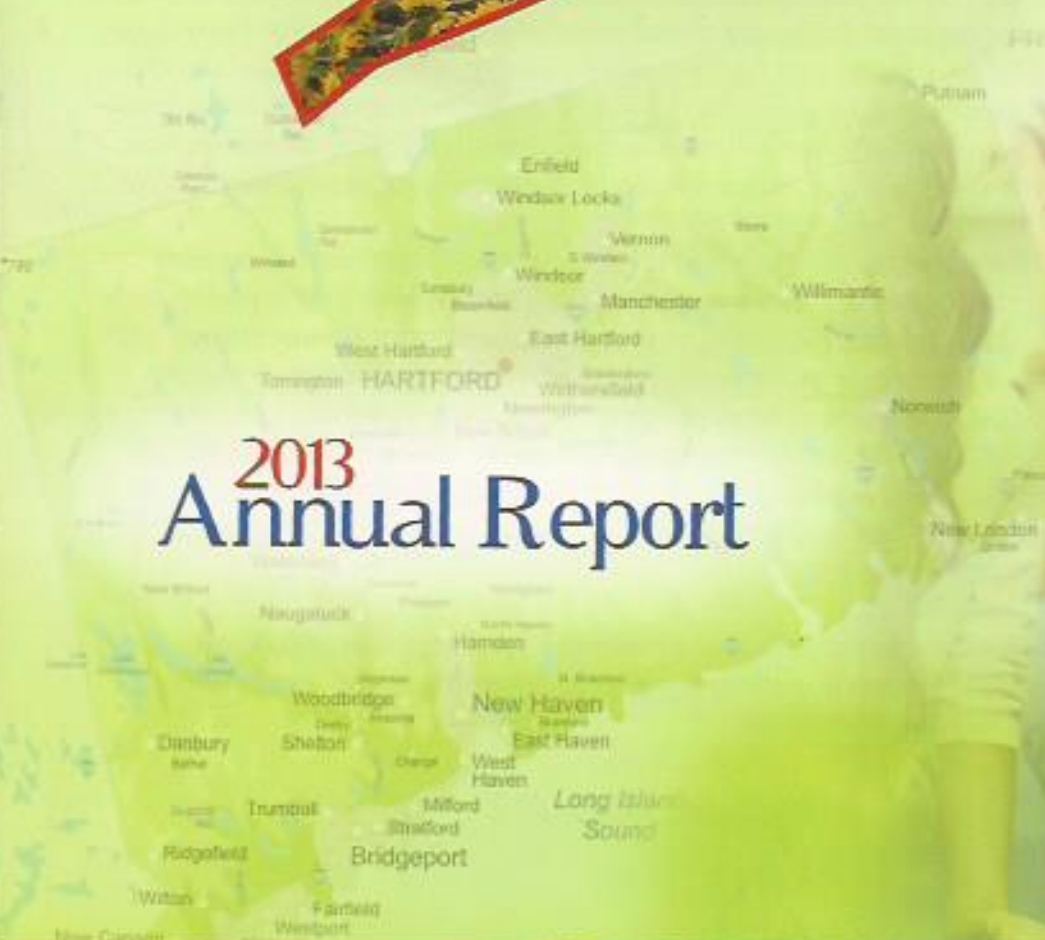




Connecticut

Head Start Association

2013 Annual Report





Connecticut Head Start Association

Welcome to the Connecticut Head Start Association's 2013 Annual Report. Head Start & Early Head Start has a time-tested tradition of success in educating and caring for young children, promoting their school readiness, strengthening families, and transforming communities. Head Start & Early Head Start are comprehensive child development programs which serve children from birth to age 5, pregnant women and their families. Charged with the overall goal of increasing the school readiness and social competence of young children in low-income families, Head Start & Early Head Start services are family-centered, following the tenets that children develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents are respected as the primary educators and nurturers of their children. For communities across Connecticut, Head Start & Early Head Start plays a pivotal role in developing a continuum of care, education and services that allows stable and uninterrupted support to families.

