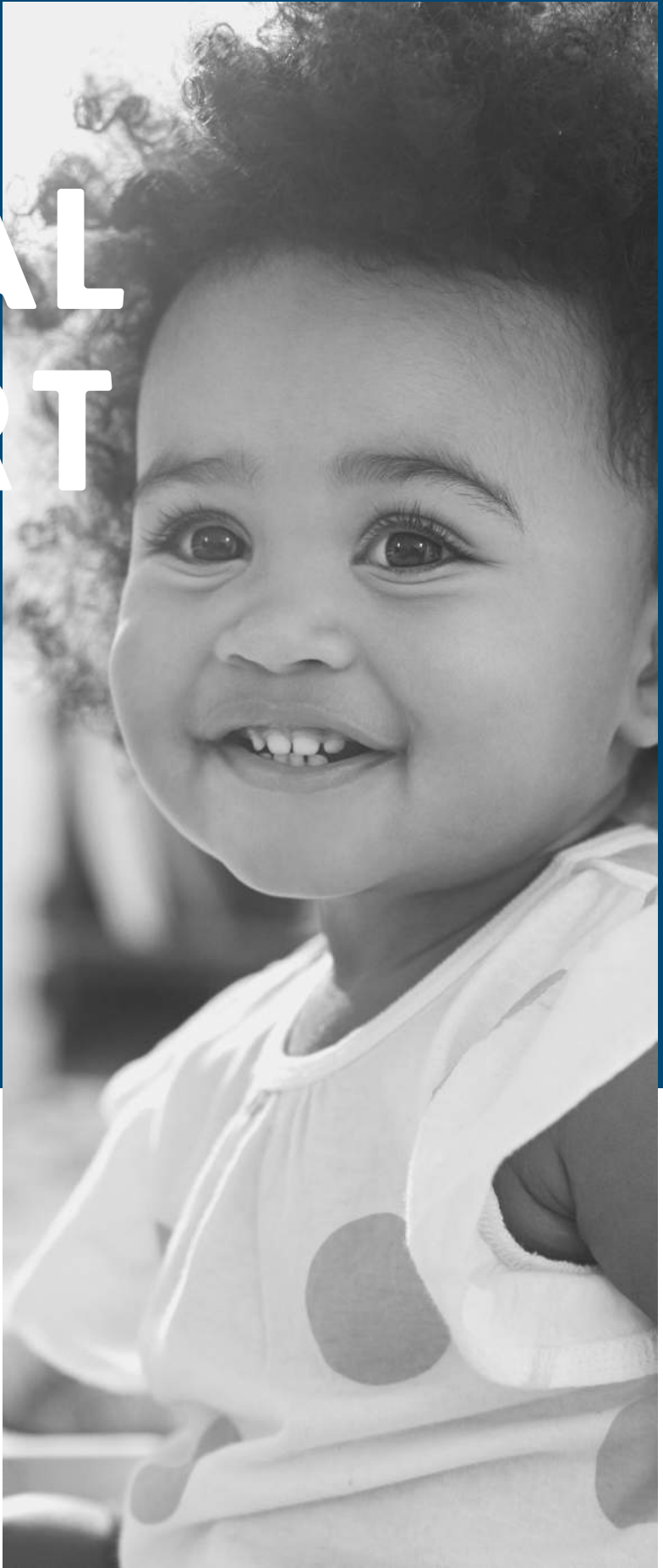


EHS ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**ONE
PLACE**

CREATING HOPE FOR FAMILIES

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AGENCY OVERVIEW




Formerly known as Onslow County Partnership for Children, One Place is a large child- and family-serving nonprofit organization in Onslow County, North Carolina. For more than 20 years, One Place has worked to strengthen the systems of care surrounding children and families through public-private partnerships. One Place believes that children are no small matter and by investing in children and families, we can provide the resources and programs to end child abuse and create a stronger, more resilient future for our community.

In order to build a resilient community, we work to ensure that all children have a strong foundation and a healthy start. The first 2,000 days of a child's life are essential for their future success. We partner with families, community agencies, and professionals in the early childhood community to provide high-quality early learning environments that encourage healthy brain development and supportive, nurturing relationships that enable children to thrive. We work to raise awareness about child abuse and its impact on Onslow County and help educate our community about our role in protecting children and reporting abuse. Together, we continue to build a caring and responsive community with the necessary programs and resources available to families to help them succeed, prevent child abuse, and maximize the chances that all children in Onslow County will become successful adults. When we get it right for all children, we get it right for the entire community because children are no small matter.

Our Vision: All children and families are safe, healthy, and living to their fullest potential.

Our Mission: When they have challenges, we connect all children and their families to programs and resources that provide opportunities and hope.

 900 Dennis Road, Jacksonville, NC 28546

 901-938-0336

 www.oneplaceonslow.org

 info@oneplaceonslow.org

 @OnePlaceOnslow

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Our Early Head Start programs receive federal funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start. Families can participate through two program options: home-based or center-based through an EHS - Child Care Partnership (EHS - CCP). EHS partners with Excel Learning Center #9 in Jacksonville, NC to deliver high-quality services for children and families in a child care setting.

Both program options provide comprehensive services to children and their families. The home-based option serves children ages birth to 3-years-old and their families, as well as expectant mothers. The EHS-CCP serves children ages 6-weeks to 3-years-old and their families.

EHS and Excel program staff have the unique privilege of partnering with families. Through this partnership, staff effectively engage families through the delivery of high-quality comprehensive services that promote children's success in school and beyond. The programs also assist families in the development of child and family goals and encourage self-sufficiency.

*This annual report to the public includes Early Head Start's service and financial data ending June 30, 2021 for the home-based program and August 31, 2021 for the Child Care Partnership program.

*Focus Area 2 Monitoring in June 2021 indicated full compliance in all areas.

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is an honor to serve as the One Place Early Head Start Director. The Head Start model is built on evidence-based practices and has continued to develop over the past 56 years to best meet the needs of the children and families served through the program.

In Onslow County, the Early Head Start Program strives to provide opportunities that advance children and families in the community. Our program aims to increase public awareness of our Early Head Start Program as well as the Head Start programs. Both of these programs are aimed at supporting the developmental needs of at-risk children and preparing children for school.

