

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT

2015



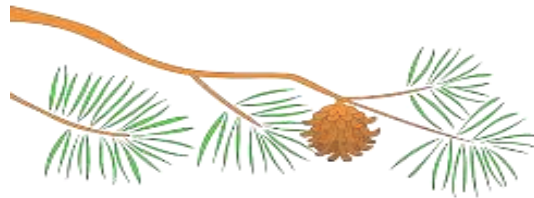
**HELPING PEOPLE.
CHANGING LIVES.**



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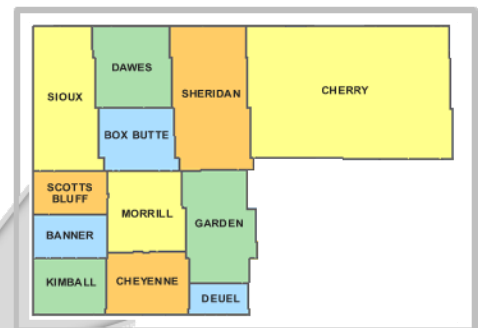
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Agency Profile

Northwest Community Action Partnership (NCAP) has successfully operated anti-poverty programs in Dawes, Sioux, Box Butte, Sheridan and Cherry counties in the northwest area of Nebraska since 1965. In 2015 NCAP increased coverage to 12 counties, now including Banner, Cheyenne, Deuel, Garden, Morrill, Kimball and Scotts Bluff. NCAP currently employs 67 staff members.

NCAP’s mission is *“Helping low-income families and individuals improve the quality of their lives and attain self-sufficiency.”* The Board of Directors has a three-part structure which provides representation from low-income, public and government sectors from the counties in NCAP’s primary service area.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Officers

Jake Stewart
Dawes County Commissioner
President
Elected Public Official

Patrick (Marty) Connealy
Attorney
Vice President
Private Sector Representative

Clayton E. Riesen
Banker
Secretary/Treasurer
Private Sector Representative

Members

James Krotz
Sheridan County Commissioner
Elected Public Official

Marvin Toedtli
Retired
Private Sector

Lola Speirs
Early Childhood Representative
Low-Income Representative

J.W. Geiser
Sioux County Commissioner
Elected Public Official

Peter Butler
Business Owner
Private Sector

Martha Woodhouse
Retired
Low-Income Representative

Michael McGinnis
Box Butte County Commissioner
Elected Public Official

Kyle Arganbright
Banker
Private Sector

Rev. Mark Crist
Pastor
Low-Income Representative

Jim VanWinkle
Cherry County Commissioner
Elected Public Official



Senior Staff

Karen Harbach
Executive Director

Betsy Taylor
Fiscal Director

Jennifer Sorenson
Human Resource Director

Bonnie Beckstrom
Community Services Director

Floyd Merkel
Weatherization Director

DeAnn Koerber
Head Start / Early Head Start Director

Rachel Johnson
Senior Volunteer Services Director

Major Funding Sources

Corporation for National and Community Service
Department of Health and Human Services
Department of Energy
Department of Transportation—Federal Transit
First National Bank of North Platte
United Way

Department of Agriculture
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Nebraska Department of Roads
City of Gordon
City of Hay Springs
Salvation Army

City of Rushville
Sheridan County
City of Chadron
Dawes County
Additional Generous Donors

COMMUNITY SERVICES



Addressing Homelessness: Many clients served by NCAP's Community Services Department find themselves experiencing hardships that can lead to eviction and foreclosure. Our Community Services department works to meet these needs by providing motel stays for emergency shelter, onsite information and referral, and assistance with permanent housing. We collaborate with many other agencies to achieve these goals and to provide a personal experience that enhances the case management model. Our creative solutions to the many aspects of poverty have made us an asset to each of the 5 counties we serve.

