

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT



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.

2017



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OUR MISSION:

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

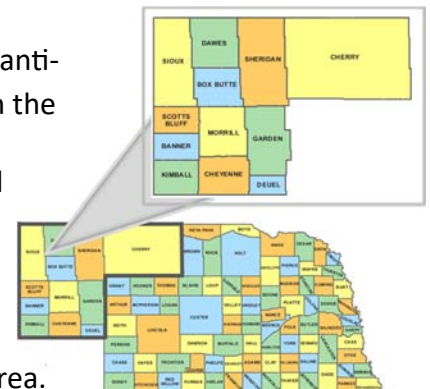


OUR VISION:

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Agency Profile

Northwest Community Action Partnership (NCAP) has successfully operated anti-poverty programs in Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, Sheridan and Sioux 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 closed the reporting year with 59 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.



NCAP Agency Locations

CHADRON, NE 69337

- ❖ **Administrative Offices**
270 Pine Street 308-432-3393
- ❖ **Volunteer Services/RSVP**
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**
127 W. 2nd St. Ste. 102 308-747-2200
(serving Dawes & Sioux Counties)

ALLIANCE, NE 69301

- ❖ **Head Start**
1028 E 3rd Street 308-762-2251

ALLIANCE, NE cont.

- ❖ **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

- ❖ **Retired & Senior Volunteer Program**
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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Officers

Jake Stewart
Dawes County Commissioner
President
Elected Public Official

James Krotz
Sheridan County Commissioner
Vice President
Elected Public Official

Clayton E. Riesen
Banker
Secretary/Treasurer
Private Sector Representative

Members

J.W. Geiser
Sioux County Commissioner
Elected Public Official

Michael McGinnis
Box Butte County Commissioner
Elected Public Official

Martin DeNaeyer
Cherry County Commissioner
Elected Public Official

Peter Butler
Business Owner
Private Sector

Kyle Arganbright
Banker
Private Sector

Erin Huth
Business
Low-Income Representative

Lou Alcorn
Early Childhood
Low-Income Representative

Nancy Haag
Retired Nurse
Low-Income Representative

Bonnie McCord
Faith Community
Low-Income Representative

Senior Staff

Karen Harbach
Executive Director

Betsy Taylor
Fiscal Director

Jennifer Sorenson
Human Resource Director

Bonnie Beckstrom
Community Services Director

Floyd Merkel
Weatherization Director

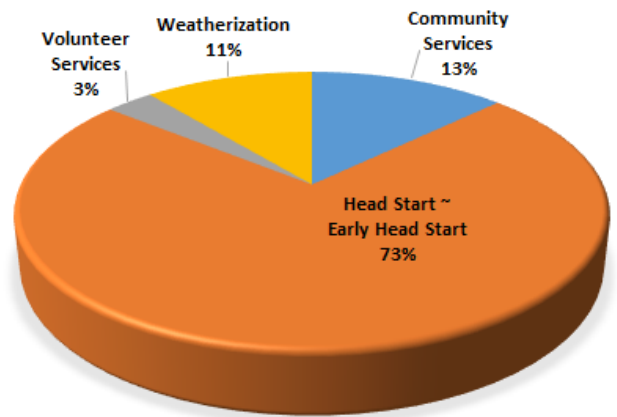
DeAnn Koerber
Head Start / Early Head Start Director

Rachel Johnson
Volunteer Services Director

NCAP AGENCY FINANCIAL REPORT

AGENCY DEPARTMENT FUNDING

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Community Services | \$545,459.84 |
| Head Start ~ Early Head Start | \$3,098,454.65 |
| Volunteer Services | \$134,270.55 |
| Weatherization | \$468,498.07 |
| Total Funding Sources | \$4,246,683.11 |



Community Services Head Start ~ Early Head Start Volunteer Services Weatherization

Major Funding Sources

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|
| Corporation for National and Community Service | Department of Agriculture | City of Rushville |
| Department of Health and Human Services | Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services | Sheridan County |
| Department of Energy | Nebraska Department of Roads | City of Chadron |
| Department of Transportation—Federal Transit | City of Gordon | Dawes County |
| Department of Homeland Security | City of Hay Springs | Additional Generous Donors |
| United Way | Salvation Army | |

COMMUNITY SERVICES



Community Services

Addressing Homelessness: 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 other services that assist with homelessness. Nebraska Homeless Assistance (NHAP) funds may provide monies for rental assistance, security deposits and other needs that are essential in maintaining permanent housing. We collaborate with other local and state agencies to provide creative solutions to address the poverty needs of our clients and communities. We offer case management that addresses issues such as budgeting, employment supports, and create plans that help clients to develop skills that increase self-sufficiency.