Without the commitment and dedication to service of our staff members, community partners, Board of Directors, Early Head Start Policy Council, and parents none of this work would be possible. Together, we are able to improve the lives of people in our community.

Christy Miller
EHS DIRECTOR



LEADERSHIP

ONE PLACE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Yaniero

Board Chair
Director of Public Safety
City of Jacksonville

Julia Collins

Vice Chair
Community Volunteer

Joel Churchwell

Treasurer
Pastor, Sandy Run Missionary Church

Jennifer Kellum

Secretary
Community Member
Owner, Neverland & Main Travel

Michael Brown

Community Member
Small Business Consultant
Bank of America

Ashley Smith

Community Member
Instructional Support Specialist
Department of Defense Schools

Zac Everhart

Owner
Excel Learning Centers

Bill Keller

Community Volunteer
USMC Retired

Lynda Black

Early Head Start
Policy Council Representative

Elizabeth Thomas

Community Volunteer

EARLY HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL

Lynda Black

Parent

Luisa Davis

Community Representative

Nachelle Fenner

Community Representative

Kiyeka Gift

Community Representative

Bre Hilliard Corbitt

Parent

Brandi Karpovich

Parent

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19



Pandemic-Related Disruption

COVID-19 closures and service-related disruptions impacted our programs across the board and provided a unique set of challenges for service delivery.

Our Child Care Partnership program experienced classroom closures and teachers worked to shift to hybrid learning which is challenging for infants and toddlers. Families received weekly check-ins.

In our Home-Based program, home visitors engaged families through a hybrid model of virtual visits and outdoor visits when possible. In-person socializations were put on hold due to safety concerns. Virtual socializations were scheduled via the Zoom platform with an abbreviated time to be more developmentally age-appropriate for participating children.

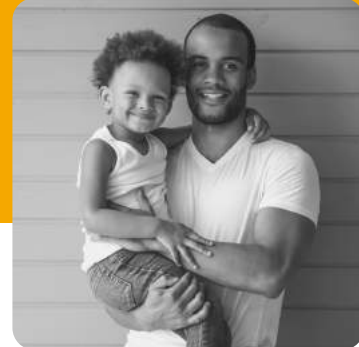
Several home visitors utilized virtual platforms such as YouTube and Facebook to provide families with home activity support or created short movies to demonstrate Parents as Teachers curriculum activities that coordinated with home activity kits.

Many families struggled to maintain well-child checks and other preventative health measures due to closures at medical offices and severe backlogs for appointments.

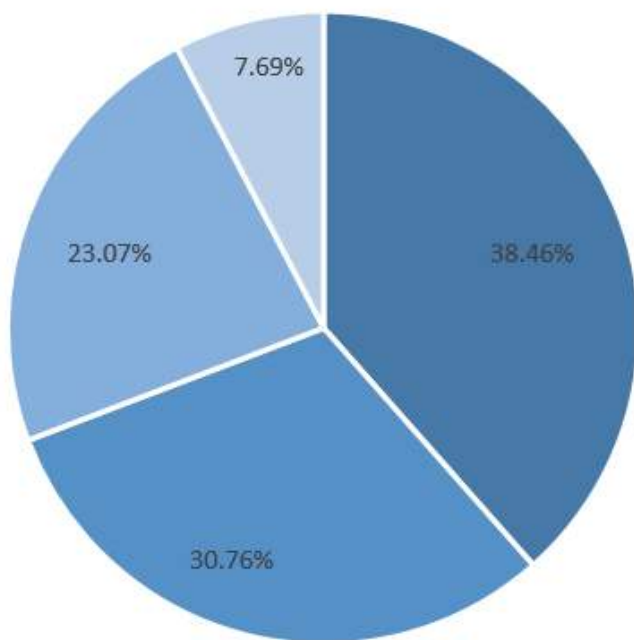
COVID-19 Supports

We have been responsive to the needs of families by providing protective gear (such as disposable face masks) and additional supports to include home activity kits to facilitate parent-child interactions in the absence of in-home visits from program staff.

ENROLLMENT & ELIGIBILITY



■ Under 1 Year ■ 1-Year-Old ■ 2-Years-Old

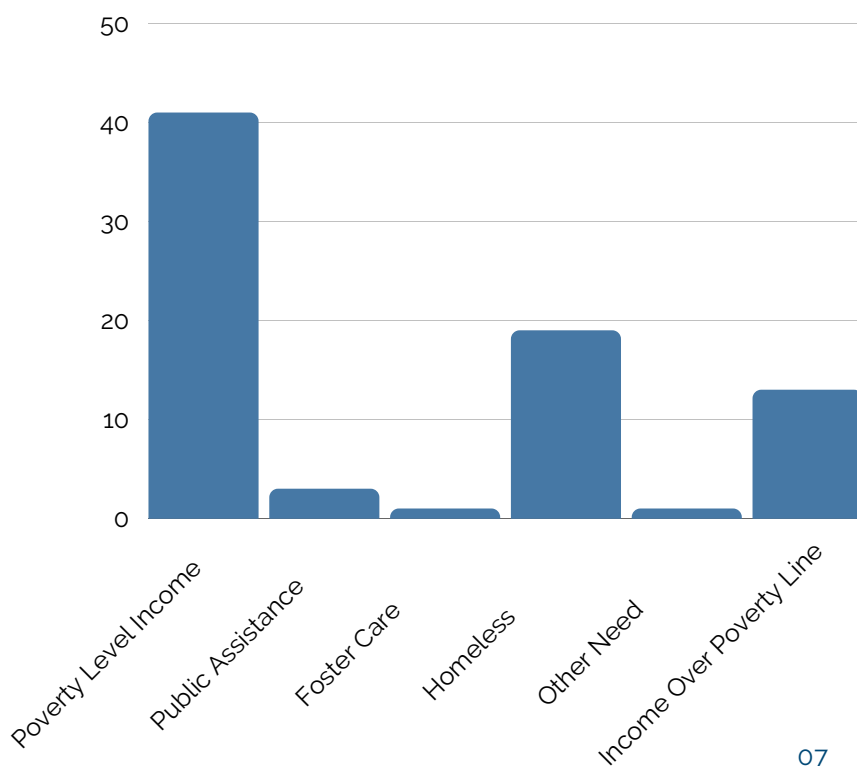


CUMULATIVE ENROLLMENT HOME-BASED PROGRAM

Funded enrollment of 72 children. Cumulative enrollment of 78 including pregnant women. Military-affiliated families comprised 14 percent of cumulative enrollment. Children in the program with an IFSP comprised 9 percent of funded enrollment.

