

# HEAD START ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**Catholic Charities**  
Archdiocese of New Orleans



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**Head Start Centers**

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*...we will embrace  
any new challenges  
and obstacles as  
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improve upon our  
services to children  
and families.*



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## Head Start Centers

### A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

#### **Dear Friends of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans - Head Start Program:**

I am delighted that you have taken a moment to read “Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans Head Start/Early Head Start’s 2020-2021 Annual Report”.

Although the Coronavirus (Covid-19) brought us many challenges. It is a good time to reflect on what we have achieved. We had many successes; such as being able to:

- **Return to school 5 days week;**
- **Increase school hours;**
- **Serve grab-n-go meals;**
- **Provide iPads to the families in need of technology and internet services.**

Inside this annual report you will find information related to what we did every day; living up to the responsibility of providing a high quality education to the most vulnerable children in the midst of a national pandemic. To achieve this, CCANO Head Start/Early Head Start continued to provide life-changing services to children and families in core areas of early learning, nutrition, health, mental health, and family well-being while engaging parents and community as partners every step of the way.

You will find information related to education, health, social services and family partnerships amongst other notable program milestones and success stories as we navigated through COVID-19, as a program, family, and community.

The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us lifelong lessons. Moving into the future, I look forward to these continued partnerships with the confidence that we will embrace any new challenges and obstacles as opportunities to improve upon our services to children and families.

It has been an unforgettable year, but together I am very proud of the way our CCANO students, parents/guardians, staff, directors, and administrative leaders worked to protect everyone as we continued to educate and feed our students during the most unusual of circumstances.

It takes a village working together to provide high-quality, early learning services to children, and equipping them with the foundation for lifelong learning and success.

Sincerely,

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

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans (CCANO) receives federal funds to provide services to **362** Head Start and **116** Early Head Start children in Orleans Parish, within the Greater New Orleans Region. The service area comprises districts identified by demographic and community data as high-need priority areas: (1) Uptown/Carrollton, (2) Bywater, (3) New Orleans East, (4) Central City and (5) French Quarter. These planning districts include the neighborhoods of Leonidas (Uptown/Carrollton), Florida Area (Bywater), Plum Orchard (New Orleans East), Garden District (Central City) and Treme/Lafitte (French Quarter).

The **Head Start Center Based Option** operates a full day/part year program option for a total of 160 days, five days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a total of 1,280 hours from August through May.

The **Early Head Start Center Based Option** will provide a full day/full year program option for a total of 172.5 days, five days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a total of 1,380 hours from August through June. This operation enables the Catholic Charities Head Start program to meet the Head Start Performance Standards and the 2007 Head Start Act.

Name Location of Center	Neighborhood Planning District	HS Enrollment	EHS Enrollment	# of Classrooms
St. John the Baptist HS/EHS 1920 Clio Street	Central City, Central City/Garden District	91	24	HS: 5 EHS: 2
Incarnate Word HS/EHS 8326 Apricot Street	Leonidas, Uptown/ Carrollton	74	16	HS: 4 EHS: 2
St. Mary of the Angel HS/EHS 2225 Congress Street	Florida Area, Upper 9 <sup>th</sup> Ward	49	16	HS: 4 EHS: 2
Covenant House EHS 611 N. Rampart Street <b>( former location)</b>	French Quarter, Treme/Lafitte	0	20	HS: 0 EHS: 3
St. Paul the Apostle HS/EHS 6828 Chef Menteur Highway	Plum Orchard, New Orleans East	148	40	HS: 8 EHS: 5
Total		362	116	HS: 21 EHS: 14

## OUR MISSION

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans Head Start Program is dedicated to providing quality and developmentally appropriate services to children (prenatal to 5 years) without regard to gender, race, creed, color, national origin, or disability.

## OUR GOAL

To empower families and inspire a lifelong love of learning in children.

## OUR CORE VALUES

- We strive for excellence through continuous improvement and best practices.
- We create safe and nurturing high-quality environments for children and staff.
- We seek to assist families achieve their goals through the creation of partnerships between families and Head Start.
- We seek to improve the community in which our families live by becoming an active participant in community improvement initiatives and by serving as advocates for young children and their families.
- We seek to empower our families by providing them with information, knowledge and skills.
- We seek to fully involve families in Head Start by providing parents with opportunities to share, grow and prosper in the Head Start experience.



