



Onslow County Partnership for Children
TOGETHER WE BUILD BRIGHTER FUTURES

2016 - 2017

Early Head Start Annual Report



"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future."

- John F. Kennedy



Early Head Start

Approved by Policy Council: 5/8/18

Approved by Board of Directors: 5/10/18

GENERAL INFORMATION

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Dawn Rochelle, MSW, LCSW

Grant Number

04CH4779

Program Number

200

Program Name

Onslow County Partnership
for Children-Early Head
Start

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Agency Type

Grantee

TABLE OF CONTENTS

General Information.....	2
Grantee Description.....	3
Mission/Vision/Core Values.....	4
Enrollment & Eligibility.....	5
EHS Participants by Age.....	6
Medical & Dental Services.....	7
Program Goals & Objectives.....	8-11
School Readiness Goals.....	12
School Readiness Outcomes.....	13-15
Family Engagement.....	16
Budget Expenditures 2016 -2017.....	17
Budget Projections 2017-2018.....	18
Monitoring.....	19
Community Engagement.....	20

Grantee Description

The Onslow County Partnership for Children (OCPC) is a private, non-profit organization that provides services to children and families in Onslow County, North Carolina. Early Head Start (EHS) is a program under the umbrella of OCPC.

Funding for the EHS program is received through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start. This annual report includes service and financial data for the program year ending December 31, 2017.

EHS is a home-based program serving infants and toddlers up to age three (3) as well as expectant mothers. The grant is designed to serve 72 individuals based on income eligibility and risk factors. Enrolled families receive weekly, 90 minute home visits conducted by skilled Home Visitors.

The EHS team is comprised of a Director, Program Assistant, Home Visitor Supervisor and seven Home Visitors. The program also has content experts to monitor systems including an Education Coordinator, Disabilities/Health Coordinator and Family and Community Partnership/Mental Health Coordinator.

We recognize the importance of early learning for all children and embrace the First 2000 Days between birth and kindergarten as a window of opportunity. EHS promotes school readiness with emphasis on positive parent-child interactions, child health and development.

The EHS program assists families in the development of child and family goals and offers guidance toward self-sufficiency by providing information on community resources and access to necessary services, training opportunities, and leadership building.

Health is the foundation of school readiness. To help children thrive, EHS ensures that children are up to date on immunizations and well care and that parents can access the care they need. EHS also promotes the physical and social and emotional well-being of families and staff.

The OCPC EHS program strives to provide high quality services to low income families of infants and toddlers within Onslow County with the goal that they will be eager and ready for school.

Mission

The Onslow County Partnership for Children unites all sectors of the community toward the healthy development of children.

Vision

Together We Build Brighter Futures

Core Values

EMPATHY

The capacity to walk in another's shoes is vital to facilitating positive social change.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

We are driven by our passionate commitment to the children and families we serve, and to the greater good of the community; our personal success and fulfillment are measured by how well we help others.

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

We learn from and listen to others, work as a team, and aspire to set ambitious goals and take bold action. We also strive to act with humility and courage, recognizing our responsibility to the community and its future.

STRENGTH-BASED

We view challenges as opportunities, and dwell in possibility. By focusing on the strengths that are present in any individual or situation, we build upon what is working, as leverage against what might otherwise seem overwhelming.

DEVELOPMENTAL

At every life stage, learning and development are taking place. We value the trial-and-error nature of human development, and support the inherent messiness of genuine growth.