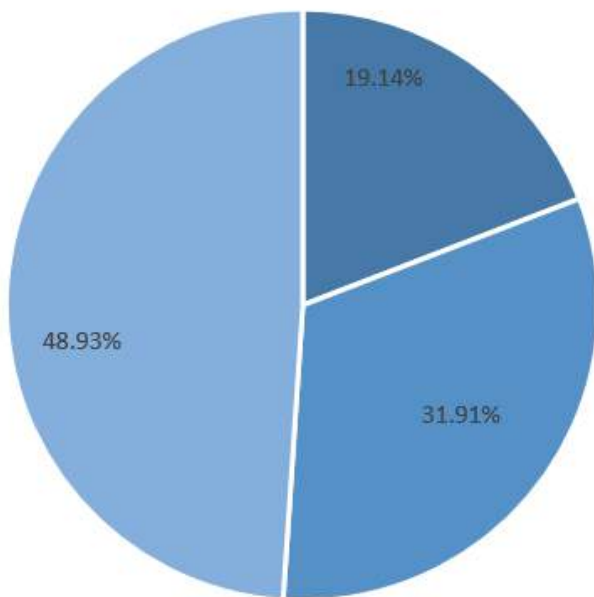
ELIGIBILITY HOME-BASED PROGRAM

An influx of families identified as homeless (unable to afford to live on their own) has occurred in recent years from challenges related to COVID-19 such as job loss due to required quarantine and difficulty obtaining new employment with adequate pay. The program has supported several families through the process of applying for HUD Housing vouchers but they are unable to utilize them because there are no homes on the market that will accept them.



ENROLLMENT & ELIGIBILITY

■ Under 1 Year ■ 1-Year-Old ■ 2-Years-Old

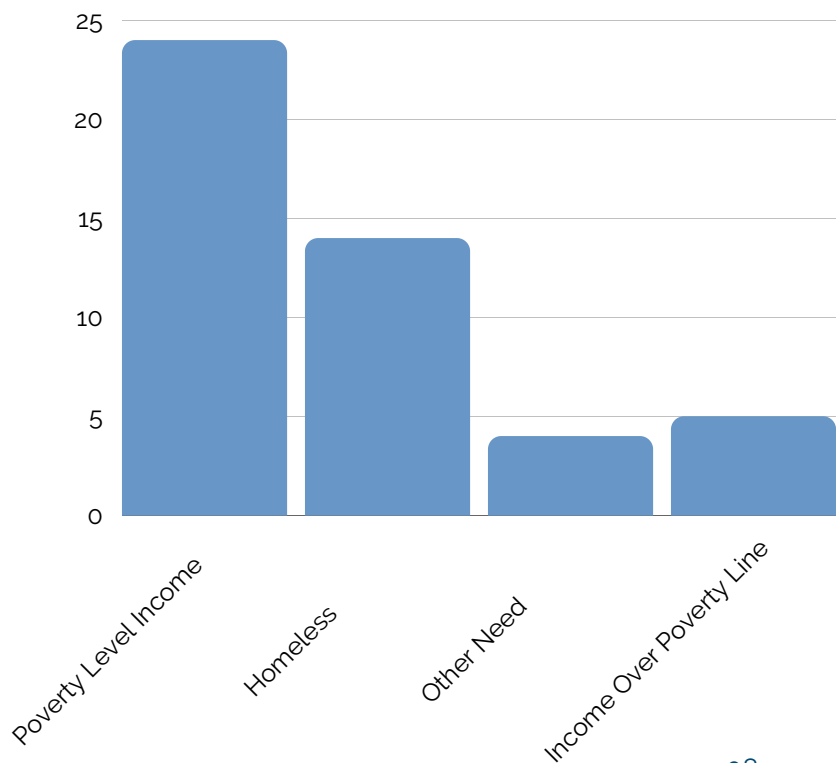


ELIGIBILITY CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

An influx of families identified as homeless (unable to afford to live on their own) has occurred in recent years from challenges related to COVID-19 such as job loss due to required quarantine and difficulty obtaining new employment with adequate pay. The program has supported several families through the process of applying for HUD Housing vouchers but they are unable to utilize them because there are no homes on the market that will accept them.

CUMULATIVE ENROLLMENT CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

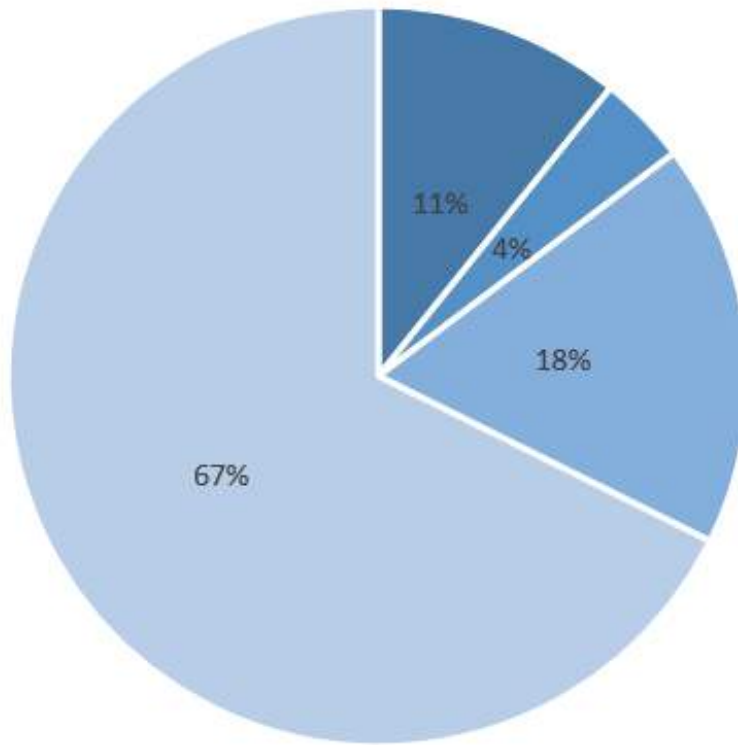
Funded enrollment of 42 children, cumulative enrollment of 47 children. Military-affiliated families comprised 16 percent of cumulative enrollment. Children in the program with an IFSP comprised 10 percent of funded enrollment.



