



Catholic Charities
Archdiocese of New Orleans



HEAD  START
BIRTH TO FIVE

2016-2017 Annual Report

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This report is prepared to comply with the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007, Administrative Requirements and Standards Sec. 644 [42 U.S.C. 9839 (a)(2)].



Dear Friends of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans,

Catholic Charities has been providing New Orleans area children with a “Head Start” in life for nearly four decades. Head Start centers provide free early childhood education and health, social and nutrition services to qualifying children. Head Start also supports parents and families in achieving their educational, financial and other goals. It is an investment not only in our children, but in our community as a whole.

In 2016, Catholic Charities opened a new Early Head Start center at Covenant House. While the program is open to any family who qualifies, the Covenant House partnership fills a critical need for care and services for the children of homeless parents who have turned to Covenant House for help and support. The program provides quality care, comprehensive early childhood education and health services for 20 children.

Additionally, St. Paul the Apostle Head Start and Early Head Start opened in New Orleans East, which is an area traditionally underserved in community resources, especially in the area of education. These new sites allow Catholic Charities to continue serving families most in need.

In this fiscal year, Catholic Charities was able to invest in the advancement of our Head Start programs by purchasing new classroom furniture, advancing the technology used to track educational improvements, training our teachers and employees and reaching children and areas previously underserved.

Thank you for your generous and continued support of this invaluable program. I look forward to our continuous growth in providing these services to additional children and families in our community. As we do so, let us always remember Jesus’ words, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name, welcomes me.”

God bless you,

Sr. Marjorie Hebert, M.S.C.

Sr. Marjorie Hebert, M.S.C.
President & CEO

A MESSAGE FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES PRESIDENT AND CEO

A MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans,

To the families, agencies, and community members of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans (CCANO) Head Start. I am delighted that you have taken a moment to read “Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans Head Start/Early Head Start’s 2016-2017 Annual Report”. Inside you will find information related to what we do every day; living up to the responsibility of providing a high quality education to the most vulnerable children of our nation. To achieve this, CCANO Head Start/Early Head Start delivers services to children and families in core areas of early learning, nutrition, health, mental health, and family well-being while engaging parents as partners every step of the way. You will find statistics related to education, health, social services and family partnerships amongst other notable program milestones and success stories.

Eligibility for Head Start/Early Head Start services, which are free, is based on family income. Our program strives to maximize family’s strengths, provide each child a rich and nurturing learning environment and ensure children’s medical and dental health needs are met.

Our staff builds trusting relationships with parents and the community to promote school readiness, as we believe that strong family and community engagement prepares children for future educational excellence. We have a responsibility to consult with parents, schools and the community in establishing school readiness goals for their children. As research suggests, parents and family members are more likely to become engaged in their young child’s development and learning when they have positive and trusting relationships with those who support them.

