



SOUTHERN OREGON
HEAD START

2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

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



Since 1967 our agency has been preparing children and their families for success in school and throughout life. We weathered the federal sequestration of 2013, and then, through the strong support and advocacy of our parents, staff, and elected officials, our budget was restored in 2014, and with it, those lost services were returned. Our strength rests on our commitment to our Mission, and the children and families we serve. Our agency is stronger and 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

Linda Fern

LINDA FERN,
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 1,141 children served in Head Start and Early Head Start in 2013-2014:

- 420 (35%) lived in single parent families
- 207 (18%) were homeless
- 192 (17%) had disabilities
- 987 (10%) were in foster care

Median Family Income – \$12,014

Total number of children and pregnant women served in 2013-2014:
1,141

FUNDED ENROLLMENT:

Head Start | 1,022
Early Head Start | 119

Average monthly enrollment for Head Start/Early Head Start | 1,141 (100%)

Percentage of eligible children served:

Head Start:	Jackson County	61%
	Josephine County	48%
Early Head Start:	Jackson County	3%
	Josephine County	6%

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

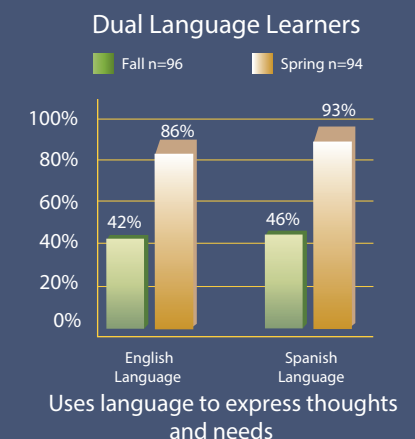
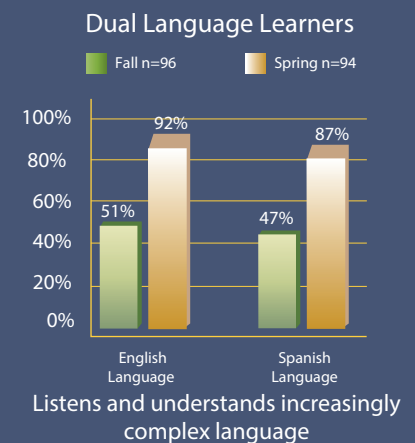
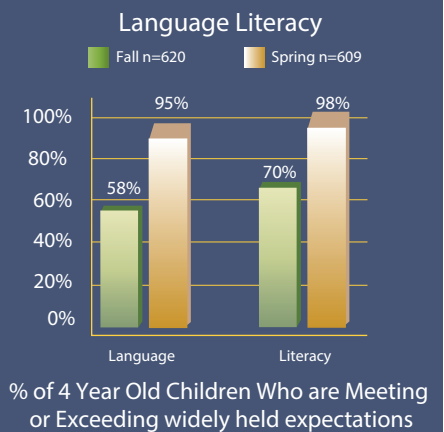
Head Start Helps Children Succeed

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.

Does Head Start Work?

This is a frequent question that can be answered with an emphatic, "Yes!" Data we gather shows that children enter the Head Start program significantly below expectations for their age. However, by the end of the school year before kindergarten, over 90% of the children have the skills needed for kindergarten. The one exception is mathematics; 88% of children were prepared. Data on the impact of Head Start nationally indicates that; children graduate from high school in much higher numbers, have a lowered need for special education services, have a much lower rate of involvement with the criminal justice system as teens and young adults, and have improved health over their lifetime.

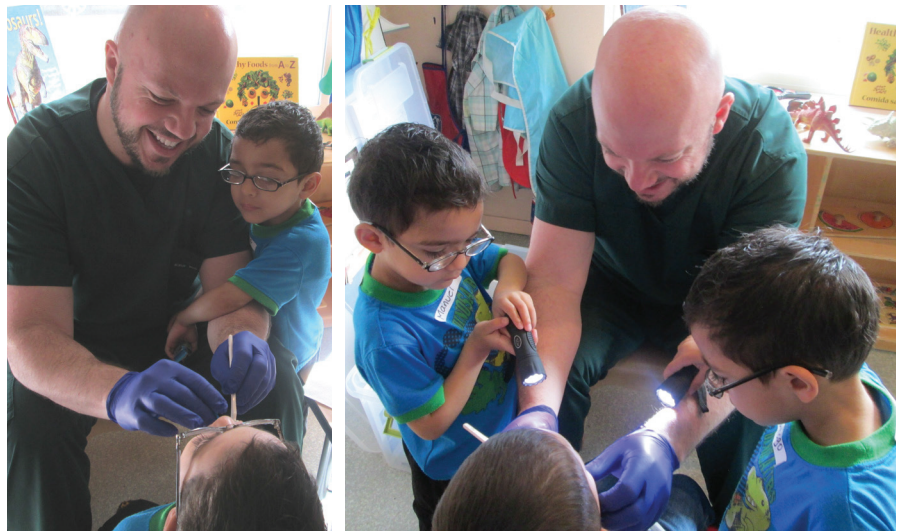
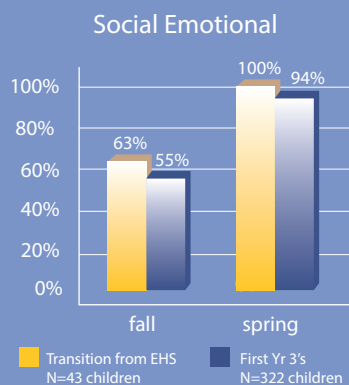