# SCHOOL READINESS

Catholic Charities 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 classrooms. **School Readiness** is measured by the skills described in the five domains of the Head Start Early Learning Outcome Framework. CCANO Head Start/Early Head Start works to achieve child outcomes that ensure school readiness and social competence in young children from low-income families.

CCANO Head Start/Early Head Start uses the **Frog Street Curriculum** for Infant/ Toddlers, Threes and Pre-K, which is fully aligned with the Louisiana Early Learning Standard and the Head Start Early Learning Outcome Framework. Frog Street Pre-K is a **comprehensive, research-based curriculum**

**that integrates instruction across developmental domains and early learning disciplines.**

We work to:

- Ensure that children leaving Head Start and entering Kindergarten are fully equipped to succeed in Kindergarten and beyond. The focus on social competence means fostering the social, emotional, physical, cognitive, math, and language and literacy development of the children we serve.
- Recognize that parents are their children’s first teacher and encourage them to engage in their children’s learning and development, along with encouraging parents to support their child’s life-long education success.





# SCHOOL READINESS OUTCOMES

CCANO Head Start/Early Head Start works to achieve child outcomes that ensure school readiness and social competence in young children from low-income families. We utilizes Teaching Strategies Gold (TGS) and the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRPD) as our ongoing assessment tools.

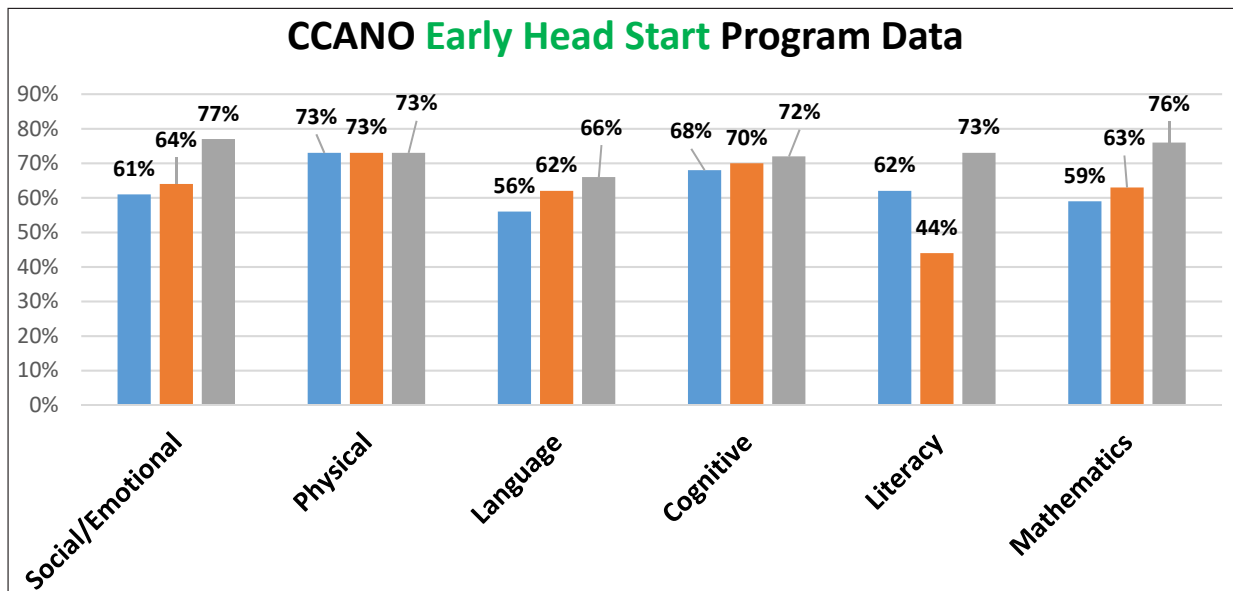
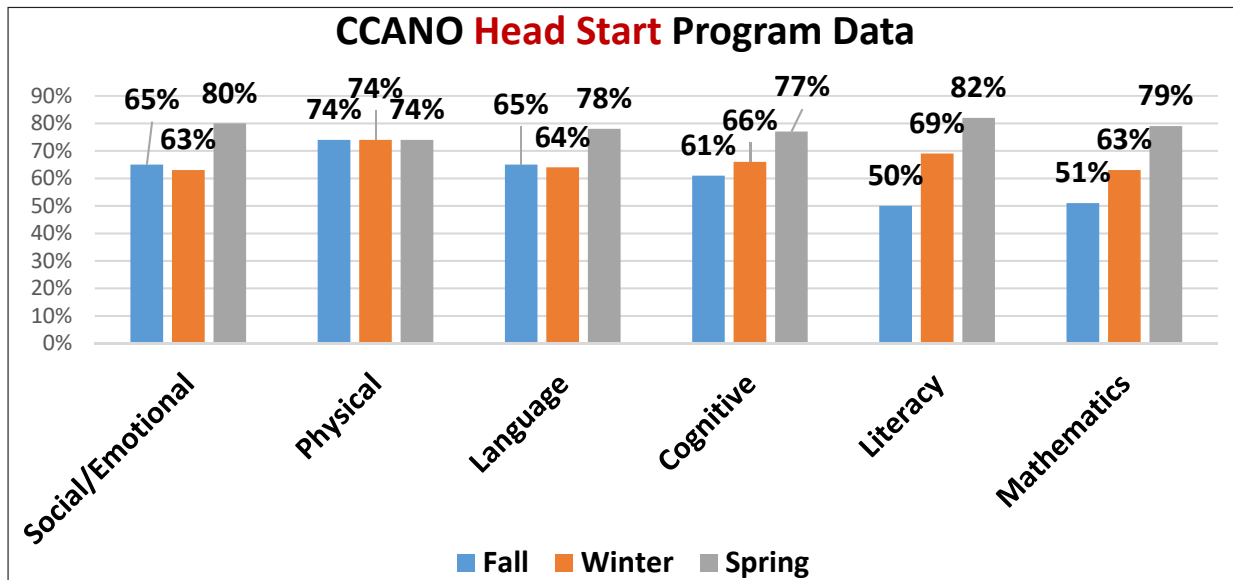
**Teaching Strategies GOLD** (TSG) is an authentic, ongoing observational system for assessing children from birth through kindergarten. It helps teachers to observe children in the context of every day experiences, which is an effective way to learn what they know and can do.