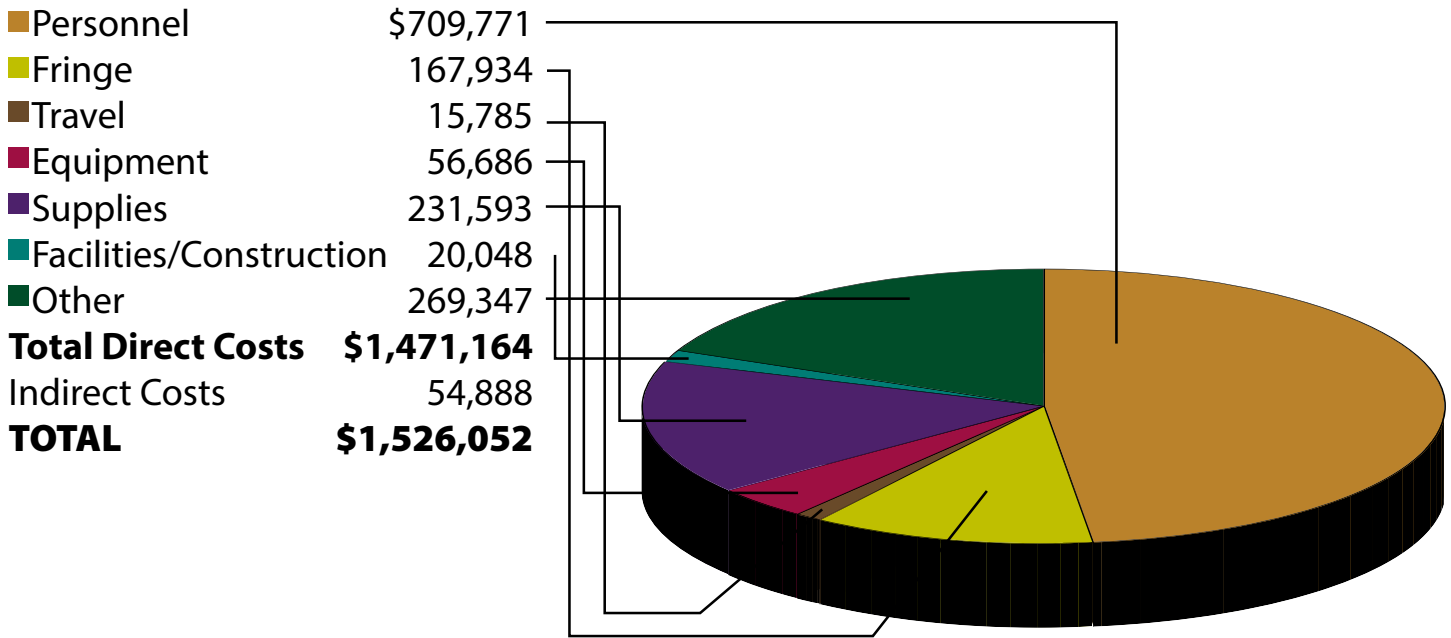
We would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful groups of parents who serve on committees and Policy Council, our staff who remained focused and motivated, our many community partners, local school district, and Regional Office (Region 6) staff for their expertise, guidance and continuous support. It takes a community working together to provide high-quality, early learning services to children, and equipping them with the foundation for lifelong learning and success.

Thank you for taking the time to look over this report on our program from the 2016-2017 school year.