What We Do

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.



Our Friend Matt

Early Head Start (EHS) promotes the important role dental health plays in the overall health of a child. Children may develop speech problems, poor eating habits and damaged adult teeth when baby teeth are infected or lost too early due to decay. EHS works with parents to ensure children have a dental home, and tooth brushing is a part of every classroom routine.

EHS teamed up with Capitol Dental Care to provide dental hygiene screenings and fluoride varnish services to EHS infants and toddlers. Matt Tripp, an Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist, visited EHS classrooms three times during the year. He checked each child's teeth for signs of decay and provided fluoride varnish. When a child was identified as needing dental treatment, the EHS Health Supervisor worked with staff and parents to ensure the child's dental needs were met. Matt also provided dental education at parent meetings.

The relationships that Matt developed with the children were a special benefit. One little girl in a toddler class was asked by Matt to open her mouth so he could see her teeth. "No thanks" she said. Then Matt said he could put sparkles on her teeth. "Yes!" she said. In another toddler classroom a set of twins were fascinated by Matt's work. They took turns helping Matt by shining his flashlight into each of their mouths. EHS toddlers became dental assistants.

Next year our partnership with Capitol Dental Care will expand to include Head Start too.

"Can I put sparkles on your teeth?"
- Matt



What We Do

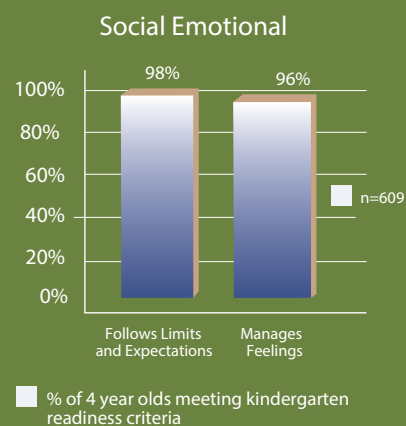
Head Start Prepares Children and Their Families for Success in School and Throughout Life

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.

Social Emotional Development

Social and emotional development is at the heart of what we do. This includes building nurturing relationships with children, helping children develop friendships with other children, creating an environment where children feel good about themselves and learn to understand and manage their emotions. These qualities and skills are all outlined in the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework. We partner closely with families as they are their child's "forever teacher", and honor each family's culture. We use Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and the Second Step Curriculum, as well as Creative Curriculum strategies. These curricula promote problem solving, encourage children to focus and complete tasks, ask for help when needed and learn how to enter and participate in play with others. We also provide children with meaningful jobs and responsibilities. Our social/emotional goals for children are to be excited about learning and being a part of a group, to feel cared about, competent and successful.





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.

Health

98% 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 234
- Hearing problems 72
- Asthma 81

Dental

• 82% of Head Start children were up-to-date on dental exams

• 95% of Early Head Start children were up-to-date on preventive oral health care

Mental Health/Disabilities

- 85 children 0-5 were referred for mental health services
- 57 children received services
- 167 children received special education services (of these 58 were referred by us).

Nutrition

- Over 179,254 meals and snacks were served to children



Joseph's Story

Joseph's mother Micheal recalled noticing that Joseph was different when he was a baby. Although their doctor ran some tests, nothing showed up. Then when Joseph turned one, Micheal took him to an early intervention program for evaluation. The results showed that Joseph had high functioning autism.