Salvation Army Emergency Services & other funding: Outreach offices provide multiple types of emergency assists to alleviate unexpected financial pressure. Services include monies for utility disconnects and deposits, rental assists and deposits, gas vouchers, prescription payment assistance and unexpected household expenditures. We provide assistance for disaster relief from fires, tornados, or conditions that lead up-to or cause homelessness.

Food Pantries: Food pantries are located at our outreach offices in Alliance, Chadron, Rushville, and Valentine. NCAP understands that food is necessary part of survival and we take pride in our food distribution programs and strive to bring quality food to our clients. Our food pantries all have client choice to avoid food waste. In addition to a regular food pantry, a mobile pantry program rotates throughout the service area. The mobile pantry provides many items that are not in our local pantry such as fresh fruit and vegetables.

Community Surveys and ROMA Goals: NCAP uses the six national ROMA goals for all our baseline services. We use many different surveys and community conversations to determine what services are needed in each county served. Our agency applies the data collected to increase effectiveness in our communities. We do this by providing outreach offices, staff in our service areas, and provide programs that are community specific. 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 interpreted regularly.

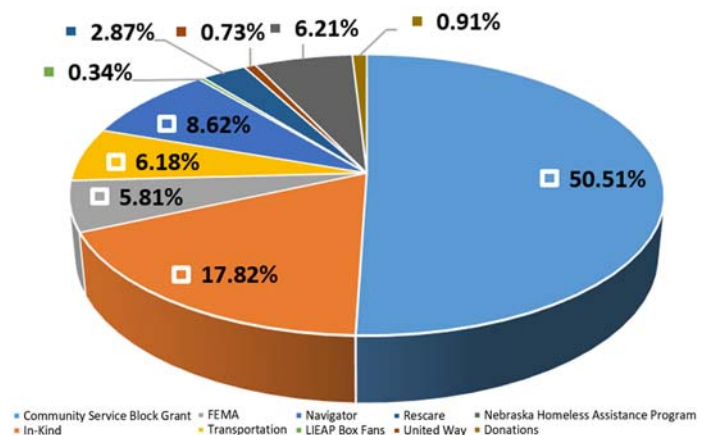
6 ROMA Goals

- 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 2016 ~ 2017 | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Type of Service | Total # Clients |
| Housing supports | 151 |
| Bus Fare | 1 |
| Air Fare | 1 |
| Fans | 118 |
| Prescriptions | 33 |
| Case Management | 233 |
| Information and Referral | 1736 |
| Diapers | 24 |
| Food Pantry | 4240 |
| Rental Assistance | 252 |
| Gas Assistance | 56 |
| Motel Vouchers | 141 |
| Employment Supports | 18 |
| Budget Assistance | 4 |
| Personal Goods | 310 |
| Utility Assistance | 351 |
| SCPTS Boardings | 1115 |
| Families at mobile food pantries | 907 |

Funding Sources

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Community Service Block Grant | 275,522.29 |
| In-Kind | 97,184.63 |
| FEMA | 31,667.64 |
| Transportation | 33,699.87 |
| Navigator | 47,029.33 |
| LIEAP Box Fans | 1,862.06 |
| Rescare | 15,663.75 |
| United Way | 4,000.00 |
| Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program | 33,847.53 |
| Donations | 4,982.74 |
| Total Funding Sources | \$545,459.84 |



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 qualify persons are served, elderly (60+) persons are given the first priority followed by persons with disabilities.

Typical Weatherization Measures Installed May include:

- ◇ Repair or replace heating systems
- ◇ Install duct insulation
- ◇ Install water heater tank insulation
- ◇ Insulate water heating pipes
- ◇ Complete combustion appliance safety testing
- ◇ Install mechanical ventilation to ensure adequate indoor air quality
- ◇ Install carbon monoxide alarms
- ◇ Evaluate mold/moisture hazards
- ◇ Install wall, floor, ceiling, attic, and/or foundation insulation
- ◇ Complete blower door testing
- ◇ Perform air sealing
- ◇ Install storm windows/doors
- ◇ Install efficient light sources

NCAP Weatherization's certified quality control inspectors, auditors, installers, building analyst, and healthy homes evaluators serve 12 counties in Western Nebraska.

