

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION:
HELPING PEOPLE.
CHANGING LIVES.
ENGAGING COMMUNITIES TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY.

2016

OUR VISION:
WE ENVISION A THRIVING COMMUNITY THAT WORKS TOGETHER TO EMPOWER PEOPLE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE, OPPORTUNITY, AND RESOURCES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THEIR LIVES.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	Board of Directors / Senior Staff	6	Senior Volunteer Services
4	Community Services	7	Head Start / Early Head Start
5	Weatherization	11	Agency Financials & Locations

OUR MISSION:

HELPING PEOPLE. CHANGING LIVES. ENGAGING COMMUNITIES TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY.



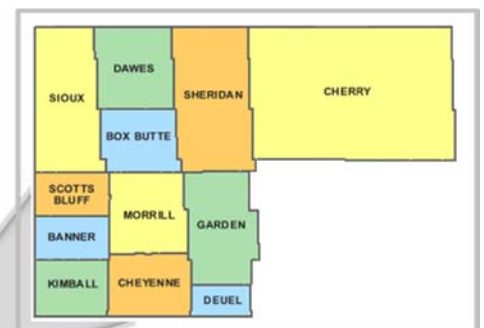
OUR VISION:

WE ENVISION A THRIVING COMMUNITY THAT WORKS TOGETHER TO EMPOWER PEOPLE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE, OPPORTUNITY, AND RESOURCES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THEIR LIVES.

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 68 staff members.

NCAP's objective 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

Mark Adamson
Cherry County Commissioner
Elected Public Official

Erin Huth
Business
Low-Income Representative

Senior Staff

Karen Harbach
Executive Director

Betsy Taylor
Fiscal Director

Bonnie Beckstrom
Community Services Director

DeAnn Koerber
Head Start / Early Head Start Director

Jennifer Sorenson
Human Resource Director

Floyd Merkel
Weatherization 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
Department of Homeland Security
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: Due to the high poverty rates, low wages, and inadequate housing, many NCAP clients find themselves experiencing hardships which can lead to homelessness. NCAP's community services department works to meet these needs by providing motel stays for emergency shelter, and providing services that assist with homelessness. We have recently been awarded the Nebraska Homeless Assistance (NHAP) funds which provide monies for rental assistance, security deposits and other needs that are essential in maintaining permanent housing. In order to provide a realm of services to address poverty we collaborate with other local and state agencies to provide creative solutions to address the needs of our clients and communities.

Salvation Army Emergency Services & other funding: Our outreach offices provide many different types of emergency assists to alleviate unexpected financial pressure. Our services include monies for utility disconnects and deposits, rental assists and deposits, gas vouchers, prescription payment assistance. We provide assistance for disaster relief from fires, tornados, or conditions that cause homelessness. We offer case management that addresses issues such as budgeting, employment supports, and we develop case management plans that help our clients develop skills that increase self-sufficiency.

Food Pantries: We have outreach offices in Valentine, Rushville, Chadron, and Alliance, and each location has a food pantry. NCAP believes that food is necessary part of survival and we take pride in our food distribution programs. Our food pantries all have client choice to avoid food waste. In addition to a regular food pantry we also have a mobile pantry program that rotates throughout our service areas. The mobile pantry provides many items that are not in our local pantry such as fresh fruit and vegetables. NCAP strives to bring quality food to our clients because we believe everyone should have access to proper nutrition.

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.

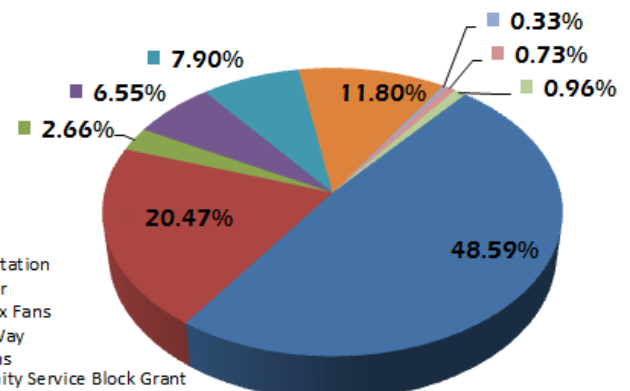
6 ROMA Goals

- 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 2015 to 2016	
Type of Service	Total # Clients
Rental Assistance	120
Utility Assistance	228
Food Pantry	3120
Mobile Food Pantries - # Served	904
Gasoline Assistance	40
Motel Vouchers	58
Personal Goods	90
Information & Referral	1556
Case Management	4
SCPTS Boardings	926

Funding Sources

Community Service Block Grant.....	232,609.63
In-Kind	98,007.12
GED	12,733.42
FEMA	31,360.69
Transportation.....	37,820.00
Navigator	56,464.27
LIEAP Box Fans.....	1,578.03
United Way.....	3,500.00
Donations	4,608.14
Total Funding Sources	\$478,681.30



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 (60+) persons are given the first priority followed by persons with disabilities.