When Joseph was four he began attending the Head Start Central Point Center in teacher Leilani's class. At that time Joseph knew only 50 words and he was nervous in his new environment. Michael recalls that Leilani took Joseph under her wing. She made him feel calmer in the classroom by describing what activities would happen next and helped him make friends with the children. Joseph flourished in Head Start. He found a love for math, a passion for the computer and a group of friends he could relate to. His language has grown so much that he will enter Kindergarten with the skills he needs to succeed. Michael credits the teachers at Head Start. She says that they have a lot of heart and are very responsive to what children need.

Micheal feels so much hope for Joseph's future. She has been taking him to visit the play yard at the Kindergarten he will attend next year. Michael and Leilani are working together to help Joseph realize that going to kindergarten is a positive step. He's a smart boy and he gets to go to a bigger school.

What We Do

Parent Family and Community Engagement

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.



Sabena's Story

My Head Start story began shortly after my husband and I decided to get married and blend our families. Our love for each other and our children was strong, but he and I had both grown up in poverty, toxic stress, neglect and abuse. We were on our own to seek out parenting advice.

The first time I heard about Head Start, my husband Stephan was with his Army National Guard Unit in Japan, and I was at home newly pregnant with our now blended family of five children. When one of my older children brought home a flyer about Head Start, I was excited to apply. I knew what benefits pre-school would hold for my two youngest, but I was unaware of the amazing effect it would have on me.

I found out about the opportunity to serve my Head Start center, agency, and my community by sitting on the parent Policy Council. I dove right in and started to learn everything about Head Start and early childhood education. I was elected as the Policy Council Chairperson and the State Representative. I ran Policy Council meetings, and became involved in policy making decisions including the budget, curriculum, staffing, and enrollment. I became an advocate for the importance of early childhood education on local, state and national levels, and spoke regularly with elected officials and the media. One highlight was teaming with another Head Start parent and planning leadership training for Policy Council parents. I served for three years on the Policy Council, and the growth I have seen in myself has been nothing short of amazing. I have learned not only how to be a resourceful and empowered parent, but I also learned how to mentor my peers to be the same.

I now sit on the Board of Directors for Southern Oregon Head Start, the Oregon Head Start Association, and the National Head Start Association. In my local community, I sit on the Executive Council and the Parent Advisory Council of the Southern Oregon Early Learning Systems (SOELS) Hub. I have had the opportunity to travel to many places within the United States to attend conferences where I have learned about the incredible impact that Head Start is making in people's lives throughout the nation.



"I now feel there is nothing I cannot set my sights on, no dream too large to try for, and have been empowered with the ability to master my own life. None of this would have been possible without Head Start."





Parent Education Level at Enrollment

Bachelor's Degree or higher	5%
Associate's degree/ vocational school/ some college	29%
High School graduate/GED	42%
Less than high school graduate	24%

"Thank you for the
opportunity to pay
tribute to such a
wonderful program"

– Sawyer Christianson
www.oregontrailer.net

We Were Head Start Children

My brother Jonathan and I own and operate Oregon Trail'R, a company that builds high end teardrop-style camp trailers. We started our business in 2011 using only our own capital, and in the last four years we have grown our business by roughly 100% every year. I attribute our success to a good education, a desire to succeed, a great support system, and our unflappable work ethic.

I believe wholeheartedly that a focus on family and education are keys to success in life. Jonathan and I were born into a loving family that supported us in every way they could, and part of that support was to ensure we had access to a good education, which began with Head Start. Jonathan and I are both proud graduates of the Head Start program. Even though it was nearly 30 years ago, I have fond memories of my time at the Illinois Valley Head Start center, especially of all the wonderful staff and volunteers involved in the program. While our success in business, and having loving families and children of our own, can be attributed to many things, I believe Head Start helped to build the educational and social foundation upon which we are still standing and thriving today.

Aside from my brother and I, and our younger brother Courtney, who is an impressive success story himself, I can vouch for many others who are doing very well in life who would attribute some portion of their success to the opportunity to attend Head Start in their early years.



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 Supports Family Literacy

One family that has benefited from the Listo Family Literacy Program includes a working mother, Maura, and her four sons. The eldest, Jesus, used to have difficulties in high school classes but now he has significantly improved his academics through Listo. Deshi is in 3rd grade and gets help with homework along with his Listo friends, and baby Ari is well-cared for in Listo's early learning child care class. Angel, a preschooler, improved his language and literacy assessment score by 12 points this past year. When the family reads together at home, they use the bilingual books they received from Listo. By reading together in English and in Spanish the boys are building strong skills in both languages.