Salvation Army Emergency Services & other funding: Our outreach office provides emergency assists to alleviate financial pressures caused by unexpected expenses. We distribute monies through different programs that assistance for metered and unmetered utilities, gas vouchers and prescription payment assistance. We also offer budgeting assistance, employment supports, and develop strategies with our clients to prevent the reoccurring crisis.

Food Supports: Each outreach office supports a food pantry. NCAP takes pride in our food pantries; we believe that our communities should never be without food. Most of our pantries support the client choice model so that food is not wasted. Regardless of the model, our clients have a variety of choices and we allow for special diets. In addition to our regular food pantries, NCAP supports a supplemental mobile pantry program that rotates throughout our service areas. The mobile pantry provides many fresh vegetables, fruits and other items that are not available in our regular food pantries. NCAP believes that everyone should have access to high quality, nutritious food and our programs strive for high quality items and service.

Community Surveys and ROMA Goals: NCAP uses the six national ROMA goals as a baseline for all our services. We use many different surveys and community conversations to determine what services are needed in each county we serve. Our agency applies the data we collect to increase our effectiveness in our communities. We do this by providing outreach offices and staff in our service areas, and provide programs that are specific to the community. Outreach offices are located in Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, and Sheridan Counties. To ensure high quality services each outreach office has surveys and a locked data collection box available to all clients. These results are retrieved and interrupted regularly.

6 ROMA Goals

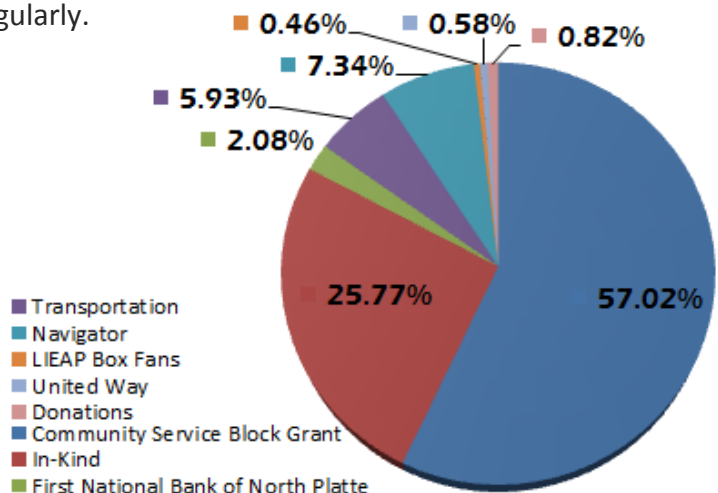
- Goal 1:** Low income people become more self-sufficient .
- Goal 2:** The conditions in which low income people live are improved.
- Goal 3:** Low-income people own a stake in their community.
- Goal 4:** Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved.
- Goal 5:** Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.
- Goal 6:** Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems.

Annual Report Data FY 07-01-2014 to 06-30-2015	
Type of Service	Total # Clients
Rental Assistance	63
Utility Assistance	245
Food Pantry	3928
Gasoline Assistance	132
Motel Vouchers	258
Personal Goods	152
Prescriptions	30
Diapers	5
SCPTS Boardings	1231
Mobile Food Pantries - # Served	1173
Employment Support	87 (3*)
Information & Referral	993

*- # Hired

Funding Sources

Community Service Block Grant.....	342,714.32
In-Kind	154,867.28
First National Bank of North Platte	12,500.00
Transportation	35,622.68
Navigator.....	44,123.15
LIEAP Box Fans	2,760.90
United Way	3,500.00
Donations	4,915.69
Total Funding Sources	\$601,004.02



WEATHERIZATION

The Weatherization Program serves income eligible clients that have homes in need of weatherization measures to help them decrease the ever-growing energy costs of heating and air conditioning. By weatherizing homes this allows for more earned dollars to go into the families overall budget. The program follows a priority system to identify the order in which qualifying persons are served, elderly disabled persons being the number one priority.