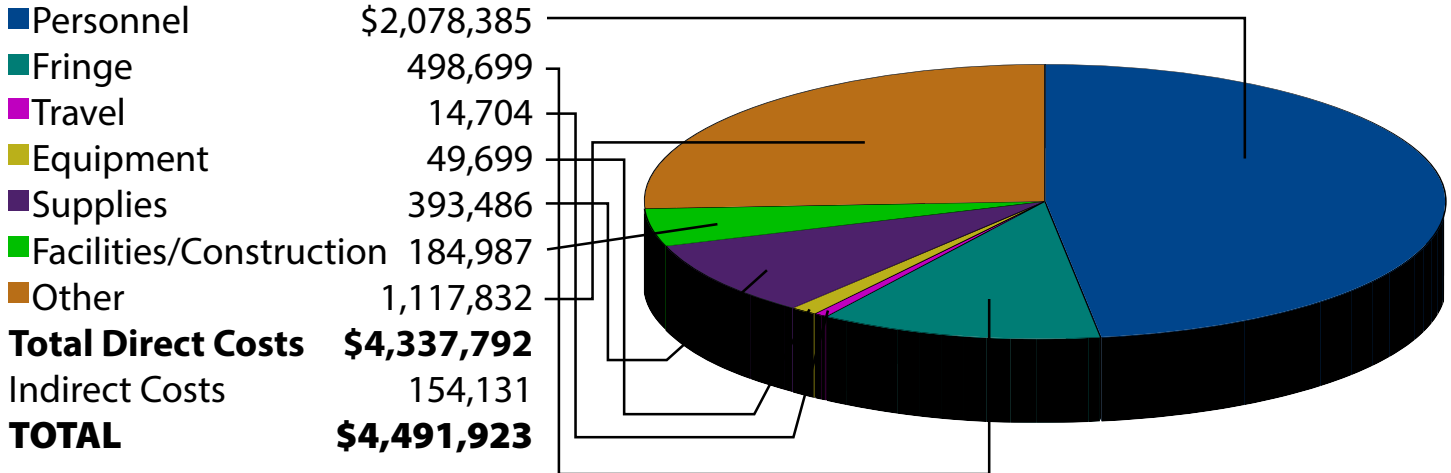
God bless you,

Rhonda B. Taylor, M.Ed
*Director of Early Childhood Education Services
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans Head Start/Early Head Start*

EARLY HEAD START FEDERAL TOTAL



HEAD START FEDERAL TOTAL



SUCCESS STORY

St. Paul the Apostle Early Head Start parent, Jozelle Kelly, created a plan that would allow her the ability to provide financial stability and a quality life for her children. Jozelle Kelly decided that she wanted to fulfill her passion by becoming a licensed Cosmetologist. Jozelle Kelly was able to complete the Cosmetology program at Blue Cliff College. She is currently preparing to take the required Louisiana State Board to attain her license in Cosmetology.

Services to Families

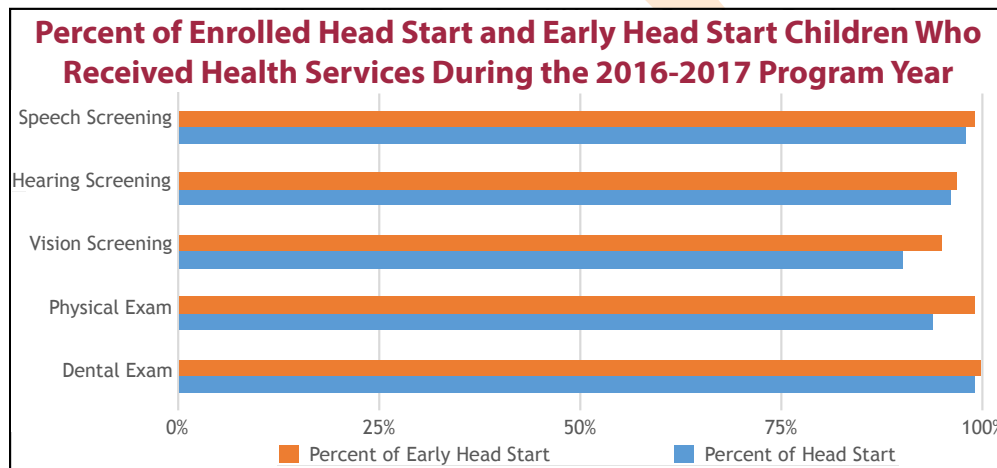
Health and Nutrition

School readiness begins with health. From serving nutritious meals, to providing health and nutrition education, to coordinating health services, our Head Start and Early Head Start staff are dedicated to ensuring that our children are socially, emotionally, and physically prepared for their academic careers.

Nutrition. Our lovely cooks have worked hard all year to provide daily nutritious meals and snacks for our children. On average **13,228** nutritious meals were served to our children each month including Breakfast, Lunch, and Snack.

Health Services. Our goal is that 100% of children enrolled in our Head Start and Early Head Start programs receive comprehensive health services and screenings to identify and treat any health concerns that may hinder their ability to reach their peak academic performance. This is a collaborative effort between the Family Advocates, the Health and Nutrition Coordinator, our local medical and dental providers, and our local community partners.

