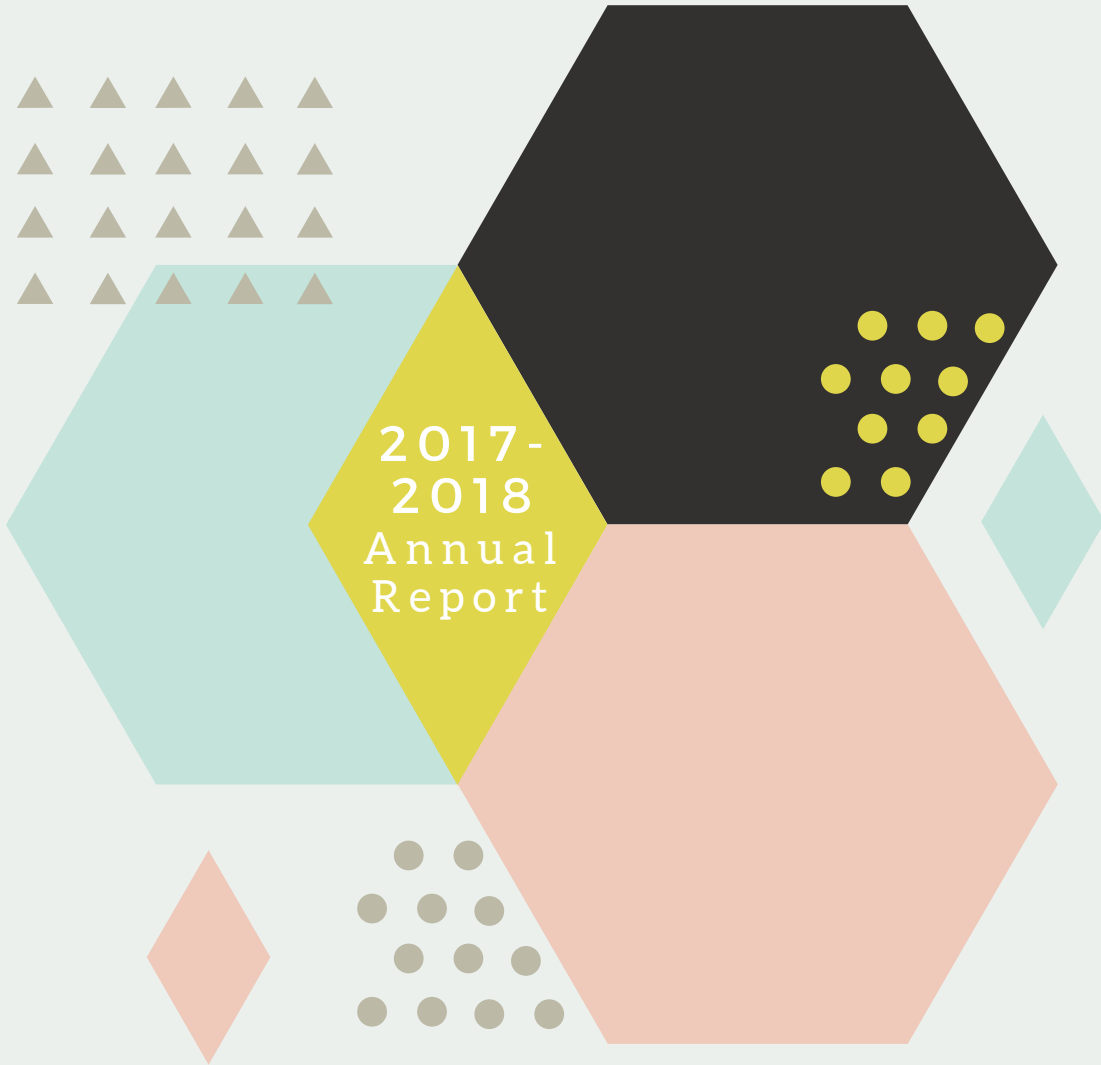




Head Start

Mid Florida Community Services

Early Head Start



A Glimmer of Hope

MID FLORIDA
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

“A good teacher
can inspire hope,
ignite the
imagination, and
instill a love of
learning.”

