

# MAKING AN IMPACT

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## INDIVIDUALS MAKING PROGRESS ACROSS COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

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### HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Head Start  
Mid Florida Community Services  
Early Head Start





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# Program Overview

## About Head Start

Head Start/Early Head Start is a nationwide, federally funded program whose purpose is to promote school readiness by enhancing the social, physical, and cognitive development of children. Head Start was launched in 1965 by President Lyndon B. Johnson to provide comprehensive health, nutrition, and education services to children living in poverty. Over the last 55+ years, more than 37 million children have benefited from Head Start's unique approach, which is built on the premise that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to reach their full potential. Today, Head Start serves more than one million children, families and pregnant women each year on their path to success.

## About MFCS Head Start

Our mission at Mid Florida Community Services, Inc. (MFCS) Head Start/Early Head Start is to provide comprehensive early childhood services that enhance the lives of children and families to collaboratively foster school readiness and self-sufficiency. We provide services in Hernando, Sumter, and Volusia counties of Florida. Our Head Start/Early Head Start programs are based in centers, schools, and within homes of families in our home-based option. The programs provide services at no cost, for infants, toddlers, preschool aged children, and pregnant women.

## Head Start

MFCS Head Start serves children across Hernando, Sumter, and Volusia Counties in center and school based settings. Our Head Start program is funded to serve 977 children. Head Start delivers services at no cost to eligible children ages three to five years old, and their families. Our Head Start program provides comprehensive services in the core areas of early learning, health, and family well-being while engaging parents as partners every step of the way.

## Early Head Start

Early Head Start provides early, continuous, intensive, and comprehensive child development and family support services to low-income infants and toddlers and their families, and pregnant women and their families. MFCS is the grantee for three Early Head Start grants serving a total of 272 infants and toddlers. Early Head Start I serves 112 children, Early Head Start II serves 120 children, and Early Head Start III serves 40 children.

MFCS Early Head Start serves children across Hernando and Volusia Counties. Early Head Start programs provide services to families through a full day, full year program. MFCS provides EHS services in both center based and home-based settings. Both options provide early learning, care and enrichment to our enrolled children.

The Early Head Start Home-Based program is offered in Volusia County. This program services pregnant women and families with children up to age 3. Our Home-Based Program is a continuation of the comprehensive services we offer at MFCS. It is a way to offer support, guidance, information, and child development services directly to children and families within their homes. Home visiting is also unique because it offers an opportunity for families to get the support they want in their own homes weekly.

## Our Services

Our programs support children's growth and development in a positive learning environment through a variety of services. These services include early learning, health, and family well-being through opportunities such as:

- Providing nurturing, responsive, and effective interactions and engaging environments.
- Ensuring frequent medical screenings, immunizations and dental services.
- Healthy nutritional assistance, including free meals & formula for center based options.
- Referral services for a range of individual child and family needs.
- Opportunities for parents to participate in school decision making.
- Diapering & Toilet Training, including free diapers for center based options.



# Parent Testimonials

"I love that I know everybody up here. They care about us as well as the kids, and help me help my kids. When I pulled my kids out of their location in Leesburg I cried so much, because they had been there since they were babies, but little did I know I was about to come up on a greater blessing." ~ Samantha S.

Brandi H. loves that our program gives children an opportunity to be around other children that are her child's age. The program has helped her children to share, develop their personality, and it has helped her as a parent. She also loves the teachers.

"I like how Head Start prepares the children for school. They learn to follow rules, and they learn new words and how to socialize." ~Melissa J.

"Ever since my intake at Mid Florida Head Start my children and I have been blessed in many ways. Not only do they care for my toddler everyday but they pour into our home life as well. I am so grateful figuring out my personal issues and tissues to wipe my tears. This daycare has contributed food, pull-ups, clothes, toiletries, household items on countless occasions. Many times I thought we would just have to go without but the daycare one way or another would give us what we were in need of. I thank God for my family advocate who has always done above and beyond for me and my children, the nurse, and for this daycare. I appreciate everyone that strives to help us as participants and the families that help each other. MFCS has impacted our lives tremendously for the better." ~Julissa F.

"This center is the first center out of all the places my children have been to where they are actually learning something. I love the teachers- all the staff, actually. They are here for all of us and the way they care about us really makes us feel like family." ~ Byron S.

