

Annual Report – 2019-20

Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start

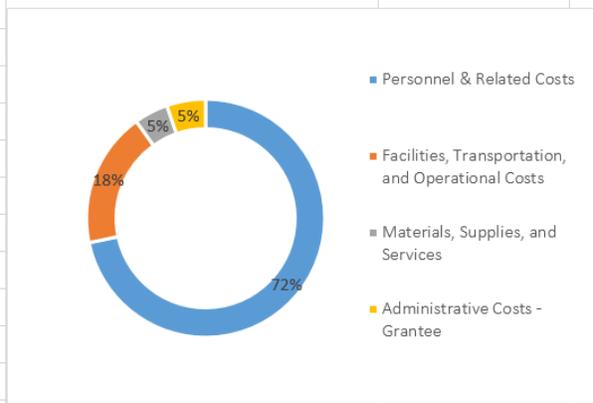
Annual Budget and Expenditures

Head Start	9,239,878	Head Start	9,171,548
Early Head Start	2,081,895	Early Head Start	2,195,539
Local Match	2,865,980	Local Match	2,760,229
T&TA	142,144	T&TA	142,144
CACFP	434,335	CACFP	291,393
Child Care Certificates	204,448	Child Care Certificates	345,909
Parent Child Care Co-pays	47,757	Parent Child Care Co-pays	34,497
	15,016,437 *		14,941,259 **

*Budgets reflect one-time funding and prorated duration funds to the base funding

** Doesn't Included COVID19 Funding of \$779,502

2021 Projected Budget	
Head Start	9,273,015
Early Head Start	2,236,216
Local Match	2,877,308
T&TA	142,144
CACFP	300,000
Child Care Certificates	-
Parent Child Care Co-pays	-
	14,828,683



Children and Families Served

Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start served approximately 38% of eligible preschool children and 4.9% of eligible infants and toddlers in Knox County, for a total of 973 children. The program served a total of 818 families.

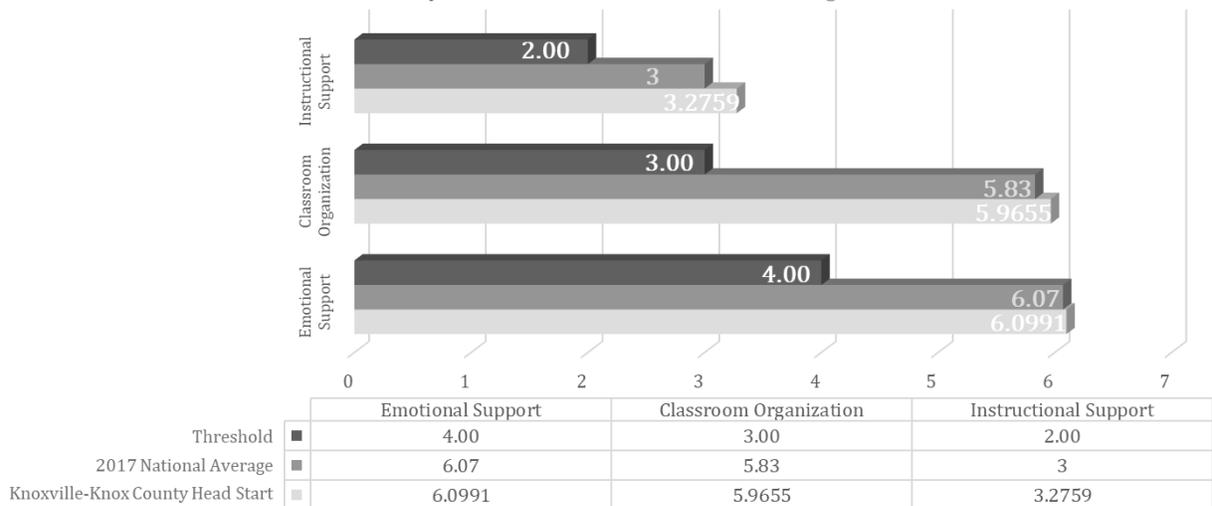
The average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment) was 98.9% for HS and 94% For EHS (this includes the summer months for the EHS program. The average was 97.3% for EHS before the global pandemic).

Results of Most Recent Reviews

The outcome of the most recent Federal Monitoring Reviews (full review in 2011, Health and Safety review in 2014, Fiscal and ERSEA review in 2015, CLASS review in 2017, and Focus Area One review in 2019), indicated that Knoxville-Knox County Head Start is in full compliance with program regulations in the following areas: safe environments, mental health services, family and community services, transportation, child health and development, staff qualifications, nutrition services, facilities management, and human resource management. During the CLASS Review, observations were conducted in thirty of our preschool classrooms using the Pre-K Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS). The CLASS tool looks at three domains and ten dimensions of teacher-child interactions as well as interactions between children. It measures those observations on a seven-point scale. To meet the standards established by the federal government, we needed to score at least a 4 in Emotional Support, a 3 in Classroom Organization, and a 2 in Instructional Support. See chart below for our results in comparison with the Threshold and the 2017 National Average.

Knoxville-Knox County Head Start/Early Head Start is in full compliance with the standards of the following regulatory agencies: State Childcare Licensing, Child and Adult Food Program and the Department of Transportation. The program was found in full compliance with applicable standards and regulations – no findings during a 2019 Independent Fiscal Audit.

Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Comparison Chart
Knoxville-Knox County Head Start vs. 2017 National Average vs. Threshold



Medical and Dental Exams

95.6% (956) of children received medical exams

83.7% (837) of children received dental exams

Parent Involvement Activities

Volunteering: 871 parents and family members contributed 6332 hours in classrooms, material preparation, training, parent meetings, on field trips, etc., to assist the program in meeting local match requirements for federal funds valued at \$80,290).