Brad Henry

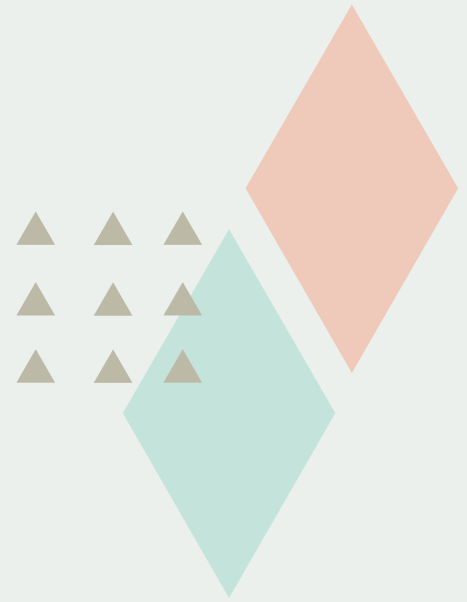


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message from the director

We've proven 2017-2018 to
be another successful year
for MFCS Head Start & Early
Head Start!

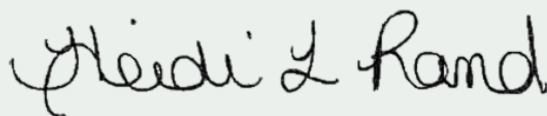
Dear Parents, Partners and Stakeholders,

I am pleased to present the 2017-2018 Annual Report for Mid Florida
Community Services, Inc. Head Start & Early Head Start, serving
Hernando, Sumter and Volusia Counties!

This report highlights the opening of a new center in partnership with
Halifax Urban Ministries to expand our reach to more homeless families,
the expansion of a community partnership with the Museum of Art -
DeLand as well as our health services and parent engagement
programs. It also provides detailed demographic and service data for
this program year.

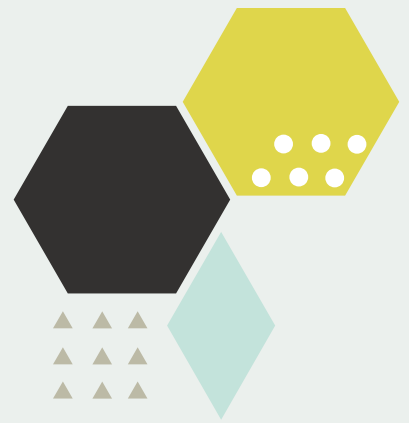
It has been an exciting year and we are anticipating a lot of change in
the next program year! We appreciate your interest and support as we
strive to be a model of excellence for early child development programs
and family support.

Sincerely,



Heidi L. Rand
Director of Early Learning Programs

parent testimonies



"I was able to learn different ways to communicate with my son. We loved to do homework together, and Head Start encouraged us to do more activities together."

"My child has learned so much and has come so far in this past year with Head Start team services. His teacher and advocate were so involved and taught him so much and worker and was there to help support our family thru the hospital stays."

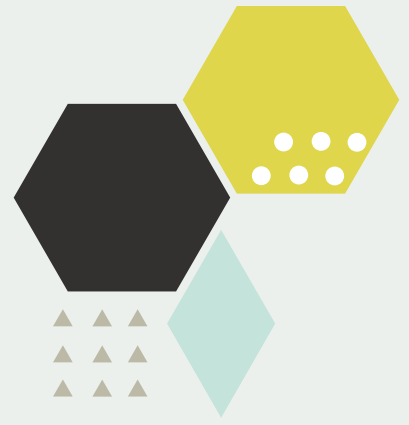
"As a family in transition from Puerto Rico, because of the Hurricane Maria, EHS was a relief. My son is learning and they are taking care of him while I'm in the process of moving and finding a job"

"This program was crucial to my advancement in my career as a single mom working full time and attending college as a full time student. Without Osteen Head Start, it wouldn't have been possible."