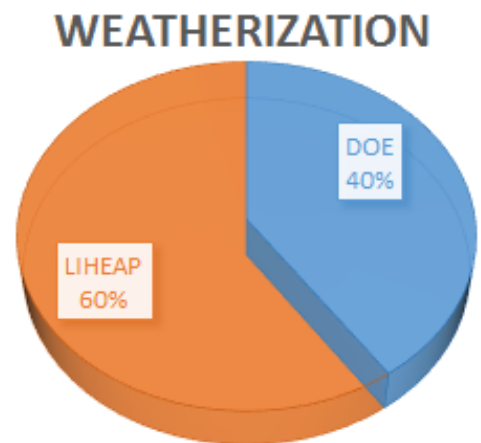
Weatherization receives funding from the Department of Energy (DOE), and the Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

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.

| Annual Report Data NCAP FY 2016 to 2017 | |
|--|---------|
| Type of Service | Total # |
| Homes weatherized for energy efficiency | 60 |
| Non-functioning or inefficient appliances replaced | 16 |

Funding Sources

DOE188,931.86
 LIHEAP.....279,566.21
Total Funding Sources \$468,498.07



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 Saguro 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."



Senior Corps Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Dawes & Sioux County matches the skills and experience of volunteers, age 55+, with needs in the community. The RSVP philosophy is that everyone has something to offer and active older adults, in particular, have a lifetime of knowledge to share. RSVP volunteers serve in a variety of locations: they support local food pantries and the Closer to Home soup kitchen; they deliver Meals on Wheels and co-sponsor blood drives; they spearhead the Salvation Army Bell Ringing campaign and support the United Way events; they volunteer in the schools and they sponsor a literacy campaign that provide books to those in need; they preserve and celebrate history through local museums and art centers; RSVP volunteers visit and engage residents at the nursing homes; they serve in the Chadron and Dawes County Senior Centers and help to provide a vibrant place for seniors to meet and connect; and the list goes on. In addition, RSVP volunteers launched a new outreach program called CARE Callers to provide a daily call of assurance to home-bound seniors, disabled individuals and others in need of a regular call. RSVP benefits all generations and makes the community stronger and more resilient.



Closer-To-Home Volunteers



In 2016-17, Volunteer Services hosted an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer tasked with improving disaster preparedness for the community. Through AmeriCorps VISTA, a Volunteer Reception Center was formed and a core team was assembled to manage spontaneous volunteers.

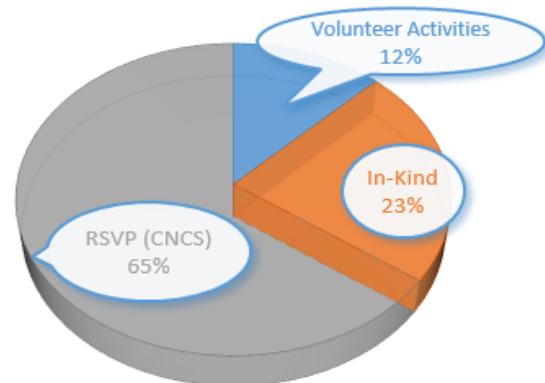
Dawes & Sioux County RSVP is sponsored by Northwest Community Action Partnership and funded through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) with matching funds from the cities of Chadron and Crawford as well as support from local businesses and citizens.



