



Knoxville-Knox County
Head Start/Early Head Start

Annual Report
2009-2010

Administered by Knoxville Knox County Community Action Committee

Head Start

is a national program that promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families.

Head Start provides comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families, with a special focus on helping preschoolers develop the early reading and math skills they need to be successful in school. In 1995, the Early Head Start program was established to serve children from birth to three years of age in recognition of the mounting evidence that the earliest years matter a great deal to children's growth and development.

Head Start programs promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. They engage parents in their children's learning and help them in making progress toward their educational, literacy and employment goals. Significant emphasis is placed on the involvement of parents in the administration of local Head Start programs.

Head Start's commitment to wellness embraces a comprehensive vision of health for children, families, and staff. The objective of Child Health and Development Services is to ensure that, through collaboration among families, staff, and health professionals, all child health and developmental concerns are identified, and children and families are linked to an ongoing source of continuous, accessible care to meet their basic health needs.

The objective of Education and Early Childhood Development is to provide all children with a safe, nurturing, engaging, enjoyable, and secure learning environment, in order to help them gain the awareness, skills, and confidence necessary to succeed in their present environment, and to deal with later responsibilities in school and in life. Each child is treated as an individual in an inclusive community that values, respects, and responds to diversity. The varied experiences provided by the program support the continuum of children's growth and development, which includes the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of each child.

Head Start offers parents opportunities and support for growth, so that they can identify their own strengths, needs and interests, and find their own solutions. The objective of Family Partnerships is to support parents as they identify and meet their own goals, nurture the development of their children in the context of their family and culture, and advocate for communities that are supportive of children and families of all cultures. The building of trusting, collaborative relationships between parents and staff allows them to share with and to learn from one another.

Head Start serves families within the context of the community, and recognizes that many other agencies and groups work with the same families. The objective of Community Partnerships is to ensure that grantee and delegate agencies collaborate with partners in their communities, in order to provide the highest level of services to children and families, to foster the development of a continuum of family centered services, and to advocate for a community that shares responsibility for the healthy development of children and families of all cultures.

from the [Head Start Bureau](#) web site

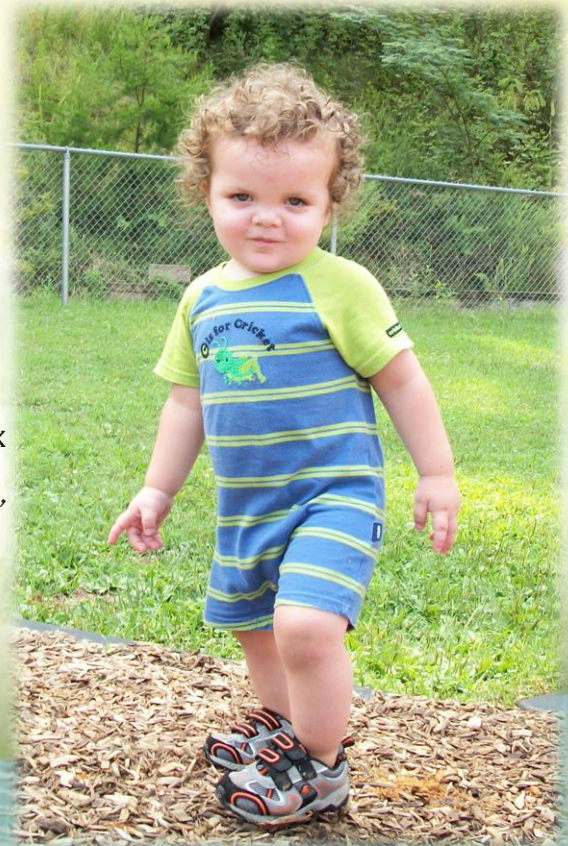


The **2009-2010** school year was **HUGE** for Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start, as we **expanded** our Early Head Start (EHS) program...

Originally, our EHS program (which began in 1999) was housed only in the North Center, with eight teachers, serving 32 infants and toddlers in a center based option. Currently, our EHS program is housed in four of our six Head Start centers, with 24 teachers and 4 home visitors, serving 128 infants and toddlers in either a center based or home based option.

Our Early Head Start program is part of a **Bigger** whole... Knoxville-Knox County Head Start (which began in 1965) currently serves 860 preschool children in 44 classrooms, at 6 centers.