"I have been very happy with Coleman. All of my 3 children have been here. My Family Advocate even gave me clothes for my family in my time of need. She helped me apply for Medicaid and food stamps too."

"I was able to learn different ways to communicate with my son. We loved to do homework together, and Head Start encouraged us to do more activities together."

success story



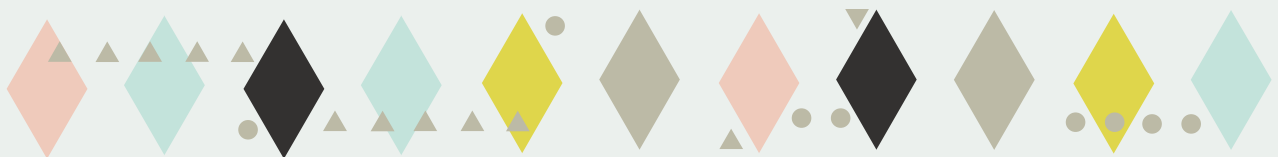
"My name is Zaidelix Diaz. I'm the mother of four beautiful kids. I came to Florida from Puerto Rico after Hurricane Irma and Maria. I came full of energy, dreams and hope, having in mind that it was going to be difficult but I never thought it was going to be a nightmare. I was treated like an immigrant in most places. I was told that the government will help us here, so I left a good job, my house and everything that we built for years behind thinking that Florida was going to be a better choice. I was exhausted to find help, and I was thinking of going back to Puerto Rico when... I asked myself "What should I do?" So, I went to Head Start in DeLand and just when I was gonna give up, I met Julyette Santiago [family advocate]. She was the first person to be kind and good to me. I felt that I was at home, safe and loved. I remember going to sleep that night thanking God for putting her in my life because she gave more than a service that day, she gave me back my hope. A few days later, Ms. Santiago called me to tell me that they accepted my twins in Head Start. I was looking for a better job full time, trying to figure it out, and survive. I didn't have a car so for me it was almost impossible to get the kids to school or pick them up, so with tears in my eyes I had to tell Julyette that I couldn't take the opportunity. A few months later with a lot of struggle, I was working a full time job in DeLand and we were not homeless anymore. We found a house, so I went again to Head Start in DeLand to speak with Julyette but they said that she was in the hospital and I was so sad. What

could happen to the only person that has been kind to me? So I called every other day until finally she answered the phone. I was so impressed that she remembered me. I felt so blessed just to talk to her. I asked her that day if I can apply for the kids again and thank Head Start so much for a second opportunity. Today my kids are in Head Start thanks to her and because of this program I'm able to work in peace knowing that my kids are in good hands and learning before they go to kindergarten. I brought my mom with me so she can help me with my kids and I also want to thank Head Start for giving my mom a part time job since she was volunteering in my kids' classroom. This program gave my family hope, opportunity and love. I hope that one day I can also be part of this team and help and change people's lives like they have done with mine. I will always be grateful.

Thanks Head Start and team for all your help.
With love, Zaidelix Diaz"

hope is
passion
for what is
possible.

Soren Kierkgaard





MFCS was selected to provide quality child care for Hope Place through a competitive grant process.



This site is a part of Halifax Urban Ministries and it is located in Holly Hill, Florida. The Hope Place community is designed to be a co-located social service network to families during housing transition.

There are two EHS classrooms, one HS classroom and an after school classroom at the site. This opportunity directly aligns with the updated version of the Head Start Performance Standards that identifies homelessness as a priority. Having opened on August 18, 2018, Hope Place already provides early learning and care to over 30 children!



health services

Mid Florida Community Services Head Start & Early Head Start Health Services would like to highlight our It's a Health Thing Series. It's a Health Thing! Parent Training Series is an initiative modeled after an evidence-based training approach developed by the UCLA / Johnson & Johnson Health Care Institute. This approach focuses on health literacy which is a key stepping-stone to creating healthier families, healthier children and healthier communities.