"Head Start to me and my family is peace of mind. I have 2 teenagers in high-school that were in Head Start and now I have a three year old son in Head Start. Having my 2 older children go to Head Start helped them better prepare for school. Now my youngest is in Head Start and he has already had positive growth in his development and social skills. I know when I drop him off he is in caring, nurturing hands. It is a peace of mind knowing he is with teachers that are going to teach and care for him. They are our extended family. Head Start gives children and parents the tools to be successful as they are starting their journey in education and development." ~Sarah Z.

"I love Head Start because y'all provide genuine, consistent, and judgement free support for my baby and myself." ~Chasidy J.

"The program has helped me work and get my CDA while my child is at EHS in an educational environment for his development." ~Grisel O.

"My daughter always has a safe, fun place to spend her early years." ~Theresa N.



# Making an IMPACT For Parents

## P A R E N T S U C C E S S S T O R Y

We always strive to help our families when they are in need. Recently, our program stepped in to assist one of our Head Start families. One of our Head Start parents, Ashley R. had recently been experiencing tough times and expressed this to her family advocate, Lynda Kersey. Lynda knew something had to be done and reached out to our Health Services Coordinator, De'Lillian to see how we could help. Ashley R. is a single mother of four children. Their ages are 9, 8, 5, and 3. One of her children is a former Head Start student, and one attends our program currently. Our Health Services Coordinator arranged to provide this family with food, diapers, clothing, shoes, and undergarments during the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, the giving doesn't stop there! Our very own MFCS Community Engagement Coordinator, Ashley Hofecker had a community connection with the service manager Jessica at the local SunCoast Credit Union. Jessica informed Ashley Hofecker that they were looking to assist a family in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ashley R's family was then selected to receive the assistance. When the hardworking mother who works 2 jobs was asked what she needed, she responded that she didn't need anything personally, but that her children really could use a new bed, and that they had been sleeping on mattresses on the floor. The mother had already looked into purchasing the trundle style bed and had put it on layaway in hopes of paying it off over time. Jessica at SunCoast along with other employees there joined together to raise money for Ashley R's family. They raised \$218, and contacted Big Lots where Ashley R. had put the bed on layaway. The Big Lots manager gave a 20% discount upon learning of this mother's story. After the discount and funds raised by the SunCoast staff, Ashley R. only had to pay a very small amount out of pocket for her children's new bed.

“

**"I would like to thank Mid Florida Head Start for taking their time and helping my family. They have been very supportive since day one. What a wonderful blessing it was when they came and told me that my family was chosen for the bank's help. We were able to go to Big Lots and receive the trundle bed that they have been needed. Thank you so much!"~Ashley R.**



# The Impact We Made During the COVID-19 Pandemic!

During this unprecedented time in 2020, the Mid Florida Community Services, Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start staff ensured that our Head Start and Early Head Start children and families were provided the services we typically offered. We quickly implemented new processes to best serve the children, families, and our staff members. Here are some of the responses we made in relation to the services offered within our program.

## EDUCATION

Education: Parents and Guardians could choose for their children to attend the brick and mortar option, or virtually. Each one of our centers hosted online lessons through the Zoom platform for children to participate in. The interactive classroom approach allowed the children to come together in a virtual group setting to see their classmates and their teachers, despite not being able to attend in person.

The education staff also hosted a drive-thru events where parents and guardians could pick up education bags. These bags included curriculum packets, learning materials, and supplies. The children were provided the resources needed, so they could learn and succeed at homes.

The teachers and family advocates presented drive-thru Trunk Edition Meet The Teacher Events. Families drove through the event and saw our staff holding welcome signs and cheering. They saw staff's vehicle trunks decorated by the staff with themes of children's books and authors. Many of the staff members dressed up to go along with their trunk theme. While classroom sizes were limited to ensure social distancing, our staff members innovatively created a safe and welcoming environment for families and children to meet their teachers and family advocates.

## HEALTH

Health: Our top priorities was being committed to the health and safety of children, families, and staff. We complied with all Department of Children and Families, Office of Head Start, Centers for Disease Control, and local health department guidelines associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. We created health check tents outside of the centers and continue to use them. Children's temperatures are taken upon arrival and they are unable to enter if the temperature exceeds 100.4. Staff escort children to and from their classrooms and no outside visitors, including parents and guardians are allowed to enter the center. Masks are required. Hand washing is strictly enforced. Meals are served pre-plated and pre-packaged. There is minimal intermixing of children from different classrooms. Social distancing is strongly encouraged. Our staff frequently sanitize, disinfect and clean the classrooms. In addition, our facilities have electrosonic fumigation conducted weekly.

