



**Community
Action
HEAD START**

2023-2024 Annual Report

About Us

Community Action Head Start is a **comprehensive early childhood education program** for children **age birth to five years** who face barriers to success. Baseline eligibility is a family income at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (\$31,200/year for a family of four).

From early math and reading skills to confidence and resilience, we help children **build skills for success in school and life**. Our whole-family approach empowers families to **break the cycle of poverty**.

**A change in scope application was pending throughout the year and approved in April 2024.*



Children & Families Served

Program Option	Funded Enrollment	Actual Served	Avg. Monthly Enrollment
Early Head Start	308	369	*
Head Start (center-based)	102	118	*
Head Start (school-based)	34	36	100%

Total

493

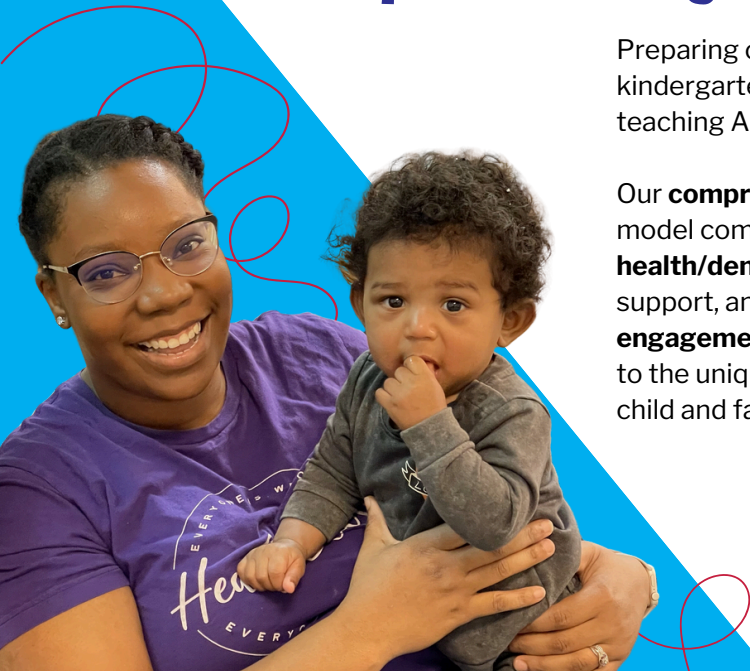
479

85%

Next Stop: Kindergarten

Preparing 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*.

Goals fall within five categories:

- Language and Literacy
- Cognition and General Knowledge
- Physical Development and Health
- Social Emotional Development
- Approaches to Learning



Children Meeting/Exceeding Widely-Held Expectations

Fall 2023 - Spring 2024

Area of Development	Fall 2023	Spring 2024
Social Emotional	81%	86%
Physical	87%	89%
Language	74%	79%
Cognitive	85%	89%
Literacy	76%	78%
Math	74%	80%

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



Health Services

When children are healthy, they have the energy 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 evidence-based interventions.





Children Receiving Medical and Dental Exams

Program Option	Enrollment	% Receiving Medical Exams	% Receiving Dental Exams
Early Head Start	284	77%	67%
Head Start (center-based)	101	75%	91%
Head Start (school-based)	34	72%	75%

Whole Family Focus

Parents/Caregivers know their children best. When parents get the support they need, children and families thrive.

Our **Family Engagement** team supports parents in achieving their own education, employment, familial, wellness, and related goals.

Parents can serve in program leadership roles, including **Head Start Policy Council**, volunteering in classrooms, and participating in program-sponsored family offerings, such as Incredible Years® parenting classes.



Highlights

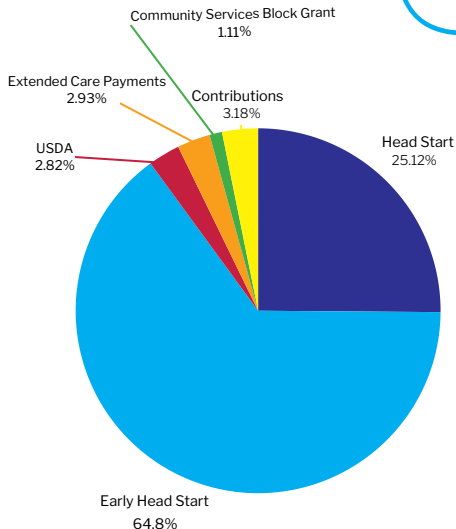
In 2024, construction ended at the **Bansal Family Home for Head Start** at 1821 K Street in Lincoln, the result of a successful \$3.5 million capital campaign. The space has been transformed into one designed specifically for young children and their families.

Community Action Head Start's On-the-Job Training program continues to offer qualifying employees the opportunity to receive supports while pursuing educational goals and career advancement. To date, **over 70** teachers have participated in this program.



Program Financials

Revenues	Amount
Head Start	\$2,916,886
Early Head Start	\$7,529,360
USDA	\$327,452
Extended Care Payments	\$339,645
Community Services Block Grant	\$128,732
Contributions	\$369,624
Total Revenues	\$11,611,700
Expenditures	Amount
Delegate Costs	\$217,930
Salaries & Fringe	\$7,192,055
Indirect	\$1,763,161
Travel	\$28,569
Equipment	\$16,794
Supplies	\$638,847
Contractual	\$91,723
Other	\$1,662,620
Total Expenditures	\$11,611,700



Financial Audit Results

Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties' consolidated financial statements were audited by independent auditors in January 2024. 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. In Community Action's fiscal year-end September 30, 2023 audit report, the auditors expressed unmodified opinions on the consolidated financial statements of Community Action and affiliates. During the audit, no instances of noncompliance material to the consolidated financial statements were disclosed. There were no audit findings relative to the major federal award programs for Community Action. In the report, the auditors determined Community Action is a low-risk auditee.

In the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting on Compliance and Other Matters, the auditors found no material weaknesses and one significant deficiency relating to the audit of the consolidated financial statements. The finding related to non-federal revenue recognition and expense accrual. The agency has since implemented a corrective action plan to ensure that all financial statement line items are properly stated. A copy of the results is available at: facdissem.census.gov.



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