This training series provides centralized locations for the east and west sides of Volusia County and transportation for those in need. Low literacy health education topics and materials are culturally sensitive and include: social and emotional health, challenging behavior, childhood illness, oral health and nutrition. In addition, presenters are content area experts in our agency and community.

Measurable outcomes include: improving knowledge, changing behavior, and reducing unnecessary utilization of health care services.

As the first in the parent training series, **What To Do When Your Child Gets Sick**, a local pediatrician covers the management of common childhood illnesses, injuries, and health problems. As part of this training each parent is provided and guided through a low-literacy medical handbook in either English or Spanish, developed by the Institutes for Healthcare Advancement (IHA) entitled, **What to Do When Your Child Gets Sick**. In addition to the handbook, participants receive a digital thermometer and standardized medicine spoon. For additional training support, nursing students are paired with participants and use the teach-back method of training. This evidence-based teaching method results in improved understanding and outcomes.

The next in the parent training series is our premier **Farmer's Market Event**. Hosted at the Volusia County Extension Office, parents

participate in cooking demonstrations with local fruits and vegetables, tour and purchase produce from the co-located Volusia County Farmers Market and receive additional health education training and information. Some of the topics include: reducing sugar sweetened beverages, meal planning on a budget, make and take herbs and yoga instruction.

To encourage participants to cook fresh fruits and vegetables and to utilize herbs instead of salt for seasoning, cooking demonstrations take center stage. Following the cooking demonstration, participants are provided a \$5 voucher and reusable tote bag to spend at the farmer's market. This effort increases access and resources to local fresh fruits and vegetables for participants.

The final in the series is **Challenging Behavior**. Each classroom uses the research-based **Second Step** program developed by Committee for Children. Children learn self-regulation and social-emotional skills as part of school-readiness. This training introduces the **Second Step Home Links** activities to the parents. The activities are based on social skills lessons that were covered in the classroom that week and provide strategies for support at home. As parents increase their knowledge about how to support their child's social and emotional development, they are better equipped to manage challenging behavior. The training also provides the opportunity for a question and answer session for challenging behavior and child development.

We are hoping to add in an additional training entitled, "What to do for Healthy Teeth." We are looking for a dentist/dental hygienist to present crucial information about children's teeth. The attendees would receive a low-literacy oral health handbook in English or Spanish, again developed by the IHA, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss.

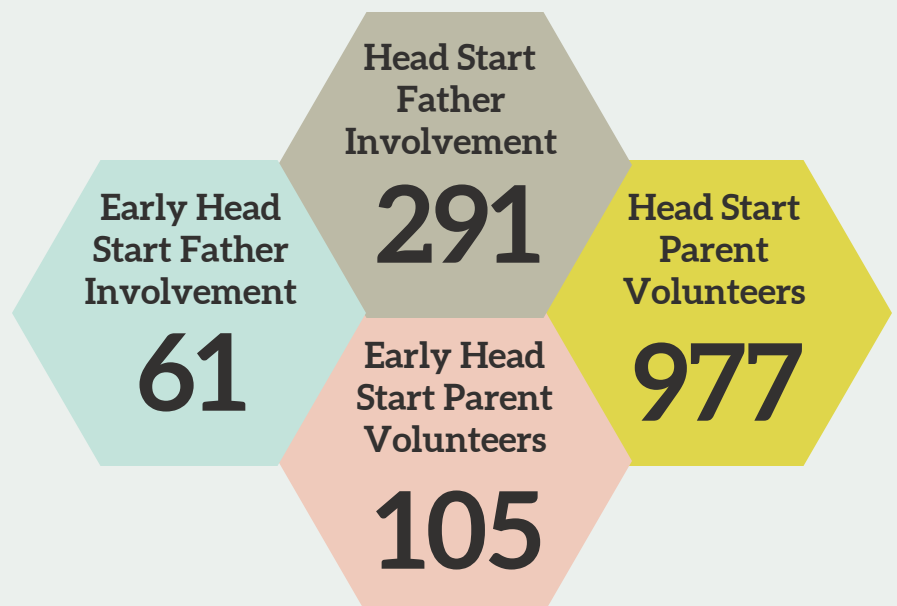


parent engagement

Family Engagement occurs in multiple settings and systems where Mid Florida Community Services, Inc. Head Start and Early Head Start families and children interact, learn and play.