Our program also provided food and meals for our families to pick up in a socially distanced, drive-thru format. If a parent or guardian did not have the ability to pick up the food, our Family Advocates delivered it to them. Our program ensured our children were still getting the proper health and nutrition while not in the classroom setting. In addition, the free supplies that our program provides in the classroom such as diapers, wipes, and formula were made available for families that needed them during this difficult time.





# Our COVID-19 Impact Continued

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY

Family & Community: Our program focuses on the whole child and their family. The Family Advocates stayed in contact with parents and guardians every step of the way during the pandemic. They provided local resources and information to assist the families with their specific needs. Some of these resources included, community grocery and meal giveaways, unemployment resources, laundry vouchers, housing assistance, mental health resources, and more. They also facilitated virtual parent meetings to keep parents and guardians abreast of all changes and to promote communication for anyone who was experiencing difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Community resources, learning videos, at home education resources, family engagement ideas, health information and all COVID-19 related resources and information were provided on our company website and social media pages for families to access.

## OUR STAFF

Our Staff: Our management team implemented strategies to ensure the well-being of staff. Managers made contact with staff during the closure to inquire how they were doing and to see if they were in need of assistance. In addition, information on mental health resources was made available to all staff members. Our Director of Early Learning Programs, Heidi Rand kept staff informed of all updates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. This was essential for staff to be aware of all pertinent information so program operations continued to function accordingly.

Every MFCS Head Start/Early Head Start staff member was an integral part of making an immense impact during a time that we had never experienced or could have prepared in advance for. We accommodated our children and families in every way possible to ensure there was no lapse in services, or lack of resources that we could make available to them.

The response our program had during the COVID-19 pandemic was essential to continue our mission of assisting our families in achieving self sufficiency, and providing comprehensive early learning services that foster school-readiness.





# Health Services



MFCS Head Start & Early Head Start Health Services would like to highlight our partnership with Premier Dental in Hernando County, our push to provide “Grab & Go Meals” for the children enrolled in our virtual program, and our COVID-19 response.

The Head Start Performance Standards dictate that all children enrolled in the program must have a dental exam within 45 days of entry. In order to achieve this, MFCS HS/EHS and Premier Dental have expanded our partnership to include both centers in Hernando County; Brooksville and Spring Hill. Our partnership with Premier Dental ensued the mobile dental unit parked at our centers for the first three weeks of school. This ensured easy access to a comprehensive dental exam for all enrolled children with parental consent. The mobile dental unit has also been scheduled for a return in late October and early November to complete any oral health follow-ups that are needed and complete any further exams that may be needed.

Since the coronavirus pandemic has changed the capacity of children we serve, the decision was made to offer parents/guardians, of children in our program, the option to attend the program virtually. Since these children are not attending brick and mortar, they do not receive the meals provided in care. To help reduce food insecurities in our families, MFCS decided to provide meals to the children enrolled in the virtual program. MFCS ordered and received shelf stable meals for each “virtual” child in a 5-day meal box. The meal boxes contain 5 days’ worth of USDA/CCFP compliant breakfasts and lunches. The families simply make an appointment with their Family Advocate and then are issued a 5-day meal box. We are happy to offer this service to our families.

MFCS HS/EHS has taken a number of steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our brick and mortar centers. We have instituted daily temperature checks for all children and staff. We have capped the capacity of our classrooms at 12. We have discontinued family style dining and tooth brushing activities. We have provided appropriate face masks for all staff and children over age 2. We have instituted policies that ensure a safe distance is maintained as much as possible between adults. We do require face masks when social distancing is not possible.

Mid Florida Community Services Head Start & Early Head Start Health Services continues to strive to provide high-quality comprehensive services that meet the needs of children and families and comply with the Head Start Performance Standards.