ADAPTABILITY

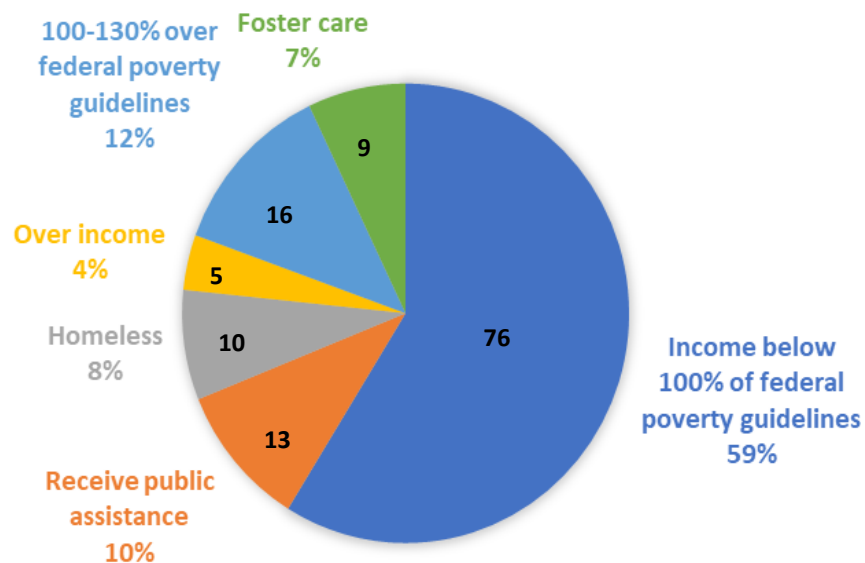
We aim to be responsive to the needs of the community, act quickly and effectively on its behalf, and remain sufficiently nimble to shift gears when necessary.

INCLUSIVITY

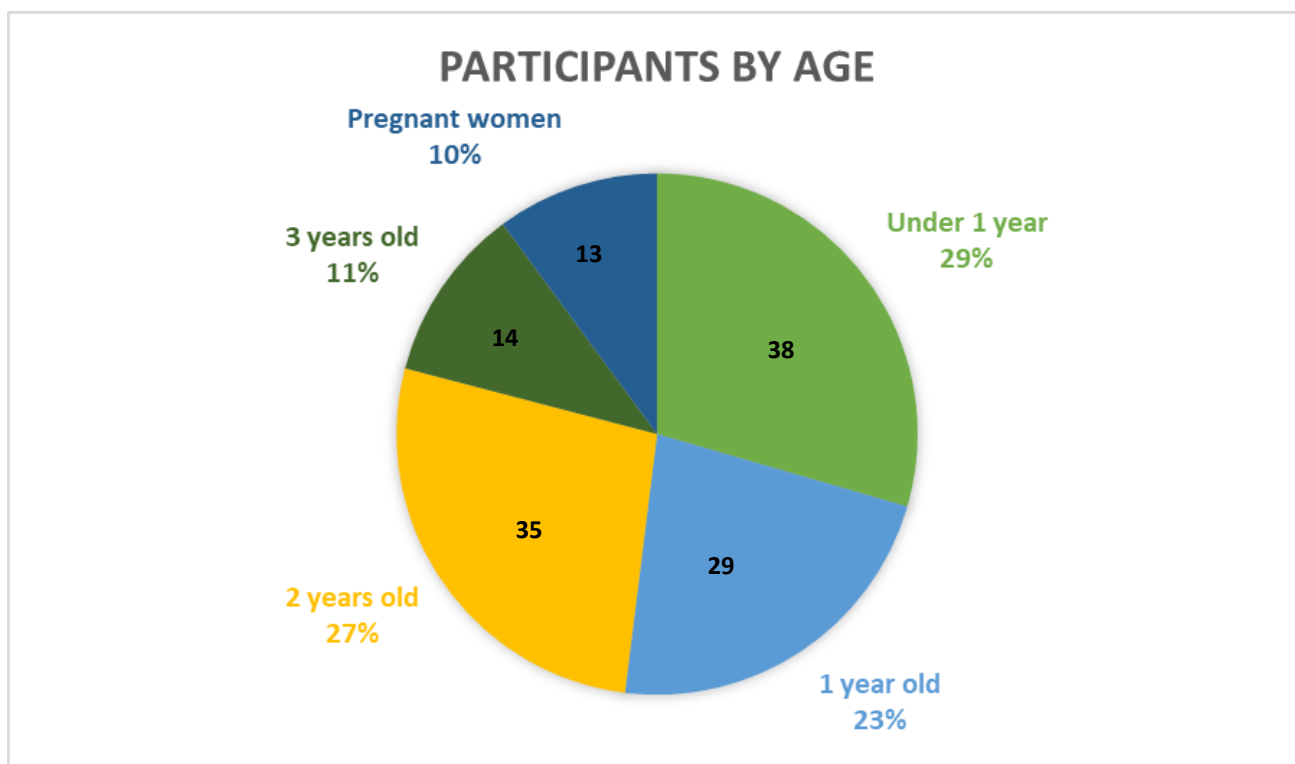
We actively honor and embrace differences as vital assets that enrich our community and strengthen our collective power to make positive change.

