

**Childcare Learning Centers
Head Start/Early Head Start
2014-2015 Annual Report**

Childcare Learning Centers Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS) is a child development program serving children residing in the towns of Stamford, Darien and Greenwich. The HS/EHS program provides high quality early childhood comprehensive services to children, ages 0 to 5. The program assists families in setting and attaining goals for themselves and their children. The following reflects the program's funded enrollment, funding sources and activities during the fiscal year 2014-2015.

- Funding sources:

Federal

	Head Start	Early Head Start	Delegate
	\$1,683,566	\$986,689	\$239,161

State Department of Education:

\$188,771 for an Enhancement Grant which provided full-day, school-year services for 35 Head Start children and 34 Delegate children.

\$161,258 for an Expansion Grant which provided full-day full-year services for 20 State Head Start children.

\$31,818 for a Link Grant to support math and literacy enrichment.

State Department of Education School Readiness:

\$165,858 funds to extend 3 part-day, part-year classes into full-day, full-year classes.

Private:

\$96,689 grant from Pitney Bowes for extended day services.

- Financial expenditures: In FY 2013-2014 it cost \$3,156,008 to operate the Head Start and Early Head Start programs. The single largest expense item was salaries and fringe benefits which accounted for 62.7% of the program costs. The next largest item was the delegate sub-contract \$310,418 which represented 9.3% of the total expenditures.

CLC prepares an annual budget each spring with input from the Head Start Director, Policy Council and the Board of Directors. Monthly variance reports are reviewed by the Head Start Director. In addition, monthly variance reports and budget projections are presented to the Finance Committee of the Board and Policy Council on a monthly basis. Financial decisions are based on the organization's long-term goals and objectives. This rigorous oversight of the financial records has provided the agency with a strong understanding of its financial position and allowed it to adapt, where necessary, in order to ensure a fiscally sound future.

CLC audited numbers for the year ending June 30, 2015 had received the following statement in the Blum Shapiro audit report “In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Childcare Learning Centers, as of June 30, 2015, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America”.

- The program served 231 children in Head Start which included 34 children from the delegate, 43 children in Early Head Start during the fiscal year of 2014-2015. The average monthly enrollment was 100% for Head Start and Early Head Start.
- Ninety-seven percent of Head Start and 98% of Early Head Start children were up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care. Ninety-nine percent of the Head Start children and 100% of the Early Head Start received dental exams. The program coordinated services for 28 children suspected with disabilities in Head Start and 10 children in Early Head Start.
- One hundred and six children entered kindergarten. Program collaborated with the Stamford Public Schools (SPS) and After-school programs in the community to facilitate transition for all children. The SPS Preschool Curriculum Associate along with the Instructional Coordinators prepares a portfolio on each child transitioning into kindergarten. This provides the Kindergarten Teachers a complete understanding of each child school readiness. The portfolio contains the result of the ESI (Early Screening Intervention), The Home Language Survey, the SPS Readiness Screening and the Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment Summary Form. The program hosted Kindergarten Nights to educate and assist parents with the process of registering their children to elementary school.
- Child Outcomes results using the Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Continuum assessment showed that in the spring of 2015, ninety percent of the children ages 4 and 5 met or exceeded age-level expectations in the area of Language Development and Literacy, and 76% met or exceeded age-level expectations in the area of Mathematics. The TSG results for the 3 year-olds indicated that 77% met or exceeded age-level expectations in the area of Language Development and Literacy, and 86% met or exceeded age-level expectations in the area of Mathematics. In the domain of social emotional development over 95% of the 3 and 4 year-olds used words to express emotions and feelings. The teachers provided enrichment activities targeting children entering kindergarten. In addition, during the summer for a period of 4 weeks an Intern from the Stamford Public Schools provided small group instructional and hand-on activities to all children entering kindergarten.
- The Child Outcomes results for Early Head Start demonstrated that 89% of the infants and toddlers engaged in positive relationships and interactions with adults, 84% showed curiosity and motivation in exploring the world around them.
- The program developed, incorporated and aligned the educational domains required by the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework, the Teaching Strategies Gold and the Connecticut Early Learning Development Standards into its Head Start Framework 2015 for curriculum development and

- lesson planning. The program has established school readiness goals aligned with the Head Start Framework, the Connecticut State Early Learning Standards and the Stamford Public Schools expectations to enhance the knowledge and skills that children are expected to gain upon entering kindergarten. The progress toward meeting the established goals was determined by aggregating and analyzing child assessment data at multiple points across the year. The results of the School Readiness Goals are the same as the child outcomes mentioned above.
- The program provided many parent involvement activities such as Diversity Week, Fitness (Healthy Bodies), Math and Kindergarten Nights, Parent education programs on child development, child health and nutrition, parent's rights and stress management. The program offered other opportunities such as literacy training and continuing education for adults, volunteering and leadership by involving parents in the decisions-making of the program and other community initiatives like the DAD program and Parenting program of St. Joseph Parenting Center. The Head Start program participated in the RULER project in partnership with Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence.
 - CLC Head Start/ Early Head Start has been successfully rewarded its 5-year grant in July 2014 to continue to provide comprehensive services to 256 children and families. The program is currently in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policy requirements related to the Head Start Performance Standards and the Head Start Act.

Submitted by:

Imelda D-Luc, Head Start Director, Fall 2015