

Head Start West

(St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Montgomery Counties)

Youth In Need provides Head Start and Early Head Start services to children and families in St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Montgomery Counties. A substantial amount of federal funding supports the program. Reported activities are for the 2014-2015 program year, unless noted.

By the Numbers...

Head Start Enrollment

- Total number of children served: 492
- Total number of families served: 443
- Number of children who received physical exams: 407 (83%)
- Number of children who received preventative dental care: 483 (98%)
- Average monthly enrollment: 351 (100% of funded enrollment)

Early Head Start Enrollment

- Total number of children served: 504 children and 19 pregnant mothers
- Total number of families served: 427
- Number of children who received physicals: 380 (75%)
- Average monthly enrollment: 263 (100% of funded enrollment)

Children Experiencing Homelessness

- Head Start: 32 families
- Early Head Start: 58 families

Parent Volunteers

- Total number of parent volunteers: 623

2015 Financials

Revenue

- Donor support: \$92,036
- Extended Hour Fees: \$506,037
- Grants: \$7,704,903

Expenses

- Salaries & Benefits: \$5,521,672
- Program Expenses: \$2,189,690
- Allocated Administrative Costs: \$618,405

School Readiness (2015-2016)

Youth In Need's Head Start and Early Head Start programs in St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren and Montgomery Counties uses Teaching Strategies Gold, a research-based assessment tool that is used in conjunction with the Creative Curriculum. It enables staff to track children's progress in nine developmental areas: social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, mathematics, science and technology, social studies, the arts, and when appropriate, English language acquisition. This outcome tool allows staff to quickly assess children in the program and provides suggestions for activities to meet each child's individual developmental goals. Staff then evaluate each child's progress and set developmentally appropriate goals.

During the 2015-2016 program year, 90 percent of children enrolled in the Early Head Start program met or exceeded developmental expectations during the spring assessment period. Eighty-nine percent of children enrolled in the Head Start program met or exceeded developmental expectations during the spring assessment period, a 10-percent increase from the fall. Among children in Head Start who were leaving the program for Kindergarten, 94 percent met or exceeded developmental expectations during the spring assessment period.

Family and Community Engagement Activities (2015-2016)

- 720 parents of enrolled children, plus family members and former parents volunteered in the program.
- Every Head Start and Early Head Start parent/family served on a Head Start and Early Head Start Parent Committee. Committees offered training, education, volunteer opportunities and family engagement events.
- Youth In Need added a new Family Advocate position to increase the quality of services offered to center-based families. Supporting staff and families in accessing community resources, Family Advocates partner with families to develop goals that lead to enhanced family and child outcomes.
- 23 parents and two community members served on the Policy Council, while two parents completed undergraduate programs and several advanced in their career fields.
- The Policy Council created a Male Involvement Committee that supported Male Involvement events for families throughout Head Start West.
- Youth In Need partnered with United Way to offer financial literacy and asset-development services for program families.
- Warren County Literacy, Inc. granted handcrafted bookcases and books to 70 Head Start children transitioning to Kindergarten.
- St. Charles Community College provided ESL/ELL (English Language Learning) classes to program families and the community at two Head Start locations.
- The Knights of Columbus' No Hunger Holiday provided Thanksgiving meals to 250 Head Start families, feeding more than 1,200 individuals, while the Sts. Joachim and Ann Adopt-A-Family provided holiday assistance to 180 families.
- Warren County held an art show, movie night and fall festival, where more than 600 community members attended, and many completed enrollment applications.
- Parents were offered biweekly workshops through Trauma Smart that provided attendees with information on topics such as managing ups and downs and ways to direct or redirect behaviors.
- Lincoln County's Chariots of Fire held its annual Christmas in July bike ride, with proceeds providing holiday assistance to 14 families in the Lincoln County Head Start program.
- Lincoln County held two STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) events. Parents requested help in improving their children's developmental outcomes in these areas, allowing the program to connect school successes to home and parent engagement.

Financial Audit

In 2015, Youth In Need's auditors Brown Smith Wallace issued an unqualified opinion in both the financial statement audit and the A-133 audit and had no findings or journal entry adjustments to report.

