



2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARING CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES
FOR SUCCESS IN
SCHOOL AND
THROUGHOUT LIFE



Ready To Learn

Since 1967 we have been preparing children and their families for success in school and throughout life. In 2013 we faced the challenge of the federal sequester and the loss of service to 79 children and their families, as well as the jobs of 15 valued staff members. With the emotional support of our Board, parents, and the community, our staff continued to provide the highest quality of service. The excellent child outcomes achieved are a tribute to their caring professionalism and skill. Our agency is prouder than ever to provide Head Start, Early Head Start, and Project Listo in Jackson and Josephine counties.

Alan S. Berlin

ALAN S. BERLIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Eric Foster

ERIC FOSTER
BOARD CHAIR



About Us

Southern Oregon Child & Family Council, Inc.

The Foundation for Success in School and Later Life

Head Start and Early Head Start services provide significant educational, health, economic and social benefits. Beginning with healthy attachments in infancy, children receive early learning experiences which engage parents and strengthen families. Studies reveal that children who participated in Head Start and Early Head Start have:

- significantly higher cognitive and language skills
- better achievement scores in school
- higher rates of high school graduation
- better employment as adults
- less involvement in the criminal justice system
- increased family stability

(High Scope/Perry Pre-school Projects and Early Head Start National Evaluation Project)



Of the 1,368 children served in Head Start and Early Head Start in 2012-2013:

- 589 (46%) lived in single parent families
- 178 (13%) were homeless
- 203 (15%) had disabilities
- 98 (7%) were in foster care

Median Family Income – \$12,804

Total number of children and pregnant women served in 2012-2013:
1,379

FUNDED ENROLLMENT:

Head Start | 1,076
Early Head Start | 139

Average monthly enrollment for Head Start/Early Head Start | 1,215 (100%)

Percentage of eligible children served:

Head Start:	Jackson County	63%
	Josephine County	50%
Early Head Start:	Jackson County	4%
	Josephine County	7%

COMMUNITIES WE SERVE:

<u>Jackson County</u>	<u>Josephine County</u>
Ashland	Cave Junction
Central Point	Grants Pass
Eagle Point	Kerby
Medford	Merlin
Phoenix/Talent	O'Brien
Rogue River	Selma
Shady Cove	Takilma
White City	



What We Do

Head Start Helps Children Succeed

Head Start is a federal program for preschool children from low-income families. The Head Start Oregon Pre-Kindergarten Program (OPK) is the same program funded by the state. Children who attend Head Start participate in educational activities to help them grow mentally, socially, emotionally, and physically. They also receive free medical and dental care, healthy meals, and enjoy playing and learning in safe indoor and outdoor settings. Special services are offered to meet the needs of children with disabilities. We work closely with other agencies to provide the best and most comprehensive services to meet children's needs. Children may be referred for additional services such as special education or mental health.

Early Head Start (EHS) provides the same services for pregnant women, infants and toddlers in selected communities. EHS promotes nurturing parent/child relationships and a healthy start in life. Both programs work in partnership with families, offering a sense of belonging, support, and opportunities to be engaged in activities to help the whole family.

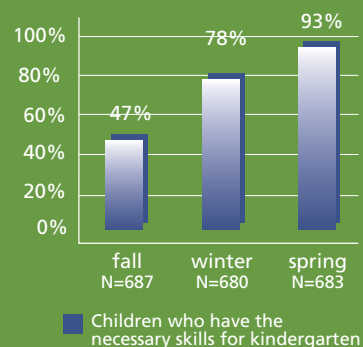
Our data shows that the majority of children entering our program do not have the skills expected for their age. However, by the end of the year they make tremendous growth; over 90% have acquired the expected skills as the charts show.

There is an increased awareness of the importance of preschool and the need to have common expectations pre-kindergarten through third grade. As a result the state has adopted the Head Start Child Development Early Learning Framework (HSCDEL) as the foundation for school readiness for children 3-5 years of age. It aligns with and builds from the five critical areas of learning and development for 3 to 5 year old children. The Framework guides curriculum selection, implementation, and assessment and can be used when planning and assessing teaching and learning experiences and children's progress toward school readiness goals. For more information go to <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc>. Head Start establishes goals for children based on the HSCDEL and the common core standards for kindergarten. In addition we meet with school districts to inform our practices to prepare children to be Ready for School.