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.

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).

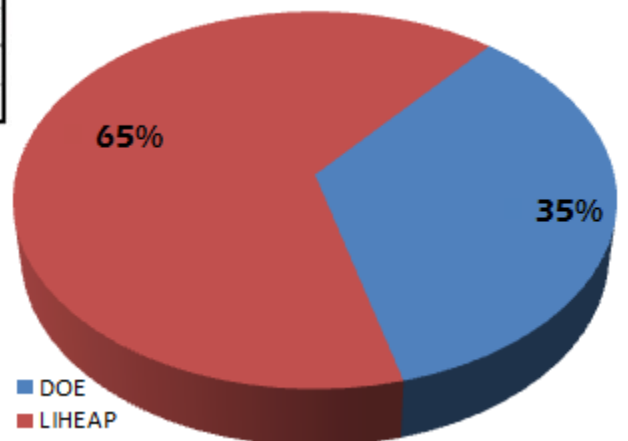
Northwest Improvements (NW Improvements) is Northwest Community Action Partnership's for profit program designed to support the agency's mission. Northwest Improvements provides full service radon testing and mitigation along with insulation and window installation at low-cost to the consumer. Interested individuals can contact the Weatherization program regarding availability and information on importance of radon testing.



Nebraska Panhandle Service Counties

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

Annual Report Data FY 2015 to 2016	
Type of Service	Total #
Homes weatherized for energy efficiency	66
Non-Functioning or inefficient appliances replaced	29



Funding Sources

DOE193,425.35
 LIHEAP.....363,185.62
Total Funding Sources \$556,610.97

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

- 20 Foster Grandparents
- 20 schools and nonprofit learning centers served
- 17,642 Hours of Service
- Served 81 Children
- Benefitted over 300 students in the classroom
- 88% of students showed Improvement in K12 Success
- 64% 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 199 active volunteers serving 22,230 hours in their communities.

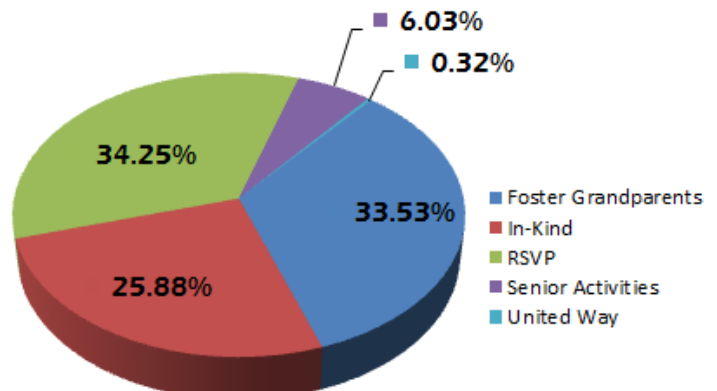
Dawes & Sioux County RSVP

- RSVP Volunteers: 199
- 49 nonprofit organizations served
- 22,230 Hours of Service Given
- Served 11,678 People including:
 - Served 8,750 meals to home bound
 - Served 529 at Mobile Food Pantries
 - Served 600 meals at Closer to Home Soup Kitchen
 - Supported the collection of 200+ units of blood
- Assisted in raising \$15,490 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 support.

Funding Sources

Foster Grandparents	84,469.57
In-Kind.....	65,207.88
RSVP	86,278.00
Senior Activities	15,183.93
United Way	800.00
Total Funding Sources	\$251,939.38



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 eleven (11) 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 2015-2016

Type of Service	Total %	
	Early Head Start	Head Start
Children were up-to-date on preventive and primary health care	79%	89%
Children were up-to-date on possible immunizations	79%	91%
Children completed dental exams	N/A	91%
Children had a medical home at the end of enrollment	81%	90%
Children had a dental home at the end of enrollment	64%	87%
Children were on an Individualized Educational Plan (IFSP/IEP*)	8%	21%
Full enrollment throughout the program year	100%	100%
Fathers participated in male involvement activities (Number of)	32	120

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

Enrollments
 Head Start – Actual Enrollment of 199 families and 362 Volunteers (311 parents)
 Early Head Start – Actual Enrollment of 88 families 117 volunteers (112 parents)