Together, there are 190 Head Start and Early Head Start (KKCHS/EHS) staff, including education staff, component coordinators and support staff. In addition, KKCHS/EHS has many partners in the community – The University of Tennessee, Knox County Schools, Knox County Health Department, Tennessee Early Intervention System, Department of Human Services, Knoxville's Community Development Corporation, Knox County Public Library, Pellissippi State Community College, Child Care Resource and Referral, Kiwanis Club, and many more.



We Served...

...1144 children during the 09-10 school year ~51 children less than age one, 77 one-year olds, 17 two-year olds, 552 three-year olds, and 447 four-year olds. 959 spoke English in the home, 149 spoke Spanish, 10 spoke Middle Eastern or South Asian Languages, 10 spoke East Asian Languages, 7 spoke African Languages, 5 spoke Native Central American, South American or Mexican Languages, and 4 spoke European or Slavic Languages. We served 1038 families ~ 380 two-parent families and 658 single-parent families. 623 had one or more parents employed and 708 had a parent with a High School diploma, GED, or higher. We served 33% of eligible preschool children and 3% of eligible infants and toddlers in Knox County.



Mental Health

Family

Head Start Services

Nutrition

Transportation
Disability

Education

Health

Dual Language Learner

Medical



97% received medical exams
99% (1133) have medical homes
99% (1132) were current on immunizations
84% of expected children received FluMist
84% of expected children received H1N1 Vaccine
453 children received lead testing

Dental

95% received dental exams
44% (580 in the fall to 1036 by the end of the year)
increase in the number of children with continuous,
accessible dental care provided by a dentist

Disability

11% of enrolled children had an IEP or IFSP
and received on-site services*

Transportation

814 children were transported on bus routes
83 transports to medical appointments

Nutrition

62,366 Breakfasts were served
112,684 Lunches were served
60,487 Snacks were served

Education

1030 children received
developmental assessments*
43.5% (435) of children transitioned to Kindergarten

*does not include early expansion children



At Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start, our mission is to advance the physical, mental, economic, and social well-being of children and families through quality, comprehensive services.

The average monthly enrollment for Head Start was 100%. - The average monthly enrollment for Early Head Start was 103%.

Our **1038 Families** had the opportunity to complete a Family Needs Assessment.

Family Needs Assessment Results

Literacy ~ Of the 22 parents who reported not reading to their children, 86% had begun to do so during the school year. There was a 12% increase in the # of children whose parents took them to the library.

Nutrition ~ Families needing help with nutrition and menu planning decreased from 73 to 6, a decrease of 92%.

Family Needs ~ Families who had their family on a budget increased from 602 to 658. 31 families who reported inadequate housing in the fall had found adequate housing by the spring. Of the 99 families who reported having inadequate employment, 59 found adequate employment by end of the year.



Family Partnership Agreement Results

904 families (87%) set one or more goals – 2,090 goals set (average 2 goals per family). Of those, 736 of them made progress toward their goals (81%). Of those, 649 families accomplished one or more of their goals (72%)

Goals set - 84% set a Family Literacy/Child Education goal, 85% set a Parenting Skills/Parent Involvement goal, and 40% set a Family Strength/Self-Sufficiency goal.

Parent Involvement...



We believe that parents are the primary educators of their children, and as such, must be involved to the maximum extent possible in the Head Start program.



Parent Activities and Services included:

Parent Orientation - 100% of families attended orientation sessions and toured their child's center.

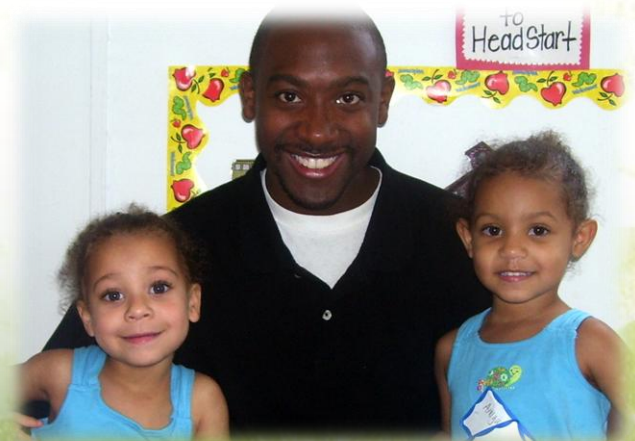
Center Parent Committees - 60% of parents participated in one or more meeting, with an average monthly attendance of 302.