# Parent Engagement

Parent Engagement is one of the core values at MFCS Head Start/Early Head Start. We coordinate, promote, and reinforce the importance of parent engagement and participation in the community. Family engagement is supported in multiple settings through the services and resources that we offer. Our staff inspire the children to interact, learn, and play together on various occasions. We invite and encourage families to attend events, visit the classroom, and volunteer at our centers to further promote the importance of family engagement. Our parents have the opportunity to participate in parent committees, monthly parent meetings, planned parent activities, parent trainings, and serve on the policy council throughout the school year. This is beneficial for several reasons. It empowers parents and guardians to assist in making decisions that determine how to best serve children in our program. Parents and guardians get to engage with their child in a classroom setting which shows the children they are interested in their daily routine. It also helps develop fellowship with other parents, and guardians, and learn about what is happening in their child's center.

As we know, these parent engagement activities looked much different this year. We still know the importance of family engagement and involvement in our program. It was especially imperative this year, that families had options and ideas to stay engaged with each other during this unprecedented time.

Here at MFCS Head Start / Early Head Start, we transitioned all parent engagement activities, and policy council meetings to a virtual setting.

We sent home family engagement activity bags to our families, and family engagement resources were added on our website and social media pages. We hosted social media contests for parents and guardians that shared ways they were engaging with their families at home. Our Family Advocates also provided incentives such as raffles for parents and guardians who attended the virtual parent meetings. We had a large participation rate while the meetings were virtual.

In addition The Family Advocates implemented the parent curriculum, "What You Do Matters." This six week series educates parents on four important areas of child development; Language, Social-Emotional, Cognitive, and Motor skills. This comprehensive curriculum connects parents and guardians, helps them to learn together, share their own experiences, and ask questions. They also are given a list of activities that they can do together with their child at home. "What You Do Matters" teaches parents and guardians new ways to interact with their child and help them to successfully learn and grow.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, we hosted in person parent engagement activities. We hosted parent meetings, where parents and guardians created potted plants, and painted beautiful canvases. Spring Hill hosted a Winter Festival full of fun and games. Our Early Head Start Home-Based program held their monthly group socialization event. Some Head Start Children visited the Museum of Art, DeLand where they learned about new art exhibit and created crown hats. Parents and guardians also attended as chaperones for this event.



HS Parent Volunteers

362

EHS Parent Volunteers

119

# Community Partnership

Mid Florida Community Services, Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start takes great pride in creating and maintaining community partnerships with a variety of community organizations. Community partnerships help us to fulfill our mission and increase our potential while also assisting in fulfilling the mission of our community partner organization.

This year, we'd like to highlight a community partner that goes above and beyond for the communities they serve. We are appreciative of the vast impact they have within the community. They host community outreach events in which our staff attends and shares valuable information about our programs directly to the residents of the communities we serve. The Daytona Dream Center is a 501C3 non-profit organization. Their mission is to see the community transform. They aim to create a healthy and flourishing community by providing opportunity and personal development for people in need. They strive to link arms with local partners to unlock their full potential. We recognize that Daytona Dream Center fulfills their mission in its entirety.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Daytona Dream Center quickly jumped into action to serve Volusia and Flagler residents who were suffering from a lack of resources such as food insecurities. They host a mobile food pantry which meets the needs of people right where they are at. Through their outreach efforts, they hosted 10 mobile food drops during the COVID-19 pandemic. We attended several of these outreach events and were in awe of the turn out, and were so excited to share information about our no cost programs during these difficult times. Through a partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank, the Daytona Dream Center has distributed over 450,000 pounds of food and 8,400 mobile meals to those who could not get to the distribution sites. They made an impact in over 15,000 people's lives.

The Daytona Dream Center also reaches the community in immense ways through their Adopt-A-Block event. At this event their team members, go to a neighborhood in the local community and cleanup, host a block party, provide free groceries, a free meal, and fill the specific needs of the community. In addition to the community events previously mentioned, The Daytona Dream Center in partnership with PayIt4Ward hosted a free drive-thru backpack giveaway. We also attended this event, and saw first hand just how excited the children were to receive their very own backpack loaded with a variety of school supplies.

Each of these events are so impactful and we look forward to attending them, to continue our community outreach efforts, and directly link families in need with the services we offer.

We are so appreciative of the partnership we have with The Daytona Dream Center, and are so thankful for the incredible impact they make in the community, our organization, and people's lives.