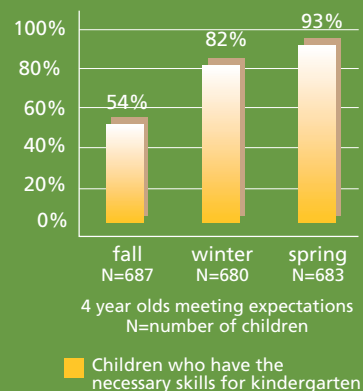


Nancy Nordyke, Head Start Director

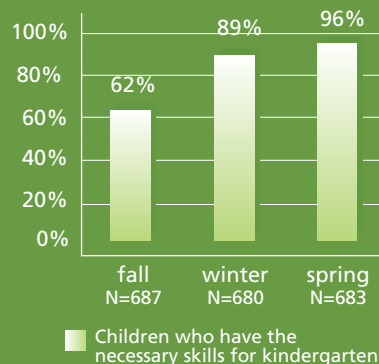
Social Emotional



Language



Literacy

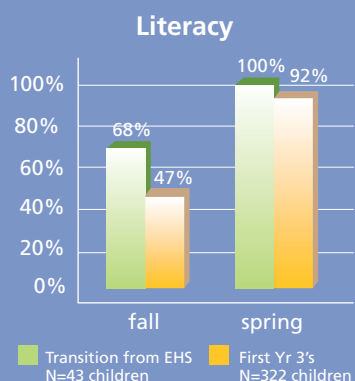
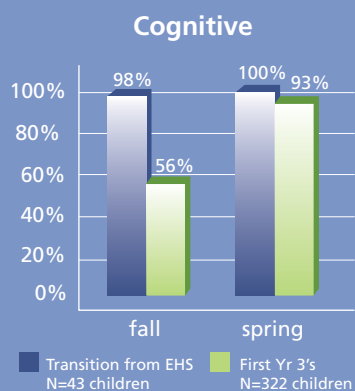




What We Do

Relationships and Early Learning Experiences

Babies Can't Wait! During the first three years of life, children need nurturing relationships and rich early learning experiences. Early Head Start builds strong families and engages parents in their child's learning right from the start.



Carlos displays his tattoo:
"Against All Odds"

Carlos' Story

I first got involved in Early Head Start (EHS) when my kids were put in foster care. I really wanted to be a great Dad and turn my life around. Before I moved to Oregon, I used to be a gang member in California and struggled with a meth addiction. I am now in my fifth year of recovery. Having a daughter in Head Start, I found out about EHS and enrolled my son Carlos II in the home-based program to help with his developmental delays. EHS has helped my son and I so much. I have learned how to interact with my son, to redirect his behavior and to help him voice his emotions rather than act them out. I have become a more patient, loving and nurturing parent. I volunteered in my son's toddler class and used the skills I learned to interact in a positive way with all the children.

My son's development has improved so much! His speech has improved a lot and he's now using seven word sentences. He loves to build things, he listens to me more and he can interact and enjoy activities with other children.

EHS taught me how to interact with other parents and the community too. I learned how to talk to landlords and get assistance from the housing authority. Now, after being homeless for several months, I have a safe place to live with my children. My goal is to go back to school and become an inspirational counselor to youth in trouble with the law.

I have tattoo that says "Against All Odds" to remind me of how I beat the odds. My family comes first no matter what. EHS taught me how important that is.

"Everything in my life is a blessing." – Carlos



What We Do

Head Start Prepares Children and Their Families for Success in School and Throughout Life

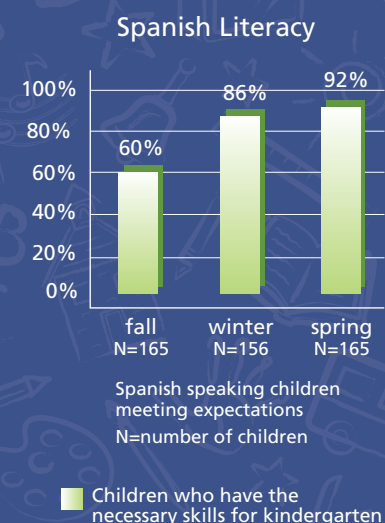
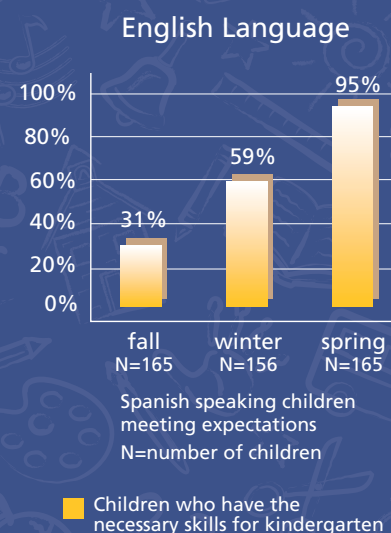
Early Childhood Education