Enrollment & Eligibility	
72	Funded Enrollment
116	Total Number of Children Served
29	Total Number of Children with Disabilities
13	Total Number of Pregnant Women Served
95	Total Number of Families Served
19	Total Number of Military/Veteran Families
72	Average Monthly Enrollment
129	Total Cumulative Enrollment

TOTAL NUMBER & PERCENTAGE OF ENROLLED PARTICIPANTS PER CATEGORY



EHS Participants by Age



49.6% of participants have been enrolled for multiple years

- ⇒ **32.5% have been enrolled for the second year**
- ⇒ **17.1% have been enrolled for three or more years**

32.1% of children left the program this year

- ⇒ **17.83% aged out of the program**

Medical & Dental Services



Ensuring that children are receiving proper medical and dental care is an important element of the EHS program and school readiness. Families are encouraged and assisted with establishing a provider for routine and consistent medical and dental care. EHS staff collaborate with families to ensure that children receive follow up mental or dental treatments as needed.

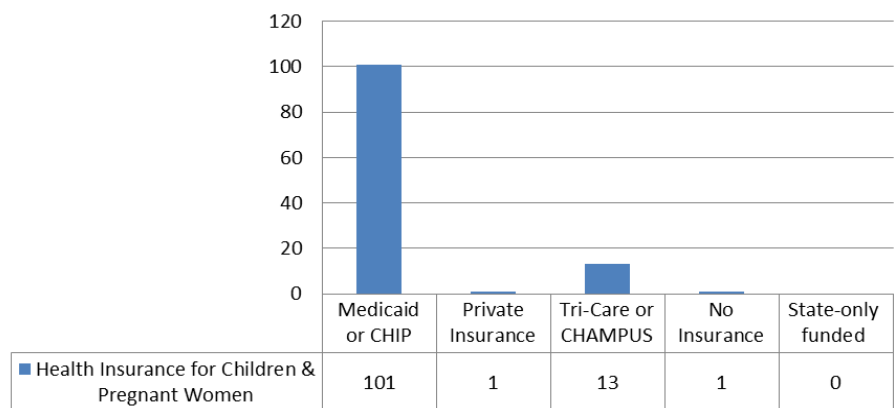
*Information on
medical and dental
services :*

July 1, 2016

to

June 30, 2017

Health Insurance for Children & Pregnant Women



99% of children had health insurance.

97% of children had an ongoing source of continuous accessible health care.

98% of children were up-to-date on all age appropriate immunizations.

64% of children had an ongoing source of continuous, accessible dental care.

87% of children were up-to-date on preventative and primary oral health care.

87% of children were up-to-date on preventative and primary health care.

25% of children had an IFSP or IEP.

100% of children diagnosed with a chronic condition received the medical attention they needed.

100% of pregnant women had accessible health care.

Program Goals & Objectives: Health



The OCPC EHS program has established specific goals and objectives based on continuous improvement needs as determined from annual program data. Goals were established for the five year period of 2014-2019. Short term objectives were established with specific annual levels of attainment. On-going monitoring was conducted to ensure that the program made continuous progress towards achievement of annual goals.