Head Start East (St. Louis City and St. Louis County)

As a delegate for Grace Hill, Youth In Need provided Head Start services in St. Louis City. As an Early Head Start grantee, Youth In Need provides services in St. Louis City and County. A substantial amount of federal funding supports the program. The following report includes activities for the 2014-2015 program year, unless noted.

By the Numbers...

Head Start Enrollment

- Total number of children served: 458
- Total number of families served: 405
- Total number of ELL children: 274 (60%)
- Number of children who received physical exams: 433 (95%)
- Number of children who received dental exams: 423 (92%)
- Average monthly enrollment: 100%

Early Head Start Enrollment

- Total number of children served: 280 children and 1 pregnant mother
- Total number of families served: 251
- Total number of ELL children: 111 (40%)
- Number of children who received physical exams: 216 (77%)
- Average monthly enrollment: 100%

Children Experiencing Homelessness

- Head Start: 20
- Early Head Start: 28

Parent Volunteers

- Head Start: 402 parents
- Early Head Start: 117 parents

2015 Financials

Revenue

- Donor Support: \$55,589
- Extended Hour Fees: \$57,126
- Grants: \$5,676,844

Expenses

- Salaries & Benefits: \$2,901,949
- Program Expenses: \$2,449,444
- Allocated Administrative Costs: \$520,095

School Readiness (2015-2016)

Teaching Strategies Gold is the assessment tool that staff use to assess the ongoing development of the children participating in the Early Head Start and Head Start programs. Staff use this data to determine the overall school readiness of children enrolled. According to the data collected from the 2015-2016 year, 90 percent of children enrolled in Youth In Need's Head Start East Early Head Start program met or exceeded the expected school readiness goals. Additionally, 86 percent of Head Start children met or exceeded the expected school readiness goals. Overall there was a 13-percent increase in developmental outcomes from fall to winter and a five-percent increase in developmental outcomes from winter to spring.

Parent Involvement Activities

- Youth In Need's Academy Early Learning Center opened as the newest Youth In Need Head Start Center with nine classrooms and space for 86 children, ages 0 to 5.
- Five Head Start East parents attended the Show Me Leadership Conference in Jefferson City and three parents attended the Head Start Parent Leadership Conference. In both conferences, parents learned about leadership, advocacy, networking and skills for strengthening their families.
- Parents, children and staff marched in the annual Annie Malone May Day Parade to end youth homelessness.
- Parents at the Meramec Center coordinated a Support Our Troops drive, sending three packages of treats, essential personal products and personal letters from the center children to troops overseas.
- Partnerships with Foster Grandparents through Cardinal Ritter, the St. Louis Public Library, and Ready Readers have ensured there are daily volunteers in the classrooms at both centers.
- Head Start East children regularly received services through PS Kids, First Steps, Center for Hearing and Speech, United for Children and St. Louis Public Schools in their centers.
- Eleven Early Head Start teachers completed the Program for Infant/Toddler Care this year, which included six full-day classes.
- Head Start East parents participated in a 50th Anniversary of Head Start event, a Male Leadership Conference, a health fair with many vendors, a Cooking Matters Pop-Up Shop with money-saving shopping tips, a series of Access Savings Support Education Training classes, a trip to see the *Mary Poppins* production by Variety the Children's Charity, and Stewards of Children, a training about child sexual abuse prevention.
- Many parents participated in a training sponsored by the Health Care Institute to learn essential skills for caring for their sick and injured children, as well as when to seek medical help. They also received a variety of tools, including first aid kits and health reference books, to help them.
- Home-based program families were chosen to receive weekly training through Washington University, using a special curriculum to encourage children's healthy development and reduce family stress and its effect on small children.
- Partnerships with the Miller Diversity Group, SIDS Resources and Mental Health and Educational Consultants provided professional development for Family Educators, Advocates, Teachers and Administrators.
- Eleven families attended Children's Mental Health Day, an event focused on family well-being and social-emotional screenings for young children.

Financial Audit

In 2015, Youth In Need's auditors Brown Smith Wallace issued an unqualified opinion in both the financial statement audit and the A-133 audit and had no findings or journal entry adjustments to report.