



Knoxville-Knox County Head Start

*Administered by
Knoxville Knox County Community Action Committee*

2007-2008 Annual Report





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.

Knoxville-Knox County Head Start (KKCHS) began in the summer of 1965 and currently serves 860 preschoolers and 32 infants/toddlers and their families. This includes children with disabilities living in Knox County. KKCHS preschool programs and services are provided at 6 centers. Part-day services are provided at all six centers, with one center additionally providing a full day option to parents qualifying for a child care certificate. Early Head Start services are also provided at one center.

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. Significant emphasis is placed on parent involvement in the administration of KKCHS.



Who We Are

Knoxville-Knox County Head Start employs 156 staff, including a Registered Dietician, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Certified Playground Inspector, Commercial Driver's License Trainer/Tester and Certified Child Restraint Inspector.

Who We Are *Facts-*

- ⇒ 100% of Center Managers have Early Childhood Education or Related Degrees
- ⇒ 92% of Teachers have Early Childhood Education or Related Degrees
- ⇒ All teaching staff are certified in Infant, Child and Adult CPR and First Aid
- ⇒ All center staff have Commercial Driver's Licenses
- ⇒ Work history verification, reference checks, driving record checks, drug and alcohol tests and criminal records checks are completed on all Head Start staff

Our Numbers

112
Education Staff

12
Health/Nutrition/
Disability Staff

24
Family Services/
Support Staff

8
Program Design &
Management Staff



Who We Serve

Slots include 860 preschool children and 32 infants and toddlers. Average monthly enrollment for the 2007-2008 school year was 908. To be eligible for the Head Start program, families must meet income guidelines, as well as age requirements. An eligible family of four can make no more than \$21,200 per year. The average family of four enrolled in the Head Start program during the 2007-2008 school year made between \$11,000 and \$12,000 per year.



Knoxville-Knox County Head Start served 1050 children during the 2007-2008 school year.

Who We Serve *Facts* –
54% of families have one or more parents working
42% are unemployed
23% are on public assistance

Knoxville-Knox County Head Start served 22% of the eligible population in Knox County during the 2007-2008 school year.



Services Provided

**KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY
Head Start / Early Head Start
MISSION STATEMENT**

To advance the physical, mental, economic, and social well-being of children and families through quality, comprehensive services.

Goals:

- To bring about a greater degree of social competence in the children we serve by working to enhance their cognitive and intellectual development, their social skills, and their physical and mental health.
- To empower parents to achieve long-term, economic self-sufficiency.
- To deliver quality services efficiently.
- To strengthen community partnerships for children and families.
- To promote the physical and mental well-being of staff through a safe and healthy work environment and opportunities for professional growth and development to facilitate their work with children and families.