Policy Council - 20 parents were elected by the parents in their centers to serve on Policy Council. Policy Council met monthly. Parents and Community Representatives worked together in relation to program governance (shared with Grantee Board of Directors), and to provide guidance and support for Head Start Administrative staff.

Volunteering - 1357 parents and family members were involved 9587 hours - classrooms, field trips, material preparation, training, parent meetings, assisted the program in meeting local match for federal funds valued at \$124,603.

5820 Home Visits/Parent Conferences were conducted by Head Start staff.

- **Education** - parent input to curriculum, home activities to support developmental goals for each child, parent-planned classroom activities.
- **Family Services** - identification of family strengths and needs, goal setting to promote family self-sufficiency.
- **Health/Dental** - involvement of parent in preventive health, medical and dental follow up as identified through Head Start screening.
- **Disability** - identification and follow up for children with special needs.



School Readiness Goals and Education Outcomes

The purpose of the Head Start program is to promote the school readiness of low income children.

Specifically, the primary goal of the Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start program is to “bring about a greater degree of social competence (school readiness) in the children we serve by working to enhance their cognitive and intellectual development, their social skills, and their physical and mental health”. In short, Head Start is all about getting kids ready for school. To this end the Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/ Early Head Start program has developed school readiness goals. These goals are aligned with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and the Tennessee Early Learning Developmental Standards (which are aligned with K-12 standards).

Data for measuring progress in meeting School Readiness Goals come from the following assessment instruments: Learning Accomplishment Profile Diagnostic (LAP-D); Learning Accomplishment Profile (LAP-R); The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA); Alphabet Identification Assessment; Getting Ready to Read Screen; Language Stage Placement for English Language Learners; Early Writing Assessment. Additional data are obtained from Parent Reports and Child Health Records.

School Readiness Goals

When children leave Head Start, they will be physically healthy.
When children leave Head Start, they will be socially competent.
When children leave Head Start, they will be academically ready.

Education Outcomes

Children made an increase of...

21% in their language development skills.

25% in their approaches to learning.

28% in their science skills.

22% in their math skills.

13% in their literacy skills.