The **Desired Results Developmental Profile** (DRDP) is a developmental continuum from early infancy to kindergarten entry. It is a formative

assessment instrument for young children and their families used to inform instruction and program development.

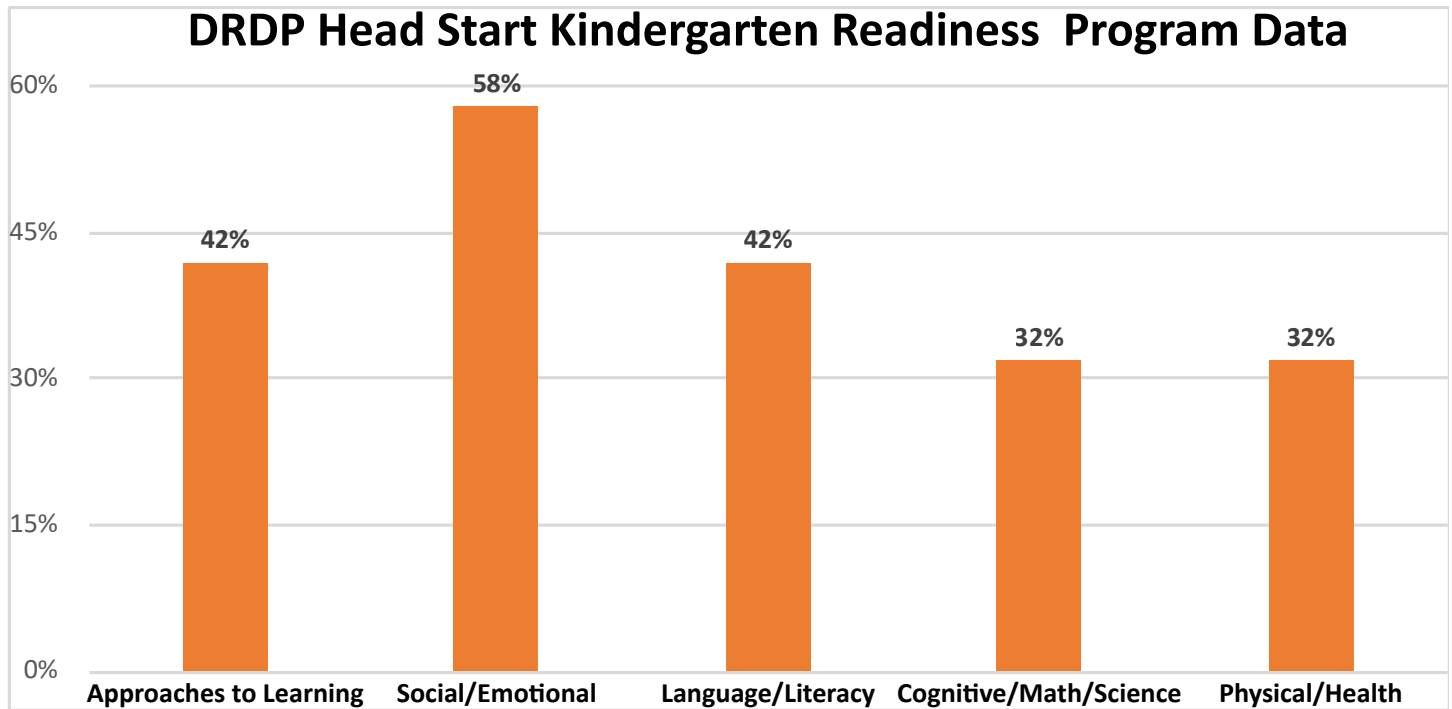
In Head Start children made gains in Language and Literacy with 80% meeting expectation and Mathematics with 80% meeting expectation. In Early Head Start, children made gains in Social/Emotional Development with 77% meeting expectation and Mathematics with 76% meeting expectation.