Possible Improvements:

- ◆ Add insulation to the attic, walls and/or floors. If insulation is added, holes may be drilled in the siding and vents may be added to the roof. **RESULT:** The amount of heat loss through the walls, ceilings and floors will be reduced.
- ◆ Perform efficiency audit on natural gas, propane and fuel oil furnaces, boilers and water heaters. **RESULT:** Determines efficiency rating determining if more heat will be gained from the same amount of fuel used.
- ◆ Replace broken glass in primary windows. **RESULT:** The amount of cold air coming in will be reduced.
- ◆ Install or adjust door weather-stripping, thresholds, and/or door sweeps. Along with any needed caulking measures. **RESULT:** The amount of cold air coming in will be reduced.

Nebraska Panhandle Service Counties

- ◆ Banner
- ◆ Box Butte
- ◆ Cherry
- ◆ Cheyenne
- ◆ Dawes
- ◆ Deuel
- ◆ Garden
- ◆ Kimball
- ◆ Morrill
- ◆ Scotts Bluff
- ◆ Sheridan
- ◆ Sioux

After the improvements are made, you should notice the following: An increase in comfort—reduced drafts and a more even temperature throughout your home. Your heating and cooling bills should be reduced. You should need less energy to heat and cool your home.

Weatherization receives funding from the Department of Energy (DOE), and the Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Northwest Improvements (NW Improvements) is a company of Northwest Community Action Partnership developed to provide supplemental funding to the Weatherization program. Full service radon testing and mitigation are provided along with insulation and window installation at low-cost to the consumer. Interested individuals can contact the Weatherization program regarding availability and information on importance of radon testing.

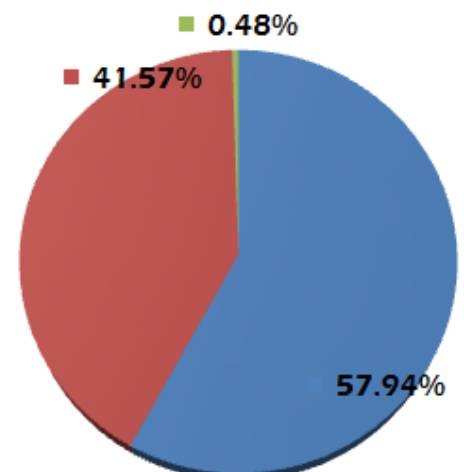


Annual Report Data FY -2014 to 2015	
Type of Service	Total #
Homes weatherized for energy efficiency	73
Non-Functioning or Inefficient appliances replaced	42

Funding Sources

DOE 329,644.13
 LIHEAP 236,499.89
 NW IMPROVEMENTS 2,758.38
Total Funding Sources \$568,902.40

- DOE
- LIHEAP
- NW IMPROVEMENTS



SENIOR VOLUNTEER SERVICES



WHEN WE SERVE, WE:

- ◆ Solve Problems
- ◆ Strengthen Communities
- ◆ Improve Lives
- ◆ Connect to Others
- ◆ Transform Our Own Lives

Volunteering provides benefits to the individual and the community. “Civic Engagement and volunteering is the new hybrid health club for the 21st century that's free to join,” added Thomas H. Sander, executive director of the Saguaro Seminar at Harvard University. “Social capital research shows it miraculously improves both the health of the volunteer AND the community's through the work performed and the social ties built.”



The Foster Grandparent Program : Participants in the Foster Grandparent program do many of the things a grandparent would do with their own grandchildren. Playing, loving, laughing and listening are experiences shared between Foster Grandparents and the children they serve. They also assist teachers with one-on-one tutoring and

support that put a child on the path to success. Many times they serve as a role model for children or teens who do not have the opportunity to share time with their own grandparents. Foster Grandparents volunteer at not-for-profit agencies such as Public Schools, Head Start Classrooms, Pre-School Centers, Libraries, Job Corp centers and others.