2016-17 SUCCESSES For Dawes & Sioux County RSVP

- ◆ RSVP Volunteers: 120
- ◆ 49 non-profit organizations served
- ◆ 23,452 hours of service given
- ◆ Served 7,500 meals to home bound
- ◆ Served 572 at mobile food pantries
- ◆ Served 2000 meals at Closer to Home Soup Kitchen
- ◆ Supported the collection of 250 units of blood
- ◆ Assisted in raising \$15,118 in Salvation Army Funds (90% stays local)
- ◆ Launched CARE Callers program
- ◆ Provided support to local veteran and military family organizations
- ◆ Served in 3 Communities in 2 Counties (Dawes & Sioux)

VOLUNTEER SERVICES



Funding Sources

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Volunteer Activities | 16,617.44 |
| In-Kind | 30,375.11 |
| RSVP (CNCS) | 87,278.00 |
| Total Funding Sources | \$134,270.55 |

HEAD START ~ EARLY HEAD START



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

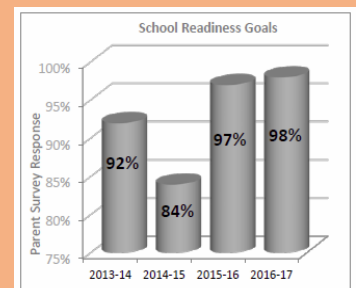
The Northwest Community Action Partnership Head Start/Early Head Start program operated eleven (11) classrooms for ages three to five, and four (4) home base programs in Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, and Sheridan Counties. In addition, three (3) home base programs for pregnant women and infants/toddlers from ages birth to three are operated in Box Butte, Dawes, and Sheridan counties. We provide services to over 258 children and families each year. The 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.

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 98% of parents that responded that they Strongly Agree or Agree with services received in 2016-17, a 1% increase over the previous year.



Program Information Report (PIR) Outcomes 2016-2017

| Type of Service | Total % | |
|---|------------------|------------|
| | Early Head Start | Head Start |
| Children were up-to-date on preventive and primary health care | 95% | 82% |
| Children were up-to-date on possible immunizations | 80% | 87% |
| Children completed dental exams | N/A | 84% |
| Children had a medical home at the end of enrollment | 77% | 95% |
| Children had a dental home at the end of enrollment | 50% | 90% |
| Children were on an Individualized Educational Plan (IFSP/IEP*) | 6% | 22% |
| Full enrollment throughout the program year | 97% | 96% |
| Fathers participated in male involvement activities <Number Of> | 17 | 90 |

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

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*

Enrollments

Head Start – Actual Enrollment of 195 families and 353 Volunteers (316 parents)

Early Head Start – Actual Enrollment of 75 families 98 volunteers (91 parents)

| Enrollment Based On: | Early Head Start | Head Start |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Public Assistance | 5 | 9 |
| Income Eligibility | | |
| <100% ¹ | 56 | 132 |
| b/w 101%-130% ² | 5 | 19 |
| >131% ¹ | 11 | 21 |
| Foster Care | 1 | 6 |
| Homelessness ³ | 22 | 35 |

1. Of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

2. Of Federal Income Guidelines, but w/possible other Risk Factors

3.As defined by McKinney-Vento Act

SCHOOL READINESS OUTCOMES

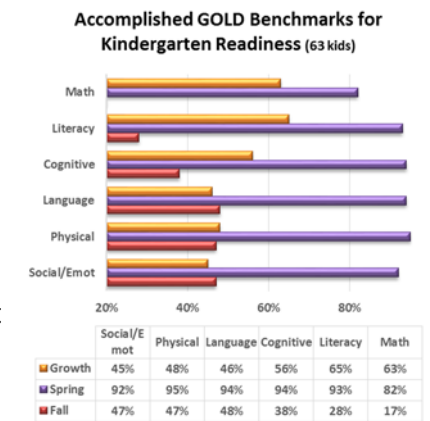
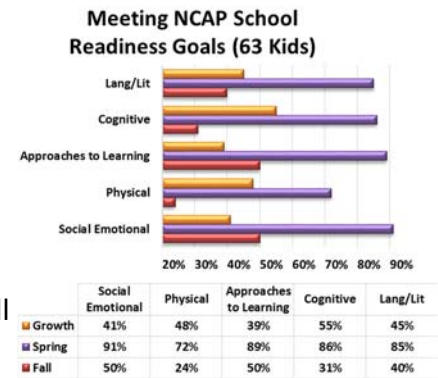
Charts for 2016-17 show the developmental progress of enrolled children in percentage of meeting School Readiness Outcomes.

Strengths: Growth showed across all ages with the most growth in Literacy, at 9 points, and Cognitive and Social/Emotional, at 8 points, program wide. An average of 94% of kindergarten bound children were meeting all GOLD benchmarks, except for Math. This is up from an average of 42% in the Fall. 82% were meeting Math benchmarks, which is up 63% from the Fall. NCAP School Readiness goals show the most growth in Physical and Cognitive, for kindergarten bound children.