The charts below show CCANO Head Start/Early Head start student's growth as a program across all domains for the fall, winter and spring quarters. Scores show the percentage of students meeting/exceeding expectations based on widely-held expectations.



Despite the challenges we faced due to the pandemic with enrollment, going from teaching 100% virtual, to a hybrid schedule, and transitioning back into a full week of instruction, our teachers worked hard to prepare our students transitioning to Kinder-

garten. The Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) graph below shows the percentage of Head Start students who met the expectations of Kindergarten Readiness.



# HEALTH/NUTRITION SERVICES

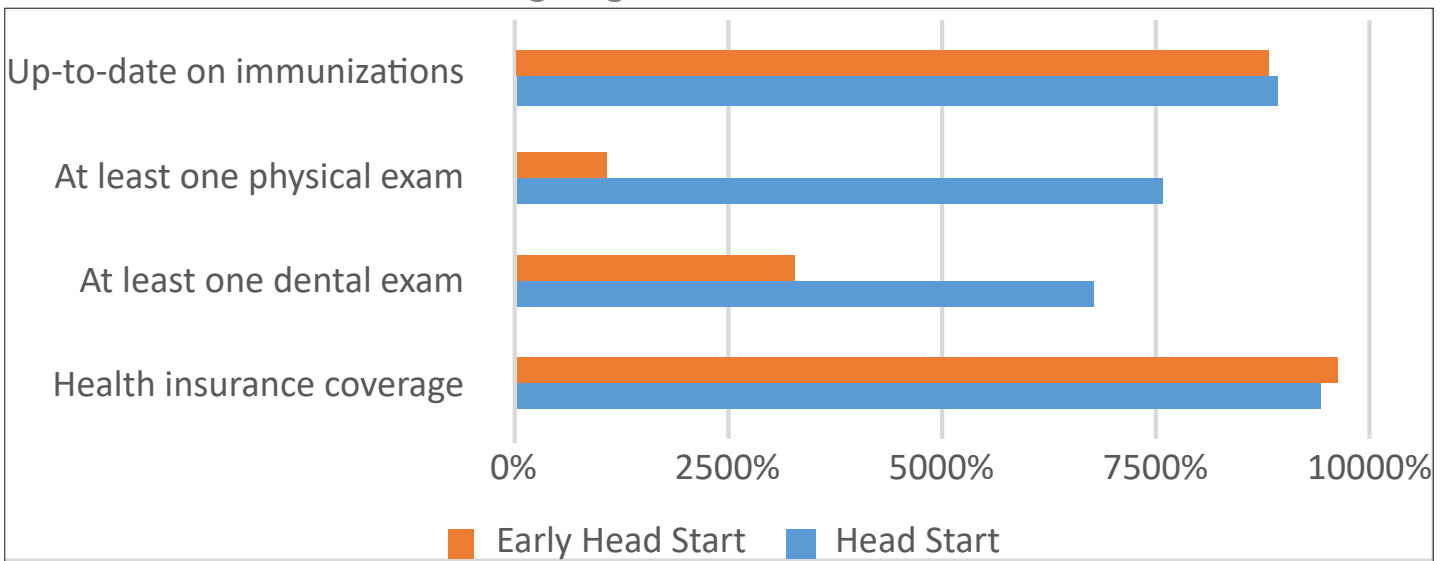
A fundamental component of healthy development in early childhood is the importance of proper nutrition and comprehensive health services, as these help with school readiness and overall wellbeing later in life. Head Start and Early Head Start staff are passionate about fostering the development of appropriate physical, cognitive, social, and emotional health in our children and reducing the risk of chronic infectious illnesses.