ENROLLMENT & ELIGIBILITY

COMMUNITY NEEDS

There are approximately 4,947 children in Onslow County who are age and income-eligible for Head Start programs. Of those children, 2,800 are age and income eligible for Early Head Start.



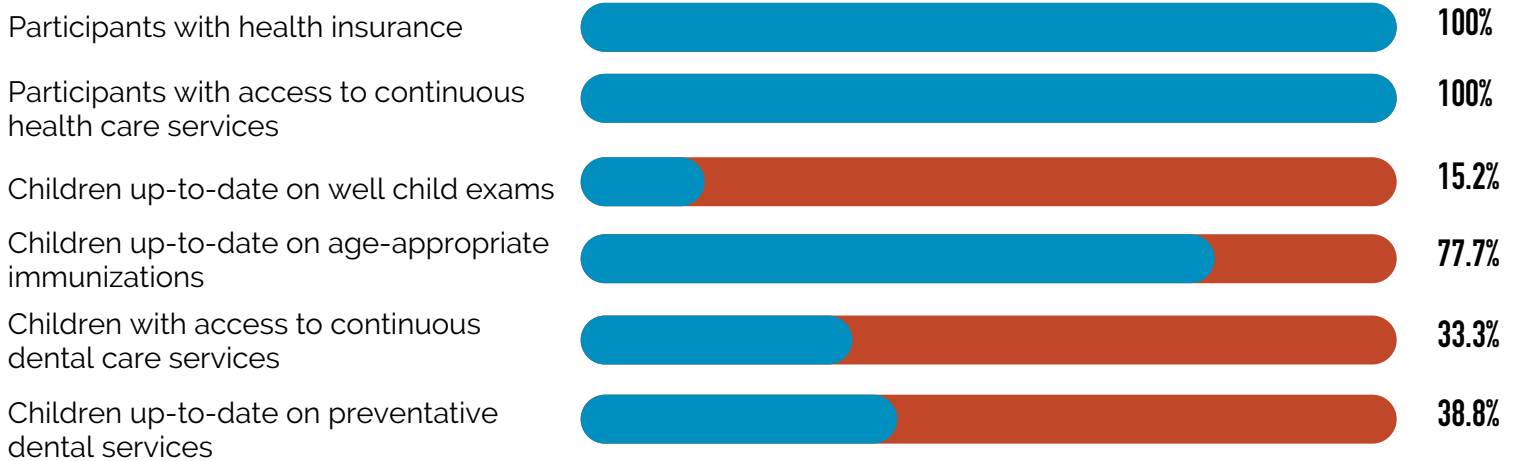
■ Head Start ■ Early Head Start ■ All Programs ■ Age/Income Eligible Children Not Receiving Services

This data shows that additional Head Start and Early Head Start slots are needed in Onslow County. Our program is working to increase funded slots in our Child Care Partnership Program to meet this need and better support this underserved population of children and families in our community.

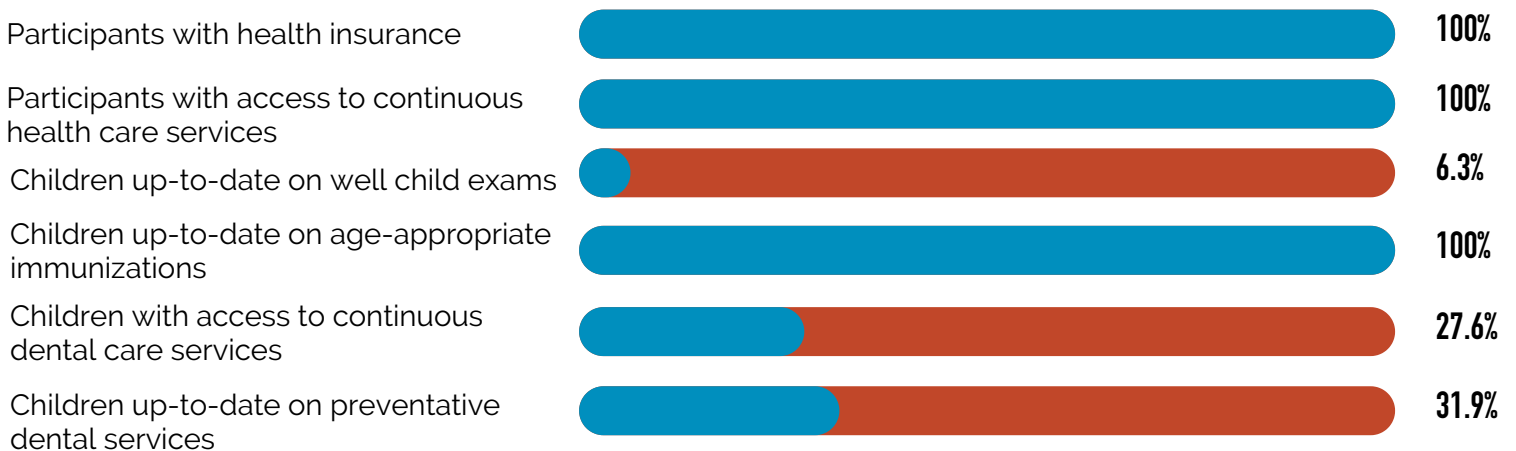
MEDICAL & DENTAL



HOME-BASED PROGRAM



CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



*Many families fell behind on well-child exams, immunization schedules, and preventative dental services due to medical office closures in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Once offices re-opened the backlog of appointments was up to 12 months for some local providers. In addition, some families had health and safety concerns regarding visiting a medical office during this time.