MFCS Head Start and Early Head Start coordinates, promotes and reinforces continuity of care, building on existing parent engagement efforts in the community and extending reach through existing services and resources.

Each year families are given the opportunity to participate in parent committees, monthly parent meetings, parent planned activities, parent trainings, and serve on the policy council.





community partnership



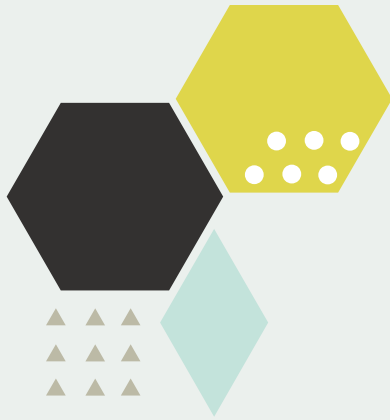
Eight years ago, Pam Coffman, Education Curator from the Museum of Art – DeLand reached out to MFCS Head Start to partner with them to write a grant to PNC Bank which provided volunteers to educate our students on the arts. The Head Start Education Team wrote curriculum to incorporate into the grant. “Arts on the Grow” was funded and has been implemented at six Head Start sites in West Volusia.

While no longer funded by PNC Bank, this program has continued to enable our children to develop the control of small muscles for using utensils, self-care, build and explore, cooperate with others, develop friendships with peers, develop an interest in varied topics and activities including the desire to learn creativity and independence in learning, and develop the ability to begin and finish activities with persistence and attention. From this, our children learn to develop the ability to recognize, understand and analyze a problem and draw on the knowledge or experience to seek solutions to a problem, develop the use of symbols or objects to represent something

else, and a problem, develop the use of symbols or objects to represent something else, and develop the ability to comprehend, understand and use language.

At the beginning of the year, each family is given the opportunity to learn more about Arts on the Grow and tour the facility. Throughout the program year, three artists are provided a stipend by the museum to visit each of the six centers to do art projects with the children. Starting this year, the program has grown to also provide us with storytelling volunteers at every center every other month. The children also get the opportunity to go on a field trip to the museum during the year. At the end of each program year, the children create artwork of their own to be displayed at the museum during an exhibit night hosted by the museum for families to come and view their child’s artwork.

We are so grateful to the Museum of Art – DeLand for expanding our children’s creativity and imagination through art and storytelling!



head start

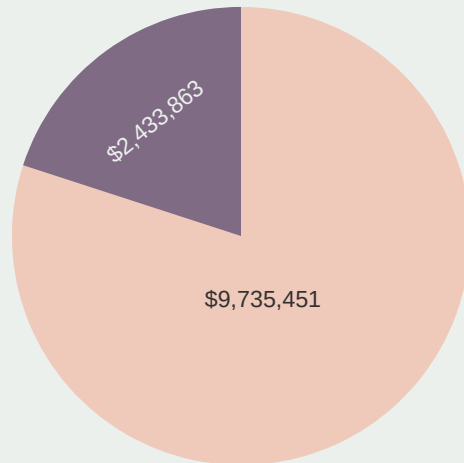
- 13** financial overview
- 14** fun with numbers
- 15** kindergarten transition



