



Community Action Head Start

2019 Annual Report



About Us

Community Action Head Start is a comprehensive early childhood education program for children age birth to five from at-risk backgrounds. From early math and reading skills to confidence and resilience, we help children build the abilities they need to be successful in school and life. Our whole family approach empowers families to break the cycle of poverty.

Community Action has earned distinction as one of Lincoln's **Best Places to Work** three years in a row (2017, 2018, 2019).



Children & Families Served

Program Option	Funded Enrollment	Actual Served	Avg. Monthly Enrollment
Early Head Start	268	364	100%
Head Start (center-based)	119	141	100%
Head Start (school-based)	34	38	100%
TOTAL	421	543	100%

Paving the Path to Kindergarten

Preparing our most vulnerable children for kindergarten goes beyond teaching ABCs and 123s. Our **comprehensive** service model combines early learning, health/dental/nutritional support, and family engagement services tailored to the unique needs of each child and family.



Early Learning



Our school readiness goals, developed by the Community Action Head Start School Readiness Committee, are fully aligned with the *Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework* and *Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines*.

1.

Language & Literacy

- Children will use and comprehend language for conversation and communication.
- Children will demonstrate a knowledge of print.
- Children will demonstrate an appreciation of books and engage with books every day.

2.

Cognition & General Knowledge

- Children will apply math knowledge and skills to everyday routines.
- Children will use scientific skills and methods.
- Children will understand the relationship between people and the world around them.

3.

Physical Development & Health

- Children will develop coordination, balance, spatial awareness, and strength needed for age-appropriate fine and gross motor activities.
- Children will demonstrate and practice safe and healthy habits.

4.

Social-Emotional Development

- Children will engage in positive relationships and interactions with others.
- Children will develop a sense of self and confidence in their abilities.

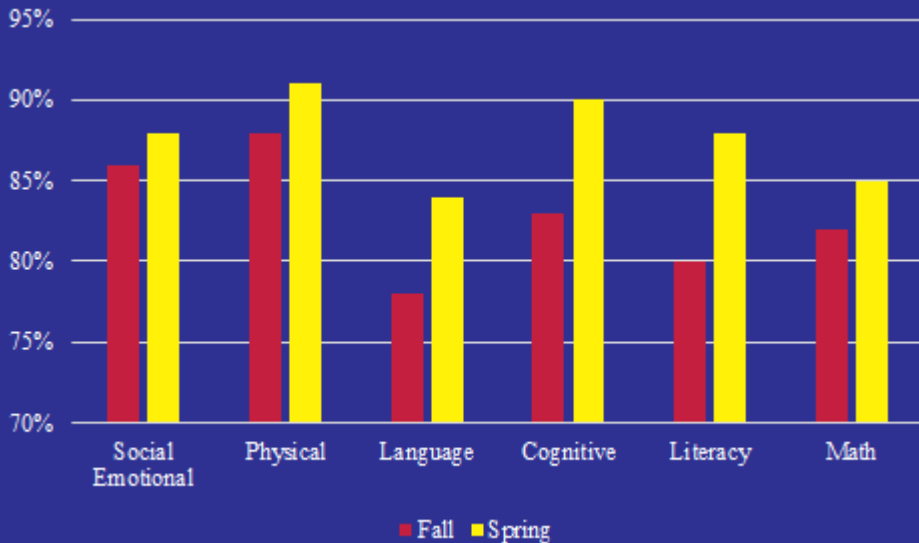
5.

Approaches to Learning

- Children will use initiative, curiosity, and persistence to learn about their world.
- Children will demonstrate sustained attention and cooperation when working with varied materials, activities, and information.

Children Meeting/Exceeding Widely-Held Expectations

Fall 2018 - Spring 2019



Last year, the percentage of Community Action Head Start children meeting or exceeding developmental milestones increased across all areas of learning.



Health and Nutrition Services

Children's health needs must be met in order for them to learn. At Community Action Head Start, we facilitate critical health services like immunizations; vision, dental, and hearing screenings; and mental health consultation. We also promote development of healthy behaviors, such as regular fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity, through utilization of our Growing Great Beginnings curriculum and other evidence-based interventions.





Children Receiving Medical and Dental Exams

Program Option	Enrollment (45+ days)	% That Received Medical Exams	% That Received Dental Exams
Early Head Start	315	81%	86%
Head Start (center-based)	133	88%	92%
Head Start (school-based)	37	89%	89%



Whole Family Focus

When parents are supported, their children thrive. Through home visits and regular interactions, our **Family Engagement** team empowers parents to achieve their own education, employment, familial, wellness, and self-sufficiency goals. Parents are encouraged to serve in leadership roles within the program, including **Head Start Policy Council**, volunteer in their children's classrooms, and participate in program-sponsored family offerings, including Incredible Years® parenting classes.



Participants of the first FEAST class graduated in the spring of 2019. FEAST is made possible with funding from Community Health Endowment of Lincoln and Bryan Health.

Spotlight on

Food Education Access Support Together

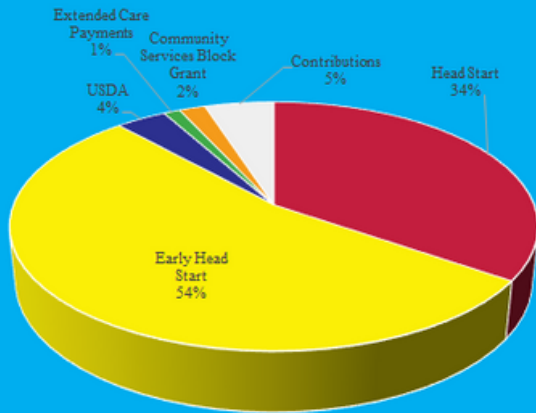
FEAST: Food-Education-Access-Support-Together is one way Community Action Head Start families are supported in achieving wellness and nutrition goals. FEAST provides support on three levels:

- **Educational:** participants learn about nutrition, healthy cooking, and shopping skills;
- **Economic:** participants receive grocery scholarships to secure healthy food to try at home;
- **Psychosocial:** participants benefit from group support focused on emotional eating and overcoming food addiction.

Promising outcomes have been observed as a result of this intervention, including increased confidence, weight loss, and improved health.

Program Financials

Revenues	\$
Head Start	2,426,884
Early Head Start	3,761,858
USDA	254,998
Extended Care Payments	83,546
Community Services Block Grant	131,730
Contributions	350,102
Total Revenues	\$7,009,118
Expenditures	\$
Delegate Costs	301,865
Salaries & Fringe	4,116,846
Indirect	1,150,448
Travel	21,511
Equipment	0
Supplies	300,589
Contractual	229,549
Other	888,309
Total Expenditures	\$7,009,118



Financial Audit Results



In April 2019, the Administration for Children and Families conducted a Focus Area Two monitoring review of Community Action's Early Head Start and Head Start Programs. It was determined that the programs meet the requirements of all applicable Head Start Program Performance Standards, laws, regulations, and policy requirements. Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties' consolidated financial statements were audited by independent auditors in December 2018. Due to annual expenditures of greater than \$750,000 in federal funding, the audit was conducted in compliance with the requirements of U.S. Office of Management and Budget 2 CFR 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards. The Early Head Start and Head Start Programs were tested as a major program. The audit contained no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. A copy of the results is available at: harvester.census.gov.



Learn more at www.communityactionatwork.org