PROGRAM GOALS

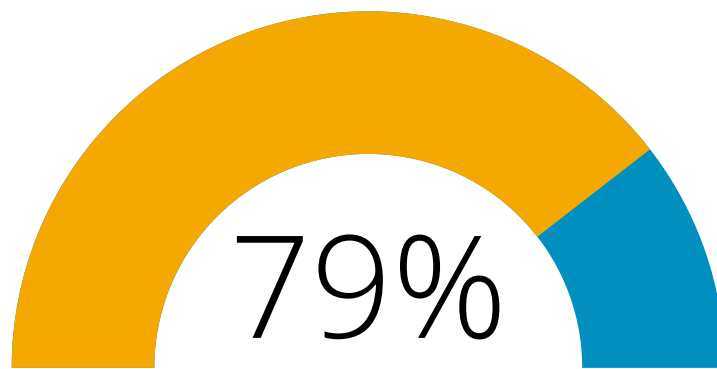
| GOALS | OBJECTIVES | OUTCOMES | CHALLENGES |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p>Goal 1: EHS will work with parents to ensure enrolled children maintain good oral health as an important element of school readiness</p> | <p>A. EHS will encourage parents to maintain well visit schedules to ensure the primary care physician monitors oral health</p> <p>B. EHS will encourage parents to establish a dental home for "age eligible" enrolled children and complete a dental examination resulting in an increase by 10% from "at enrollment" to "end of enrollment" at the end of the five year grant cycle.</p> | <p>A. NOT MET Expected – 89 % Actual -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 58% Oral Screening/Exam • 63% WBC <p>B. Null Expected Increase – 4% Actual – 0% Increase</p> | <p>A. Physician's offices 2-4 months booked resulting in delayed screenings/WBCs. Some physicians in the area are not performing oral exams as part of WBCs. Difficulties collaborating with families due to limited access to in-person supports</p> <p>B. Since 2018-2019, 100% of families have reported a medical home at enrollment and have maintained through the program year.</p> |
| <p>Goal 2: EHS will enhance the developmental skills of enrolled children to improve language and literacy skills to maximize the potential for successful preschool entry.</p> | <p>EHS will strengthen the ability of Home Visitors and families to improve language and literacy skills of enrolled children as measured by 80% of children meeting or exceeding School Readiness Goals for language and literacy.</p> | <p>MET</p> <p>Expected – 74% Actual – 79%</p> | <p>High turnover in enrolled families as well as in home visitation staff have limited the progress towards school readiness outcomes with families. COVID-19 has also required that some home visits be completed virtually, limiting the progress with infants/toddlers.</p> |
| <p>Goal 3: EHS program will ensure compliance with all fiscal requirements through continuous monitoring of financial management systems and internal controls.</p> | <p>EHS will increase the percentage of Non-Federal Share (NFS) match collection by 0.25% each year for the required match</p> | <p>NOT MET</p> <p>Expected – .25% increase Actual – 60% of required as of 9/1/21</p> | <p>Shortage of community resources due to an abundance of Federal Programs/entities in the community (large military presence). COVID 19 has negatively impacted community partners that may have formerly contributed In-Kind donations</p> |
| <p>Goal 4: EHS will collaborate with families to develop formal and informal networks to strengthen family-child outcomes.</p> | <p>EHS staff will incorporate relationship-based competencies to increase family engagement and participation in program activities incrementally by 30 participants over the five-year grant cycle.</p> | <p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>Expected – 15 engaged families Actual – 5 engaged families as of 9/1/21</p> | <p>With the beginning of PY 2021-2022 and the return to full in-person services we anticipate meeting or exceeding the goal for family engagement.</p> |

PROGRAM GOALS



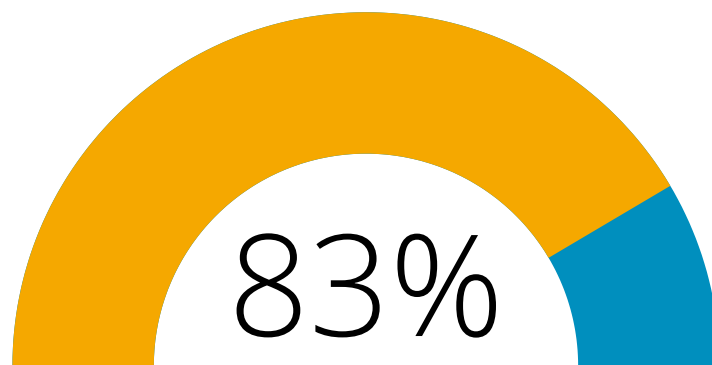
Home-Based

Program will enhance the developmental skills of enrolled children to improve language and literacy skills to maximize the potential for successful preschool entry. **Goal is 71 percent of children.**



Child Care Partnership Program

EHS and Excel will encourage age-appropriate progress across all domains of development. **Goal is 81 percent of children.**