Chadron Foster Grandparent Program

- 26 Foster Grandparents
- 29 schools and non-profit learning centers served
- 23,088 Hours of Service
- Served 94 Children
- Benefitted over 400 students in the classroom
- 91% of students showed Improvement in K-12 Success
- 81% of students showed improvement in School Readiness in 8 Communities in 5 Counties

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) The RSVP program matches the needs and desires of volunteers to services that benefit the community.

The RSVP philosophy is that everyone has something to offer. RSVP helps volunteers to discover what they may be and open the doors of opportunity for them to serve. The Dawes and Sioux County RSVP program has 260 active volunteers serving 22,962 hours in their communities.



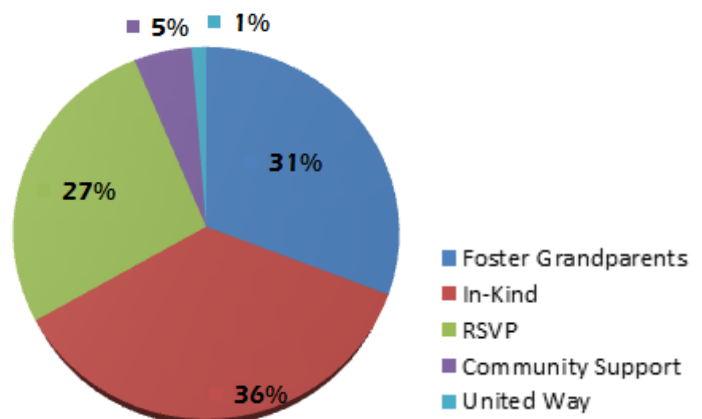
Dawes & Sioux County RSVP

- RSVP Volunteers: 260
- 51 non-profit organizations served
- 22,962 Hours of Service Given
- Served 11,678 People including:
 - Served 5,200 meals to home bound
 - Served 1,152 at Mobile Food Pantries
 - Served 550 meals at Closer to Home Soup Kitchen
 - Supported the collection of 200+ units of blood
- Assisted in raising \$13,400 in Salvation Army Funds (90% stays local)
- Provided support to local veteran and military family organizations
- Staffed local museums
- Served in 3 Communities in 2 Counties (Dawes & Sioux)

The Senior Volunteer Services Program is funded through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and through partnerships with The United Way, The Salvation Army, McGraw-Hill Companies book donations and local Booster Club support.

Funding Sources

Foster Grandparents.....	98,592.00
In-Kind	114,572.58
RSVP	86,278.00
Community Support	15,960.49
United Way.....	4,000.00
Total Funding Sources	\$319,403.07



HEAD START ~ EARLY HEAD START



"To provide opportunities for all children and families to be responsible in life skills and engage in responsive relationships"

The Northwest Community Action Partnership Head Start/Early Head Start program operates twelve (12) classrooms for ages three to five, and four (4) home base programs in Dawes, Box Butte, Sheridan and Cherry Counties. In addition, three (3) home base programs for pregnant women and infants/toddlers from age's birth to three are operated in Dawes, Box Butte and Sheridan Counties. We provide services to over 258 children and families each year. Our latest Office of Head Start on-site monitoring was conducted in March of 2014 with zero findings.

Head Start attends to the development of each child with attention to their individual strengths and needs with an emphasis on school readiness. Children with disabilities are included in the regular program with individual education and special services. Children and families leave Head Start prepared for kindergarten, excited about learning, confident in their own abilities and ready to succeed in life.

The Head Start philosophy is that parent(s) are the primary educators of their children and must be directly involved with the program. There are many classes and workshops that are offered in the areas of parenting, nutrition, and developmentally appropriate activities that parents can do with their children at home. Parents develop advocacy skills by participating in parent groups and actively serve as members on governing boards, Policy Council and Board of Directors.