**Nutrition.** Nutritious meals and snacks, including breakfast, lunch, and snack are served to children

on a daily basis. While in a hybrid schedule due to COVID-19, "Grab n' Go" meal bags were offered to children when they were participating virtually. For the month of January, **371** nutritious meals and snacks were served to children through "Grab n' Go" bags.

**Health Services.** Head Start and Early Head Start centers provide comprehensive health services and screenings to all the children enrolled in order to identify and address any health concerns that may negatively impact their academic performance.

% of Enrolled Head Start and Early Head Start Children Who Had Ongoing Medical Care (2020-2021 SY)



# MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITIES SERVICES

CCANO Head Start is committed to providing a full inclusion program for children with all different abilities and skill levels from birth to 5 years. Under the guidelines from the Office of Head Start, 10% of the population in CCANO Head Start is reserved for servicing children with special needs and disabilities. Typically, this total is based off the total *funded enrollment*. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, Head Start programs were only required to have 10% of *actual enrollment* be that of children with special needs or disabilities.

The funded enrollment for 2020-2021 school year was 478. Our 10% would have been 47.8 students in a typical school year. Our actual enrollment number was 419 students, making our 10% goal 41.9 students with special needs or disabilities being serviced this year.

During the 2020-2021 school year, our program was able to service 47 students who qualified for an IEP/ IFSP in the areas for autism, speech delay, developmental delays including social emotional support needs and health impairments and gifted. We were able to not only reach our 10% goal by continuing to support our students during the COVID -19 pandemic, but exceed it by 1.2%. Chart and graph below reflects this data

	Start 9/8/20	Oct 10/1/20	Nov 11/1/20	Dec 12/1/20	Jan 1/1/21	Feb 2/1/21	Mar 3/1/21	Apr 4/1/21	May 5/1/21	End 5/28/21
Actual Enrollment	0	159	331	353	362	378	407	416	418	419
IEP	0	15	25	28	28	30	32	37	38	39
IFSP	0	4	7	7	8	10	11	9	9	8
Total (IEP + IFSP)	0	19	32	35	36	40	43	46	47	47
Percent of Actual	0.0%	11.9%	9.7%	9.9%	9.9%	10.6%	10.6%	11.1%	11.2%	11.2%