Health Success Story

A vision screening was completed with a newly enrolled family using the Spot vision screener. The tool detected possible concerns with one of the child's eyes and results indicated the need for a complete eye examination. The EHS Home Visitor gave the family a list of vision providers in our area who work with our program. The mother contacted one of the providers to make an appointment for the child. Results from the examination indicated the need for additional evaluation by an ophthalmologist for possible muscle surgery. The mother was grateful for the initial findings by EHS and the referral information. In addition she spoke highly of the local optometrist who partners with EHS.

Health Goal

OCPC EHS will ensure children are up-to-date on all preventative health checks and screenings at EPSDT recommended intervals as an important element of school readiness. OCPC EHS will strengthen parents understanding of lead blood poisoning in an effort to increase the number of enrolled children who have blood lead level testing completed at ages 12 and 24 months.

2017: GOAL attained: Based on calculation of all enrolled children eligible for blood-lead testing, 91% of enrolled children have received age appropriate blood level testing.

The program utilized a variety of effective strategies to meet and exceed the health goals and objectives including: case management meetings, phone calls and letters, education during home visits and collaboration with physicians and community partners.

OCPC EHS will encourage parents to maintain their child's well child visits with their primary care physicians to ensure physical and developmental wellness and to keep immunizations up-to-date.

2017: Goal attained: 94% of the children enrolled in the OCPC EHS program were up to date on immunizations; 87% were up-to date on well child checks; overall 90.5% of children met this goal.

The program staff helped families identify barriers preventing them from health care visits and offered resources and support as needed and continue to provide education and encourage families in this important area of school readiness.

Program Goals & Objectives: School Readiness



School Readiness Goal

OCPC EHS will enhance the developmental skills of enrolled children to improve pre-requisite skills to maximize the potential for successful entry into preschool.

OCPC EHS will strengthen the ability of Home Visitors and families to improve math skills of enrolled children as measured by children meeting or exceeding School Readiness Goals for Mathematics.

2017: Goal attained: Based on the results of the final checkpoint of 2016-2017 for children enrolled throughout the school year, 75% of children met or exceeded School Readiness goals for Math.

School Readiness Success Story

An Early Head Start Home Visitor reported success for a 2 1/2 year old child on her caseload. During visits, the team had been working on counting but the child was not demonstrating progress. The Home Visitor and the mom discussed various ways to help him build that skill one of which was to incorporate something that he really enjoyed doing. Mom began engaging him with the “Five Speckled Frogs” song and other fun songs with numbers. Very soon, he was able to say “1, 2, 3, 4” and show the numbers with his fingers. Mom was excited to share his progress with the Home Visitor but ultimately, mom received the credit for spending time with him and doing the necessary “homework”.



Program Goals & Objectives: Parent & Family Engagement



Parent & Family Engagement Goal

OCPC EHS will actively engage families in all program activities to strengthen family well-being and school readiness of enrolled children.

OCPC EHS will increase family attendance in home visits to facilitate the understanding of the relationship of healthy child development and future school success.

Goal: Increase participation at programs events by 10% each program year.

2017: Goal Attained: The number of families who participated in socializations, parent trainings, and committee meetings was 230, which is an increase of 32 since last year.

Parent & Family Engagement Success Story

“One of the families that I work with has been struggling with redirection for their child Michael. They have been working on figuring out what works for Michael and have created their own “tool box” filled up with his favorite things. When Michael appears upset or overwhelmed, mom and dad have created a corner of the living room just for him to go to retreat. The parents use one of their “tools” to aid him in calming and redirect him from any negative behavior. The tool box has a string of Christmas lights and some sensory things he can touch and it has made a huge difference.”

- In addition to the effective strategies utilized during the last program year, EHS staff invited families to share talents and skills during socializations by co-facilitating program events.
- Home Visitors reported that families integrated strategies and skills learned during program activities into their daily activities to promote child development and family wellbeing.
- Home Visitors encouraged families to maintain a monthly calendar and provide various reminders to increase participation in program events.
- EHS staff explored strategies to keep families engaged and celebrated families when they maintained good attendance at home visits and other program events.
- Incentives included positive reinforcement, certificates of appreciation, an Attendance Campaign Event Celebration, and Super Star Display Wall at the EHS office.