PROGRAM INFORMATION REPORT OUTCOMES Program Year 2014-2015

Type of Service	Total %	
	Early Head Start	Head Start
Children were up-to-date on preventive and primary health care	73	90
Children were up-to-date on possible immunizations	67	81
Children completed dental exams	N/A	87
Children had a medical home at the end of enrollment	76	86
Children had a dental home at the end of enrollment	59	73
Children were on an Individualized Educational Plan (IFSP/IEP*)	6	17
Full enrollment throughout the program year	100	100
Fathers participated in male involvement activities	43	117

*IFSP: Individual Family Service Plan IEP: Individualized Educational Plan

Enrollments
 Head Start – Actual Enrollment of 199 families and 361 Volunteers (296 parents)
 Early Head Start – Actual Enrollment of 82 families 94 volunteers (89 parents)

Enrollment Based On:	Early Head Start	Head Start
Public Assistance	5	15
Income Eligibility		
<100% ¹	76	148
b/w 101%-130% ²	4	22
>131% ¹	2	30
Foster Care	4	6
Homelessness ³	14	22

1. Of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
 2. Of Federal Income Guidelines, but w/possible other Risk Factors
 3. As defined by McKinney-Vento Act



HEAD START ~ EARLY HEAD START



SCHOOL READINESS OUTCOMES Program Year 2014 ~ 2015

Our data shows significant growth in all areas for all ages of children across all program options. All children in our program gained skills towards school readiness while being in the program. With that being said, Mathematics is still an area of focus for center and home base options. We had a large amount of growth in Math, but still remain lower than the other areas of development with 72% of kindergarten bound kids' accomplished benchmarks. Social Emotional, Physical, Language, Cognitive and Literacy were all above 91% for GOLD benchmarks for Kindergarten Readiness. We will work with teachers and develop goals for Math in the classrooms and homes.

Our CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) scores are showing that we are lowest in the Instructional Support Domain, with the Dimension of Instructional Learning Formats being the lowest. All areas except for Instructional Learning Formats are higher than the national average. We will go into the next school year focusing on instructional support, specifically Instructional Learning Formats. We remain hopeful

NCAP HEAD START / EARLY HEAD START SCHOOL READINESS OUTCOMES DATA* - 2014-2015 SPRING REPORTING					
Number of Children	5	6	5	66	31
	0-1 Yr Olds	1-2 Yr Olds	2-3 Yr Olds	3 Yr. Olds	4 Yr. Olds
Domain Area	Total Growth by AGE - Program Wide				
Social/ Emotional Development					
Fall % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	83.3%	100.0%	78.8%	30.0%
Spring % Meeting/ Exceeding	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	96.7%
Fall to Spring Growth	0.0	16.7	0.0	21.2	66.7
Physical Development & Health					
Fall % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	68.2%	42.0%
Spring % Meeting/ Exceeding	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Fall to Spring Growth	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.9	58.0
Language Development					
Fall % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	66.7%	60.0%	60.6%	35.5%
Spring % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.5%	96.7%
Fall to Spring Growth	0.0	33.3	40.0	37.9	61.2
Cognitive & General Knowledge					
Fall % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	75.8%	38.8%
Spring % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Fall to Spring Growth	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.2	61.2
Literacy Knowledge & Skills					
Fall % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	83.3%	40.0%	78.2%	67.7%
Spring % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	83.4%	100.0%	93.9%	96.8%
Fall to Spring Growth	0.0	0.1	60.0	15.7	29.1
Mathematics Knowledge & Skills					
Fall % Meeting/Exceeding	100.0%	83.3%	40.0%	54.4%	22.6%
Spring % Meeting/ Exceeding	100.0%	83.3%	80.0%	94.1%	90.3%
Fall to Spring Growth	0.0	0.0	40.0	39.7	67.7
*GOLD Growth Report					

Domain	2014-2015 NCAP	2014 National Average
Emotional Support	6.6	6.15
Classroom Organization	5.81	5.83
Instructional Support	4.29	2.9

We remain hopeful that all of our current teachers will be returning in the fall, therefore creating a solid foundation for CLASS in the classrooms and achieving higher scores and outcomes for children simply by building on what is already in place for this school year.