*Our Family Advocates Robyn, and Devon at the Daytona Dream Center Adopt-A-Block event. The Daytona Dream Center stated on social media, "We love our partners who help us make a greater impact in the community."*



*Our Family Advocate Rebecca and our Community Outreach Coordinator Cori assist in handing out boxes of food, and telling the attendees about our program at the Daytona Dream Center Drive-Thru Food Drop in Daytona Beach.*



*Our Family Advocate Elizabeth shares information about what Head Start offers at the Daytona Dream Center Adopt-A-Block event.*

**"My passion for the Daytona Dream Center stems from my past and the desire to help as many people as possible by coming together as a community. As the Communications Director for the DDC, my main focus is to link arms with other like-minded people and organizations to reach more people together. We know that together we are better and that together we can make a true difference in the lives of people, and that's what it's all about!"**  
~Tanysha Hartsgrove



# The Head Start Impact

Funded  
Enrollment

977

Cumulative  
Enrollment

1192

Number of  
Families

1105

Eligible  
Children

97%

Average Monthly  
Enrollment

98%

Primary Language:  
English

940

Primary Language:  
Spanish

264

Primary Language:  
Arabic

6

Primary Language:  
African Languages

0

Primary Language:  
ASL

4

Black/  
African-American

403

White

642

Hispanic/ Latino

455

Biracial/  
Multiracial

132

Asian

6

American Indian /  
Alaska Native

1

Native Hawaiian or  
Other Pacific Islander

2

Newly Enrolled  
Children

776

Children Screened  
Within 45 Days

468

One-Parent  
Families

663

Two-Parent  
Families

442

Families That  
Received Services

225

Children  
Experiencing  
Homelessness

106

Foster  
Children

25

Received  
Medical  
Exams

65%

Received  
Dental Exams

84%

At Healthy  
Weight

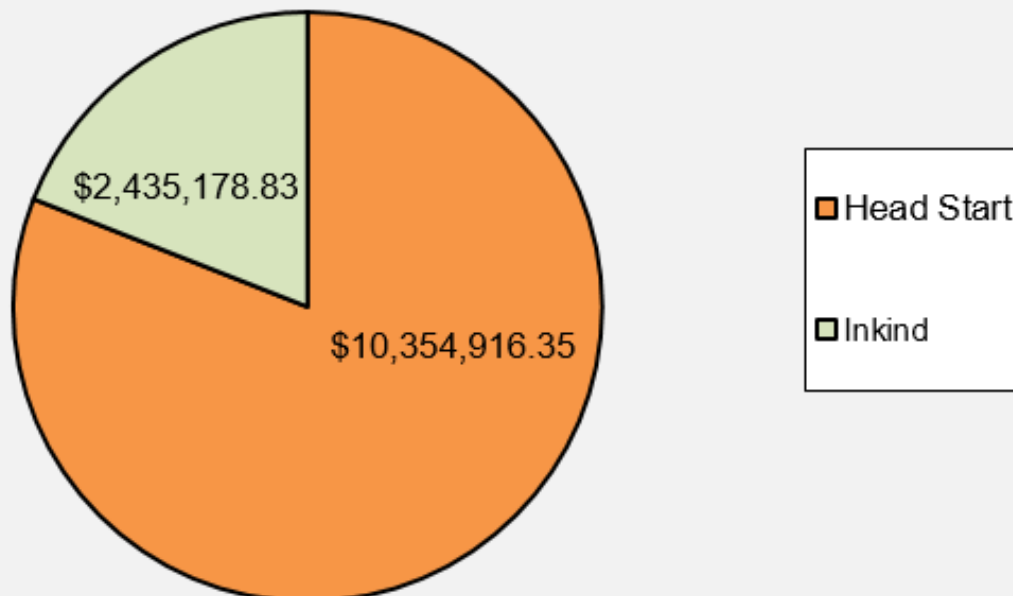
71%

# Head Start Financial Overview

## Expenditures Budget to Actual

| Expenditure Category | Actual Expenditures     | Budget                  | Variance            | Percentage |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Training             | \$ 112,179.38           | \$ 115,624.00           | \$ 3,444.62         | 2.98%      |
| Salaries             | 5,679,488.99            | 5,830,465.77            | 150,976.78          | 2.59%      |
| Fringes              | 1,871,662.47            | 2,166,645.31            | 294,982.84          | 13.61%     |
| Travel               | 14,612.34               | 26,106.00               | 11,493.66           | 44.03%     |
| Equipment            | -                       | -                       | -                   | 0.00%      |
| Supplies             | 322,691.96              | 244,972.00              | (77,719.96)         | -31.73%    |
| Contractual          | 258,320.00              | 246,657.27              | (11,662.73)         | -4.73%     |
| Other                | 1,204,502.95            | 828,697.89              | (375,805.06)        | -45.35%    |
| Indirect             | 891,458.26              | 952,240.42              | 60,782.16           | 6.38%      |
| Inkind               | 2,435,178.83            | 2,426,428.34            | (8,750.49)          | -0.36%     |
|                      | <u>\$ 12,790,095.18</u> | <u>\$ 12,837,837.00</u> | <u>\$ 47,741.82</u> | 0.37%      |