Program Goals & Objectives: Program Management

Program Management Goal

OCPC EHS program will provide comprehensive, relevant and timely data and reporting to ensure program compliance, oversight, and accountability.

OCPC EHS staff will provide comprehensive and accurate data to ensure all program goals are attained as indicated each program year.

All program goals (100%) will be attained each program year.

2017: Goal Attained: The OCPC EHS program met in all program goals for the 2016-2017 program year.

Continuous improvements are made through assessments, parent feedback, data analysis, and engagement with the Board of Directors and the Policy Council.

Program Management Success Story

The EHS team worked closely with the Policy Council to increase their level of engagement. All Policy Council meetings were held with a high attendance rate. Policy Council members played a vital role in the acquisition of the non-federal share, self-assessment process, and strategies to improve family engagement in program activities.

Program Goals & Objectives: Fiscal Management

Fiscal Management Goal

OCPC EHS program will ensure compliance with all fiscal requirements through continuous monitoring of financial management systems and internal controls. OCPC EHS will increase the percentage of Non-Federal Share collections.

Non Federal Share collected will increase by 0.25% each program year.

2017: Goal Attained: The OCPC EHS program acquired a total of \$121,571.00 in Non-Federal Share which is a 5.266% increase .

Fiscal Management Success Story

EHS was fortunate to have two unpaid social work interns from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. One is a graduate student and the other is an undergraduate student and they have both been contributing between twenty and thirty hours per week to the EHS program. The program also worked with Service Learning Students , local businesses, and volunteers throughout the program year.

SCHOOL READINESS GOALS

GOALS TO ENSURE ALL ENROLLED CHILDREN ARE READY FOR SCHOOL

Language and Literacy Goals

1. Children will be able to listen to and understand increasingly complex language.
2. Children will use appropriate conversational and other communication skills.
3. Children will be able to demonstrate early literacy skills.

Cognitive and General Knowledge Goals

1. Children will be able to discover and understand their world using their senses.
2. Children will be able to acquire basic concepts to including the ability to recall familiar objects, people, and events; to identify basic math concepts.
3. Children will begin to use symbols and images to represent something not present.

Social Emotional Goals

1. Children will establish and maintain positive relationships with familiar adults.
2. Children will be able to care for needs appropriately and regulate some of their feelings and behaviors.
3. Children will develop a sense of self awareness.



"The first five years have so much to do with how the next eighty turn out"

- Bill Gates Sr., Co-Chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Approaches to Learning Goals

1. Children will display curiosity and motivation in learning.
2. Children will demonstrate problem solving skills.
3. Children will show flexibility and inventiveness in thinking and the ability to focus on tasks.

Physical and Health Goals

1. Children will be able to use large muscles for balance, movement, and exploration of the environment.
2. Children will be able to use small muscles to touch, pick up, and explore objects in the environment.
3. Children will develop an increasing sense of awareness of interest in their own needs.

SCHOOL READINESS OUTCOMES

The child assessment tool utilized by the OCPC EHS is Teaching Strategies GOLD. Information was gathered and analyzed over the course of four quarters/checkpoints from August, 2016 until August, 2017, encompassing fall, winter, spring, and summer.

The areas in which more children fell below the Widely Held Expectations (WHE) were: Language/Literacy and Cognitive/General Knowledge (specifically Math related goals). Children made more progress in winter 2016/2017 than during the other quarters due to fewer turnovers in enrollment and stability among home visitation staff. These results are consistent with the changes that occurred during the course of the program.