HEAD START ~ EARLY HEAD START



PARENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Families reported that they were provided with a variety of ways to participate in the program and felt welcomed and appreciated. Families strongly agreed that they had the training opportunities to gain knowledge in making healthier choices, and were encouraged to establish and participate in ongoing health care. *(parent survey results)*

The graphs represent that we had good parent participation overall. Areas that continue to be a focus for improvement include male involvement in all areas and attendance at both social and educational events. The program is also working on ways to get more parents to participate in home activities and return in-kind verification. Overall the completion of goals and health screenings, including immunizations, are strengths.

Here are some of the specific things that were incorporated:

"50 Fantastic Things To Do With Babies, Toddlers or Preschoolers": All families were given a book of activities to do together to promote learning and literacy. In completing a pre and post survey, 96% of those that completed the survey said that the book was a helpful tool in spending quality, relationship building time with their child.

Financial Literacy: All sites hosted an educational topic meeting that included hands on budgeting strategies. A presenter went to each site and worked with families on skills that would help increase their asset building knowledge. Staff took away the tools to be able to assist the families on a one-on-one basis. 37% of families attended this educational opportunity, with 100% of the families that requested the information receiving it on home visits.

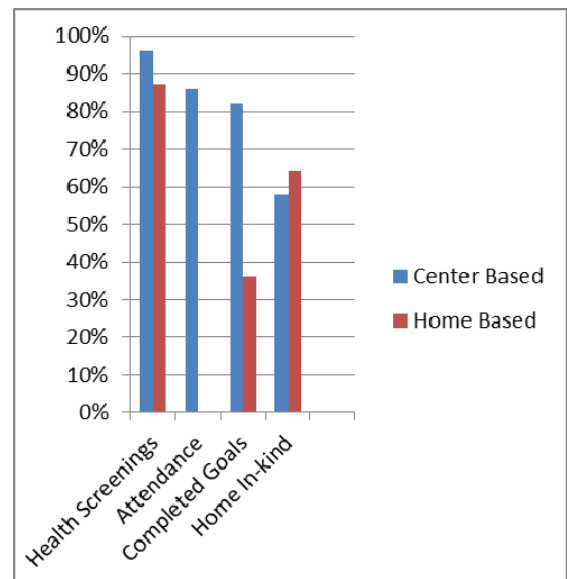
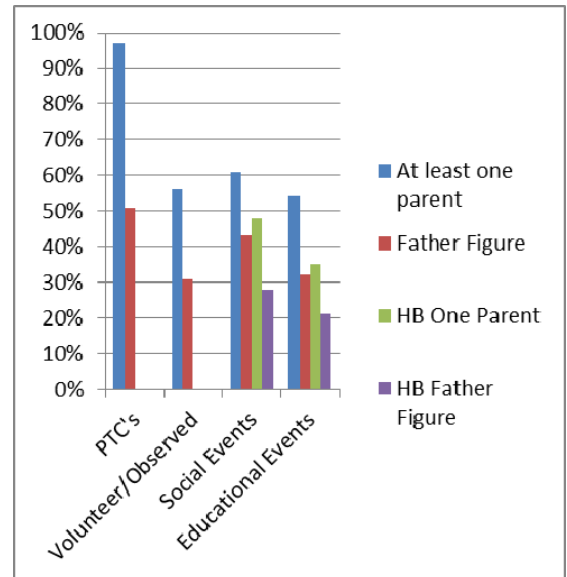
GED: Northwest Community Action Partnership and Western Nebraska Community College worked in collaboration to rebuild the program and ensure that the quality of the GED program in Dawes and Sheridan County was adequate to meet the needs of the communities.