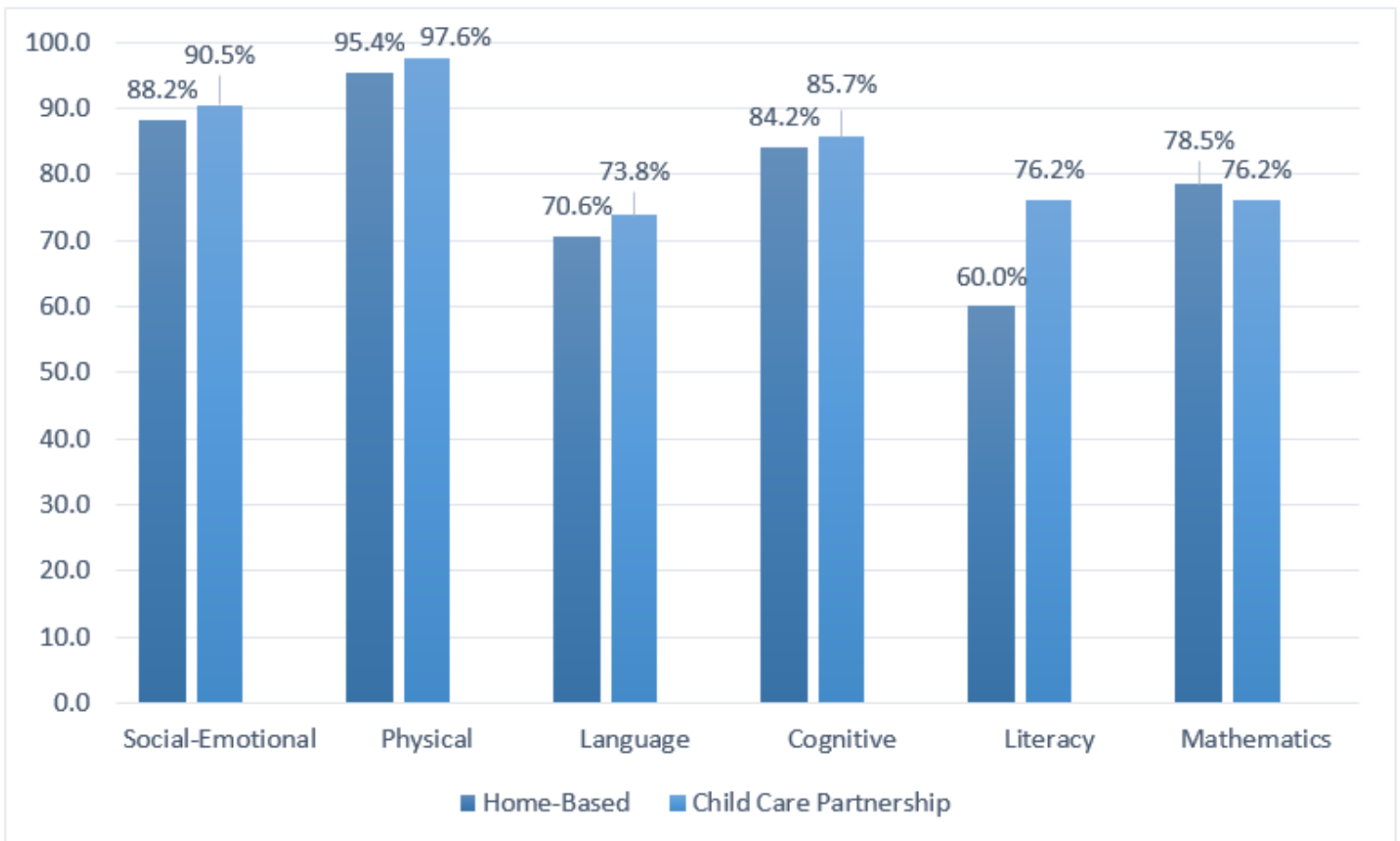


*This data depicts outcomes for two of our program goals. In total, our programs have more than 40 school readiness goals related to various areas of child development.