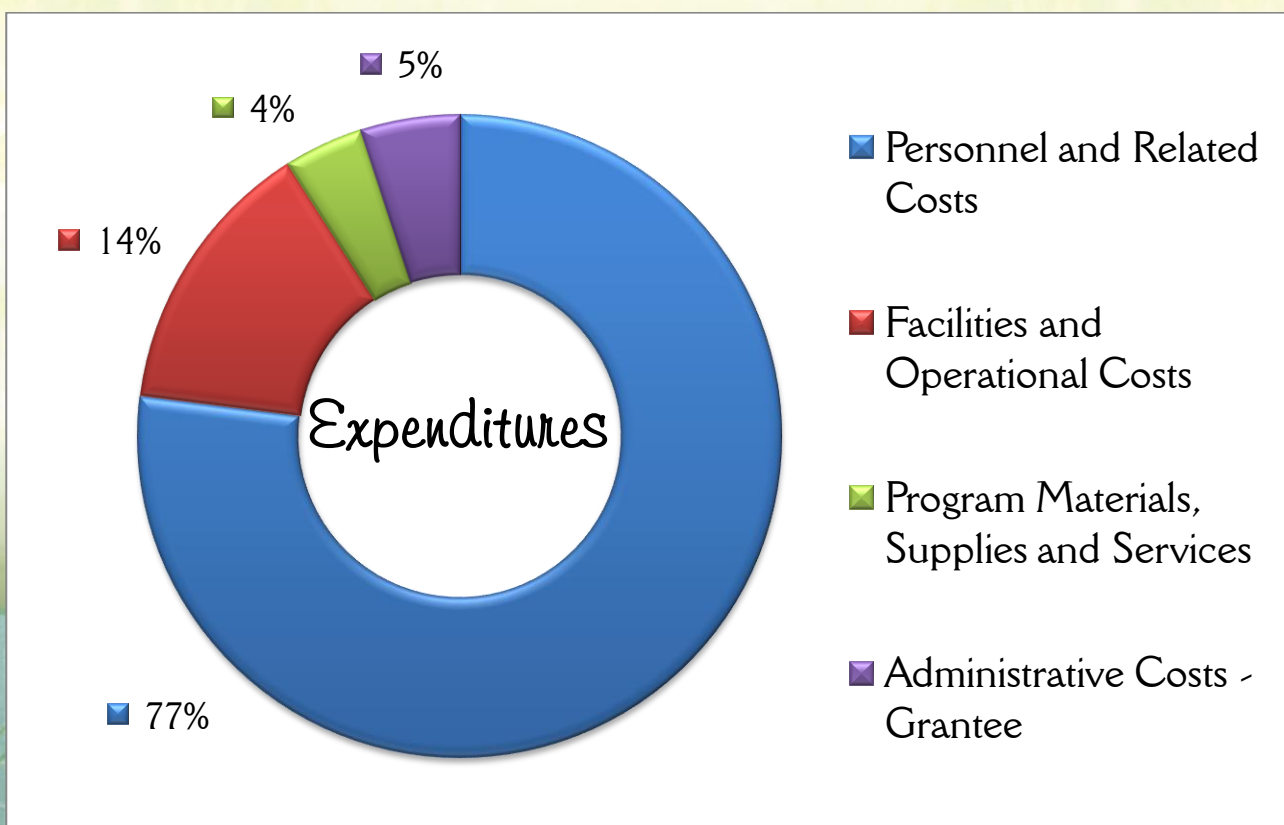
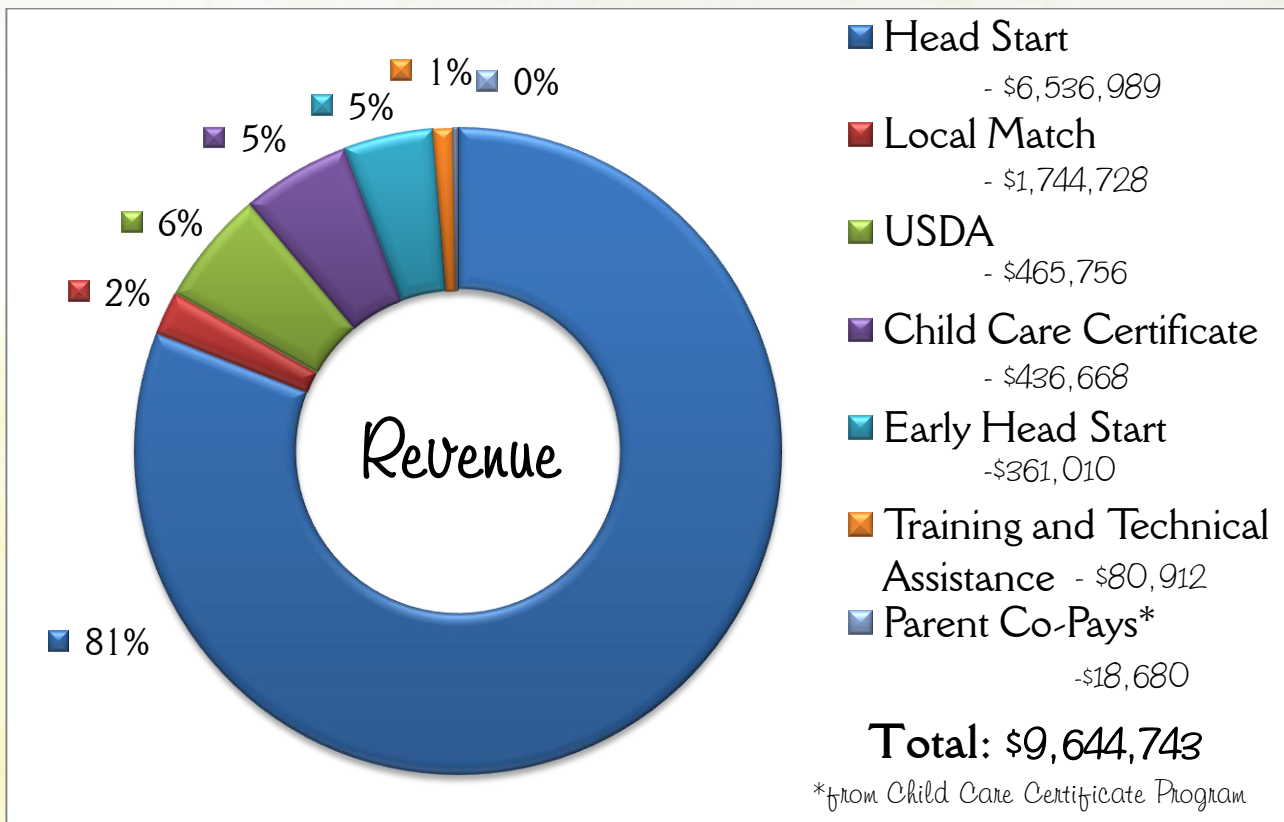
17% in their physical development.