Some Ways We Tracked Participation

****Data in graphs as of 5-15. Early Head Start and Full Day Program year ends 8-15, the numbers will increase.**

PARTNERS & COLLABORATIONS

- ◆ Interagency Agreements with all Education Agencies and Early Development Network
- ◆ Written contracts for preschool collaborations with three public schools and Chadron State College
- ◆ Partners with a collective group of agencies and the Chadron Public Schools to provide a comprehensive transition/parenting program for families with children who will be entering kindergarten (FAST – Families and Schools Together)
- ◆ Written agreements with Western Community Health Resources, medical clinics and dentists
- ◆ Written contracts with licensed mental health and nutrition consultants

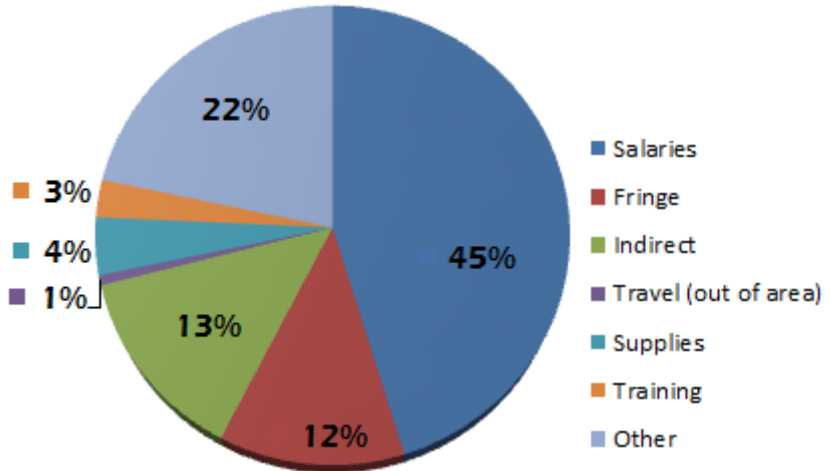


HEAD START ~ EARLY HEAD START



Expenditures for the agency’s fiscal year July 1, 2014- June 30, 2015 were as follows:

Salaries	990,060.04
Fringe	268,544.07
Indirect	293,796.70
Travel (out of area)	15,189.19
Supplies	88,738.36
Training	57,619.89
Other	473,205.97
Total Expenditures.....	\$2,187,154.22



In-Kind 708,262.52

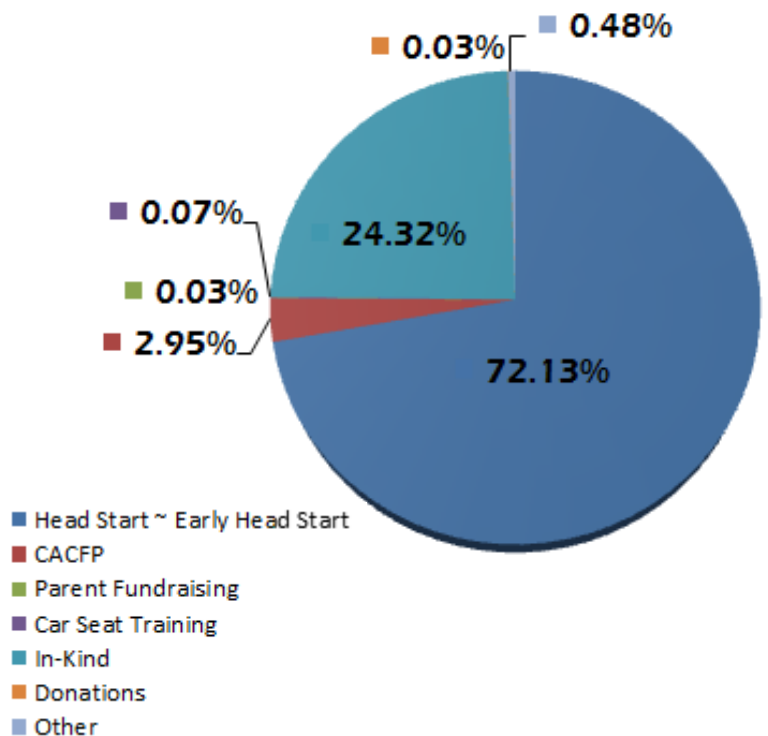
Our proposed budget for the program’s fiscal year 12/1/2015 thru 11/30/2016 is:

\$1,989,148.00 -----	Program Cost
\$38,262.00-----	Training and Technical Assistance
\$516,853.00 -----	Non-Federal Share
\$2,544,263.00 -----	Total

Our last official Agency Fiscal A-133 Audit report dated October 5, 2015 stated no findings.

