

Southeastern North Dakota Community Action Agency
Head Start Birth to Five
Annual Community Report
2017-2018



This report is prepared to comply with the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. This act states:

Each Head Start agency shall make available to the public a report published at least once in each fiscal year that discloses the following information from the most recently concluded fiscal year, except that reporting such information shall not reveal personally identifiable information about an individual child or parent:

- (A) The total amount of public and private funds received and the amount from each source.
- (B) An explanation of budgetary expenditures and proposed budget for the fiscal year.
- (C) The total number of children and families served, the average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment), and the percentage of eligible children served.
- (D) The results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit.
- (E) The percentage of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams.
- (F) Information about parent involvement activities.
- (G) The agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten.
- (H) Any other information required by the Secretary.

SENDCAA Head Start Birth to Five Mission Statement:

Creating a community of learners through nurturing children and engaging families.

SENDCAA Head Start Birth to Five Vision Statement:

Building on a cornerstone of success that inspires all children and families to reach their full potential.



Southeastern North Dakota Community Action Agency

Grant Revenue	Federal	State
US Dept of Health & Human Services	\$3,315,669	
USDA		\$238,797
In-Kind	\$828,917	
Total Program Revenues	\$4,144,586	\$238,797
Program Expenses		
Salary & Wages	\$1,994,403	\$94,243
Fringe	\$508,405	\$27,731
Contracted Services	\$42,717	
Supplies	\$75,009	
Travel	\$44,329	
Space Costs/Rentals	\$389,638	
Other Direct Costs	\$232,946	\$116,823
Insurance	\$28,222	
In-Kind	\$828,917	
Total Program Expenses	\$3,315,669	\$1,607,714

Financial Audit:

In the audit conducted by Eide Bailly, LLP. for the agency year ending December 31, 2017, the following information was presented. There were zero findings that correlated to the SENDCAA Head Start Program.

In our opinion, except for the effects of not including the accounts of Region V Community Development Corporation in the accompanying financial statements as explained in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Southeastern North Dakota Community Action Agency as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Site Information:

Location	Funded Enrollment
Central (Fargo) Head Start	70
South (Fargo) Head Start	88
North (Fargo) Head Start	31
West (W. Fargo) Head Start	68
Wahpeton Head Start	34
Lisbon Head Start	9
Gwinner Head Start	9
Early Head Start (Fargo)	52

Total Number of Children Served

Head Start	378
Early Head Start	90

Average Monthly Enrollment as a percentage of funded enrollments

Head Start	100%
Early Head Start	100%

Health Services:

Health Coordinators renewed their commitment to most efficiently meet the health and dental needs of our children, and continue to improve the overall data reported. We continue to work collaboratively to build positive family relationships. Team work, networking, and new partnerships are the center of our biggest accomplishments. Our data reflects the continuous improvement and growth in all of the health areas. We strive to build upon new partnerships each year. As a result of our past collaborations with Pediatric Dentistry and a new collaboration with Apple Tree Dental and Community Health Services Inc., we were able to improve the number of children receiving dental exams, physicals, hemoglobin, and lead screens. As a program we aim to ensure our children are kindergarten ready and healthy to continue to grow and thrive.

Parent Involvement:

- Parents are invited to take part in our Health Services Advisory Committee Meeting
- We offer a yearly invite to parents to get CPR/ First Aid certified with our staff
- Dental hygienists visit the different sites to provide dental care education to both children and families
- Extension partnerships allow for onsite education to parents and children in various nutrition and health topics such as; why family style meals matter, your child growing and what to expect, physical activity and outside play, healthy beverages and body weight, sun protections, healthy snacks and simple recipes to prepare.