## DISABILITY ENROLLMENT BREAKDOWN

### Current Actual Enrollment Numbers:

- Head Start: **316**
- Early Head Start: **103**

### Current Number of Enrolled Students with an IEP/ IFSP:

- Head Start: **39**
- Early Head Start: **8**

Actual Enrollment Program wide: **419**

Total Number of IEPs/ IFSPs Program wide: **47**

**47/419**  
= **11.2%**  
(Children serviced with a disability)

**10% Disabilities Goal Met!**

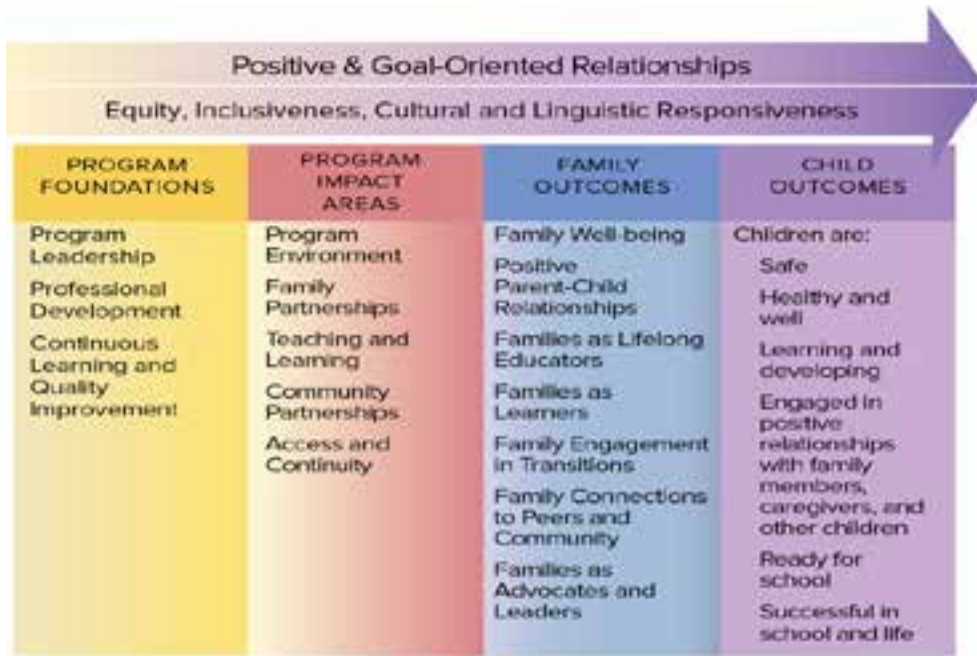
# PARENT, FAMILY, & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Parent and Family Engagement at CCANO Head Start /Early Head Start is about building relationships with families that support family well-being, strong relationships between parents and their children, and ongoing learning and development for both parents and children.

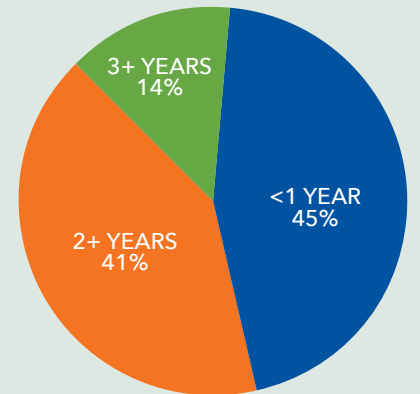
We utilize the **Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE)** Framework as a road map for progress in achieving the kinds of outcomes that lead to positive and enduring change for our chil-

dren and families. Family engagement also involves parent's engagement with their children and with staff as they work together toward the goals that families choose for themselves and their children. It also involves families and staff working toward goals to improve the program.

The parents/families are surveyed twice a year to identify any needs, wants, and overall satisfaction from, and/or to shed light on any expectations a parent might have for their child's learning experience.