## Revenues Received





# The Early Head Start Impact

Funded  
Enrollment

112

Cumulative  
Enrollment

235

Number of  
Families

218

Eligible  
Children

97%

Average Monthly  
Enrollment

98%

Primary Language:  
English

195

Primary Language:  
Spanish

35

Primary Language:  
Arabic

1

Primary Language:  
African Languages

0

Primary Language:  
ASL

3

Black/  
African-American

104

White

96

Hispanic/ Latino

69

Biracial/  
Multiracial

31

Asian

0

American Indian /  
Alaska Native

1

Native Hawaiian or  
Other Pacific Islander

1

Newly Enrolled  
Children

119

Children Screened  
Within 45 Days

37

One-Parent  
Families

142

Two-Parent  
Families

76

Families That  
Received Services

66

Children  
Experiencing  
Homelessness

46

Foster  
Children

10

Received  
Medical  
Exams

87%

Received  
Dental Exams

N/A

At Healthy  
Weight

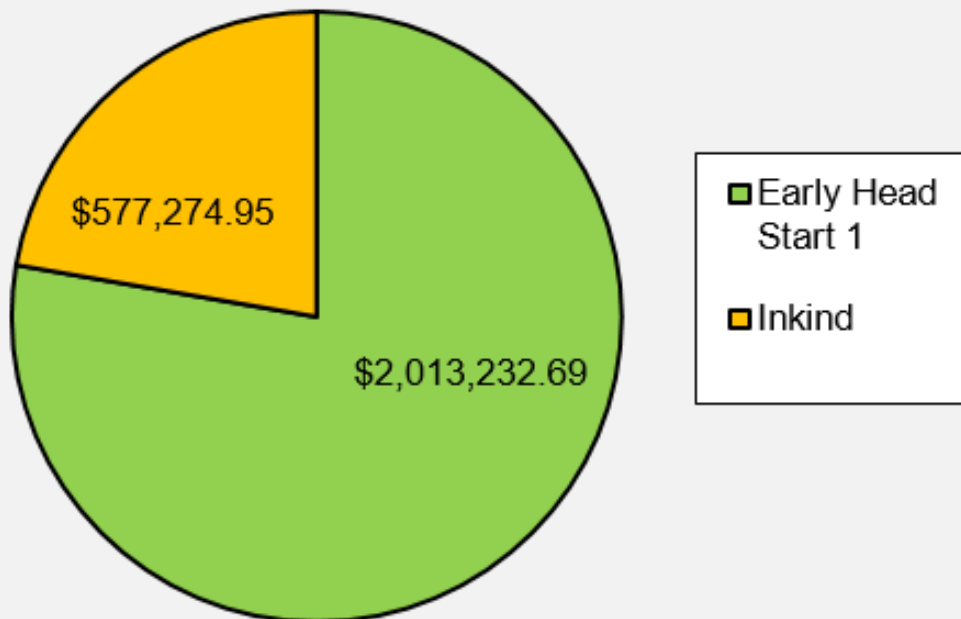
N/A

# Early Head Start Financial Overview

## Expenditures Budget to Actual

| Expenditure Category | Actual Expenditures    | Budget                 | Variance            | Percentage |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Training             | 19,914.25              | 50,052.75              | \$ 30,138.50        | 60.21%     |
| Salaries             | 1,121,635.73           | 1,136,653.95           | 15,018.22           | 1.32%      |
| Fringes              | 367,360.94             | 466,516.37             | 99,155.43           | 21.25%     |
| Travel               | 7,743.13               | 8,659.75               | 916.62              | 10.58%     |
| Equipment            | -                      | -                      | -                   | 0.00%      |
| Supplies             | 49,992.08              | 57,664.48              | 7,672.40            | 13.31%     |
| Contractual          | 35,470.62              | 22,421.20              | (13,049.42)         | -58.20%    |
| Other                | 234,450.66             | 191,291.19             | (43,159.47)         | -22.56%    |
| Indirect             | 176,665.28             | 207,313.78             | 30,648.50           | 14.78%     |
| Inkind               | 577,274.95             | 535,142.62             | (42,132.33)         | -7.87%     |
|                      | <u>\$ 2,590,507.64</u> | <u>\$ 2,675,716.09</u> | <u>\$ 85,208.45</u> | 3.18%      |