Today – right here in Connecticut – nearly one in eight children are living in poverty. And as we look to Connecticut's Self-Sufficiency Standard – 21% are living at or near poverty (income below 200% FPL). In light of the devastating reality of poverty so many among us are facing, the unthinkable – the unimaginable – fell upon families, staff, and communities when federal sequestration began on March 1st 2013, causing across-the-board cuts for many areas of federal government spending, including "non-defense discretionary" funding which includes Head Start and Early Head Start. Head Start and Early Head Start programs are facing devastating budget cuts that will slam shut the window of opportunity for nearly 57,000 at-risk children.

This 2013 Annual Report does not include the post-sequester impact numbers to Head Start and Early Head Start programs throughout Connecticut. As we look ahead, over 700 fewer children most in need will be served in Connecticut as a result of sequestration. Less families will be served by a research-based and clear return-on-investment service we call Head Start & Early Head Start – and yet the need increases in these times of economic distress. Head Start has been a national commitment to comprehensive services for low-income children since 1965, but the deep cuts caused by sequestration are closing the window of opportunity.

The Connecticut Head Start Association witnesses every day how these tough economic times are pushing more and more overstretched families out of jobs and into poverty. We also witness how access to quality early childhood programs can educate children, strengthen families, change lives, and transform communities. With research conclusively affirming the importance of a quality early childhood experience as a foundation for future academic and economic success, it is alarming to know our most vulnerable learners will be further deprived of an opportunity to access preschool and other early learning experiences due to sequestration. By increasing the number of children who will enter kindergarten without an early childhood experience, we are placing a greater burden on kindergarten teachers and adversely impacting our commitment to eliminating the achievement gap for our most vulnerable learners.

Connecticut Head Start & Early Head Start will continue to play a role in the transformation of early childhood in Connecticut – we will bring our record of success in working together to deliver the promise that all of our young children and families have the opportunity to succeed.

Connecticut Head Start / Early Head Start by the Numbers

Total # of Grantees	18
Total # of Programs	40
Federal Funding FY2012	\$59,427,371
Federal HS/EHS Slots in CT	7,351
CT Children in Poverty Under Age 6	41,000

Cumulative Children Served	8,773
Head Start (ages 3-5)	7,780
Early Head Start (Newborn-3)	993
Expectant Mothers Served	102

8,875 Children Prenatal – Age 5
8,379 Families

Type of Eligibility for Children	
100% of Poverty or Below	5,970
100% - 130% of Poverty	549
Homeless Children	291
Foster Children	186
Receipt of Public Assistance	1,431
Over 130% FPL	448

8,875

Children w/Disabilities Served

1,034

853 IEP
181 IFSP

Homeless Children Served	460
Foster Care Children Served	186
DCF Referral Children Served	405

Primary Language of Family at Home

68.6% English
26.4% Spanish
5.0% Other Languages

Ethnicity

47.0% Hispanic or Latino Origin
53.0% Non-Hispanic / Non-Latino Origin

Race

0.8% American Indian / Alaska Native
1.4% Asian
32.2% African American
0.1% Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander
37.9% White
11.9% Biracial or Multi-Racial
12.9% Other Race
2.8% Unspecified Race

Two Parent Families 3,074
Single Parent Families 5,305

8,379 Families Served



1,880 Head Start & Early HS Work Force

424 Preschool Classroom Teachers

60 Advanced Degree in ECE
13 Advanced Degree in Related Field
72 Baccalaureate Degree in ECE
63 Baccalaureate Degree in Related Field
161 Associate Degree in ECE
55 Other

102 Infant/Toddler Classroom Teachers

1 Advanced Degree in ECE
1 Advanced Degree in Related Field
16 Baccalaureate Degree in ECE
11 Baccalaureate Degree in Related Field
14 Associate Degree in ECE
4 Associate Degree in Related Field
55 Child Development Associate (CDA)
39 Infant/Toddler Assistant Teachers
1 Baccalaureate Degree in Related Field
4 Associate Degree in ECE
8 Child Development Associate (CDA)
26 Other

15 Home-Based Visitor Supervisors

1 Advanced Degree/Licensed as Social Work (LCSW/LSMW)
1 Advanced Degree in Human Services
6 Advanced Degree in ECE
1 Advanced Degree in Other
1 Baccalaureate Degree in Social Work or Psychology or Human Services or ECE
1 Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing plus Registered Nurse (RN)
3 Baccalaureate Degree in ECE
1 Associate Degree in ECE

