



Early Head Start Annual Report 2022-2023



Early Head Start

Child Development Resources' (CDR) Early Head Start (EHS) is a federally funded program that provides comprehensive child and family development services to income eligible prenatal women and parents of infants and toddlers, ages birth to three years of age, who live in the City of Williamsburg, James City County, York County, and the City of Poquoson.

EHS offers both home-based and center-based options to 146 prenatal women and children. All families receive information on education, health, immunizations, well child checks, nutrition, child development, services and supports for children with disabilities, prenatal development, parenting, and playgroups. Families also receive social and emotional assistance, access to mental health consultants, along with linkages to community resources.

Families enrolled in the home-based option receive weekly 90-minute home visits with a Family Advocate who provides support for the parents in their role as their child's first teacher and they are offered weekly playgroup opportunities for their child.

Families who are working, in school, or in job training, and are in need of high-quality child care due to their schedule, are eligible to enroll in full-day, year-round center-based options at one of our two child care centers. Our center at Life Church serves families who live in the City of Williamsburg and James City County and the Griffin-Yeates Center serves families who live in York County. At both centers, children are cared for during the day by a teacher who serves as their primary caregiver and receive home visits from the center-based Family Advocate.





Community Assessment Results

Since the onset of Covid-19, our service area has seen an increase in the number of unfilled jobs, lack of affordable quality child care, lack of affordable housing, lessening resources, and number of mental health diagnoses.

Due to staff shortages, (on average 3 Teachers) we have been unable to open 2 classrooms since we reopened our centers in March 2022. In turn, this has also effected our enrollment. Compared to the 21-22 program years when we served 15 homeless prenatal women and children, that number skyrocketed to 36 in 22-23. Local housing assistance programs have full waiting lists and are not accepting applications.

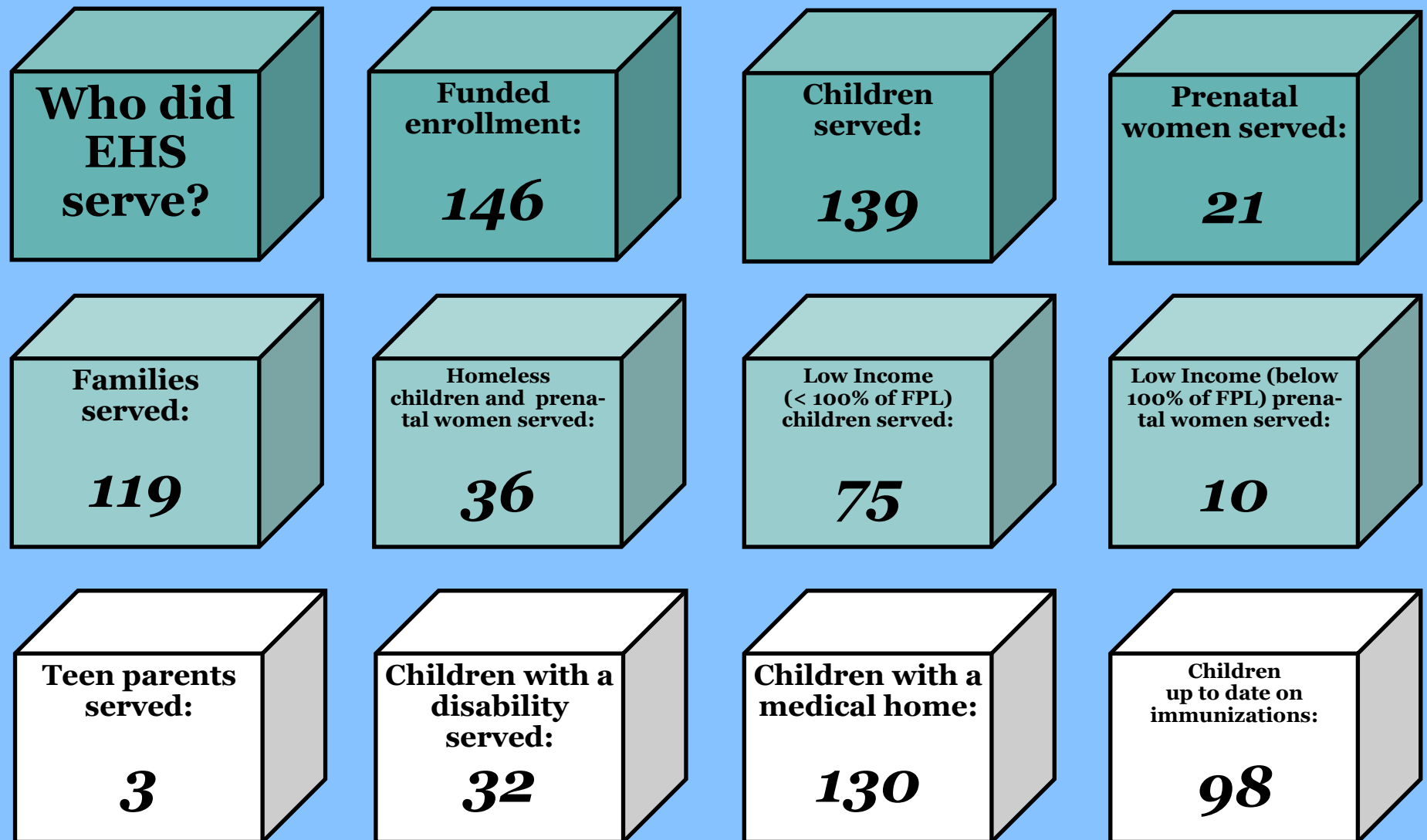
Childcare centers struggle to remain open and fully staffed. Throughout our service area, there are a total of 51 licensed child care centers and of those only 15 serve infants and toddlers as well as accept the child care subsidy. And last but certainly not least, there have been increased numbers of families that are dealing with mental health concerns. In addition to regular screenings, this means staff have been administering follow up screenings, consultations, and referrals related to families' mental health needs. To further assist families, staff have received training in several areas of mental health.