To assist in a smooth transition from Head Start to public school, Kindergarten bound children were provided with a backpack, pencils and pencil pouch, scissors, ruler, glue stick and crayons. Transition materials were provided to all parents of kindergarten children at the last Home Visit. In addition, Kindergarten visits were made to 27 Knox County Elementary Schools. On these visits, the children toured the different parts of the school – kindergarten classrooms, library, gymnasium, art room, music room and playground.

Annual Budget and Expenditures

Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start

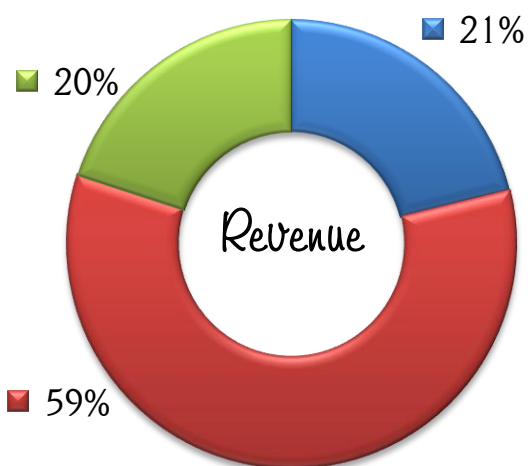


Annual Budget and Expenditures

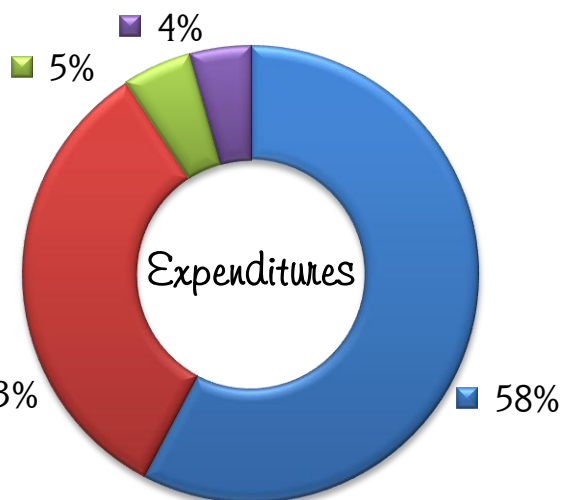
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)

Cost of Living Adjustment and Quality Improvement

- ARRA Cost of Living Adjustment - \$123,154
- ARRA Quality Improvement - \$342,311
- Local Match - \$116,366

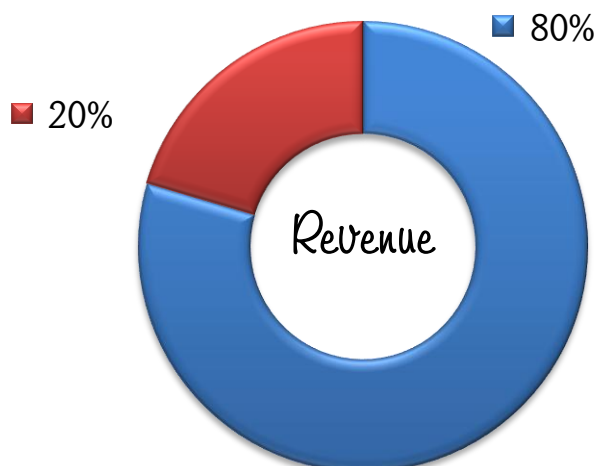


- Personnel and Related Costs
- Facilities and Operational Costs
- Program Materials, Supplies and Services
- Administrative Costs - Grantee