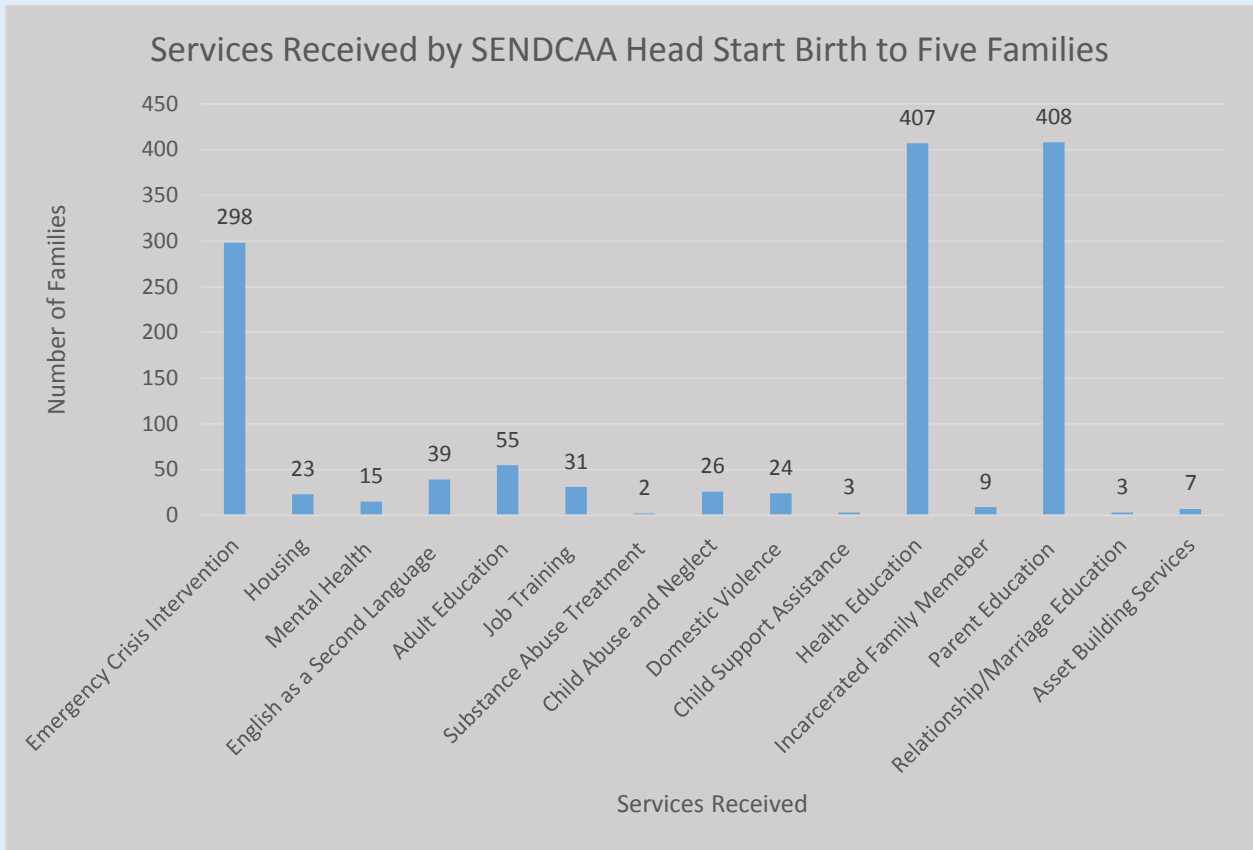
Health Data:

Head Start	At Enrollment	At End of Enrollment
Children on Health Insurance	338	354
Children with Ongoing Accessible Health Care	311	364
Children Up to Date on Age Appropriate Preventative Care	330	353
Children Up to Date on Immunizations	330	377
Children with Ongoing Accessible Dental Care	256	354
Early Head Start	At Enrollment	At End of Enrollment
Children on Health Insurance	70	79
Children with Ongoing Accessible Health Care	68	79
Children Up to Date on Age Appropriate Preventative Care	66	75
Children Up to Date on Immunizations	69	79
Children with Ongoing Accessible Dental Care	40	82



Family & Community Services:

Family Services staff worked continually throughout the year to assess and address our family's needs. Staff took time learning how to help support families by touring and meeting with community partners. In the 2017-2018 program year, we collaborated with the other Head Start programs across the state to develop a statewide strengths and needs assessment that we are using in program year 2018-2019. We coordinated with community partners to offer goal workshops for families based on their goals with a special focus this year on promoting self-sufficiency through job skills and parent education. In a collaboration with the Education team, we also offered a Conscious Discipline parenting class to families that addressed families' desires for skills on how to manage child behaviors. We worked to promote overall parent involvement through take home in-kind, parent committee events, and an end of the year picnic.