Early childhood is the best time to help a child. Providing the right kind of learning experiences and nurturing relationships builds a foundation that lasts a lifetime. We are committed to doing the best job we can to help children enter kindergarten self-confident and ready to learn. This requires on-going improvement in the quality of our teaching practices. We use knowledge gained from research to inform our practices and to help us select curricula and tools. One tool, the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), is used to strengthen teacher practices that are shown to improve children's readiness for kindergarten in all areas; social, emotional, cognitive, language, literacy, and math. The tool is based on direct observation by certified education managers and the results used to support on-going improvements in teaching practices.

Supporting English Language Learners

The Head Start program supports children who are English Language Learners to meet the same school readiness goals of primary English speaking children. We collect additional assessment data on these children to ensure that they are reaching school readiness goals and to inform our teaching practices. The graphs presented on this page show that children are making great gains in learning English during their time in Head Start.

Research shows that it is very important for children to continue to learn their home language as well. We share information with families on the importance of their children continuing to learn Spanish. Our assessment results show that children are continuing to learn Spanish while acquiring English language skills. Our bilingual staff and interpreters also support the families of our English Language Learners. We believe hearing both English and Spanish languages in our Head Start classrooms enriches the educational experience for all children.





Health

92% of children 0-5 were up-to-date on medical exams

100% of children needing medical treatment received it for the following conditions:

- Vision problems 270
- Hearing problems 179
- Asthma 111

Dental

- 80% of Head Start children were up-to-date on dental exams
- 98% of Early Head Start children were up-to-date on preventive oral health care

Mental Health/Disabilities

- 92 children 0-5 were referred for mental health services
- 59 children received services
- 203 children received special education services (of these 73 were referred by us).

Nutrition

- Over 250,000 meals and snacks were served to children

"Head Start changed our child's life; if it can help us it can help you. No child is too difficult."

– Angela, Evan's mother



What We Do

Health, Nutrition, Disabilities and Mental Health

HEALTHY CHILDREN

Children need to be physically and emotionally healthy to learn and grow. Head Start works with parents to help each child be up-to-date on their medical care. We also provide a variety of screenings to see if children have vision, hearing, dental, developmental or mental health needs.



Evan's Story

Evan's parents wanted Evan to go to Head Start to develop socialization skills. They were concerned that Evan had a hard time expressing himself and would often get angry. At first, Evan struggled in Head Start. He had difficulty interacting with the other children and his teacher Stephanie. One day Evan's mother said that Evan came home and told her he didn't have any friends and he didn't want to go to school. Angela said it broke her heart.

Evan's parents met with Evan's teacher and together they made a plan to help Evan be successful in school. Part of the plan was to refer Evan to Jackson County Mental Health for special services. Evan and his parents began Parent/Child Interaction therapy. This therapy provides coaching strategies to parents to support their child's positive behaviors and lessen their challenging behaviors. Evan also qualified for early intervention services. Evan's parents and teacher worked together as a team to help Evan learn to express his feelings appropriately in class and at home. In class, Evan's teacher handed out paper cut-outs of shooting stars to give children when they were following the classroom rules; taking care of ourselves, taking care of others and taking care of our things. Evan was proud of the shooting stars he collected. They were a positive reinforcement for him. Evan's parents also volunteered in his classroom.

Over time, Evan's mother said his experience at Head Start took a complete turnaround. Rather than avoid interacting with others, Evan began to make friends. When he came home from school, Evan would happily talk to his parents about what he and his friends did that day. Evan's father says Evan has become a happier and better behaved child by being in Head Start. Evan's parents are strong advocates of Head Start and the importance of early childhood education.

What We Do

Family and Community Partnerships

Engaging parents at all levels of the program is very important in Head Start and Early Head Start. This includes volunteering in the classroom, participating in center parent group activities, being a representative of the parent Policy Council and involvement in community collaborations.