financial overview

In-Kind Revenue

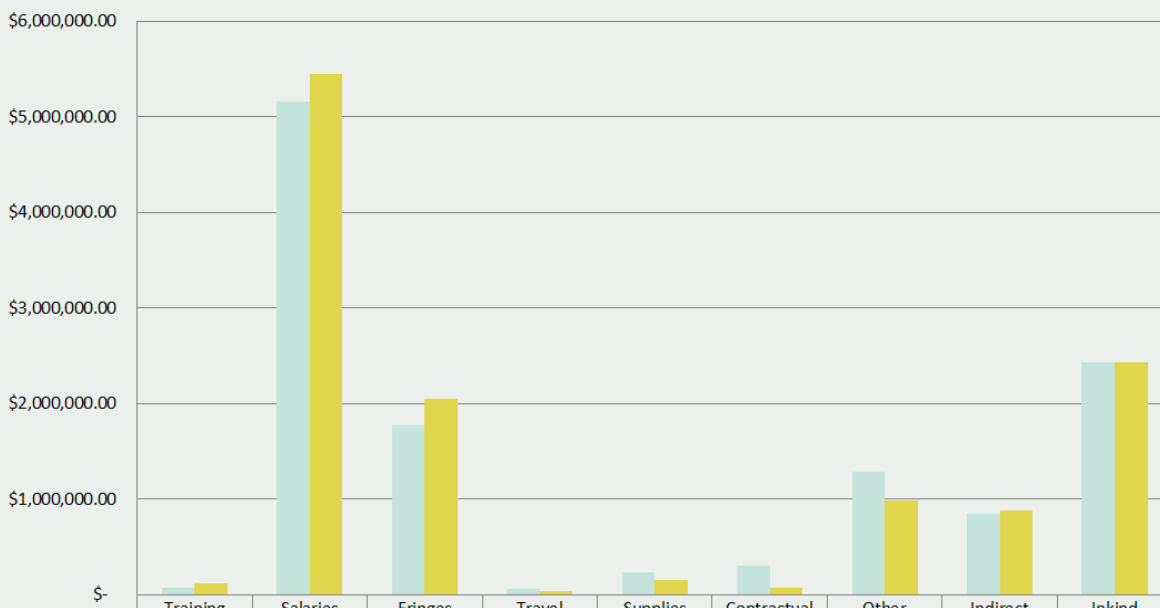
20%

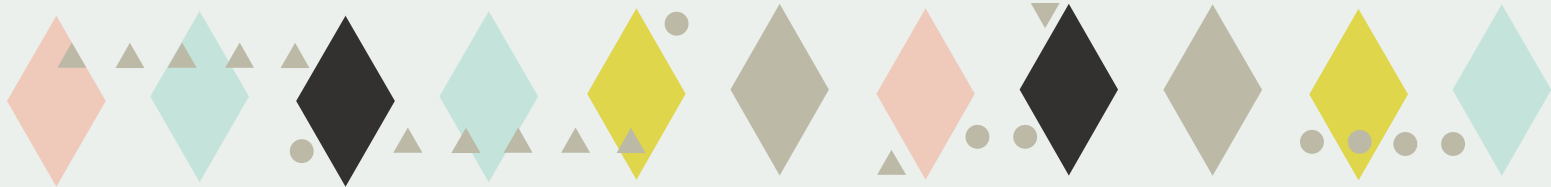


Federal Revenue

80%

Head Start Budget & Expenditures





fun with numbers

Funded Enrollment

977

Cumulative Enrollment

1146

Number of Families

1055

New Children

741

Average Monthly Enrollment

98%

Primary Language: Spanish

287

Primary Language: English

843

Primary Language: East Asian

2

Primary Language: Middle Eastern/South Asian

8

Primary Language: Caribbean

1

Families that Received Services

369

Eligible Children

93%

Received Medical Exams

86%

New Children Screened within 45 days

662

At Healthy Weight

713

Received Dental Exams

85%

Hispanic/Latino

469

Black/African-American

348

White

240

Biracial/Multiracial

74

Asian

10

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

3

Two-Parent Families

451

One-Parent Families

604

Homeless Children

38

Foster Children

30

kindergarten transition



MFCS supports our Head Start children going to Kindergarten in several ways. In late May all outgoing children are provided with a "Transition Bag". The bag includes items such as developmentally appropriate activities parents can do with their children during the summer, school supply materials for children, a book, healthy food recipes, a registration requirement list from the local public schools, an information booklet for parents to prepare their child for kindergarten, and information about community resources.