Family-Centered Services Lead to Big Changes for Children

This year, the Early Head Start Program (EHS) adopted a new Family Strengths and Needs Assessment tool to help us gather better data on the success and achievements of the families we serve. All programs at Child Development Resources (CDR) are designed to work with families to build on their strengths and to help them discover resources to meet their goals. As an anti-poverty program, EHS is particularly situated to help families achieve goals for their economic and social well-being along with achieve goals for their child's development. Research tells us that stable families lead to improved health and development for young children.

In this spirit, we celebrated with many families as they met and exceeded the goals they set for themselves using the supports and services offered through EHS. One mother, who had been unemployed for 2 years, started working and decided to enroll in counseling. Another mother started her own cleaning company after being encouraged by her family advocate to do so. One EHS father, who was an immigrant, received his work VISA and went to work immediately. They are now looking for a new place to live thanks to their steady income. While it is true that EHS doesn't directly provide the tangible resources (for example, EHS doesn't offer housing services), the program does help families identify their goals, set attainable steps to reach them, find the resources they need to move forward and give the encouragement and support for parents to grow in confidence. Together with our community partners, EHS helps transform the lives of families in our community every day.





Federal Program Review

During the 2022-2023 program year, our agency did not receive a federal review. We did complete and correct areas of deficiency from our 2021-2022 FA2 review and all areas were found to be in compliance and no further action was needed by the Office of Head Start.

Staff Achievements

- We are very proud to announce that Ratoshia Coles (center), one of our Early Head Start Teachers, was the recipient of a 2023 Terri Lynne Lockoff Teacher of the Year Award!!!! This award is designated to recognize and celebrate the achievements of outstanding early care and education teachers and bring attention to the critical role teachers play in the lives of young children.
- Chandreka Preston, our Assistant Center Coordinator, recently completed the Site Leader Credential through the National Head Start Association. This four month course focuses on day-to-day leadership in an Early Head Start site.
- Yanira Montanez-Clemente and Teresa Simmons completed the Data Literacy Credential through Acorn Evaluation, which consists of 3 courses: 1)The Wonderful World of Data, 2)Using Head Start Data, and 3)Foundations of Storytelling with Data. Data driven quality improvement stands to bring unrivaled levels of performance to our program.
- Sonia Rodriguez received her Strengths-Based Family Workers (SFW) Credential from Temple University, which emphasizes the value of using strengths-based language and provides the skills that assist them in making connections with families more meaningful through building trusting relationships.



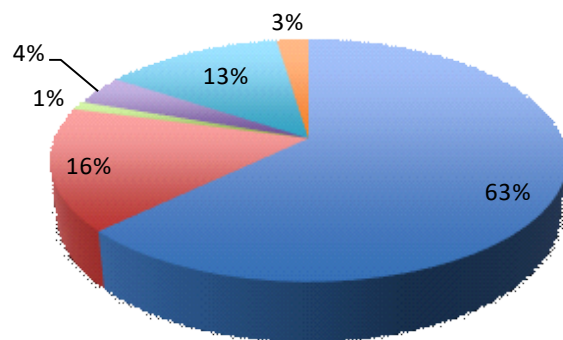
Play Therapy

With the increase in mental health concerns, new resources for care are always sought out and welcomed within Early Head Start. Jenn Russell, LMSW, Supervisee of Social Work and an EHS Family Advocate, recently began offering Theraplay®-based play therapy services with enrolled children and their families. Theraplay® is an approach to child and family therapy that aims to address behavioral, emotional, or developmental issues and improve the parent-child relationship through play and healthy interaction. Services are provided at no cost to enrolled children.

Early Head Start Budgeted And Actual Expenses

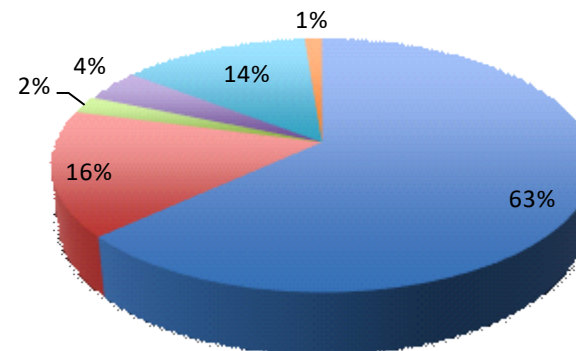
EHS Budgeted Expenses 2022 - 2023

■ Personnel ■ Fringe ■ Supplies ■ Contractual ■ Indirect ■ Other



EHS Actual Expenses 2022 - 2023

■ Personnel ■ Fringe ■ Supplies ■ Contractual ■ Indirect ■ Other



*In addition to federal funding, Early Head Start received support from child care subsidies, USDA, United Way, York County, and the **Williamsburg James City County school system***



Child Development Resources Early Head Start
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The mission of Child Development Resources' Early Head Start is to support prenatal families and children ages birth to three by creating caring environments, nurturing children, and linking families to community resources.

We establish relationships to promote child and family health and development through the delivery of family-centered services and affiliation with community partners.



CDR

CHILD
DEVELOPMENT
RESOURCES