Thanks to our community partners from New Orleans Speech and Hearing - **98%** of enrolled Head Start and **99%** of enrolled Early Head Start received Hearing Screenings, and **96%** of Head Start and **97%** of Early Head Start received Speech Screenings. Our friends from the Cub Sight program performed vision screenings such that **90%** of our Head Start children and **95%** of our Early Head Start children received vision screenings. To ensure that they were up to date on their immunizations and developmental milestones, **94%** of Head Start and **99%** of Early Head Start received at least one Physical exam, and for routine cleaning and dental health check-ups **99%** of Head Start and **100%** of Early Head Start received at least one Dental Exam.



SUCCESS STORY

Syndie C. Bowman is currently an Early Head Start Parent majoring in General Studies at Southern University at New Orleans. Syndie took a break from school this fall semester, and joined the Army National Guard where she participated and worked very hard in the basic training program in South Carolina at Fort Jackson Army Base where she graduated in May 2017.

Syndie will resume her studies at Southern University at New Orleans in August 2017, and plans to graduate in May 2018 with her Bachelors in General Studies.

It has been a pleasure having Syndie as an Early Head Start Parent, and I looked forward to seeing her next school year.



SUCCESS STORY

Joanne Spears joined Incarnate Word Head Start as an assistant teacher in 2012. Prior to 2012 she worked at various schools and organizations, as a substitute teacher, counselor's assistant, kindergarten teacher's aide, PE teacher, religion teacher, and basketball/softball coach. When Joanne joined Incarnate Word, she held Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education. She spent time with two different lead teachers in Head Start classrooms. After two short years at Incarnate Word, Joanne was promoted to lead teacher and given her own class. Knowing how important a Bachelor's degree was, Joanne enrolled in Ashford University's online Bachelor's program for Early Childhood Education Administration. While juggling a full time job, a husband with serious health problems, a daughter in college, and her son's extremely busy and varied sports activities, Joanne completed her degree in 2017. She is now determined to return to school to get her Masters in Early Childhood Education, though she is undecided if it will be through Ashford University or the University of New Orleans.

When asked why she wanted to get her Bachelor's degree, Joanne said that she always wanted to go back to school. She imparts the importance of education on her children. She said "How can I tell my kids to complete something if I don't?" She went on to say "You have to keep pushing and praying. It's not easy, but you can complete it. Believe in yourself and cross those obstacles as they come." Joanne gives this as advice to her fellow teachers and anyone who has an aspiration to take themselves further. She is proof that one can do it. It might take longer than you anticipated, but with patience and perseverance, you can achieve your goals.

School Readiness

CCANO Head Start/Early Head Start defines school readiness as children being ready for school, families ready to support their children's learning, and schools ready for the children who enter their doors. School readiness for children in Head Start is measured by the skills set out in the five domains of the Head Start Early Learning Outcome Framework. Head Start works to meet the overall goal of ensuring the school readiness and social competence of young children in-low-income families. CCANO Head Start/Early Head Start programs work from the Creative Curriculum which is aligned with Louisiana State Standards, Head Start's Early Learning Outcome Framework, CCANO Head Start's School Readiness Goals, and Teaching Strategies Gold (our ongoing assessment tool). They work to ensure that children leaving Head Start are fully equipped for kindergarten and beyond. The focus on social competence means fostering the child's every day effectiveness in dealing with his or her present environment and later responsibilities in school and life. Social competence takes into account social, emotional, physical, cognitive, math, language and literacy development of the child. We work to see that families are engaged in their children's learning and development and ready to support their child's lifelong success. Head Start recognizes that parents are their children's primary teachers, and we offer family members opportunities and support for growth and change, believing that people can identify their strengths, needs and interests and are capable of finding solutions.

Kindergarten Preparation

In addition to the skills included in the Early Learning Outcome Framework, CCANO Head Start/Early Head Start prepares children to transfer from Early Head Start to Head Start Pre K and from Head Start to kindergarten through transition activities. Listed below are the activities we complete to support kindergarten readiness.