The percentage of children who met or exceeded WHE for each goal:

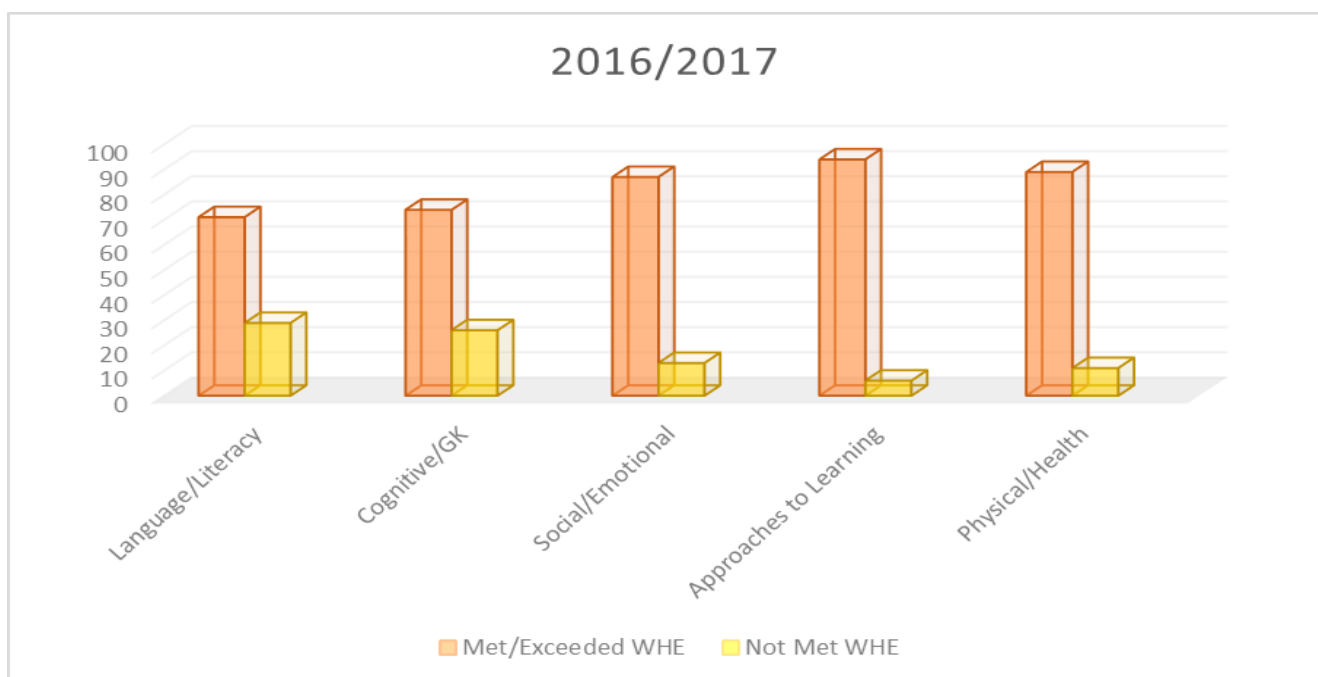
71.05% Language & Literacy

73.95% Cognitive & General Knowledge

87% Social & Emotional Development

94% Approaches to Learning

89% Physical & Health Development



Language and Literacy

The percentage of children who met or exceeded WHE in the Language and Literacy domain was 71.05%. During the Spring 2016/2017 Checkpoints, nine children had specific IFSP outcomes related to expressive language/communication. Specific language indicators missed by children were those related to expressive language (i.e. uses social rules of language, engages in conversation, speaks clearly and uses an expanding vocabulary). Therefore, impacts in literacy occurred as well. EHS staff will continue to work with families to encourage language and literacy development in young children. The program will ensure that home visiting staff and families receive professional development opportunities to promote children's language and literacy skills.

Cognitive and General Knowledge

The percentage of children who met or exceeded WHE in the cognitive to include math skills was 73.95%. Due to the consistent turnover rate in children and families and the need to establish baseline information each quarter for newly enrolled children, the school readiness goals associated with the school readiness program goal associated with math was calculated for children who were enrolled across all quarters of the program year. Of those children, 75% met the WHE for math skills. EHS Home Visitors and parents were provided specific professional development to increase their understanding of developmentally appropriate math concepts for young children. To assist children with skill mastery, parents and Home Visitors engaged young children in age appropriate experiences during home visits, socializations and homework activities. Families assisted children with the exploration of age and developmentally appropriate math concepts during daily routines and activities within the home environment.