<i>Meals Served</i>	
Breakfast	63,155
Lunch	146,821
Snack	66,788

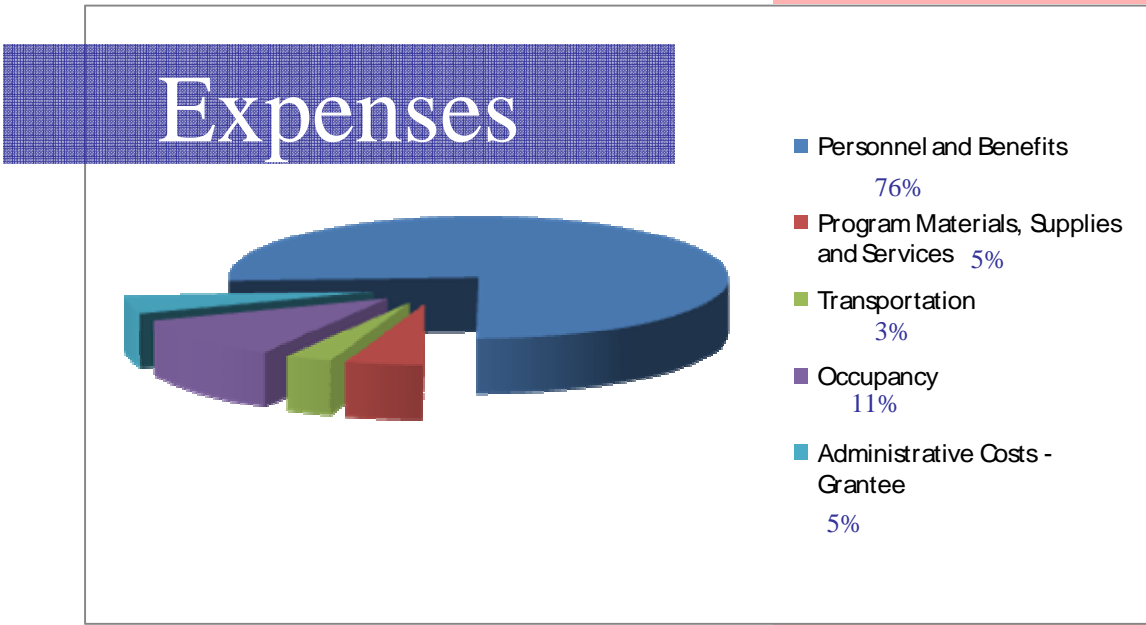
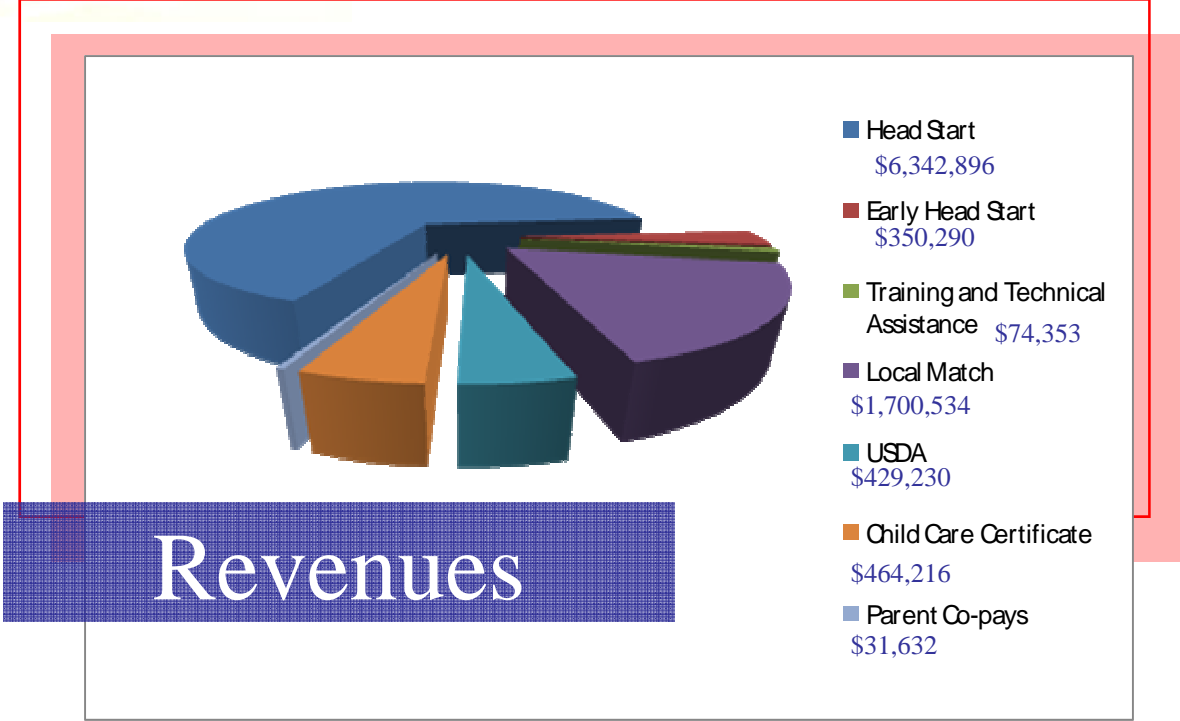
Services Provided *Facts*

- 5,746 home visits and parent conferences were completed
- An average of 280 parents attended Parent Committee Meetings monthly
- 95% participated in family assessment and goal setting agreements
- 393 families were provided emergency assistance
- 215 families were referred to community agencies
- 95% of children received medical exams
- 93% received dental exams
- 100% were current on immunizations
- 14% of children received on-site disability services
- 600 children were transported daily
- 38 bus routes were run daily
- 95% of families received one or more social services





Annual Budget and Expenditures





Child Outcomes

Following are some of the results from analysis of 2007-2008 Child Outcome Data with particular emphasis given to literacy development/skills due to the priority being placed on these skills in Knox County Schools kindergarten classes:

- ⇒ children made a 25% increase in their book/print awareness skills during the school year.
- ⇒ children made a 22% increase in their phonological awareness skills during the school year.
- ⇒ children made a 26% increase in their emergent writing skills during the school year.
- ⇒ 66% of kindergarten-bound children could identify 10 or more letters of the alphabet.
- ⇒ children made a 34% increase in their letter recognition skills during the school year.
- ⇒ kindergarten-bound children knew an average of 15 letters of the alphabet by the end of the school year.
- ⇒ visual discrimination skills were strong for the kindergarten-bound children (as shown by end of year assessment data) - 81% showed strong skills.
- ⇒ visual motor skills were also a strength for the kindergarten-bound children with 77% showing strong skills. 66% of kindergarten-bound children were able to print their first name without error (although reversals were permitted).
- ⇒ numeral comprehension (matching quantity with numerals up to 5) was also in the satisfactory range with 67% of kindergarten-bound children able to match all correctly.
- ⇒ children made a 17% increase in their language development skills.
- ⇒ children made an 14% increase in their literacy skills.
- ⇒ children made a 20% increase in their math skills.



Program Accomplishments

Knoxville-Knox County 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

- ⇒ Recognized nationally as a Head Start Program of Excellence
- ⇒ Received Three-star Quality ratings by the Department of Human Services
- ⇒ Found in full compliance with applicable standards and regulation—no findings during the most recent triennial federal review
- ⇒ Found in full compliance with applicable standards and regulations—no findings during a 2007 Independent Audit.