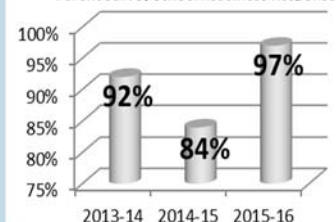
Enrollment Based On:	Early Head Start	Head Start
Public Assistance	2	18
Income Eligibility		
<100% ¹	55	135
b/w 101%-130% ²	12	20
>131% ¹	8	20
Foster Care	6	7
Homelessness ³	19	31

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

Transitioning to Kindergarten

Teachers and Family Development Staff participate in school linkage meetings every spring with all schools that will have Head Start students transitioning into Kindergarten the following year. These meetings are informative in nature and provide the kindergarten teachers with individualized information on each student who will be joining their class. Parent surveys conducted each spring ask parents; *Has staff discussed our school readiness goals with you?* to which 97% of parents that responded that they **Strongly Agree or Agree** with services 2015-16, a 13% increase over the previous year. A new, refocused approach to transitioning is being included in the 2016-2017 school year.

Parent Survey School Readiness Response

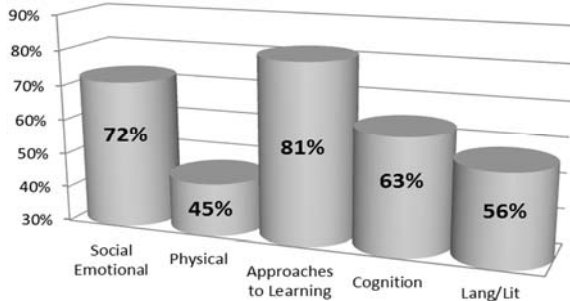


SCHOOL READINESS OUTCOMES Program Year 2015 ~ 2016

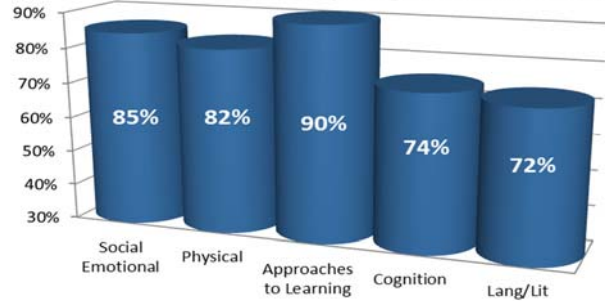
The following chart shows the developmental progress of enrolled children in percentage of meeting or exceeding GOLD “Widely-Held Expectations”.

	0-1 Years	1-2 Years	2-3 Years	3 Years	4 Years
Social/Emotional	6	4.5	6.8	9.2	12.2
Physical	5.5	1.5	3.6	4.6	5.3
Language	5.9	7.2	6.6	9.7	10.6
Cognitive	5	5.1	8.4	11.8	14.2
Literacy	2.6	4.6	9.1	18.2	21.2
Math	2.8	3.1	5.9	10.8	11.9

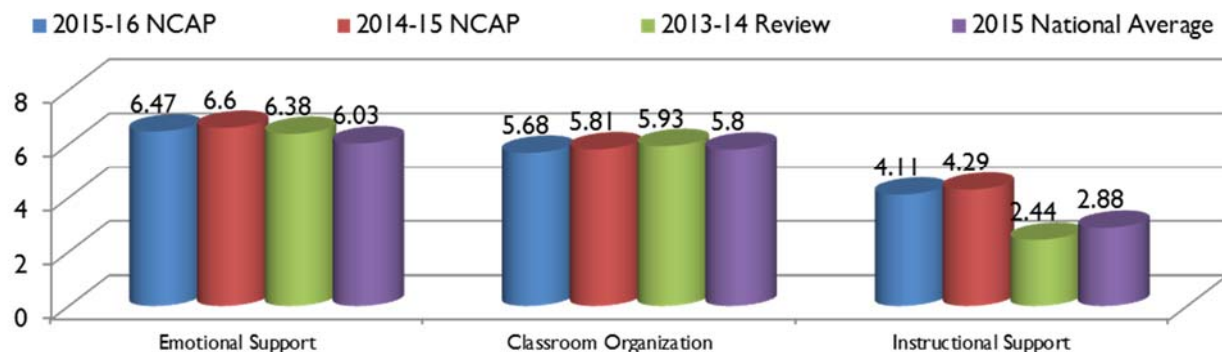
School Readiness Winter 2015 Outcomes



School Readiness Spring 2016 Outcomes



The chart below shows 2015-2016 CLASS averages as of April 22, 2016. Additional CLASS observations will be completed for the program year, which will be added to these averages. All areas are based on a 7 point scale and indicates lower in Instructional Support, which is reflected nationwide. Scores are higher than the National Average in Instructional Support and Emotional Support. A decrease in Emotional Support and Instructional support, is attributed to teacher turn-over resulting in differences in scoring styles and abilities.



PARENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The “150+ Screen-Free Activities for Kids” books, presented for the 2015-16 program year, proved to be a great tool to help families increase quality time spent together, giving them ideas for fun activities. This book was given to all families that were enrolled during the year. The book was meant to enhance children’s social, emotional and intellectual skills by frequent and stimulating interactions. The parents were asked to complete a pre and post survey to determine the effectiveness of the activities and of quality time spent together. A total of 151 surveys were returned with 62 showing no change from the initial survey. Of the remaining 89 surveys, 53 reported growth in the amount of time spent with their child, 54 reported that the quality and level of enjoyment of the time spent with their child improved and 49 reported that they felt a closer relationship with their child. All parents, that reported growth in the areas, felt that the book was a helpful tool.

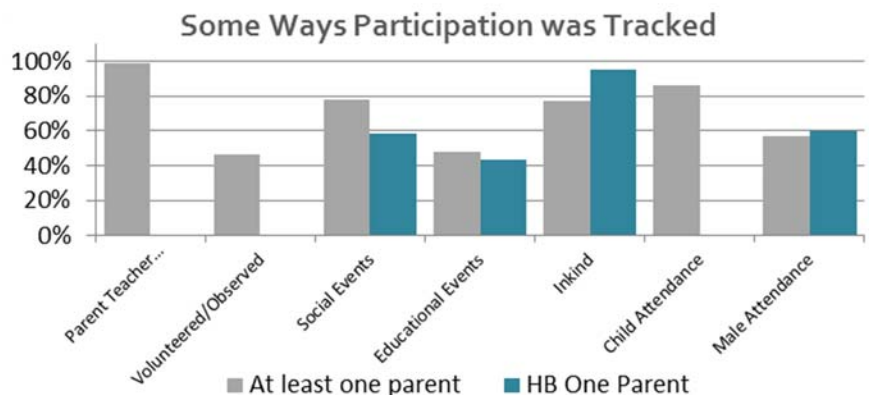
“I will use this book for years to come! The activities are fun and easy and gave me so many new ideas for us to do together, thanks Head Start!”

* All sites hosted a financial literacy educational meeting/training. The parent meeting focus questions reflect that the parents gained knowledge and the resources and tools needed to set and maintain a budget.

*A slight improvement was noted in attendance at parent education/social events at most sites. A new tool was developed for staff to “reflect” on “what they felt went well” and “what could be done differently”. By implementing some of the ideas from the form, (incentives, remind 101, different night etc.) it shows that attendance did improve.

*All staff received training on the importance of building healthy relationships with families. The parent surveys reflect that 99% strongly agree/agree that they felt welcome and appreciated when volunteering or stopping into the center. 97% strongly agree/agree that meetings with FES have been valuable in building respectful relationships.

*The percentage of home activity plans (in-kind) has shown that more parents are completing and returning the activities and verification. New “thermometers” to show how much each site has collected have been placed at each site to encourage parents. Training for parents and staff are continually improving.



PARTNERS & COLLABORATIONS

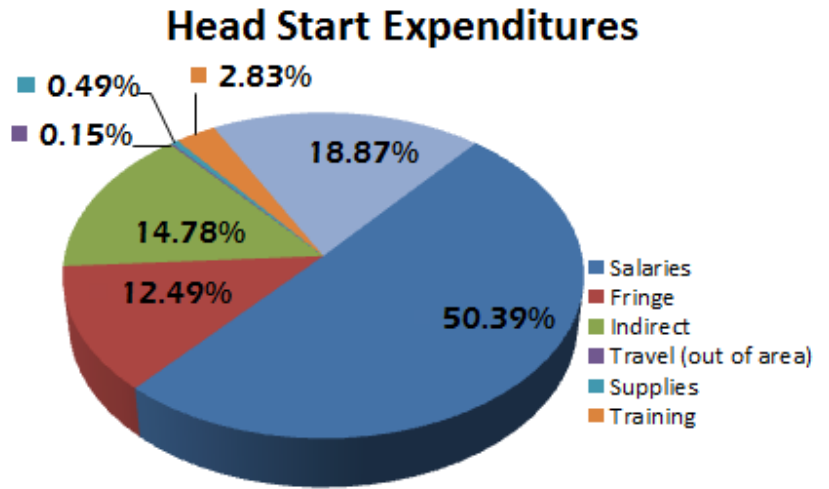
- ◆ *Interagency Agreements with all Education Agencies and Early Development Network*
- ◆ *Written contracts for preschool collaborations with three public schools and Chadron State College*
- ◆ *Partners with a collective group of agencies and the Chadron Public Schools to provide a comprehensive transition/parenting 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, 2015- June 30, 2016 were as follows:

Salaries	1,090,830.13
Fringe	270,472.47
Indirect	319,906.10
Travel (out of area)	3,178.55
Supplies	10,590.97
Training.....	61,321.69
Other	408,374.58
Total Expenditures.....	\$2,164,674.49
 In-Kind	 844,479.65



Our proposed budget for the program's fiscal year 12/1/2016 thru 11/30/2017 is:

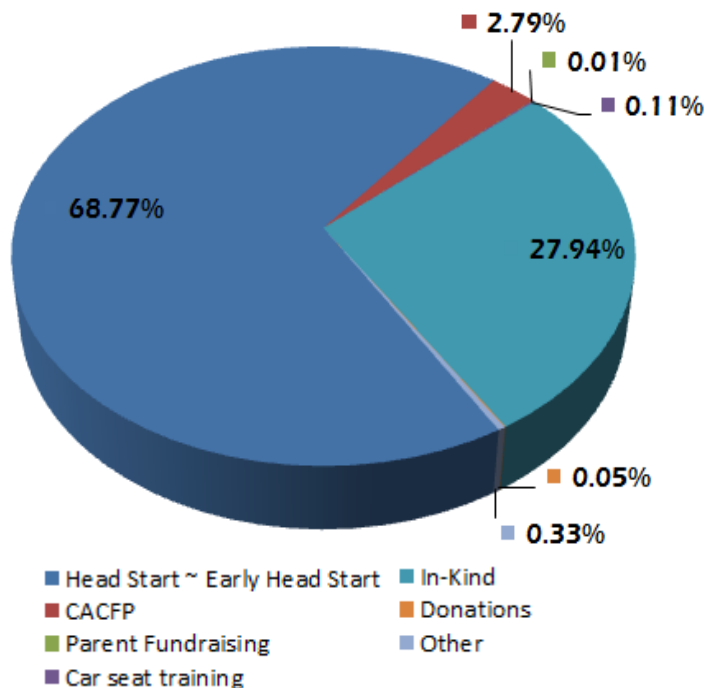
\$2,024,953.00 -----	Program Cost
\$38,262.00 -----	Training and Technical Assistance
\$524,350.00 -----	Non-Federal Share
\$2,587,565.00 -----	Total

Our last official Agency Fiscal Audit report, in accordance with Uniform Guidance, dated October 12, 2016 stated no audit findings and found the agency as a low risk auditee.

Funding Sources

Head Start ~

Early Head Start	2,078,610.35
CACFP	84,264.14
Parent Fundraising.....	430.14
Car seat training	3,200.54
In-Kind	844,479.65
Donations	1,386.50
Other	10,107.24
Total Funding Sources.....	\$3,022,478.56

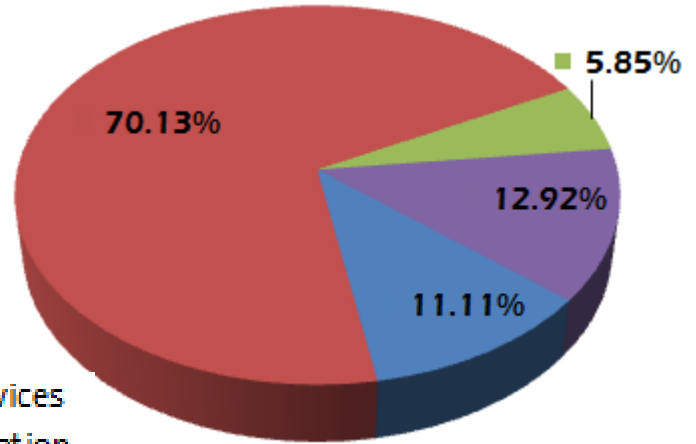


NCAP AGENCY FINANCIAL REPORT



Funding Sources

Community Services	\$478,681.30
Head Start ~ Early Head Start	\$3,022,478.56
Senior Services.....	\$251,939.38
Weatherization	\$556,610.97
Total Funding Sources	\$4,309,710.21



- Community Services
- Senior 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**
207 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