Funding Sources

Head Start ~	
Early Head Start	2,101,028.73
CACFP	85,946.26
Parent Fundraising	731.55
Car Seat Training	1,914.66
In-Kind	708,262.52
Donations	1,007.45
Other	13,847.69
Total Funding Sources.....	\$2,912,738.86



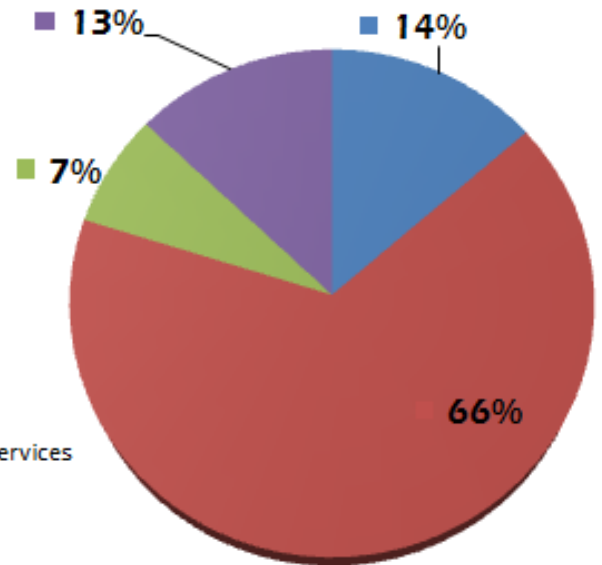
NCAP AGENCY FINANCIAL REPORT



Funding Sources

Community Services.....	\$601,004.02
Head Start ~ Early Head Start.....	\$2,912,738.86
Senior Volunteer Services.....	\$319,403.07
Weatherization.....	\$568,902.40
Total Funding Sources.....	\$ 4,402,048.35

■ Community Services ■ Senior Volunteer Services
■ Head Start ~ Early Head Start ■ Weatherization



NCAP Agency Locations

CHADRON, NE 69337

- ❖ **Central Office**
270 Pine Street 308-432-3393
- ❖ **Chadron Head Start**
324 Spruce Street 308-432-4978
- ❖ **Dawes Early Head Start**
255 Chadron Avenue 308-432-9658
- ❖ **Community Services Outreach Office**
620 W 3rd Street 308-432-4831
(serving Dawes & Sioux Counties)

ALLIANCE, NE 69301

- ❖ **Head Start**
1028 E 3rd Street 308-762-2251
- ❖ **Box Butte Early Head Start**
1028 E 3rd Street 308-762-2563
- ❖ **Community Services Outreach Office**
1028 E 3rd Street 308-762-4523

SCOTTSBLUFF, NE 69361

- ❖ **Weatherization Satellite Staff**
Serving Southern Panhandle Counties 308-432-3393

CRAWFORD, NE 69339

- ❖ **Head Start**
908 E 5th Street 308-665-2192
- ❖ **Retired Senior Volunteer Services**
339 2nd Street 308-665-1505

GORDON, NE 69343

- ❖ **Head Start**
116 Lariat Street 308-282-1718
- ❖ **Sheridan Early Head Start**
167½ North Cornell 308-282-0331

RUSHVILLE, NE 69360

- ❖ **Sheridan Early Head Start**
221 South Main 308-327-3193
- ❖ **Community Services Outreach Office**
207 South Main 308-327-2877

VALENTINE, NE 69201

- ❖ **Head Start**
312 E 3rd Street 402-376-3305
- ❖ **Community Services Outreach Office**
312 E 3rd Street 402-376-1886