Center Parent Committees: 688 parents participated in one or more meetings, with an average monthly attendance of 283.

Policy Council: 27 parents were elected by their centers to serve on Policy Council. 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.

Family Partnership Agreements (FPA): 431 families chose to participate in the FPA process. Families set goals in the areas of Family Wellbeing, Parent/Child Relationships, Families as Educators, Families as Learners, Family Engagement in Transitions, Family Connection to Peers and Community and Family Advocates and Leaders.

Home Visits/Parent Conferences: Head Start Parents participated in a total of 2883 contacts. Early Head Start center-based families participated in 566 contacts and Early Head Start home-based families participated in 1028 home visits.

Parent Contacts during EHS Summer months of the global pandemic: Parents participated in a total of 829 virtual video meetings and 5225 phone calls, emails, and text messages.

GLOWY folders: This was a new Literacy Initiative to engage EHS center-based families in reading with their child. Parents logged 9,051 minutes doing learning activities with their child. The number of times parents read with their child was 2,202 times and the total number of hours completed of reading was 542 hours or 32,499 minutes!

Ready Rosie & Partners for Healthy Baby: During the EHS summer months, our 110 EHS families viewed the following: Social Emotional – 361 videos viewed; Health and Well-Being – 363 videos viewed; Language and Literacy – 327 videos viewed; Math – 139 videos viewed. Family Outcomes: Positive Parent Child Relationship – 435 videos viewed; Families as Learners – 433 videos viewed; Families as Life Long Educators – 320 videos viewed; Family Well-Being – 198 videos viewed; and Family Engagement in Transitions, Family Connections to Peers and Community, and Families as Advocates – 18 videos viewed

Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten

The purpose of the Head Start program is to promote the school readiness of low income children. Specifically, one of the primary goals 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.

School Readiness Goals and Subordinate Objectives

These goals are:

- 1) When children leave Head Start, they will be physically healthy.
- 2) When children leave Head Start, they will be socially competent.
- 3) When children leave Head Start, they will be academically ready.

These goals correspond to the five (5) central domains of the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (HS-ELOF) as detailed in the program’s School Readiness Plan.

From these goals, subordinate objectives have been developed to measure progress toward the goals. These objectives are not all inclusive of the skills necessary for school readiness (and, of course, are not the only skills focused on) but provide an indicator of progress toward goals. Included in the objectives are Knox County Schools target skills for kindergarten entry as well as standards outlined in Tennessee’s Early Learning Developmental Standards (TN-ELDS).

Due to COVID-19 and the resulting disruption in services to children, child assessment data are incomplete and therefore, not valid for making programming decisions. However, for reporting purposes here are some child assessment data obtained from the mid-point of the school year.

EHS data: Percentage of Children Meeting or Exceeding Widely Held Expectations:

Social-Emotional Development- 89%	Cognitive Development- 95%
Physical Development- 92%	Literacy Development- 83%
Language Development- 79%	Mathematics Development- 85%

Preschool data: Percentage of Children Meeting or Exceeding Widely Held Expectations:

Social-Emotional Development- 83%	Cognitive Development- 79%
Physical Development- 93%	Literacy Development- 76%
Language Development- 78%	Mathematics Development- 65%

Summary of Community Assessment

Families with Children under 5 years old Living in Poverty: Head Start (HS) serves low income families with children under 5 years old. A geographic comparison of the target population found that relative to the entire USA (13.8%), Tennessee (19.2%), and Knox County (16.4%), Knoxville City (26.3%) had the highest percentage of these target families.

Gender of Family Head of Household: Regarding family composition, of HS applicant families, the majority had a female head of household (73%) as compared to a male (27%), and almost 52% of families with a female head of household with children under 5 years old in Knox County were living below the poverty level.

Public Assistance: Since HS targets serving low income families, the percentage of applicant families receiving public assistance was reported. Currently, many more families received SNAP (73%) than TANF (5%). The percentage of HS families receiving SNAP benefits was higher than that of the general population of Knox County (9.8%).

Race/Ethnicity: Knox County has the largest percentage of people identifying as White (85.9%), whereas the number is significantly lower for Knoxville (75.3%), but largely lower for the HS/EHS applicant heads of household (53%). Conversely for the African American and Hispanic groups, the numbers are significantly higher in the HS group (41%, 16% respectively) relative to Knox County (8.9%, 4.6% respectively) and Knoxville (17.5%, 5.7% respectively). Moreover, 19% of enrolled HS families are Hispanic compared to only 6% in 2004.

Education Level: 21% of all HS applicant heads of household and 51% of Hispanic HS applicant heads of household did not complete high school (HiS) as compared to 7.9% in Knox County and 12.2% in TN respectively. Only 9% of all HS applicant parents and 3% of Hispanic HS applicant heads of household attained education past HiS, as compared to 66.3% in Knox County and 56.0% in TN respectively.

Annual Median Household Income: Comparing median annual household incomes locally to nationally, the median income for HS enrolled families was significantly lower (\$12,001-14,000) than Knoxville city (\$40,459) which was significantly lower than Knox County (\$55,632) and the US (\$61,937). Moreover, 73% of enrolled families earned less than or equal to \$20,000 a year.

Employment Status: One parent families had a significantly higher percentage of parent unemployment than 2 parent families (44.3% vs 9.8%), presumably since the single parent had sole parenting responsibilities. However, the percentage of unemployed parents in either one or two parent families case was significantly higher than the July 2020 unemployment rate for Knox County of 7.7%.