Social and Emotional Development

Children who met or exceeded WHE for the objectives accounted for 87% while 13% were not meeting the objectives. Staff continue to encourage families to utilize various resources available for mental wellness and to assist families in identifying protective factors which support children's development and strengthen parent-child relationships.

Approaches to Learning

This is a domain of strength for a majority of children enrolled as 94% met or exceeded WHE. Children who are not meeting WHE were reported at 6%. Staff will continue to assist families to focus on the foundational skills within this domain.

Physical and Health Development

The percentage of children who met or exceeded WHE in this domain was 89%. Those not meeting the objectives accounted for 11%. Staff will continue to monitor children's progress and assist families with strategies to improve progress in acquiring these skills.

Program Improvements

After careful analysis of all program data, the program identified areas for continuous improvement and necessary support for children and families which will promote attainment of school readiness goals. A variety of professional development opportunities were provided for staff based on identified school readiness outcomes. These opportunities included:

- ◆ Home Visitors attended training specifically related to School Readiness Goals and the TS GOLD Assessment tool
- ◆ Newly hired Home Visitors successfully completed the TS GOLD Interrater Reliability training
- ◆ Home Visitors received Family Literacy training from the OCPC Early Literacy Coordinator
- ◆ Families were provided with opportunities for Math and Literacy School Readiness training
- ◆ Families received Math and Literacy Backpack materials to utilize in parent-child interactions
- ◆ The EHS program will implement Practice-Based Coaching strategies to assist home visiting staff to enhance the quality of services provided



Specific Sources of Information Regarding Child and Family Development

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ◆ Home Visitor and parent observation | ◆ Attendance reports |
| ◆ Child health information | ◆ Assessment reports by age of child |
| ◆ Family risk assessments | ◆ IFSP outcomes |
| ◆ TS GOLD assessment reports | ◆ Home Base individualized data reports |

Data specifically related to school readiness scores in relation to attendance in the program were thoroughly aggregated and analyzed. During the winter quarter, the program experienced its lowest percentage in attendance during the month of February at a rate of 63%. The main reasons for missed visits were due to illness, followed by parents' work and school schedules. The winter quarter posed an additional challenge as EHS experienced turnover in home visitation staff.

Family Engagement Opportunities

The EHS program provided families with leadership opportunities to include:

- ◆ Leadership during home visits as parents are the first and most influential teachers for their children
- ◆ Policy Council membership and leadership
- ◆ Membership and leadership on various committee(s)
- ◆ Co-facilitation and planning of program events
- ◆ Engagement in recruitment and outreach
- ◆ Engagement in program planning and evaluation

The Onslow County Partnership for Children Early Head Start program strives to build meaningful, goal-oriented relationships with families.



The program provided families with opportunities for training and family development.

Various topics of interests were offered to families during training, socialization activities, and fieldtrips to include:

Health/Mental Health Day events	Math with Infants & Toddlers
Reading and Understanding Food Labels	Keys to Interactive Parenting Scale
Stress Management	Nutrition Education
Early Language & Literacy Development	Child Mental Health
Transition Planning	Budgeting Class
Incredible Years	Music & Movement
Healthy Environments & Wellness	Motor Development
School Readiness and Home Visit Attendance	Family Advocacy Training
Fire and Lockdown Safety	Triple P Parenting
Zoo Outing	Sensory Activities
Family Yoga	Outdoor Math Activities
Hurricane Preparedness	Safety

Budget Expenditure

Fiscal year 2016-2017

Categories	Total Spent
Contractual	10,051.14
Fringe Benefits	110,521.44
Other	144,718.50
Personnel	514,101.69
Supplies	29,910.23
Travel	1,000.00
TOTAL	829,753.00

Total Federal Funding

	Total Received	Total Spent
Operational	802,280.00	802,280.00
Training and Technical Assistance	19,450.00	19,450.00
COLA	8,023.00	8,023.00
GRAND TOTAL	829,753.00	829,753.00