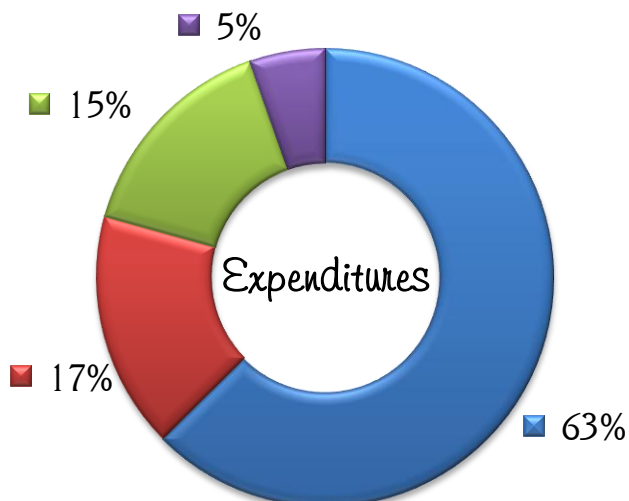


Early Head Start Expansion

- ARRA Early Head Start Expansion - \$1,305,000
- Local Match - \$335,407



- Personnel and Related Costs
- Facilities and Operational Costs
- Program Materials, Supplies and Services
- Administrative Costs - Grantee



Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start Staff

... 190 people: 153 Child Development and Health Staff, 24 Family Services/Support Staff and 13 Program Design/Management Staff. Leadership included a Registered Dietician, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Registered Nurse, Certified Playground Inspector and Commercial Driver's License Trainer/Tester.

Of the 190 employees, 28 were current or former Head Start parents. Work history verification, reference checks, driving record checks, drug and alcohol tests and criminal records checks are completed on all Head Start staff.



100% of Center Managers have Early Childhood Education or Related Degrees ~ 97% of Teachers have Early Childhood Education or Related Degrees ~ 100% of Teacher Assistants have a Child Development Credential or are in CDA training ~ 100% of teaching staff are certified in Infant, Child and Adult CPR and First Aid ~ 100% of teaching staff have Professional Development Plans ~ 100% of teaching staff have Commercial Driver's Licenses.



~Building Tomorrow Today~

Program Accomplishments

The outcome of the most recent Federal Monitoring Review, completed in November 2008, indicated that Knoxville-Knox County Head Start is in full compliance with Head Start regulations and has "...a strong leadership team, as evidenced by its innovative and effective program operations." In addition, the review found "...the quality of the classrooms in this program was phenomenal."

Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start is in full compliance with the standards and regulations of the following programs:

State Childcare Licensing
Child and Adult Food Program
Department of Transportation

Other Achievements

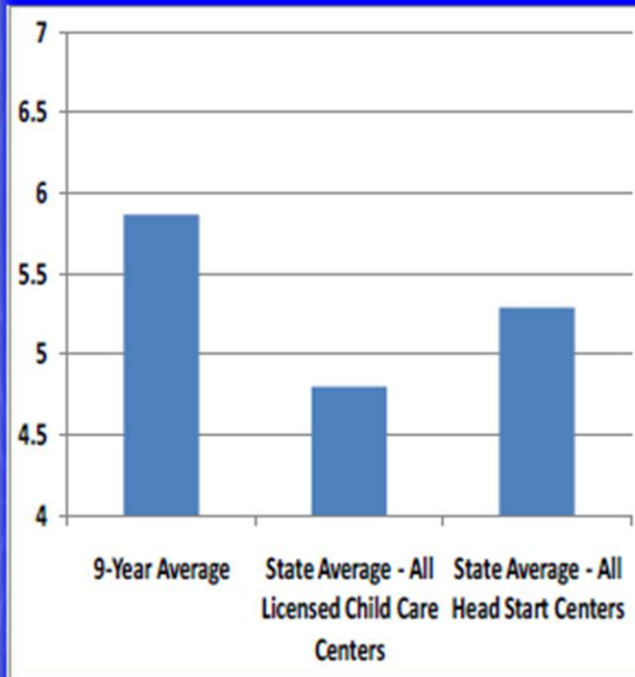
*Found in full compliance with applicable standards and regulations
-no findings during a 2009 Independent Fiscal Audit*