Community Partnerships Support School Success

Head Start, Grants Pass School District 7 and Southern Oregon Education Services District have created The P-3 Alignment Learning Community. The focus of this partnership is to build a model of public education from pre-school to third grade that sets the stage for a lifetime of success in school. A key strategy is to provide special services and supports to help Head Start children become academically and socially ready for elementary school and to engage parents in their child's education. Another focus is to increase communication between families and educators so parents have a clear understanding of curriculum and learning outcomes. Some of the highlights of last year's activities include:

- Head Start early learning practices were aligned with elementary curriculum practices.
- Head Start teachers met with kindergarten teachers to review child assessment data on all Head Start children who would be transitioning into their schools.
- Head Start teachers visited kindergarten classrooms and kindergarten teachers visited Head Start classrooms to help teachers better understand each other's programs and practices.
- Head Start children visited the public school they would be attending as a transition activity. They visited the kindergarten classroom, the cafeteria and the library.
- Head Start parents attended public school parent education and family night events.

The project has been so successful with staff, children and families that we plan to expand this model to create new partnerships with school districts in Jackson County.



"It was so helpful to go to parent night and come home with information for all the different ages of my children."





Parent Education Level at Enrollment

Bachelor's Degree or higher	3%
Associate's degree/vocational school/some college	26%
High School graduate/GED	33%
Less than high school graduate	38%

Family Needs

Adult education and financial support are the two highest needs reported by Head Start families. Family advocates provide many resources to assist parents in improving their education and working toward their financial goals.



I Was A Head Start Child

Zoey Mendoza Zimmerman attended the Ashland Head Start center as a 4-year-old in 1977. Her mother, Jody, wanted Zoey to attend Head Start because she was very interested in a career in early childhood education. She thought Head Start was the best program she had ever seen. As a college student and single mother, Jody received public assistance to support her family until she graduated from college and began her career.

When Zoey attended Head Start she was so out-going that her teachers encouraged her to play with some of the shy children to help them open up and socialize. Zoey can remember enjoying hands-on learning activities at Head Start, such as helping to prepare nutritious snacks, and creating arts and crafts projects. Zoey also made life-long friends at Head Start who have been incredibly supportive. Her experience at Head Start inspired Zoey's passion for education. She completed a master's degree in Social Work and went on to establish a rewarding career working with low-income children in a large urban school district in New Jersey.

Being the mother of two vibrant and bright preschoolers, Zoey had the opportunity to appreciate the importance of providing her children with marvelous experiences, wonderful books and extensive music and art activities just like she experienced in Head Start many years ago.

In 2010, Zoey suffered the tragic loss of her two young children. During the past three years she has been appreciative of the strong foundation she had as a young child to help her survive during this devastating period of time. Her career in social work has expanded to include active involvement with other grieving parents to whom she provides empathetic and therapeutic support. Zoey has recently married and become the step mother to three beautiful children.



What We Do

Listo Program

WHAT IS LISTO?

The Listo Family Literacy Program is a collaboration between Southern Oregon Head Start, Southern Oregon Education Service District Migrant Education, and Rogue Community College. The goal of the program is to increase literacy skills for Spanish-speaking low-income families in Jackson County. Listo means "bright and ready" in Spanish. Listo families attend literacy classes two nights each week, with their children in tow and their study materials in hand. Children 3 months to 14 years engage in culturally appropriate literacy activities. Parents at Listo study English as a Second Language (ESL) and basic General Educational Development (GED) content knowledge in Spanish. This approach helps build the language skills necessary for learning English. Parents also participate in regularly scheduled literacy activities with their children.



Listo Students Excel in School

This year Listo has data from the Medford School District (MSD) which shows that Listo students in elementary school far surpass non-Listo Latino students in English reading skills. The data shows that Listo's strategy of teaching students to read and write first in their primary language supports the development of strong reading skills in English.

The MSD used the Dibels Assessment Tool to assess English reading skills in elementary schools. Of the seven areas assessed, Listo students scored higher in five areas. In reading fluency, Listo students scored 86% higher than non-Listo Latino students and 95% higher in decoding skills. Listo students also had a higher rate of elementary school attendance, averaging 6.5 absences compared to 9.2 for the non-Listo group. Good attendance in public school strongly supports success in life.