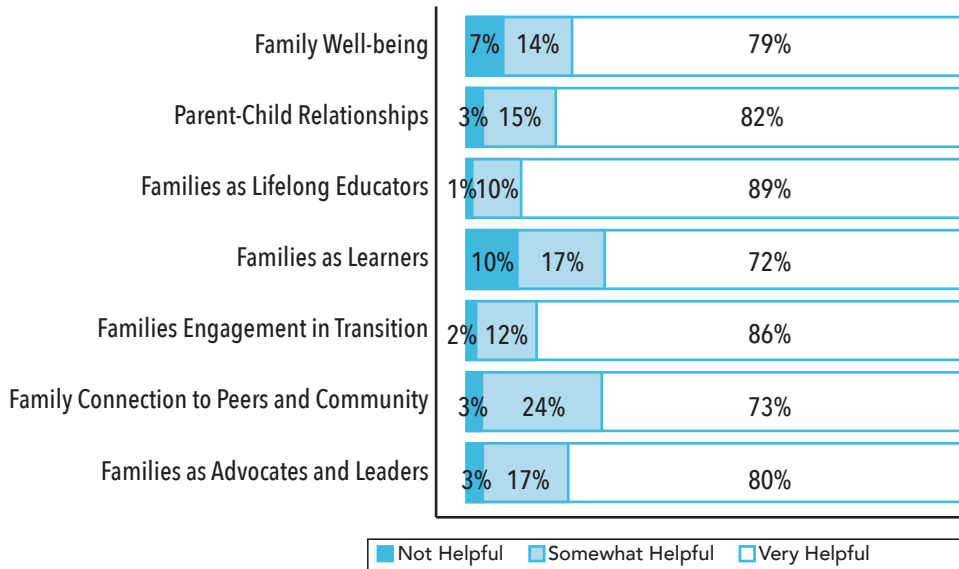
## EXPERIENCE IN THE PROGRAM



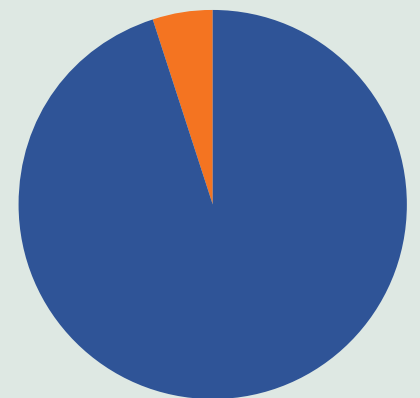
● <1 YEAR ● 2+ YEARS ● 3+ YEARS

## How much did the program help you and your family?

Percentage of Responses



## PRIMARY LANGUAGE



● <1 YEAR ● 2+ YEARS ● 3+ YEARS

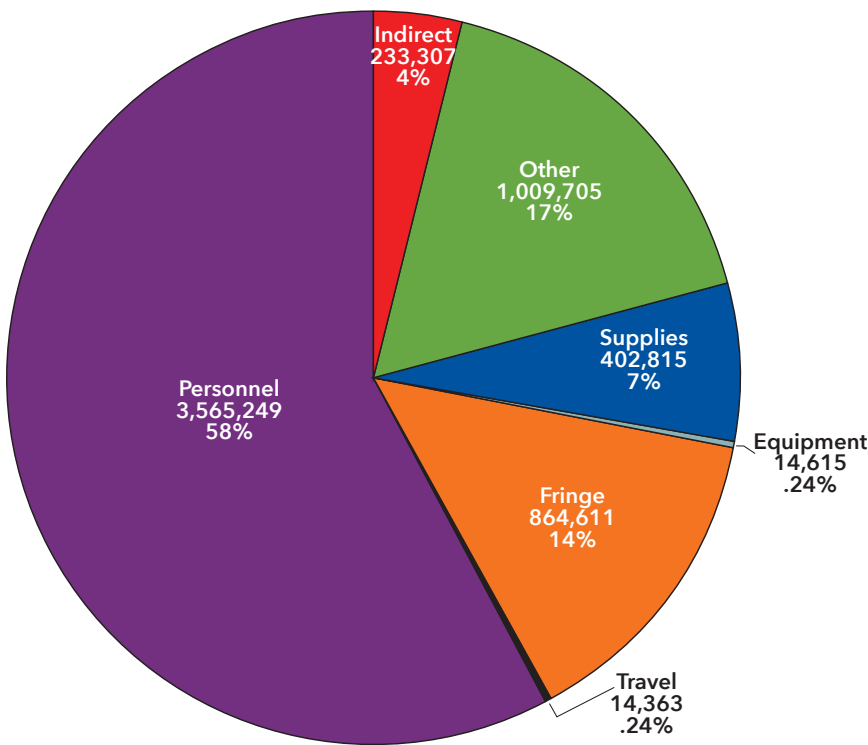
# ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

During the 2020-2021 school year, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans Head Start Program was funded to accommodate 478 children and families (116 infant, toddler, and pregnant women and 362 preschool 3 and 4 year olds) in the City of New Orleans at five distinct Early Head Start/Head Start Centers.

A total of **111** infant, toddlers, and pregnant women along with **340** preschool aged children were participants for the 2020-21 school year. This number includes dropped students that were also serviced throughout the course of the school year. Of those **451** participants in CCANO Early Head Start/Head

Start Program, **82%** of families had incomes at or below the federal poverty guidelines. Another **6%** of families had incomes between **101-130%** of the federal poverty guidelines and **4%** of the children came from families whose income was above the federal poverty guidelines. Each of these families had either justifying conditions that demonstrated a need for EHS or HS placement, or was placed due to the lack of eligible students on our waitlist after innumerable outreach attempts. **2** of our families serviced were validated as homeless, and **6%** of the families were recipients of public assistance with either TANF or SSI.

# 2020 HEAD START FEDERAL FINANCIAL TOTAL



Due to COVID restrictions in 2020, the non-Federal match rate requirement of 20% was waived. However, Head Start did achieve a 9.2% match, totaling \$618,108. Thank you parents, volunteers, and donors for contributing your time and/or money in assisting the Head Start Program.

**TOTAL FUNDING: \$6,104,665**

2020 EXPENSES	
Personnel	3,565,249
Fringe	864,611
Travel	14,363
Equipment	14,615
Supplies	402,815
Facilities/Construction	-
Other	1,009,705
Training	-
Indirect	233,307
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,104,665</b>



**Catholic Charities**  
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## Head Start Centers

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