- Each center invites the principal or teachers from their local school district to attend Parent Meetings so they are able to share information with parents about the school, the expectations in kindergarten, and the enrollment process.
- Early Head Start and Head Start Teachers complete a transition packet that includes development information about each child.
- Classroom lesson plans include transition activities to ensure a smooth transition.
- Each spring, students transitioning to kindergarten visit an actual kindergarten classroom. Early Head Start transitioning students visit a Pre-K Head Start classroom. This provides students an opportunity to see a classroom and building, as well as interact with students and teachers.



CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System)

As a grantee serving preschool age children in the center-based option, all the CCANO Head Start preschool classrooms were observed in the fall of 2016 and spring of 2017 using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS). CLASS is an assessment tool that measures teacher/child interactions, as well as interactions between children. The observations were completed by the program Education Component Specialists and contracted Education Specialists from outside the organization.

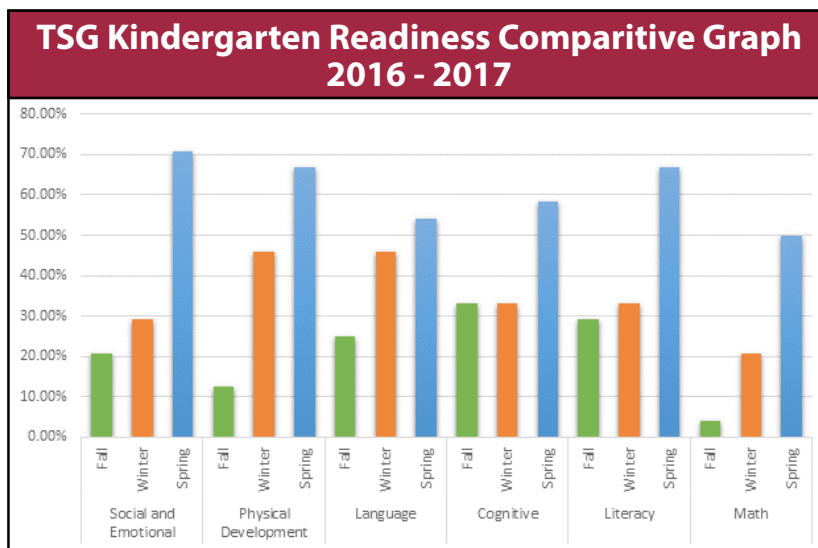
- **Emotional Support** assesses the degree to which teachers establish and promote a positive climate in their classroom through their everyday interactions.
- **Classroom Organization** assesses classroom routines and procedures related to the organization and management of children's behavior, time, and attention in the classroom.
- **Instructional Support** assesses the ways in which teachers implement the curriculum to effectively promote cognitive and language development

At the national level, in 2015 - 2016, Head Start grantees received CLASS® reviews. The table below reflects the results of the reviews with the fourth column reflecting the result from the program's spring observations.

Domain	Lowest 10%	Median (50%)	Highest 10%	CCANO Scores
Emotional Support	5.952	6.04	6.35	5.87
Classroom Organization	5.25	5.76	6.15	5.27
Instructional Support	2.2222	2.74	3.53	3.76

Ongoing Assessment

Teaching Strategies Gold a research based tool our program uses to assess the growth of our students. We assess our students at the end of the Fall, Winter, and Spring checkpoints. Data generated from TSG is used to guide instruction, individualize, plan professional development, and drive decisions made for the program. The graph below shows the growth of students transitioning to kindergarten from the beginning to the end of the 2016-2017 school year.



SUCCESS STORY

At St. Paul the Apostle Early Head Start and Head Start Center, we were fortunate enough to have several parents with success stories. However, in the regular head start program we had a young man enrolled by the name of Derandus Frye, Jr. His mother, Brittney Ramsey Frye, was having a difficult time finding employment that suited her personality and fit in with the head start hours for her son. She finally decided to step out on faith and open her own business which was a dream of hers. She became an event planner and as time went by she told stories of how her business was taking off by planning parties, showers, and weddings for relatives and friends. People attending the events she planned began to inquire about her services and her business took off. She is now busier than ever and can't wait until we open again for the next school session so that she can spend more time making contacts and expanding her business.