397 Preschool Classroom Assistant Teachers

2 Advanced Degree in ECE
1 Advanced Degree in Related Field
13 Baccalaureate Degree in ECE
19 Baccalaureate Degree in Related Field
34 Associate Degree in ECE
6 Associate Degree in Related Field
212 Child Development Associate (CDA)
100 Other

41 Home-Based Visitors

3 Advanced Degree/Licensed as Social Work (LCSW/LSMW)
2 Advanced Degree in ECE
16 Baccalaureate Degree in Social Work or Psychology or Human Services or ECE
3 Baccalaureate Degree in Related Field
4 Associate Degree in ECE
3 Family Development Credential (FDC)
3 Child Development Associate (CDA)
7 Other

12 Family Childcare Providers & Specialists

1 Advanced Degree in ECE
2 Baccalaureate Degree in ECE
9 Child Development Associate (CDA)

185 Family Workers

57 Family & Community Partnership Supervisors

80 Education & Child Development Management/Coordination Staff

528 Health Services Staff, Administrative Staff, Other Staff

5,674 Volunteers

including 3,648 parent volunteers



Comprehensive Child & Family Services

Head Start & Early Head Start is a national program that provides comprehensive education & early childhood services, health & nutrition services, family & community services, mental health & disabilities services, safety services, and other support services based on child, family, & community needs. Funded by the federal government, these programs serve children from Birth – Age 5, pregnant women and their families. Head Start is one of the longest-running programs to address systemic poverty in the United States, and programs have the overall goal of increasing the school readiness and social competence of young children in low-income families.

Early Learning And Development & School Readiness Goals

Head Start & Early Head Start addresses all areas of child development and early learning essential for school and long-term success. The Head Start Child Development And Early Learning Framework (children 3 – 5 years old), the Early Head Start Program Performance Measures (Infants/Toddlers), Connecticut Early Learning Standards & other guidance documents (for children Birth – 5 years old), and current research in child development & learning supports Head Start & Early Start programs to identify established school readiness goals and promote the school readiness of children by enhancing their development in a learning environment that supports children's growth.


Physical Development & Health
Approaches to Learning
Language Development
Mathematics Knowledge & Skills
Creative Arts Expression

Social & Emotional Development
Logic & Reasoning
Literacy Knowledge & Skills
Science Knowledge & Skills
Social Studies Knowledge & Skills

English Language Development / Dual Language Learners



Family Services



- Emergency/Crisis Intervention
- Mental Health Services
- Adult Education
- Job Training
- Parenting Education
- Child Support Assistance
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Resource & Referral; Linkages to Assistance
- Assistance to Families of Incarcerated Individuals

- Housing Assistance
- Child Abuse & Neglect Services
- English Second Language (ESL) Training
- Domestic Violence Services
- Father Involvement
- Relationship/Marriage Education
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Health Education
- Family Goals Setting / Partnerships

Family Partnership Goals & Engagement Outcomes

- Positive Parent-Child Relationships
- Families as Learners
- Family Connections to Peers & Community
- Family Well-Being

- Families as Lifelong Educators
- Family Engagement in Transitions
- Families as Advocates & Leaders

Disabilities Services

Serving and Supporting Preschool Children with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Infant/Toddler Part C Early Intervention Services.



Health & Wellbeing Services

Health Insurance Identification & Referral
Medical Home
Body Mass Index
Immunization Services
Health Screenings
Medical Services/Referrals
Health Services Advisory Committee

Dental Home
Preschool Dental Services
Inf/Tod Preventive Dental Services
Pregnant Women Dental Services
Pregnant Women – Prenatal Health
Mental Health Services/Referrals
Individualized Health Planning



Community Engagement

Community Partnerships/Initiatives include but are not limited to:

Local Education Agency (LEA) Agreements to Coordinate Disabilities Services, Transition Services, and other Collaboration & Resource Sharing

Pre-Kindergarten Collaboration & Resource Sharing Agreements

Part C Agreements to Coordinate Disabilities Services

Child Welfare Agency Collaboration Agreements

Family Shelter Partnerships

Oral Health & Childhood Obesity Initiatives

Head Start / Early Head Start & CT Department of Children & Families Initiative

Ongoing working relationships with CT State Departments

Ongoing working relationships with child care, child welfare, homeless services, and others

All Head Start / Early Head Start Programs conduct regular Community Assessments to match services to local needs of families.





Supporting Connecticut's Children, Families, and Communities



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