



2010-2011 Annual Report



**Santa Cruz Community
Counseling Center**

**Head Start – Early Head Start
Santa Cruz County, CA**

Letter from the Director

Dear Friends,

One of our primary goals is to provide integrated services for low-income children and families by building organizational partnerships and community collaborations. During this year we have been able to see the culmination of the hard work, dedication, and commitment that has truly made this goal a reality.



We have created a new space in Watsonville where our community partners are welcomed, the staff can access resources, children can play and parents can find help and support. Our new Westridge Building has provided space for trainings, parent education programs, community events, partner meetings and a host of other activities that fill each day with the sounds of children laughing and people working together toward a common vision – healthy, happy, well educated children and families.

Head Start has sponsored a wide range of activities this year including the “Week of the Child” parade and fair; Financial Stability Fair; Supporting Fathers Groups, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes; Child Care Center Education; Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) workshops, and Health Education Classes. We have worked closely with our community partners to increase visibility around the importance of early childhood education and quality child care. Through small grants we have been able to build and improve our playgrounds and promote movement, nutrition, and regular exercise. We have implemented the principles of Head Start Body Start for children, staff and parents.

This year has been full of changes and challenges as we have navigated major growth and high expectations. We adapted to these changes with a positive attitude and sense of anticipation. It is our intention to continue to advocate for children, to promote practices that support healthy families and to honor and collaborate with our community partners. It is only together that we can build on a collective vision that values children and supports their health, education, and unlimited potential.

With Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia M. Sloane". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cynthia M. Sloane

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Policy Council Executive Committee

Chair – Martha Espinoza
Vice Chair – Avis Williams
Secretary – Rosario Aguilar
Treasurer – Grisel Vaca

Health and Dental Snapshot

Head Start Program: The SCCCC Head Start Program continues to meet or exceed Program Improvement Report (PIR) performance indicators in several major health and dental areas.

- 100% of children needing medical treatment received it.
- Over the course of the year, 101.07% of children enrolled in the program were up to date on all immunizations.
- 100% of children needing dental treatment received it.



Early Head Start Program: The SCCCC Early Head Start program has ensured that children are on a well baby schedule and continue to be up to date on all immunizations. The Program Improvement Report (PIR) results met or exceeded EHS performance indicator thresholds.

- 100% of children needing medical treatment received it.
- 98.67% of children were up to date on all immunizations.

Health Highlights

Our program expanded its partnership with Dientes Community Dental Clinic. Dientes provided on-site service to Head Start and Early Head Start families at the Branciforte site. Dientes also participated in several agency outreach events and conducted dental health presentations to Head Start parents.

Head Start received two Head Start Body Start Play Space grants to improve the outdoor play areas at the Farm and Natural Bridges. The Head Start Body Start website featured the Farm as a model site.

The program successfully completed a CACFP (food program) review.

Staff continue to work closely with all families to ensure children receive well child care and any needed medical and dental services.

Parent Involvement

Research and best practice tells us that parent/family involvement is one of the strongest predictors of children's success in school. Parent/Family involvement begins with the first contact a family has with the program. Partnership with parents has always been a cornerstone of Head Start/Early Head Start programs.

We believe parents are their child's first and most important teachers. Head Start/Early Head Start programs provide parents many opportunities to work with the staff and the community in their particular areas of interest; enhance their parenting skills; and gain knowledge that promotes their child's physical and social/emotional needs.

Parent involvement is an ongoing process, and it takes many forms. How parents choose to become involved may vary from family to family. Staff's role is to find out how parents can be engaged within the scope of their everyday lives. Some involvement is formal and occurs in planned activities, while other involvement is informal and occurs in the home.

Today, the person who parents a child in Head Start/Early Head Start programs may be a teenager, a single father, a recent immigrant, a grandmother, a foster parent, an aunt or a great-aunt. Fewer parents are at home full-time with their children. More parents are working two or more jobs or are in school or training full-time. Therefore individualizing parent involvement is a task staff face each year as families are working hard to support and raise their children.

Parents have shown their commitment to Head Start/Early Head Start programs by helping staff build gardens at their child's centers. Many fathers came to school for the "Bring Your Father/Father Figure to school day" event. Many families were seen marching with their children in the Day of the Child parade. Splash Zone field trips were fun events for parents and children to learn together about ocean animals and conservation concepts. Parents read to their



Parents do more than simply teach their children. The greater truth is that parents are a child's first and most important adult.

children on a weekly basis using books from the Raising a Reader bags. Parents modeled the importance of reading while spending quality time with their children. Parents also completed weekly literacy home activities with their children.

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Head Start Father Involvement Initiative

The PAPÁS, Supporting Father Involvement project has worked closely within the Head Start program to increase father involvement, nurture father-child relationships and promote a father friendly environment within the organization. Our Father Friendly Initiative (FFI) committee is composed of Teachers, Family Service Workers, Home Visitors, Managers and Administrative Staff. They work to promote father involvement in all program areas.

Head Start and PAPÁS collaboratively offer all Head Start families PAPÁS evidence based parenting education to promote father involvement and co-parenting. We have piloted a new program this year “Bring Father or Father-figure to School Day” that has brought father and father-figures into the classroom to give them opportunities to engage children in the classroom environment. The goal of the program is to give fathers exposure to their

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Educational and awareness activities

The FFI committee has used orientation week to recruit fathers and father-figures and to engage them in their child’s education. The FFI committee in collaboration with PAPÁS has put on educational workshops for parents on topics of father involvement and the impact it has on educational outcomes for children.

We have designed and implemented the Head Start Fathers in Action monthly group to bring together fathers and to encourage them in their role as an educator for their child. In addition, the program focuses five key areas (affection, play, learning, connection and building last relationship) to promote emotional and social development of their children.