Non-federal sources

	Total Required	Total Received
TOTAL	115,489.00	121,571.00

**A request for waiver of a portion of the required 20% Non-Federal Share was approved.*

Budget Projections

2017-2018 projected budget expenditures were based on full funding amounts

Categories	Total Budgeted
Personnel	\$521,034.65
Fringe Benefits	\$105,202.65
Travel	\$1,000.00
Supplies	\$19,429
Contractual	\$224,050.00
Other	\$139,586.50
TOTAL	\$810,303.00

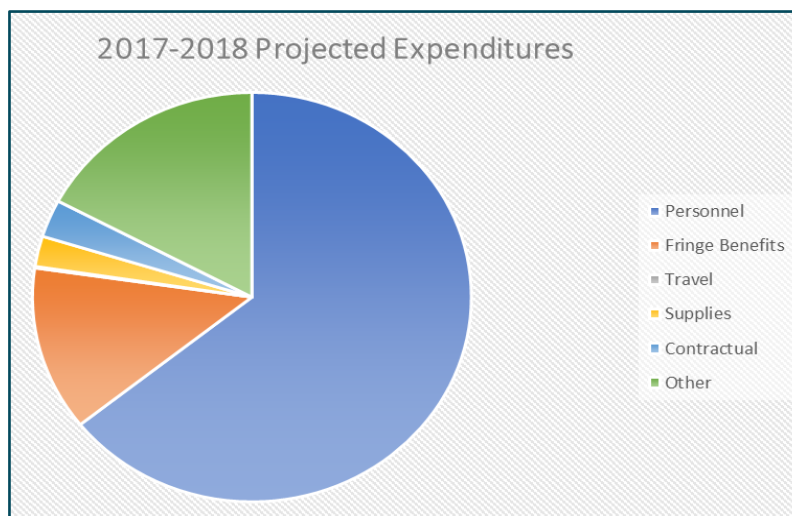
Training and Technical Assistance

	Total Requested
Training and Technical Assistance	\$19,450.00
TOTAL	\$19,450.00

Total Budget Operational & T/TA \$829,753.00

Non-federal sources: A Non-Federal Share match of 20% is required. A waiver of a portion of the Non-Federal Share was submitted and approved by the Head Start Regional Office.

	Total Required	Total Needed
Operational	\$ 107,280.00	\$102,794.17
Training and Technical Assistance	\$ 2,227.03	\$ 2,635.97
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 109,507.03	\$ 105,430.14



Monitoring

Federal Monitoring

The Onslow County Partnership for Children Early Head Start Program did not undergo Federal Review during the 2016-2017 program year. The program underwent an on-site Federal Environmental Health and Safety Review on January 20, 2016. The report stated “based on information gathered, no area of noncompliance was found during the course of the review.

2017 Annual Financial Auditing Report

The Annual Financial Audit for the year ending in June 30, 2017 was presented to the OCPC Board of Directors on February 1, 2018. There were no audit findings.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Thank you! On behalf of the Governing Body, Policy Council, EHS staff and families, we thank all of our community partners for the joint efforts to strengthen our families. Through meaningful partnerships and collaborations, we provide high quality comprehensive services and resources to empower vulnerable families.

With support from our community, we strive to empower families to reach self-sufficiency and assist young children with acquiring the skills, knowledge, and experiences that they need to succeed in school and life. We look forward to our continued collaborations with existing and new partners throughout the upcoming program years!



Join us in our quest to transform lives by empowering parents:

Community partners can provide support by volunteering in our program, making financial contributions to aid families in acquiring resources to meet basic needs, to provide additional resources such as gas cards, gift cards, and other incentives that are necessary but not allowed due to funding restrictions.

"Each of us must come to care about everyone else's children. We must recognize that the welfare of our children and grandchildren is intimately linked to the welfare of all other people's children. After all, when one of our children needs lifesaving surgery, someone else's child will perform it. If one of our children is threatened or harmed by violence, someone else's child will be responsible for the violent act. The good life for our own children can be secured only if a good life is also secured for all other people's children."

~Lilian Katz