Maura has worked hard to build her academic skills and recently received her GED. She has also been attending the English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at Listo. She was very pleased to receive a promotion at work to a supervisory position because of her increased English language and reading skills. Now she communicates with her English speaking supervisor and translates for him to her Spanish speaking staff. Her bilingual skills are an asset to the company.



Listo Services

700 families served since 1996

Of the 57 families served in 2013-2014:

- 113 adults attended ESL classes and basic adult literacy classes
- 90 children in public school received home work help
- 66 children age 0-5 learned school-readiness skills

400 tutoring hours
provided by volunteers

Listo thanks the following
for their generous support:

- The Carpenter Foundation
- Collins Foundation
- The Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation
- The Gordon Elwood Foundation
- The Leightman Maxey Foundation
- The Anna May Foundation
- The Reed and Carolee Walker, William and Florence Schneider, and Olsrud Family Funds of the Oregon Community Foundation
- Southern Oregon Early Learning Services
- Oregon Shakespeare Festival
- 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 2013)

Federal

U.S. Dept. of HHS – Head Start	\$ 4,786,208
U.S. Dept. of HHS – Early Head Start	1,754,838
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	515,277

State of Oregon

Oregon Pre-kindergarten Program — Head Start	5,221,715
Oregon Pre-kindergarten Program — Early Head Start	42,134
Oregon Dept. Of Human Services	5,000
SOESD Migrant Education Program	17,364

Foundations

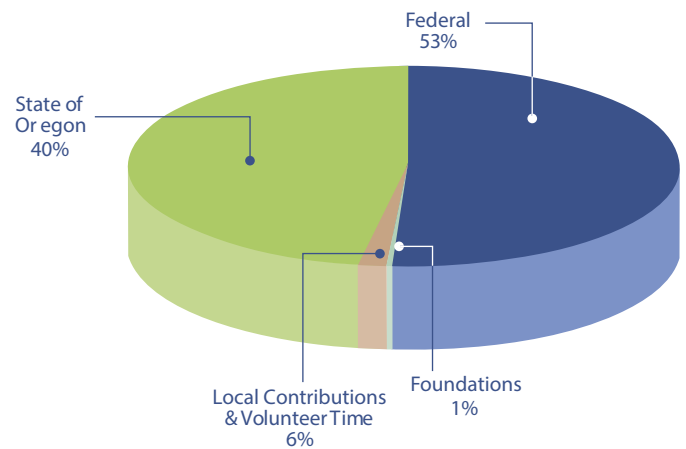
Anna May Family Foundation	8,000
Carpenter Foundation	17,000
Collins Foundation	15,000
Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation	7,500
Oregon Community Foundation: Olsrud Family Fund	5,000
Oregon Community Foundation: Reed & Carolee Walker Fund	20,000
Oregon Community Foundation: John S. & Frances W. Winslow Fund	20,000
West Family Foundation	7,360

Local Contributions

Jackson County Commission on Children & Families	15,000
Eagle Point School District #9	10,000
Howard S. Wright Company	2,500
Hughes Lumber Company	3,240
Local Fundraising	293
Medford School District #549c	38,000
Other Designated Donations	2,183
Other: Interest, Gains, and Refunds	11,752
SLIDE Work Experience Program	35,655
Undesignated Donations	184
United Way of Jackson County	11,358
Volunteer Time, Space & Materials	706,634

Total **\$13,280,195**

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



Federal	\$7,056,323
State of Oregon	\$5,286,212
Foundations	\$99,860
Local Contributions & Volunteer Time	\$837,800



Expenditures (FY 2013)

Personnel & Fringe Benefits	\$ 10,413,942
Furniture & Equipment	37,351.94
Supplies	220,378.70
Occupancy	910,170.77
Child Transportation	236,122.13
Food Service	459,579.17
Child & Family Services	142,199.80
Training & Other	472,872.71
Total	\$12,892,617

Approved Budget (FY 2014)

Personnel & Fringe Benefits	\$ 10,801,673
Furniture & Equipment	229,542.04
Supplies	240,858.06
Occupancy	776,180.23
Child Transportation	239,946.24
Food Service	605,054.19
Child & Family Services	148,846.07
Training & Other	359,102.17
Total	\$13,401,202



Parent Policy Council

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Chris Kelly	Sarah Heindel
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Deysi Bojorquez	Vanessa Graham
Elaina Jaramillo	Vanessa Verreht
Emily Smith Bish	Verdella Wright
Francine Borth	Yoemi Covarrubias

Thank You!

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

In 2013-2014, more than 2,473
 parent and community volunteers
 gave over 76,400 hours of their
 time to our program.

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

For an intake interview
 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

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