Areas of Improvement: The least amount of growth, program wide, across all ages, was Physical and Mathematics.

Our kindergarten bound children show the least amount of growth in Social/Emotional and Language. Although 94% are meeting benchmarks in Language and 92% are meeting benchmarks in Social/Emotional.

NCAP School Readiness goals show the least amount of growth in Approaches to Learning.



PARENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Math Play! and Baby Play and Learn activity books

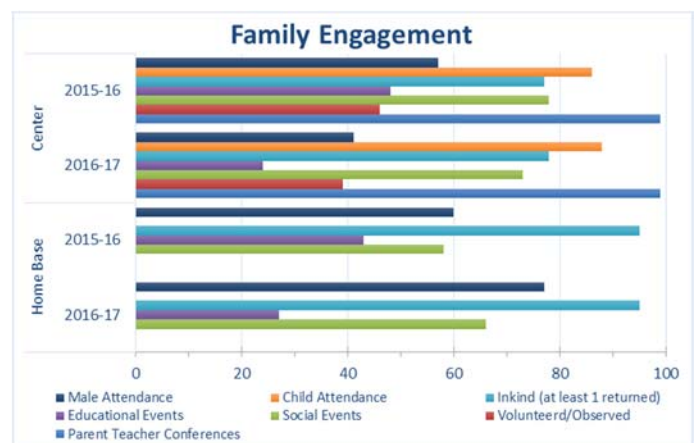
The “Math Play!” book was given to each center/home based family and the “Baby Play and Learn” activity book to each Early Head Start family. The Math Play book was in direct alignment with the School Readiness goals that showed that the children scored low in the math area on GOLD benchmarks. The parents were asked to do a pre and post survey to determine the effectiveness of the activities and of quality time spent together. Survey results showed that parents felt that they grew closer while doing activities together and that the book was a very helpful tool in engaging with their child. School Readiness benchmark results showed an increase in the math area from the fall to the spring reporting time-frame.

Parent Quotes: “I especially enjoyed the “Baby Play and Learn” book that not only gives me more fun interacting ideas with my new born, but also helps me develop her motor skills and learning.”
“The Math Play” book helped me with new and fun activities to interact with my child, thank you!”

*All sites hosted a Basic Cooking educational meeting. While the attendance numbers were low, those that attended indicated that they learned a lot about smart shopping, menu planning and how to prepare a well-balanced and healthy meal.

*Parent surveys indicated that staff provided a variety of ways for families to participate in the program and that they were made to feel welcome and appreciated. The survey also reflected that parents were satisfied with the information that staff provided on community resources. Parents felt that concerns are addressed in an effective and timely manner and that the visits with their Family Engagement Specialists/Home Visitors were valuable in building respectful relationships that provided the opportunity for sharing.

*Parent Teacher Conferences continue to be well attended by both parents, average of 99% of parents attended with 77% of children having a male figure in attendance.



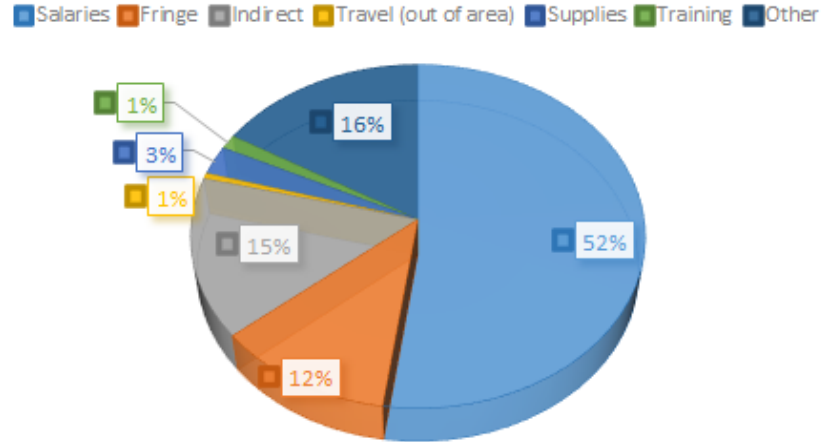
HEAD START ~ EARLY HEAD START

HS/EHS* expenditures for the agency's fiscal year July 1, 2016- June 30, 2017 were as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Salaries..... | 1,149,023.66 |
| Fringe | 256,869.12 |
| Indirect..... | 330,384.79 |
| Travel (out of area)..... | 11,763.53 |
| Supplies..... | 60,321.17 |
| Training | 29,316.26 |
| Other..... | 361,176.35 |
| Total Expenditures | \$2,198,854.88 |

