

South County Community Action Agency

Head Start

Annual Report 2012



South County
Community Action Agency
Helping people. Changing lives.



Head Start

South County Community Action Agency has been a Head Start provider since 1970.



Head Start focuses on school readiness and social skills that will help children learn throughout their lives. South County Community Action has a tradition of delivering high quality services that foster the healthy development of low-income children with the overall goal to impact positively on all facets of a child's life: education, early childhood development, health, safety, nutrition, and family.

Head Start serves children from ages 3 to 5 and their families. The program is family centered, based on the belief that children develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents are respected as the primary educators and nurturers of their children. We help parents identify their goals, provide access to community resources and help them however we can to make a better life for their children.

The South County Head Start Program continues to provide exemplary services.

The latest federal review, conducted in April 2011, concluded that no corrective actions were required and all areas reviewed were in compliance, including Health Services, Nutrition Services, Safe Environments, Mental Health Services, Disabilities Services, Family and Community Services, and Education and Early Childhood Development Services.

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

Children who participate in Head Start are offered a variety of school readiness activities to prepare them for kindergarten. Efforts to prepare children and families for kindergarten includes:

- ◆ Implementing a research-based preschool curriculum.
- ◆ Following the Rhode Island Early Learning Standards.
- ◆ Conducting formal assessments using Teaching Strategies GOLD
- ◆ Developed program wide School Readiness Goals that are aligned with Creative Curriculum, Teaching Strategies GOLD and the Head Start Child Development & Early Learning Framework.
- ◆ Distributing a Summer Learning Packet to support their learning during the summer months.
- ◆ Providing each family with a Health Summary
- ◆ Providing each family with a written summary of their child's developmental strengths and goals.
- ◆ Providing families with transition specific information, including a suggestion to visit the school where the child will attend kindergarten, a list of books for family reading and a list of readiness skills that children should have before entering kindergarten.
- ◆ Providing families with information on parent involvement activities in the public school.
- ◆ Sharing of Records with Elementary School staff, focusing on the child's academic and school readiness skills.
- ◆ Providing families with simple activities that they can do with their child to support what is being taught at school.
- ◆ *Be a Star Reader* encourages families to read with their children every night.
- ◆ *I am Moving, I am Learning* encourages families to engage their children in physical activities every day.





Enhancement Programs

Jumpstart

A National AmeriCorps program that enhances school readiness skills. College students are paired with preschool children in low income communities for a year of individualized mentoring and tutoring. The researched based curriculum focuses on building language, literacy, social & emotional skills. Jumpstart took place at the South Kingstown and Westerly Head Start locations with students from the University of Rhode Island.

Positive Behaviors Interventions and Supports

Evidence based strategies to effectively prevent and respond to challenging problem behavior.

Outcomes:

- ◆ Build the capacity of Early Childhood Education Programs to support student behavior
- ◆ Improve program wide discipline systems and climate
- ◆ Increase instructional time for learning and development
- ◆ Improve behavior of all students
- ◆ Improve communication & collaboration between families and staff

SCCAA Head Start Program Wide Behavioral Expectations:

1. Take Care of Yourself
2. Take Care of Others
3. Take Care of Our Things

I am Moving, I am Learning

Began at SCCAA in March 2009, IMIL is a proactive approach to address childhood obesity in Head Start children. IMIL is:

- ◆ Intentionally planned movement activities
- ◆ A reinforcement of healthy choices
- ◆ A framework customized by each classroom teacher
- ◆ Facilitated by teachers who are actively engaged
- ◆ A Positive impact on behavior
- ◆ Promotes engagement
- ◆ Movement + Learning = School Readiness

Funded Enrollment

Head Start 152
Total Served 172
Average monthly enrollment 100%

Income Eligibility

94% income eligible 6% over-income
Receives Public Assistance 21%
Homeless 8% Foster Children 3%

Children Receiving Medical & Dental Services

Head Start Children Receiving Medical 94%
Head Start Children Receiving Dental 85%

School Readiness Outcomes

93% of all Head Start children met or exceed School Readiness Goals



Family Engagement Activities

- ◆ Monthly Parent Meetings
- ◆ Monthly Parent Activities in each class
- ◆ "Be A Star Reader" & Homework
- ◆ "Books at Breakfast" & "Literacy Lunch"
- ◆ *Picturing America*
- ◆ Behavioral Fundamentals training
- ◆ CPR and First Aid Training
- ◆ End of Year Celebrations
- ◆ IMIL Dance
- ◆ Volunteer opportunities in the classroom
- ◆ Opportunities to prepare classroom materials at home
- ◆ Monthly Policy Council Meetings
- ◆ Parent Satisfaction Survey
- ◆ Self-Assessment
- ◆ Health Advisory Meetings
- ◆ Home Depot Workshops
- ◆ Earth Day Activities
- ◆ Volunteer/Substitute Training
- ◆ Employee Interviews

SOUTH COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY HEAD START 09/01/11 - 08/31/12

REVENUES		EXPENSES		
			Actual	Budget
Federal DHHS ACF	1,148,637.00	Personnel	904,451.00	883,192.00
USDA	75,764.00	Contractual	35,286.00	25,100.00
State Head Start	64,332.00	Program Supplies and		
		Activities	108,131.00	131,700.00
Donations	1,110.00	Travel	13,037.00	16,666.00
In-Kind	<u>267,469.00</u>	Training	19,117.00	18,419.00
	1,557,312.00	Other	<u>209,821.00</u>	<u>203,758.00</u>
		Total Cash Expenditures	1,289,843.00	1,278,835.00
		Total In-Kind	<u>267,469.00</u>	<u>267,469.00</u>
		Total Head Start Budget	1,557,312.00	1,546,304.00

In addition to periodic reviews and audits from Federal and State agencies, South County has an annual audit performed by an independent accounting firm in accordance with OMB Circular A-133. The most recent external audit was for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2012 and was completed on May 15, 2013 by Baxter, Dansereau & Associates, LLP. The auditors rendered an Unqualified opinion on the financial statements and noted that there were no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. A complete copy of the audit is available by contacting the Agency.



South County Community Action Agency's comprehensive services available to families including:

- ◆ Family Care Community Partnership Program
- ◆ Youth and Family Services
- ◆ Employment and Training
- ◆ Adult Basic Education/GED
- ◆ LIHEAP/Weatherization
- ◆ Emergency Food and Shelter Services
- ◆ Basic Human Needs
- ◆ Child Care

For more information, contact:
Lori Ann Hiener, *Head Start Director*
401-789-3016 x327 -or- hiener@sccainc.org

Locations & Staffing

Charlestown

4350 South County Trail

North Kingstown

415 Tower Hill Road

South Kingstown

SCCAA Main Office
1935 Kingstown Road

Westerly

Westerly/Chariho Family Opportunity Center
34 Pond Street

Staffing

6 Coordinators: Education, Social Service, Family Engagement/Program Support, Health, Nutrition, and Special Needs
8 Teachers
9 Teacher Assistants
5 Family Advocates
1 Head Start Director



Main Office: 1935 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, RI 02879
1-800-432-2605 -or- 401-789-3016

www.sccainc.org