During May Parent Committee meetings, a kindergarten teacher from the local elementary school or a district kindergarten representative presents important information to parents regarding the kindergarten registration process and kindergarten expectations. They are also available to answer any questions.

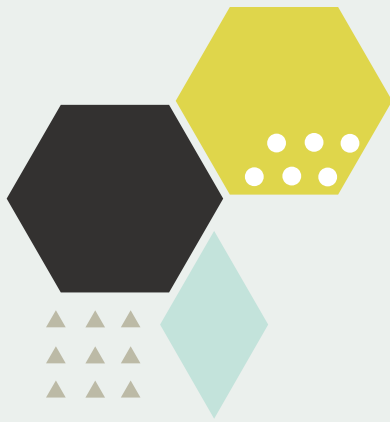
Some of the local school districts also host Articulation Meetings and invite Head Start teachers and teachers from local private child care VPK programs. These meetings are held at an elementary school and are hosted by kindergarten teachers.

The teachers present an overview of the kindergarten requirements. The Head Start and other early childhood teachers are also provided a tour of a kindergarten class and the elementary teachers are available to answer any questions.

Many of the Head Start classrooms work closely with a local elementary school and may take part in the "Adopt a Pre-School" program. This allows for the Head Start classroom to visit a local kindergarten classroom and participate in a portion of the day with the kindergarten children. Many times they are invited to join the kindergarten class for lunch. By this point the Head Start children have been practicing in their own classrooms and have learned how to carry a lunch tray. The Head Start children are very proud when they have the opportunity to participate in a kindergarten day.

MFCS Head Start was a participant in a collaborative effort with local school district personnel and staff from the local Early Learning Coalition to develop a Kindergarten Readiness checklist. The Head Start teachers complete these checklists on children leaving our Head Start program and entering into kindergarten. They are then provided to the kindergarten teachers at the elementary school where the child will attend kindergarten.

