

Program Background

Head Start is a national program that provides comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families, with a focus on assisting preschoolers to develop the social, early literacy and math skills they need to be successful in school.

The Head Start program was first implemented in Morgan County with a summer program in 1965. This program was operated by the school system during the summer months. The program saw interrupts and changes in agencies for several year. Since 1979, Community Action Services of Morgan County has successfully operated a Head Start program. The Early Head Start program began in 2001 to serve infants, toddlers and pregnant women.

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 their families. We engage parents as the child s primary teachers and help them to make progress towards educational, literacy and employment goals.

Who We are Facts -

Our center supervisors have Early Childhood Education or Related Degree

All of our Teachers in Head Start and Early Head have Early Childhood Education or Related Degrees

All Teaching staff are certified in Infant, Child and Adults CPR and First Aide

Work history verification, reference check, driving record checks, drug and alcohol tests and criminal records checks are completed on all Head Start/Early Head Start staff.

21 full time Education Staff

6 Health/Nutrition/Disability Staff

5 Family Services/Support Staff

10 Program Design and Management Staff



Head Start by the Numbers

187 Number of children funded - 147 HS, 40 EHS

49% Percentage of single- parent families

222 Head Start families served

62 Early Head Start families served

25 Number of children served with a disability

85% Number of families participating in family goal setting

62% Percentage of families making less than \$10,000



Child Outcomes

Outcomes guide the program in our curriculum planning and ongoing assessment of the progress and accomplishments of children in Head Start. Following are some of the results from analysis of 2007-2008 Child Outcomes Data:

Children made a 20% increase in their language development skills. They are increasing in their ability to communicate information, experiences, ideas and feelings.

Children made an 16% increase in their literacy skills. They show a growing awareness of beginning and ending sounds of words.

75% of children could identify 10 or more letters of the alphabet. Children are learning letters are grouped together to form letters.

Children made a 25% increase in their ability to find more than one solution to a question, task, or problem. They continue to grow in their ability to concentrate over time on a task, questions or set of directions.



Program Accomplishments

Morgan County Head Start and Early Head Start is in full compliance with the standards and regulations of the following programs:

- Head Start
- State Childcare Licensing
- Child and Adult Food Program
- Department of Transportation

Other Achievements

- Received Three Star Quality ratings by the Department of Human Services
- Is a NAEYC Accredited program
- Found in compliance with applicable standards and regulation during a 207 Independent Audit





Morgan County Head Start/Early Head Start

2007 - 2008 Annual Report