnosed as needing treatment	4
# of Children with who received treatment	4

HEALTH INSURANCE

# of children with health insurance	163
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MEDICAL HOME

# of children with medical home	163
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CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Hearing Problems	4
Vision Problems	5
Food Allergy	1

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

At East Hartford Public Schools Head Start Program, we recognize that parents are the first teacher for their children. The program makes deliberate efforts to support the families through our family engagement approach to become active partners in the success of the educational development of their children. We encourage volunteer activities throughout the year. Parents are encouraged and supported to become directly involved in decision-making of the program by becoming an active member of the Policy Council, Health-Family Services Advisory Committee and attend Parent Meetings. These volunteer opportunities where hosted using Zoom video conferencing.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR INCLUDED:

Parent Orientation—Zoom
Parent/Teacher Conferences—Zoom
Monthly Parent Meetings –Zoom
Classroom Activities
Parent Education Workshops—Zoom
Monthly Policy Council Meetings—Zoom
Wellness Health Fair– Postponed
Case management/Goal Setting - Zoom and phone
Shop Rite Cooking Classes -Postponed
Home Visits - Zoom

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

ECLC Average Daily Attendance by Room 2020-2021

Month	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	
Head Start End Of Enrollment	117	130	138	141	144	145	145	146	153	151	YTD
Attendance	51%	92%	88%	80%	79%	84%	86%	87%	89%	81%	77%

As a requirement, the program must provide a monthly enrollment status to the Head Start Administration. If the program's attendance falls below the 85%, the program must analyze the causes of absenteeism to identify any systematic issues and causes. As part of ongoing oversight, the program uses this data to make necessary changes and corrections in a timely manner. Above is the 2020-2021 enrollment and attendance, the program met it funded enrollment over the course of the school year. Even though, the program met its' expected required attendance rate for 5 months, the year to date average was 77%. The program met it challenges during the COVID19 pandemic in maintaining both funded enrollment and attendance expectations. The district rolled out three different teaching models to meet the parental choice.