CHILD OUTCOMES



FINAL CHILD DEVELOPMENTAL OUTCOMES PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN MEETING GOAL

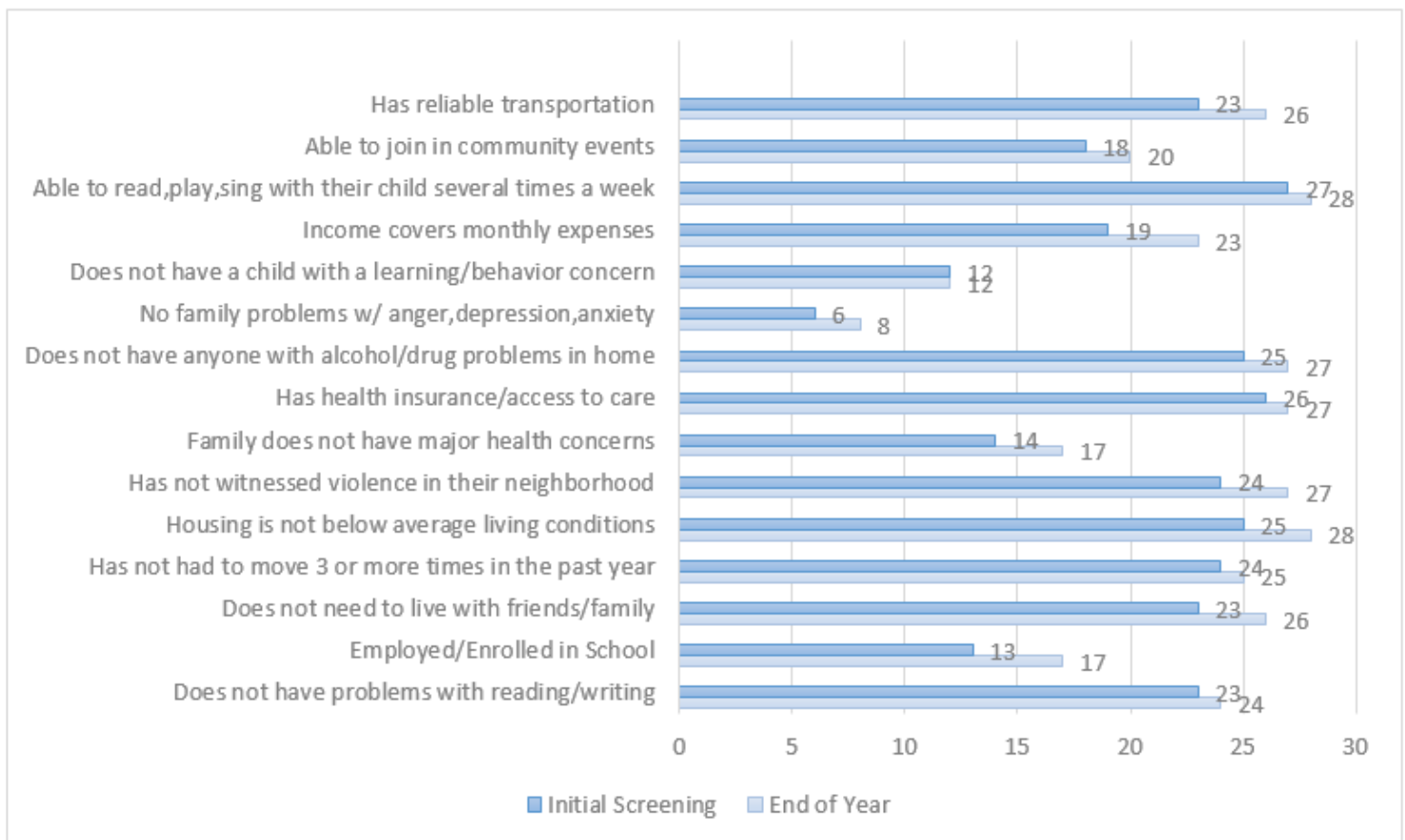


FAMILY OUTCOMES



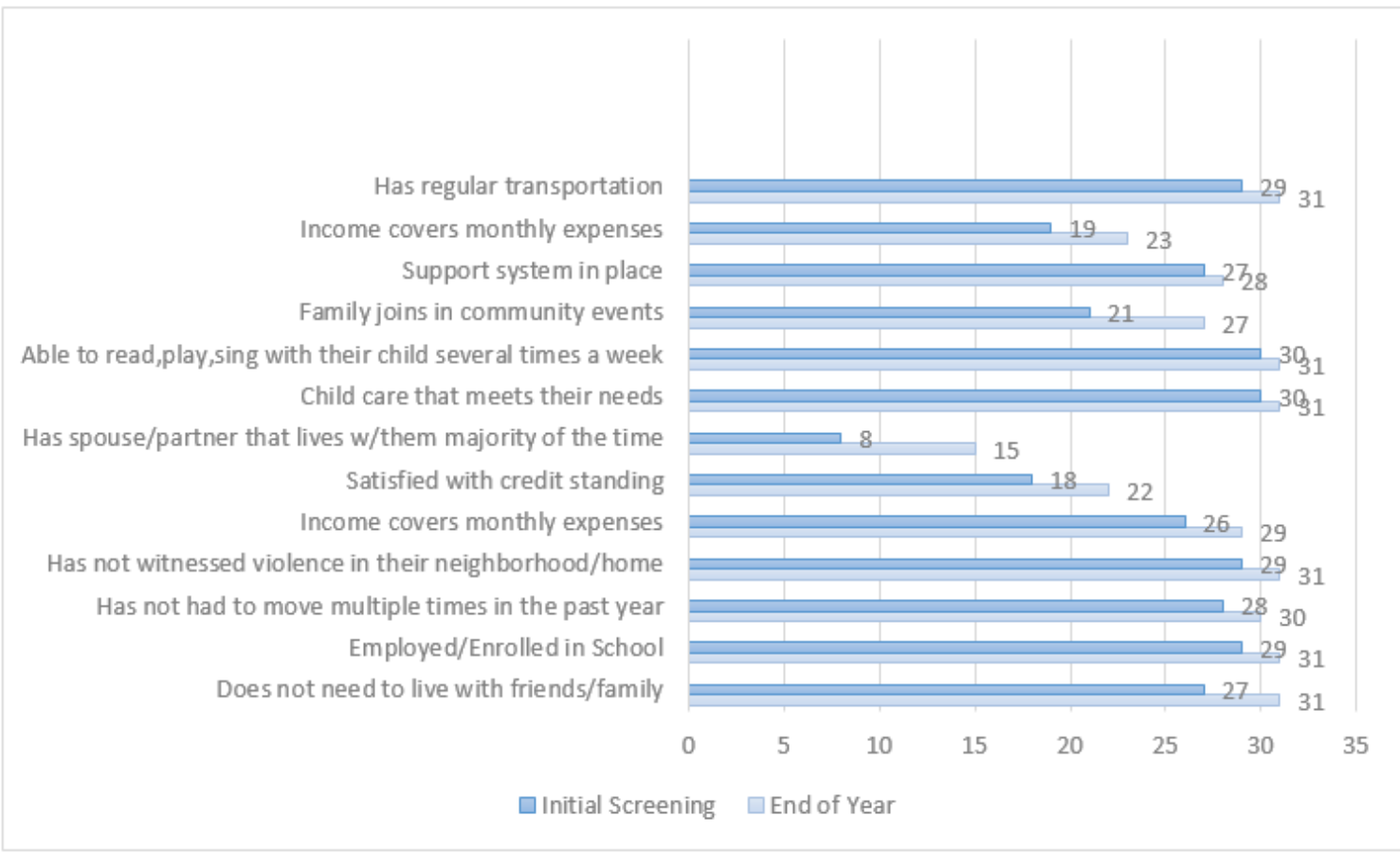
During the 2020-2021 School Year, One Place Early Head Start implemented the Environmental Screening Questionnaire to determine family outcomes. This tool focused on family needs and allowed the Family Services Department to provide support to specific needs for families based on six different areas. These areas were: Education and Employment, Housing, Child and Family Health, Economics and Finance, Family Life, and Community. Family Services staff supported these outcomes by establishing goals in collaboration with families.

