

CCAP

POINTS OF INTEREST

News & Information from the Comprehensive Community Action Program

CCAP's Head Start Annual Report



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.

Research has shown that programs that offer a holistic approach to child development, which includes service to both child and families, has the greatest positive impact on child growth and development.

The 2011 [Rhode Island Kids Count](#) Factbook noted that

Family income is strongly correlated with children's cognitive and social skills at school entry. Before kindergarten entry, children in the highest socioeconomic group have cognitive test scores that are 60% higher than the average scores of children in the lowest socio-economic group. Children in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold are typically 18 months behind their peers at age four.

Head Start centers are typically of higher quality than most other early care and education programs available to low-income parents. Head Start also has been found to be more effective than many other early learning programs. Children who participate in Head Start show improvements in language and literacy skills as well as behavior.

CCAP's Child Development Center provides high quality Head Start, Early Head Start and Child Care services for children birth to five years. As the City of Cranston's largest child care provider, parents who work or attend school depend on our child care programs to provide safe, nurturing and a healthy environment for their children

2011 Report



Program Income: The total income for FY11 was \$2,866,808.

- Federal: \$2,157,763 (75%)
- Third Party: \$261,666 (9%)
- Self-Pay Child Care: \$182,277 (6%)
- State: \$62,204 (2%)
- USDA: \$148,006 (5%)

- Local \$53,750 (2%)
- Other \$1,412 (<1%)

Program Expenses: Total program expenses were \$2,896,525.

- Salaries: \$1,559,440 (54%)
- Fringe Benefits: \$524,474 (18%)
- Outside Services: \$266,483 (9%)
- Vehicles: \$7,517 (>1%)
- Conferences/Staff Training: \$33,952 (1%)
- Program Supplies, Equipment/Other: \$504,659 (17%)

Enrollment: CCAP's Head Start, Early Head Start funded enrollment is 226 children. We serve about 75% of the eligible Head Start children and only 8% of the eligible Early Head Start children. The monthly average enrollment is 100%. Below is the total enrollment by program.

- Head Start: 223 children*
- Early Head Start: 37 children & pregnant moms*
- Child Care: 50 children
- Kindergarten: 6 children
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* These numbers exceed maximum enrollment due to withdrawals.

Family Engagement



Parental involvement has focused primarily on engaging parents in becoming active participants in their children's lives. Parents have been encouraged to work with their children at home with activities from the classroom, thus providing the home-school connection along with helping in the classroom when feasible.

As a result of informal surveys and focus groups, some of the parent workshops, trainings and family activities that were scheduled were: substituting and volunteering, leadership training, child growth and development, financial literacy, behavior management, the effects of smoking, etc.... The Parents have opportunities to be involved in Policy Council, Parent Committees, Health and Education Advisory. An important piece of our parental involvement is parental input and planning in our program design. Through the Policy Council, parents are active participants in this process. During the past years, several parents have been afforded the opportunity to attend conferences and trainings to further their leadership skills. Parents also played an important part in our self-assessment process.

CCAP's Atwood Avenue Head Start a 4 Star Program

This year our Program was recognized as a quality care and learning facility by [BrightStars](#). BrightStars, a voluntary Quality Rating and Improvement System, awarded our Atwood Ave. site with a 4 star rating out of a possible 5 star.



Demonstrating a commitment to quality care in 9 standards was a tremendous accomplishment for our largest site of 10 classrooms. Our program will continue to be committed to high quality child care for the children and families that we serve. At the present time CCAP's Head Start program is the only center based child care facility in Cranston that has a Bright Star rating.

Preparing Children for Kindergarten and School Readiness

CCAP's Head Start conducted a Kindergarten Transition Night in conjunction with the Cranston Family Center (formerly the COZ) for our families who will be transitioning to Kindergarten. The event included Principals and Kindergarten Teachers from all the Title I schools along with Reading Specialists.

It was a great collaboration with our LEA where the families and children were able to meet the Principal and Teacher of the school they will be attending in the fall. This interactive event along with other activities and opportunities has been designed to ensure effective transition practices.

Preparing children and families for a comfortable change to a new educational experience is critical to their success.

Other Program Highlights

Through the help of CCAP's West Bay Smiles and the [Ronald McDonald Molar Express](#) 100% of children enrolled in the Head Start and Early Head Start programs received dental exams and treatments, many performed on site.

- 100% of our Head Start / Early Head Start children were up to date on immunizations, physicals and lead testing.
- For the past 5 years Head Start has been working with Bradley Hospital to fully implement the Incredible Years Model program into our classrooms.
- Head Start has also partnered with [Bradley Research Center](#) on a research project that is exploring strategies to enhance parent participation in services for families. This project has supported the delivery of monthly evidence based parenting workshops on topics including "How to Love and Discipline Your Child at the Same Time", "What to do When Your Child Won't Listen" "What Can You do When Your Child Won't Sleep" "Making Holiday Memories Without Going Bankrupt", and others. The Bradley Research Center will be delivering services to families designed to increase parent motivation to participate and reduce barriers that interfere with ongoing involvement.
- Due to the high rate of obesity, our nutrition component focused on healthy eating, preventing obesity and I Am Moving I Am Learning (IMIL). We partnered with The [University of Rhode Island's Nutrition Program](#). Parents participated in a 7 week nutrition program called "The Learn at Home Curriculum". Topics included Feeding Young Children, Fast Facts for Smart Snacking, Fruits and Vegetables - More Matters, etc. The aim of this curriculum is to bring nutritional education to children and families.

Head Start Recruitment

Although we recruit throughout the year, we are actively recruiting through the summer for our Head Start and Early Head Start programs that begin in September 2011.

If you would like more information about CCAP's Head Start Program or the eligibility requirements call 943-5160.