## Revenues Received





# The Early Head Start II Impact

Funded  
Enrollment

120

Cumulative  
Enrollment

176

Number of  
Families

155

Eligible  
Children

97%

Average Monthly  
Enrollment

98%

Primary Language:  
English

152

Primary Language:  
Spanish

25

Primary Language:  
Arabic

0

Primary Language:  
African Languages

0

Primary Language:  
ASL

1

Black/  
African-American

62

White

80

Hispanic/ Latino

64

Biracial/  
Multiracial

32

Asian

0

American Indian /  
Alaska Native

0

Native Hawaiian or  
Other Pacific Islander

0

Newly Enrolled  
Children

145

Children Screened  
Within 45 Days

29

One-Parent  
Families

94

Two-Parent  
Families

61

Families That  
Received Services

17

Children  
Experiencing  
Homelessness

31

Foster  
Children

11

Received  
Medical  
Exams

33%

Received  
Dental Exams

N/A

At Healthy  
Weight

N/A

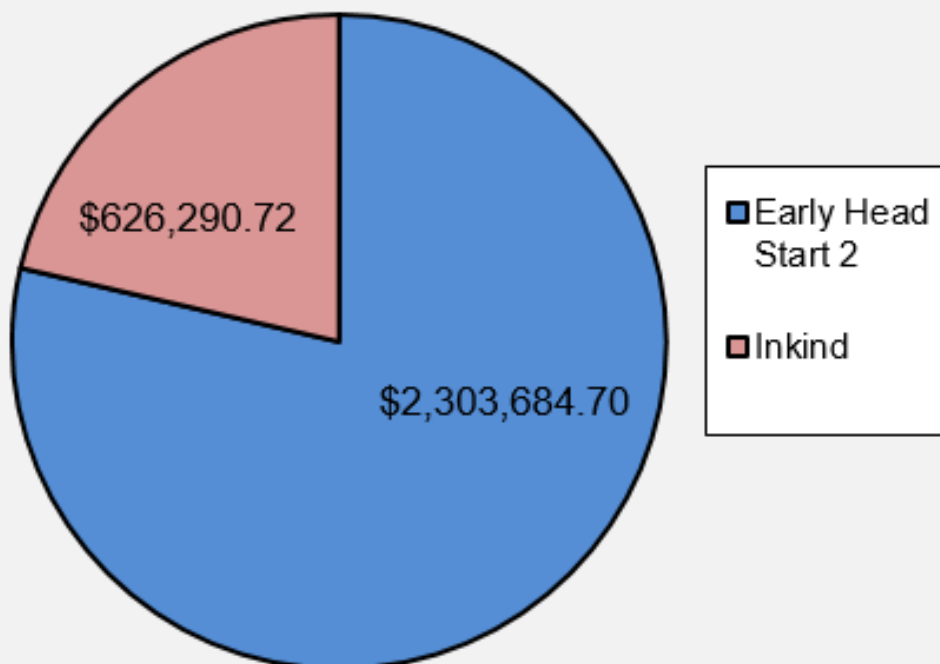
# Early Head Start II

## Financial Overview

### Expenditures Budget to Actual

| Expenditure Category | Actual Expenditures    | Budget                 | Variance             | Percentage |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Training             | 43,686.30              | 54,250.02              | \$ 10,563.72         | 19.47%     |
| Salaries             | 1,193,953.80           | 1,272,558.09           | 78,604.29            | 6.18%      |
| Fringes              | 389,705.95             | 453,912.57             | 64,206.62            | 14.15%     |
| Travel               | 5,310.85               | 9,447.00               | 4,136.15             | 43.78%     |
| Equipment            | -                      | -                      | -                    | 0.00%      |
| Supplies             | 162,027.96             | 181,055.76             | 19,027.80            | 10.51%     |
| Contractual          | 28,579.45              | 29,731.41              | 1,151.96             | 3.87%      |
| Other                | 283,856.12             | 334,721.41             | 50,865.29            | 15.20%     |
| Indirect             | 196,563.77             | 212,589.59             | 16,025.82            | 7.54%      |
| Inkind               | 626,291.22             | 630,093.13             | 3,801.91             | 0.60%      |
|                      | <u>\$ 2,929,975.42</u> | <u>\$ 3,178,358.98</u> | <u>\$ 248,383.56</u> | 7.81%      |