Listo White City Computer Lab

Listo Services

600 families served since 1996
Of the 57 families served in 2012-2013:

- 108 adults attended ESL classes and basic adult literacy classes
- 87 children in public school received home work help
- 53 children age 0-5 learned school-readiness skills

**200 tutoring hours
provided by volunteers**

Listo thanks the following for their generous support:

- The Carpenter Foundation
- Chaney Family Foundation
- Collins Foundation
- The Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation
- Ford Family Foundation
- The Gordon Elwood Foundation
- The Leightman Maxey Foundation
- The Anna May Foundation
- The Reed and Carolee Walker, John S. and Frances W. Winslow, and Olsrud Family Funds of The Oregon Community Foundation.
- Southern Oregon Education Services District ELL Program
- Medford 549C and Eagle Point #9 school districts

Kid Time! Discovery Experience, and The Mexican Consulate also support Listo families.

Financials

Southern Oregon Child and Family Council, Inc.

Revenue Sources (FY 2012)

Federal

U.S. Dept. of HHS – Head Start	\$ 5,053,341
U.S. Dept. of HHS – Early Head Start	1,851,638
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	561,380

State of Oregon

Oregon Pre-kindergarten Program — Head Start	5,572,458
Oregon Pre-kindergarten Program — Early Head Start	75,623
Oregon Dept. Of Human Services	36,767
Migrant Education Program	33,061

Foundations

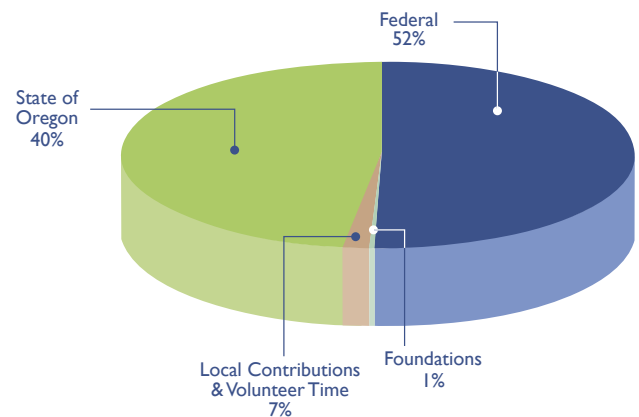
Carpenter Foundation	34,000
Leightman Maxey Foundation	15,000
Gordon Elwood Foundation	8,000
Oregon Community Foundation: Reed & Carolee Walker Fund	15,000
Ford Family Foundation	45,000
Collins Foundation	43,841

Local Contributions

Jackson County Commission on Children & Families	25,000
United Way of Jackson County	12,389
Grants Pass Rotary Club	1,000
Medford School District #549c	12,000
Eagle Point School District #9	9,663
Undesignated Donations	1,196
SLIDE Work Experience Program	120,317
Local Fundraising	6,973
Hughes Lumber Company	3,000
Other Designated Donations < \$1,000	4,765

Volunteer Time, Space & Materials 738,479

Total \$14,279,890



Federal	\$7,466,358
State of Oregon	\$5,717,909
Foundations	\$160,841
Local Contributions & Volunteer Time	\$934,781

*The Audited Financial Statements in their entirety are available on our website: www.socfc.org



Expenditures (FY 2012)

Personnel & Fringe Benefits	\$ 10,719,350
Furniture & Equipment	132,695
Supplies	351,707
Occupancy	887,214
Child Transportation	250,229
Food Service	513,746
Child & Family Services	163,074
Training & Other	1,721,127
Total	\$13,448,985

Approved Budget (FY 2013)

Personnel & Fringe Benefits	\$ 10,168,513
Furniture & Equipment	124,173
Supplies	222,399
Occupancy	834,071
Child Transportation	241,232
Food Service	600,440
Child & Family Services	139,140
Training & Other	351,719
Total	\$12,681,687



Parent Policy Council

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Karissa Ackley	Tina Johnson
Karrie Wilson	Yolanda Curiel

Thank You!

**Thank you to all our
Head Start and Early
Head Start volunteers!**

In 2012-2013, more than 2,600
parent and community volunteers
gave over 74,000 hours of their
time to our program.

**Do You Know a Child or
Pregnant Woman Who
Needs a Head Start?**

For an application and
information please call
(541)734-5150 or 1-800-866-9674

Or visit our website
www.socfc.org to complete
an online application



SOUTHERN OREGON
HEAD START

SOUTHERN OREGON
CHILD AND FAMILY
COUNCIL, INC.

TELEPHONE: 541-734-5150

FAX: 541-734-2279

POSTAL ADDRESS

P.O. Box 3697, Central Point, OR 97502

STREET ADDRESS

1001 Beall Lane, Central Point, OR 97502

For Child Enrollment Information:

www.socfc.org

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