Other Achievements

Received Three-star Quality ratings by the Department of Human Services

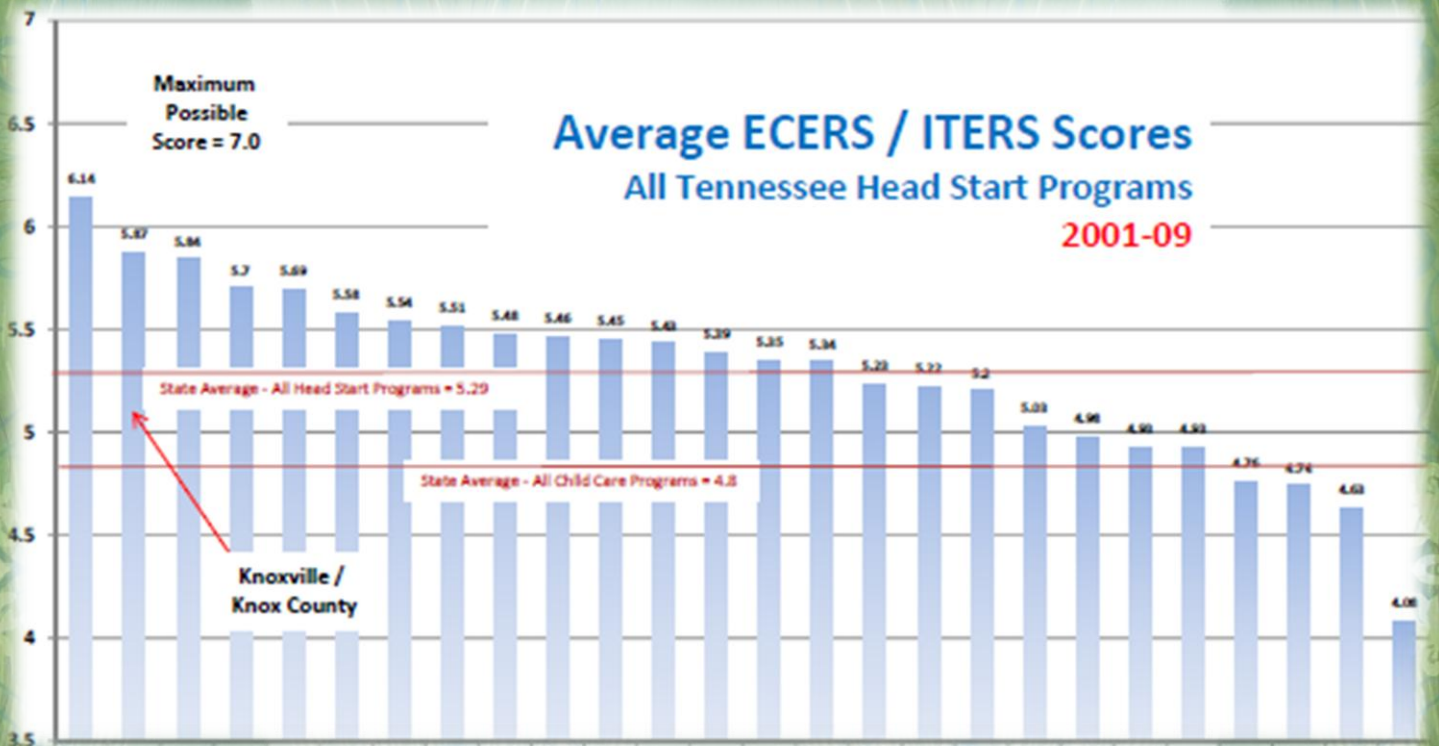
Knoxville Head Start v. All Child Care Programs v. All Head Start Programs Knoxville Head Start Average ECERS Scores 2001-09



All DHS-licensed child care centers in Tennessee are evaluated by the state using ECERS / ITERS rating scales, research-based tools developed at the University of North Carolina.

The tools are used to assess how well the classroom meets three basic needs of all children: protecting health and safety; building relationships with children, parents, the extended family, and the community; and providing opportunities for stimulation and learning from experience.

In Tennessee, the scale has been used for nine years running. Each assessment (one per year per center or classroom) is conducted by an independent evaluator, each of whom undergoes rigid training. In the nine-year-history of the ECERS in Tennessee, Knoxville Head Start has consistently outperformed not only other Head Start programs in the state but all other licensed child care facilities as well.



Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start Centers

Anderson-South

4808 Prospect Road
Knoxville TN 37920
573-1846 phone
577-5874 fax



Claxton-West

2400 Piedmont Street
Knoxville, TN 37921
971-5845 phone
546-2705 fax

North Ridge Crossing

1008 Breda Drive
Knoxville, TN 37918
689-1183 phone
689-1538 fax



Kiwanis- East I

2400 Prosser Road
Knoxville, TN 37914
521-6551 phone
523-4492 fax

Kiwanis- East II

2330 Prosser Road
Knoxville, TN 37914
637-2639 phone
637-6358 fax

L.T. Ross - Central

2247 Western Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37914
637-6244 phone
523-2996 fax