Education:

Efforts to prepare children for kindergarten:

The Education Component prepared children for kindergarten in several ways throughout the 2017-2018 school year. Each year, classroom teachers utilize an Education Checklist that aids them in setting up a classroom that is safe (physically & emotionally), welcoming, well-organized, and has developmentally appropriate classroom materials. Our classrooms are organized into learning centers: blocks, dramatic play, toys & games, art, library, discovery, sand & water, outdoors, cooking, music & movement, and computer. Each area contains various materials that promote learning through play. The education checklist also looks at the daily schedule, structure, transitions, teacher-child interactions, relationships with families, & assessment. In implementing this checklist, our classrooms are directly preparing children for kindergarten by providing materials and centers that are conducive to learning and exploration. Teachers implement the Creative Curriculum, which is a comprehensive curriculum that defines what content to teach, why the designated content and skills are appropriate for young children, and how to teach effectively. Our teachers are continually supported in teaching the curriculum to fidelity by receiving curriculum training, coaching, and support by supervisors. Each and every day, our teachers are working to prepare children for kindergarten by focusing on building children’s social-emotional skills, literacy, cognitive, and mathematic skills. With an emphasis on the social-emotional skills.

In the spring, our program began working to reconnect with local kindergarten teachers to discuss the upcoming transition for many of our children who would be leaving Head Start and venturing off into

kindergarten. Many schools allowed our children to take a tour to see what a kindergarten classroom looks like. Teachers completed Kindergarten Transition Forms for each child in their classroom who was going to Kindergarten, which were then sent to the receiving school (with permission from parents).

Parent Involvement:

SENDCAA Head Start has an open house for parents prior to the first day of school to discuss our program policies, procedures, and a general overview of our classroom routines. At that Open House, we emphasize parents' role as their child's primary educator, and throughout the school year we continue to remind parents of that.

The Education Component involves parents in their child's education from the very first time they sit down at a home visit. Home visits occur in the fall, before the child's first day of school. During this visit, the teacher gets to know the child and family. Also at this visit, teachers asked parents if they'd like to come into the classroom to share any special talents, read to the children, or simply come have lunch or play in the classroom. During the 2017-2018 school year, parents were invited to join their child's classroom for parent committee events that focused on conscious discipline, math, and literacy activities. Teachers conducted 2 home visits and 2 parent-teacher conferences throughout the school year to involve parents in their child's education. At visits, teachers talk about child strengths and areas where the child is emerging and together the teacher and parents pick goals for the child. The parents and teacher work to help the child achieve those learning goals.

Teachers also involve parents in their child's education by sending home a weekly in-kind sheet that outlines activities for the parents to complete with their child (movement activities, eating family meals together, & working on various learning objectives).





SENDCAA Head Start Birth to Five School Readiness Goals 2017-2018

Approaches to Learning

- Children will learn and follow classroom rules, routines and directions.
- Children will learn and use words to describe what they are thinking and doing.

Social and Emotional Development

- Children will display levels of emotions and behaviors that are appropriate.
- Children will engage in positive relationships with adults and children.

Language and Literacy

- Children will demonstrate receptive and expressive language skills and communication.
- Children will demonstrate knowledge of the alphabet.

Cognition and General Knowledge

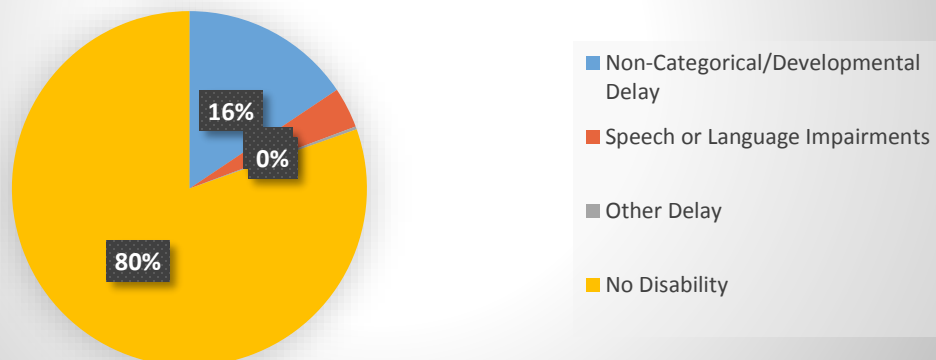
- Children will use math concepts during daily routines and experiences.
- Children will use observation and manipulation to ask questions/ make predictions to better understand information.

Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

- Children will demonstrate control of small muscles for self-care, using utensils, building and writing.
- Children will learn/use safe, healthy behaviors.

July 2017

Disability Percentage Head Start



Family Success: The story of sisters Ka'Leah, Kaelahni, and their big sister Kiara

Jasmine is the mother of 3 wonderful and energetic little girls, Kiara (6), Ka'Leah (5), and Kaelahni (2) who have all participated in our Early Head Start and/or Head Start program options. Kiara is now attending Lincoln Elementary in Fargo, while Ka'Leah attends Head Start and Kaelahni attends Early Head Start. This is their story:

Miss Ka'Leah started in our Early Head Start program in 2014 until the fall of 2016 when she turned 3 and transitioned into our Head Start program. She is currently in her third year at Head Start and has grown tremendously. In her first year of Head Start, Ka'Leah was below expectations for her age level in most educational domains. During the 2017-2018 program year, she qualified to receive additional services through Fargo Public Schools Early Childhood Special Education. Ka'Leah has made significant gains and continues to thrive, specifically in the areas of social/emotional development, language, and literacy.

Little Kaelahni is 2 ½ and has been in Early Head Start since she was 6 weeks old in the spring of 2016. Jasmine had been enrolled in our prenatal program during her pregnancy. Kaelahni is a bright and energetic girl who has consistently met all expectations for her age level in all of the educational domains. She is a joy to have in the Early Head Start family.

Jasmine's family is very engaged in our program by participating in family engagement events and spending time in the classrooms whenever Jasmine's busy schedule allows. During the 2017-2018 school year, Ka'Leah maintained a 94% attendance level while Kaelahni was at 95%. The family's main need during the school year was a safe and fun learning environment for the girls while Jasmine was working full-time. Jasmine was able to maintain full-time employment and the girls were able to work on their individual school readiness skills.

All 3 girls received dental exams each year as a result of partnerships our program has with dental offices such as: Family Health Care, Pediatric Dentistry, and Pediatric Dentistry Ltd. Both Kiara and Ka'Leah have received follow up dental treatments. Health Coordinators worked with Jasmine to help her find a dental home and continued follow ups until all treatments were completed for both girls. Jasmine was and is still consistently on top of her girls' health needs and is prompt in follow ups with any recommended referrals.

Throughout the year, Jasmine's family was connected to a magnitude of resources available to them, including Head Start/Early Head Start classroom events, free family community events, and weekly Great Plains Food Bank food bags. The family has developed and maintained excellent relationships with all staff, making them a true joy to have as part of our Head Start/Early Head Start family.

Our Story (written by Jasmine, Mom to Kiara, Ka'Leah, and Kaelahni)

Head Start has been awesome for me and my girls. We first heard about Head Start when a close friend and employee was working there. I was struggling with teaching my girls, working, and needing a break to myself once in a while. My close friend recommended Head Start and said they were a great program to help my kids learn new and different things. I was accepted right away. I could notice the change in my girls dramatically. They were learning their ABCs and 123s. They were excited to go there every day and come home to tell me about it. Head Start really helped my daughter with autism (Ka'Leah) focus and express herself in a way that wasn't destructive to her and others.

When I got pregnant with Kaelahni, Head Start got me enrolled in the pregnant mom classes. As soon as Kaelahni was born, she had an enrollment spot immediately and has been thriving ever since.

I love the teachers and the staff at Head Start. They make sure my children get the proper teaching and love that they need. I never have to question if my kids are being neglected or not getting the attention they need. Head Start has been my lifesaver and would recommend them to any one of my friends. Thank you Head Start for everything. We truly appreciate it.



Jasmine (Mom)

Ka'Leah (5), Kiara (6)

Kaelahni (2)