Mental Health: Family Services

The Mental Health Coordinator offers emergency counseling services to Head Start families in the event of a crisis, death, violence, et cetera. Usually after two or three counseling sessions, the family is referred to a preferred community mental health provider so that on-going counseling and support can be continued. The Head Start Mental Health Coordinator also speaks about mental health topics of interest at monthly center parent meetings upon request. She has had the opportunity to speak at every center's monthly parent meeting.

The Mental Health Coordinator has initiated and formed a Child Assistance Team (C.A.T.) to help Head Start staff at each center refer students that may need help either behaviorally or academically to the MH/Disabilities Coordinator using a team approach. This team consists of: Teacher, Family Advocate, Center Director, Teacher Mentor, Mental Health and Disabilities Coordinator. To date, 181 referral/consult services have been provided to our Head Start families.

SUCCESS STORY

Channon Mosley Cannon is an Early Head Start Teacher who is currently attending Southern University at New Orleans where she is currently a junior majoring in Elementary Education. Channon enrolled into SUNO in August 2016 after being out of school for 6 years.

Channon has currently been on the Dean's List for 1 ½ years with a GPA of 3.5.

Mrs. Channon has stated that she wants to become a Head Start Director once she receives her degree in May 2018".

Disabilities: Family Services

A Child Assistance Team (C.A.T.) was formed to help Head Start staff at each center refer students that may need help either behaviorally or academically to the MH/Disabilities Coordinator using a team approach. This team consists of: Teacher, Family Advocate, Center Director, Teacher Mentor, Mental Health and Disabilities Coordinator. Families can also refer their children whom they suspect may have a developmental delay. Once a referral(s) are made by parents, the Disabilities Coordinator will conduct a classroom observation of child.

Results/recommendations are discussed confidentially at a C.A.T. meeting with parents and the Disabilities Coordinator starts the evaluation process with the Orleans Parish Schools Exceptional Children Services or Easter Seals Early Steps Program. After a full evaluation has been performed, and diagnosis has been given for child, either an Individual Family Service Plan or Individual Educational Plan will be formed for the child. To date, the Head Start program did achieve its 10% goal for the program year in June 2017. To date, the disabilities portion of the program stands at 23%.

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans Head Start/Early Head Start

DISABILITIES ANNUAL REPORT DISABILITIES AND MENTAL HEALTH

HEAD START CENTERS	% of Disabilities & Concerns/Evaluations	% of Mental Health Referrals/Consult Visit
St. John the Baptist Head Start	13 %	46
Covenant House Head Start	3%	18
St. Mary of the Angels Head Start	15%	32
Incarnate Word Head Start	30%	79
St. Paul Head Start	5%	6
Total Consistent Enrollment = 425	Total % of Disabilities = 66%	Total Referrals and/or Consults = 181
Funded Seats for Program = 402		
	<p>*10% for 2017 based on enrollment = 42.5 = 43% 66% -43%</p> <p>**23% > 10% for 2017 program year</p>	<p>*Louisiana DOE mandates 181 school days. Head Start Mental Referrals/Consults average 1 per day of program year.</p>



Services to Families

CCANO is funded to provide Head Start Services to 402 preschool age children and Early Head Start services to 92 infants, toddlers. The total number of children served was 444.

The average monthly enrollment in the Head Start program was 90% and of that number 80% were income eligible, 5% were experiencing homelessness, and 14% were in receipt of public assistance.

The average monthly enrollment in the Early Head Start program was 91% and of that number 69% were income eligible, 14% were experiencing homelessness, and 14% were in receipt of public assistance.