### Revenues Received





# Transitioning to Kindergarten



“The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child's own natural desire to learn.” ~Maria Montessori

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, kindergarten teachers from the local elementary school or a district kindergarten representative are invited to present important information to parents regarding the kindergarten registration process and kindergarten expectations.

In Volusia County the school district hosts Articulation Meetings and invites Head Start teachers and teachers from local private child care and other VPK programs. These meetings are held at local elementary schools 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 kindergarten 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 children of 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 a local school district personnel and staff from the local Early Learning Coalition to develop a Kindergarten Readiness checklist. The Head Start teachers have the opportunity to 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.



## **Results of Focus Area 2 Monitoring Review**

Our program, Mid Florida  
Community Services, Inc.  
Head Start/Early Head  
Start was not monitored  
in 2019.

## **Results of Audit**

MFCS completed their  
independent annual fiscal audit,  
conducted by Carr, Riggs, &  
Ingram, LLC. There were no  
Head Start findings.



# Center Directory

## Hernando County

**HERNANDO  
HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START**  
835 School Street Brooksville, FL 34601  
352-754-2464

**SPRING HILL  
HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START**  
11245 Spring Hill Drive Spring Hill, FL 34609  
352-556-4800

## Sumter County

**BUSHNELL HEAD START**  
403 Lincoln Street Bushnell, FL 33513  
352-793-3737

## Volusia County

**BLUE LAKE HEAD START**  
282 N. Blue Lake Avenue DeLand, FL 32724  
386-736-1891 ext. 243 | 352-277-1619

**CHISHOLM HEAD START**  
531 Mary Avenue New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169  
386-427-8149

**COLEMAN HEAD START**  
200 E. Blue Springs Avenue Orange City, FL 32763  
386-774-0423 | 386-774-1520

**DELAND HEAD START**  
726 S. Woodward Boulevard DeLand, FL 32720  
386-873-4804

**DELTONA LAKES HEAD START**  
2022 Adelia Boulevard Deltona, FL 32725  
382-277-1619

**EASTERSEALS HEAD START**  
1219 Dunn Ave. Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
386-624-1772

**EVEC HEAD START**  
461 S. Keech Street Daytona, FL 32114  
386-323-7115

**FAIRVIEW EARLY HEAD START**  
142 Fairview Ave. Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
386-736-7325

**HIGHLAND EARLY HEAD START**  
124 Highland Ave. Holly Hill, FL 32117  
386-281-3600

**HOLLY HILL HEAD START**  
719 Walker Street Holly Hill, FL 32117  
386-238-8455

**HOPE PLACE  
HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START**  
1340 Wright Street Daytona Beach, FL 32117  
386-281-3314

**INDIAN RIVER HEAD START**  
650 Roberts Road Edgewater, FL 32141  
386-427-8149

**JO SHEPPARD  
HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START**  
592 S. Volusia Avenue Pierson, FL 32180  
386-749-0300

**MALLOY  
HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START**  
330 E. Retta Street De Leon Springs, FL 32130  
386-315-6663 | 386-985-0807

**OAK RIDGE  
HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START**  
233 Oak Ridge Street Holly Hill, FL 32117  
386-366-8242 ext. 2007

**OSTEEN HEAD START**  
506 Doyle Road Osteen, FL 32764  
407-324-3865

**PORT ORANGE  
HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START**  
3749 S. Nova Road Port Orange, FL 32129  
386-788-1088

**WESTSIDE HEAD START**  
1210 Jimmy Ann Drive Daytona Beach, FL 32117  
386-788-1088

**WOODWARD HEAD START**  
1201 S. Woodland Boulevard DeLand, FL 32720  
352-277-1619

**WVEC HEAD START**  
803 S. Woodland Boulevard DeLand, FL 32720  
386-736-1891 ext. 243



**LET'S get connected**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION**



**[www.MidFloridaHeadStart.com](http://www.MidFloridaHeadStart.com)**



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