In-Kind..... \$843,562.74

HEAD START EXPENDITURES



HS/EHS* proposed budget for the program's fiscal year 12/1/2017 thru 11/30/2018 is:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| \$2,060,627.00 | Program Cost |
| \$41,827.00 | Training and Technical Assistance |
| \$626,719.00 | Non-Federal Share |
| \$2,729,173.00 | Total |

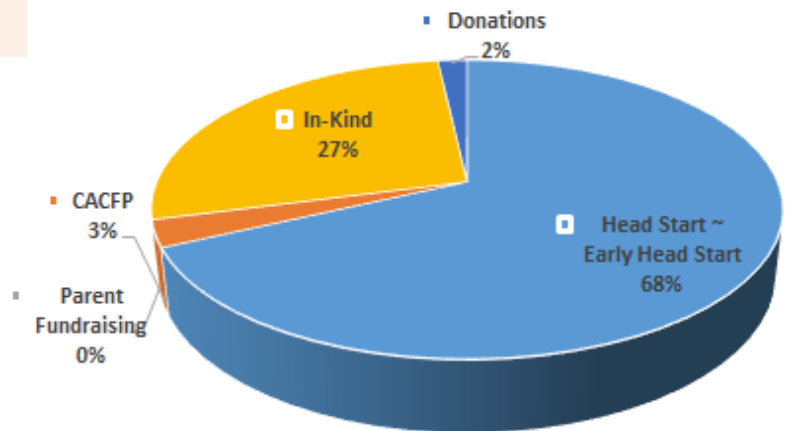
Our last official Agency Fiscal Audit report, in accordance with Uniform Guidance, dated September 22, 2017, stated no audit findings and found the agency a low risk auditee.

*HS/EHS—Head Start / Early Head Start

Funding Sources

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Head Start ~ | |
| Early Head Start | 2,109,463.84 |
| CACFP | 89,391.04 |
| Parent Fundraising..... | 555.50 |
| In-Kind | 843,562.74 |
| Donations | 55,481.53 |
| Total Funding Sources..... | \$3,098,454.65 |

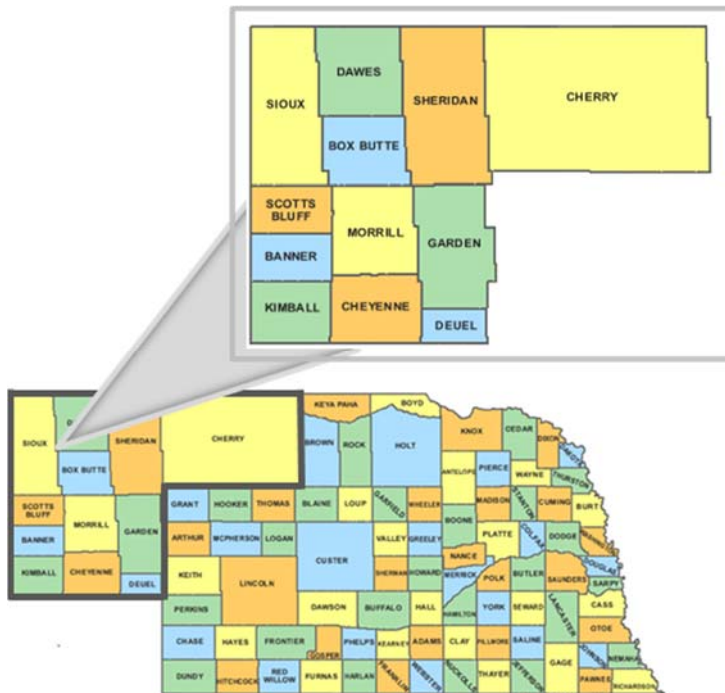
Head Start Funding Sources





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