Funded Head Start Seats	402
Funded Early Head Start Seats	92
Total Number Served	444
Average Monthly Enrollment Head Start	90%
Income Eligible	80%
Public Assistance	14%
Average Monthly Enrollment Early Head Start	91%
Income Eligible	69%
Public Assistance	14%
Homeless	14%



SUCCESS STORY

Ms. C is a single mother and the parent of a true Head Start child, meaning her child started with Incarnate Word as a one year old in Early Head Start and left us as a five year old Head Start child ready for her next step to Kindergarten. Ms. C. had a few goals when she entered our program. She achieved two of the three before leaving us at the end of May, and anticipates her third to be met before her daughter starts Kindergarten in August. While in the program, Ms. C. went through a number of jobs, each time obtaining a better paying position. After being faced with massive layoffs at her previous employer, she has just recently started a new job with the Clerk of Court's office and she is very excited about the new opportunity.

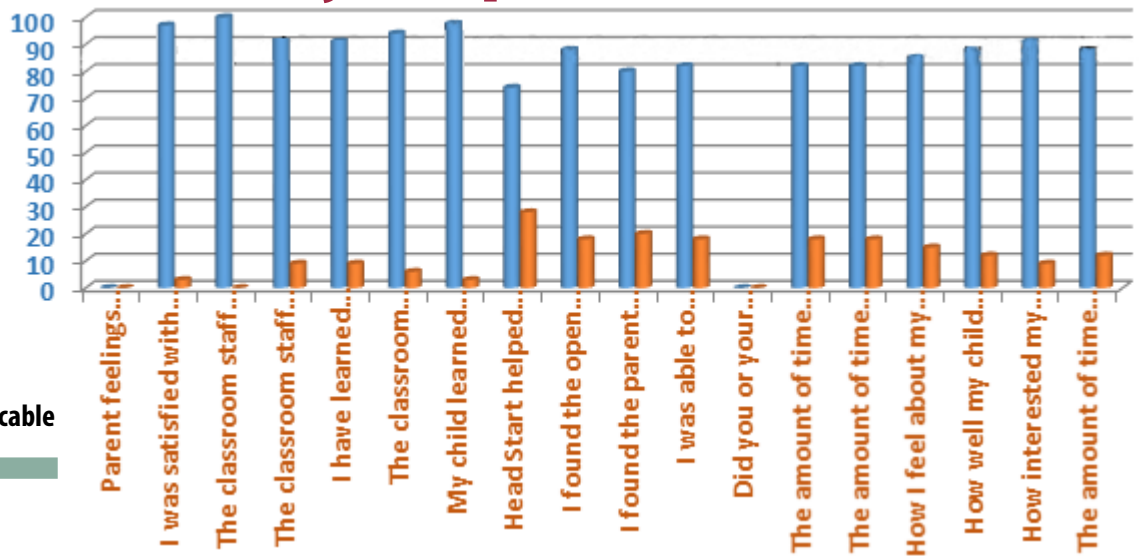
Ms. C is an outgoing person who had dreams of getting her driver's license and becoming a first time home buyer. She took the necessary steps to achieve those goals by studying for the driver's test, getting her credit in order, saving money, and taking a first time

homebuyer class. Ms. C. got her driver's license in 2014 and purchased her house in March of 2016.

Ms. C. credits the Head Start program with helping her financially and in general. Receiving no cost child care in an educational setting helped set the stage for success. She also says that the program helped her bond more with her child, and her child's classmates, as she had plenty of opportunities to be in the classroom and participate in activities. To be able to be an active participant in her child's growth, development, and education was important to her. Ms. C. participated in the Parent Committee as a past President, and was always a vocal part of the Head Start family at Incarnate Word. Staff has fully supported Ms. C. throughout her family's Head Start journey. When asked how she felt about the program and what she would tell others, Ms. C stated that Head Start is "A great opportunity if your child is accepted".

