



Riverside Early Head Start Somerville

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2016—2017 Annual Public Report

Our program's mission is: to promote the health, well-being, social emotional growth and development of young children and to support the self-empowerment of families.

The Riverside Early Head Start is a federal program for low-income families living in Somerville with infants and toddlers, as well as pregnant women. The program is designed to support families by promoting healthy prenatal care, infant/toddler care, and the well-being of the entire family. The goal is to give their young children an early head start in their intellectual, social, and emotional development. With sensitivity to families whose first language is not English, the program reflects the diversity of the City of Somerville. Most of our employees often speak two languages and our program is respectful of the various cultural norms practiced within each family.

This annual report has been prepared in order to comply with the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. The Act states that: "Each Head Start agency shall make available to the public a report published at least once in each fiscal year that discloses the following information from the recently concluded fiscal year, except that reporting such information shall not reveal personally identifiable information about an individual child or parent:

- (A)** The total amount of public and private funds received and the amount from each source.
- (B)** An explanation of budgetary expenditures and proposed budget for the fiscal year.
- (C)** The total number of children and families served, the average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment), and the percentage of eligible children served.
- (D)** The results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit.
- (E)** The percentage of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams.
- (F)** Information about parent involvement activities.
- (G)** The agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten.
- (H)** Any other information required by the Secretary."

The Program's Director Corner

The 2016-2017 year was action packed:

- In preparation for our five year grant application, the program conducted a comprehensive community and self-assessment. Highlights included: the shift in population in Somerville with fewer low-income families due to rising housing costs; the need for accessible, safe, affordable housing; the need for affordable child care; and families wanting more educational services—be it ESOL classes for themselves or services for their children.
- Our Office for Head Start grant was approved for the next five years and our Early Education and Care supplement grant increased from \$17,000 to \$ 30,000 this year.
- New Head Start Regulations came out November 2016. Home Visiting issues primarily impacted by the new regulations—curriculum, child assessment and parent engagement curriculum.
- We continued to sponsor Family Engagement Activities to engage families, in addition to CPR and 1st Aid courses we added a Literacy Event that was so well attended we offered it two times.
- The November Elections increased anxiety among a number of our families about their immigration status. As a sanctuary city, the City of Somerville has sponsored a number of informational sessions, as well as providing access to legal information on immigration to resident families. Our program staff attended a number of these events and shared this information with interested families.

Riverside Early Head Star's committed and talented staff continue to partner with our families to support families in a meaningful way.

Thank you for taking the time to read our Annual Report.

If you have any questions, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss our program with you.

Nancy Fredericks

(A) The total amount of public and private funds received and the amount from each source.

DHHS/Department of Children and Families	1,301,589.27
Head Start State Supplemental Grant	17,259.00
Frank Barnard Foundation	500.00
Total	1,319,348.27

(B) An explanation of budgetary expenditures and proposed budget for the fiscal year.

	Total Budget	20%	Actual
	Federal	NFS	Expenditures
a. Personnel	751,258.00		736,538.10
b. Fringe Benefits	150,520.00		136,825.97
c. Travel	-		-
d. Equipment	24,620.00		24,620.06
e. Supplies	50,103.00	3,693.00	52,398.68
f. Contractual	27,555.00	64,533.00	19,606.25
g. Construction	-	-	-
h. Other	143,386.00	252,102.00	173,367.96
h. Other - T & TA	30,931.00	5,000.00	33,242.99
i. Total Direct Charges	1,178,373.00	325,328.00	1,176,600.01
j. Indirect Charges	128,424.00	1,371.00	124,989.26
k. TOTALS	1,306,797.00	326,699.00	1,301,589.27
Federal Funding	1,306,797.00		1,301,589.27
NFS Match	326,699.25		325,397.32
	1,633,496.25		1,626,986.59



(C) The total number of children and families served, the average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment), and the percentage of eligible children served.

The total number of children and families served this year was 113. Out of the total families served 10 were pregnant women.

The average of monthly enrollment was a 99%.

(E) Number of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams.

Dental Services : 96

Children with health insurance: 111

(D) The results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit.

During this year there were not reviews by the Secretary.

(F) Information about parent involvement activities.

Parent Engagement is a very important part of the program and it starts at enrollment during which time we discuss the family partnership process. This collaboration with parents allows us to identify strengths, interests, needs and goals of the family. Working together, we are able to provide them with services and resources that will help them to achieve their goals and become self-sufficient.



The following activities took place this year to engage parents in the program:

- In partnership with the Somerville Collaborative Learning Center (SCLC) the program sponsored an two Early Childhood literacy events to which several enrolled families attended,
- Pregnant women enrolled in the program and others from the community were invited to attend the baby shower on Dec. 1st, 2016 . This event is also used as a recruitment event. At each of these events some kind of snack, lunch or dinner was provided, and
- Finally, on August 30th, 2017, Riverside Early Head Start welcomed parents, children and their relatives to the transition event. Fourteen children transitioned into preschool; some of them were accepted at CAAS Head Start, others will be attending the Somerville Public Schools.
- In response to parent interest, the program provided CPR and First Aid courses to participating families to promote child safety and wellness. They were offered in two different languages.

(G) The agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten.

Riverside Early Head Start prepares children for preschool and later school experiences through the provision of individualized curriculum that addresses social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive development, as well as approaches to learning, literacy, and mathematics. Through screenings, observations, ongoing assessment, and family input, each Home Visitor partners with parents to create an individualized plan that reflect the goals for each child. During 2016-2017 we had training on the Early Learning Outcomes Framework (ELOF), including aligning the program's school readiness goals with ELOF. We also provided training on social-emotional development and cognitive skills, which included fine-tuning observations to reflect children's skill levels in these areas and planning appropriate activities to meet the child's individual goals. We also piloted a more formal planning process for socializations to better document the connection between activities planned for socializations and the children's individual goals. Analysis of child outcomes data demonstrates the program's particular strength in promoting gross and fine motor development, with 95%-100% of children meeting or exceeding the standards in those areas. The majority of children were also well prepared for preschool in the other areas of development listed above. For the upcoming year, we will focus on language, literacy, and mathematics, to increase the percentage of children thoroughly prepared in these areas, as well as implementing a coaching program for Home Visitors to increase their skills in promoting educational activities with families and their children.



Riverside Mission Statement

We are here to make a difference in the lives of individuals, families, and communities by delivering compassionate, locally-based, integrated behavioral healthcare and human services.

- We believe that people possess the ability to grow and change and we are focused on providing high quality and responsive services in support of individual and collective goals.
- We believe quality care should be available to all who need it and we are outspoken and effective public policy advocates.
- We believe in the power of collaborative care and we work to form strong and effective partnerships with the people we serve, healthcare systems, educational institutions, and other public and private organizations.
- We believe that our workplace is vibrant because it is respectful, diverse, and encourages learning and innovation.

Excellence is the guiding principle in everything we do.

Now families can enroll their child by visiting the following link:

<http://www.riversidecc.org/child-family-services/early-childhood-services/early-head-start/>

Riverside Community Care
THE HELP YOU NEED CLOSE TO HOME