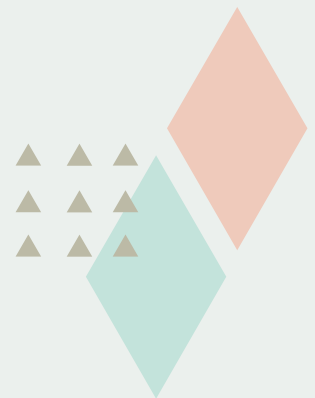




early head start

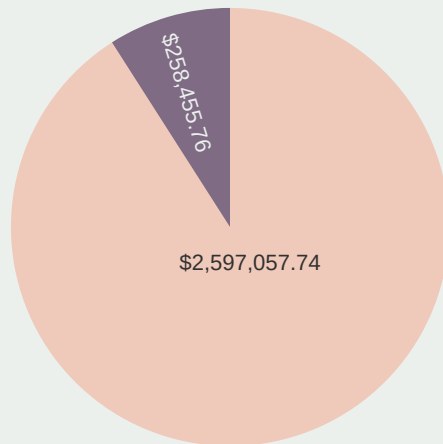
17 financial overview

18 fun with numbers



financial overview

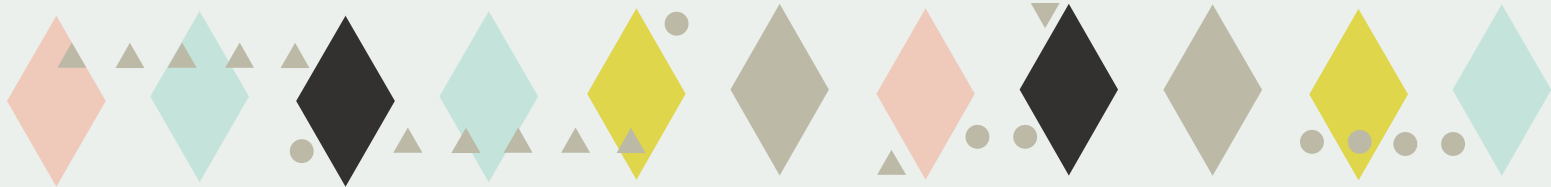
In-Kind Revenue
9%



Federal Revenue
91%

Early Head Start Budget & Expenditures





fun with numbers

Funded Enrollment

112

Cumulative Enrollment

129

Number of Families

114

New Children

42

Average Monthly Enrollment

83%

Received Medical Exams

85%

New Children Screened within 45 days

25

Hispanic/Latino

48

Primary Language: Spanish

37

Primary Language: English

91

Received Dental Exams

75%

Black/African-American

50

Primary Language: Middle Eastern/South Asian

1

White

20

Biracial/Multiracial

10

Homeless Children

26

Two-Parent Families

42

Foster Children

5

One-Parent Families

72

Families that Received Services

59

Eligible Children

99%



Results of Focus Area 2 Monitoring Review

Our program is currently in year three of our five year non-competitive grant. We have not yet had a monitoring review.

Results of Audit

Our certified audit for the period ending September 30, 2016 provided an unqualified opinion and no findings or internal control issues were identified.

Carr, Riggs, and Ingram, L.L.C. CPA



center directory

B

BLUE LAKE HS

282 N. Blue Lake Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
386-736-1891 ext. 243
352-277-1619

BUSHNELL HS

403 Lincoln Street
Bushnell, FL 33513
352-793-3737

C

CHISHOLM HS

531 Mary Avenue
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
386-427-8149

COLEMAN HS

200 E. Blue Springs Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763
386-774-0423
386-774-1520

D

DELAND HS

726 S. Woodward Boulevard
DeLand, FL 32720
386-873-4804

DELTONA LAKES HS

2022 Adelia Boulevard
Deltona, FL 32725
382-277-1619

E

EVEC HS

461 S. Keech Street
Daytona, FL 32114
386-323-7115

H

HERNANDO HS/EHS

835 School Street
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-754-2464

HOLLY HILL HS

719 Walker Street
Holly Hill, FL 32117
386-238-8455

HORIZON HS

4751 Hidden Lake Drive
Port Orange, FL 32129
386-788-1088

HOPE PLACE HS/EHS

1340 Wright Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32117
386-281-3314

I

INDIAN RIVER HS

650 Roberts Road
Edgewater, FL 32141
386-427-8149

J

JO SHEPPARD HS/EHS

592 S. Volusia Avenue
Pierson, FL 32180
386-749-0300

M

MALLOY HS/EHS

330 E. Retta Street
De Leon Springs, FL 32130
386-315-6663
386-985-0807

O

Oak Ridge HS/EHS

233 Oak Ridge Street
Holly Hill, FL 32117
386-366-8242 ext. 2007

Osteen HS

506 Doyle Road
Osteen, FL 32764
407-324-3865

P

PORT ORANGE HS/EHS

3749 S. Nova Road
Port Orange, FL 32129
386-788-1088

S

SPRING HILL HS/EHS

11245 Spring Hill Drive
Spring Hill, FL 34609
352-556-4800

W

WESTSIDE HS

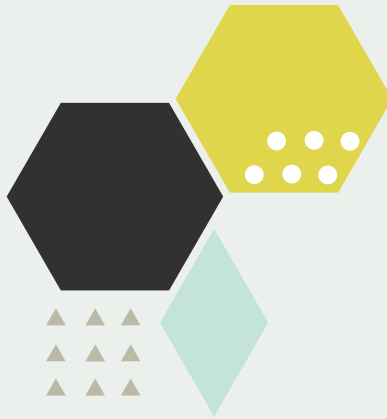
1210 Jimmy Ann Drive
Daytona Beach, FL 32117
386-788-1088

WOODWARD HS

1201 S. Woodland Boulevard
DeLand, FL 32720
352-277-1619

WVEC HS

803 S. Woodland Boulevard
DeLand, FL 32720
386-736-1891 ext. 243



Hernando/Sumter Administration

835 School St.
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-754-2464
www.midfloridaheadstart.com

Volusia Administration

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DeLand, FL 32720
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