2016-2017 Parent Survey Results

Survey Responses



Parent Involvement Activities

Parents and families are supported in achieving their own goals; such as housing stability, continued education, and financial security. Our Family well-being programs support and strengthen parent-child relationships and engage families around children's learning and development.

Many parents who enroll their children in Head Start and Early Head Start also receive educational services themselves. We have assisted many of our parents in obtaining their GEDs and enrolling in college classes. Some parents also take our English as a Second Language classes and receive guidance on the path to citizenship.

Parents also receive education about child rearing, as well as job training. Each family is different, so depending on individual needs, parents and other family members may also be referred to medical, social welfare or employment specialists for services.



Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PFCE)

CCANO values Family and Community Engagement as an opportunity to build high quality collaborative relationships to foster the growth and development of every family we serve. We strive to achieve great gains for our families by the utilization of these positive and goal oriented relationships. CCANO ensures that our PCFE model is both culturally and linguistically appropriate as well as effective.

Parent, Family and Community Outcomes

Assessment Item	Preliminary Score	Midyear Score	End of Year Score
Family Well-Being			
Employment, Job Skills and Job Training	2.1	2.4	2.5
Income Management , Financial Security and Budgeting	2.1	2.4	2.5
Medical and Dental Care	2.5	2.7	2.7
Safe and Efficient Housing	2.4	2.6	2.6
Physical and Mental Wellness	2.3	2.6	2.6
Affordable Access to Food, Meal Preparation, Healthy Living	2.3	2.6	2.6
Transportation Access	2.4	2.6	2.7
Positive Parent-Child Relationship			
Managing my Child's Behavior	2.2	2.5	2.5
Spending Quality Time with my Child	2.4	2.6	2.7
Actively Involved with my Child	2.3	2.6	2.6
Developing Routines for my Child	2.1	2.4	2.4
Families as Lifelong Educators			
Knowledge and Skills to Teach my Child	2.1	2.3	2.3
Knowledge and Understanding of Child Development	2	2.3	2.3
Reading with my Child and other Educational Activities			
Communicating with my Child's Teachers	2.2	2.4	2.4
Supporting Learning at Home	2	2.3	2.4
Supporting Educational Plans for my Child	2	2.3	2.4
Families as Learners			
Basic Life Skills (Cooking, Budgeting, Socialization, Time Management, etc.)	2.4	2.5	2.6
Educational Level - Continuing or Furthering Education	2	2.1	2.1
Reading and Writing Skills	2.3	2.3	2.4
Communication Skills (Ability to express yourself positively and effectively)	2.4	2.4	2.5
Family Engagement in Transitions			
Understanding the Transitioning Process	2	2.3	2.6
Comfortable with New Teachers and Program	2	2.3	2.6
Preparation toward Elementary School	2	2.2	2.4
Setting Goals for my Child	2	2.2	2.3
Family Connections to Peers and Community			
Immediate and/or Extended Family Support System	2.3	2.3	2.4
Connection / Support with Local School	1.8	2	2.1
Connected to Other Parents and Families with young children	1.6	1.7	1.9
Connection / Support from other Community Agencies and Services	1.4	1.5	1.7
Families as Advocates and Leaders			
Involvement in my Child's Education	2.1	2.3	2.4
Volunteering in my Child's Classroom and School	1.3	1.4	1.4
Volunteering in my Community	1.2	1.2	1.3
Comfortable Making Decisions about my Child's Health	2.5	2.6	2.6
Confident in Speaking up for my Child and Family	2.5	2.6	2.6
Awareness of State / Federal Issues that Impact Young Children and Families	1.2	1.2	1.4

Scoring Legend: 3.0 – Strength • 2.0 – Making Progress • 1.0 – Needs Assistance
Gains are calculated by comparing results from the first and most recent assessments



Catholic Charities
Archdiocese of New Orleans

Head Start Centers

2016-2017 Policy Council Members

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