HOME-BASED PROGRAM

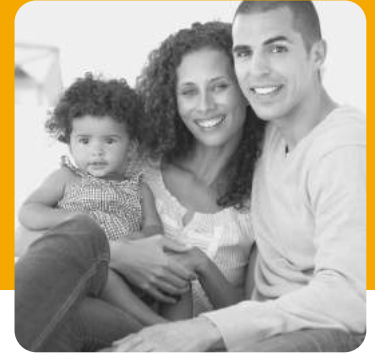


FAMILY OUTCOMES

CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



SUCCESS STORIES

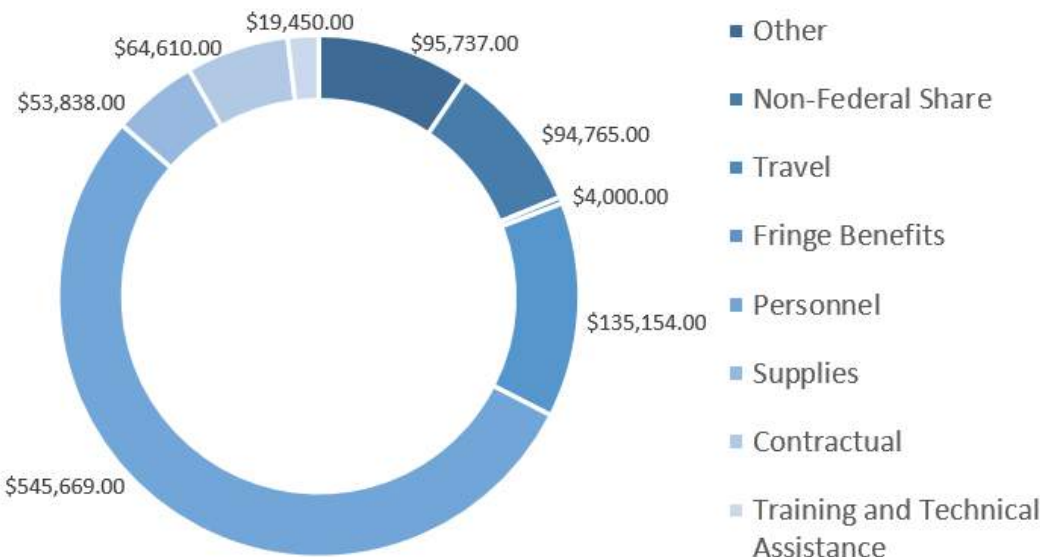


"High-quality preschool education has been a long-time passion of mine because I recognize that preparing children for school readiness is 'No Small Matter'. I believe in the vision that early childhood learning & the whole family approach lead to better preparation for the next level of their education because I've seen it firsthand. Edwin graduated Early Head Start and is going into Head Start. During the family orientation, it was obvious the two years of EHS prepared him for classroom learning better than children who had not been in a classroom with their peers before." - **Lynda Black, EHS Parent (Lynda now serves on the EHS Policy Council and One Place Board of Directors as the EHS Policy Council Representative**

A family of four relocated to Onslow County from out of state and were unable to find employment or afford housing requiring them to move in with a family member. After joining the Early Head Start program the family worked with their home visitor toward the goals of obtaining employment and finding a home of their own. The home visitor partnered with the family to provide budgeting and employment resources. After the adults secured employment the home visitor assisted the family in obtaining and filling out applications for available low-income housing in the area. Eventually, the family was able to move out of the family member's home and establish their own housing.

"My daughter was attending Excel 9 when one of the employees told me about the Early Head Start program. I was so excited when she had mentioned it to me. At the time, I was pregnant with my now youngest and was excited to put both my children into the program to receive the many benefits the program had to offer. Being a single mom and a full-time student, I needed this program more than anything. Partnering with the Early Head Start Program, I have been able to drop my children off and know they are receiving high-quality early childhood education while I finished my Associate's Degree." -**EHS Parent**

BUDGET

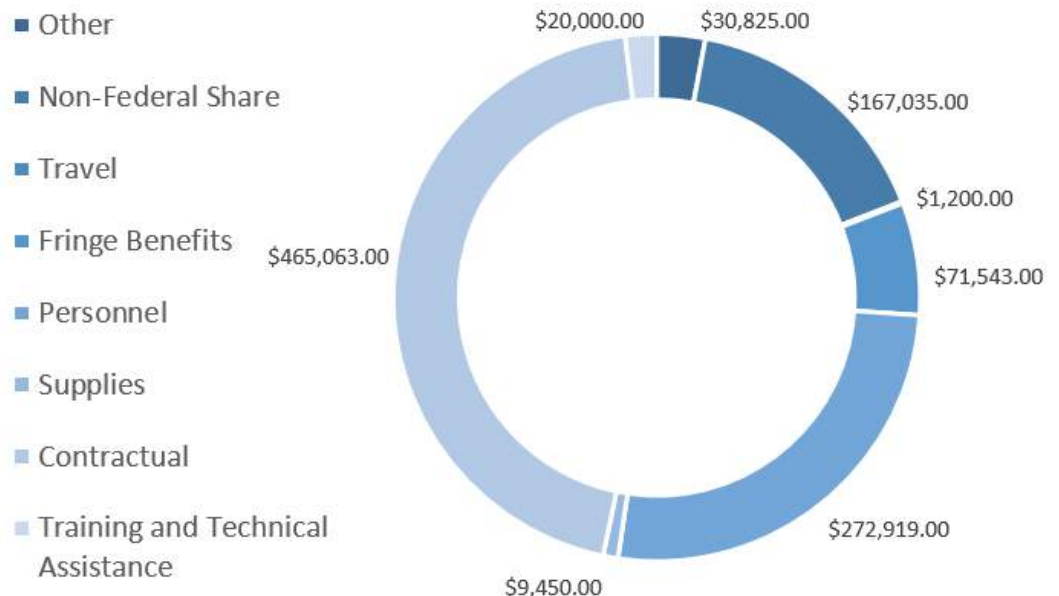


HOME-BASED PROGRAM

Funding cycle January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021

CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Funding cycle March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022



During the 2021 fiscal year Early Head Start programs were eligible for a 1.22% COLA increase.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



The Early Head Start program collaborated with a variety of community partners to ensure services were delivered to families throughout the program year. Several health and dental care providers partnered with the program to provide well-baby checks and medical/dental documentation and screenings for enrolled children.

- Onslow Memorial Hospital Pediatric Audiologist Dr. Sandavol provided in-office hearing screenings for children enrolled in both the home-based and child care partnership programs.
- Linda Swarts, Public Health Dental Hygienist, provided staff training on child dental health.
- Onslow County Health Department Women, Infant and Children program (WIC) and Care Management for At-Risk Children (CMARC) partnered with EHS to support enrolled families.
- Dr. Gilliam, a local dental provider, participated in a virtual socialization by reading aloud to families.

In November 2020 a local Rotary club partnered with our programs to provide interested families with food baskets to assist with food insecurity during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Local children's museum, Zing Zumm, supported our programs by opening early to accommodate families for socialization events on-site.

We are so grateful for these partnerships and the support of the community. Together we are making a difference in the lives of children and families in Onslow County.