The program focuses on educational and supportive activities to assist fathers and father-figures in their role as educators for their children.



Week of The Young Child Parade



The first annual **Children's Parade and Family Fun Fair** took place on Saturday, April 9th in downtown Santa Cruz to celebrate the Week of the Young Child and help raise awareness about the importance of early education. Over one hundred colorfully costumed parade participants, consisting of families, children and community group members, marched with lively music, balloons, banners and bubbles.

The parade was followed by the Family Fair. Several hundred children and families enjoyed a sunny, relaxed afternoon in the park with a variety of free hands-on fun and games, live entertainment, community tables and healthy snacks. Over forty nonprofit and community



It is a happy talent
to know how to play.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

groups set up interactive booths with resource information and children's activities. Student volunteers from UCSC roamed the crowd, giving out mini beach balls and beanbag animals.

The children's parade and fun fair were successful and well-attended community events designed to support families and advocate for children in Santa Cruz County.



Several hundred children and families enjoyed a sunny, relaxed afternoon in the park.



child's educational activities within the Head Start program.

Material, training and technical support

The FFI committee annually conducts a self-assessment to better gauge outcomes of our fatherhood program efforts. The assessment looks at the agency's organizational support,



reputation in the community, policies/procedures, human resources, program services and physical environment. The assessment is distributed to all Head Start staff to gather a complete and comprehensive perspective in regards to

past and current efforts, identifying process gaps and planning for future activities. Based on the assessment outcomes we have designed and implemented several key activities throughout the year to increase father friendliness within the agency.

How We Make Sure To Include Fathers

- Orientation for new staff on Father Involvement.
- Providing books, brochures and posters that promote Father Involvement in both classrooms and the administrative office.
- "Fathers Are Welcome" signs in both the classroom and administrative office.
- Training for staff on the importance of promoting father involvement in classroom.
- Agency forms have been updated to include the father's information.
- Intake processes have been modified.

2010-2011 Head Start Center Outcomes

S CCC Head Start uses the **Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP)** system to assess children's progress in meeting Head Start Outcome goals. Teachers observe children and document these observations three times a year. The chart below shows where the children in our program scored in the fall, winter, and spring in seven DRDP domains. It measures how many children scored in the top two developmental levels: building and integrating.

In the fall of 2010 our Head Start children scored lowest in Letter and Word Knowledge: 30 out of 376 children scored in the top two developmental levels (8%). By the spring of 2011 the number of children rose to: 220 out

of 376 scored in the top two levels (56%). The second lowest score in the fall of 2010 was in number sense of mathematical operations: 69 out of 376 children scored in the top two developmental levels (19%). In the spring of 2011 the number rose to 265 children in the top two developmental levels. (68%).

Our program also uses the DRDP Parent Survey to find out if our families are satisfied with our program. This year 100% of our families were satisfied with our services.

Satisfied Families

- 78% were very satisfied
- 22% were satisfied
- 0% were not satisfied

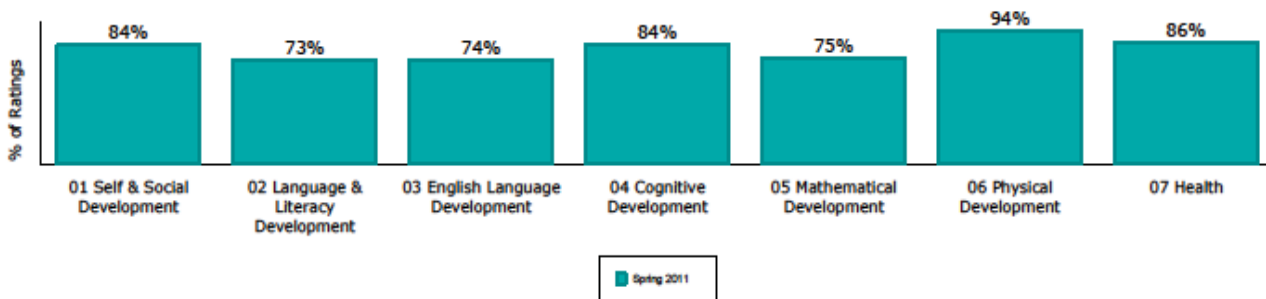


A. Domain Comparison

Spring 2011 Santa Cruz Community Counseling Center Preschool DRDP 2010 Report

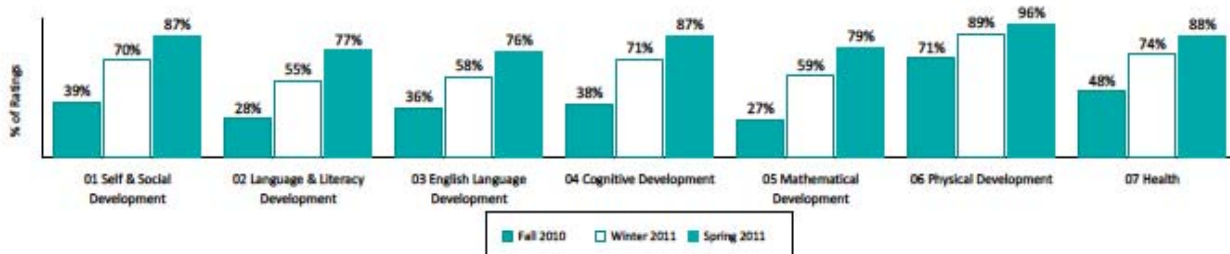
Domain Comparison for All Students Assessed in the Spring 2011

Percentage of Student Ratings in the Top Two Developmental Levels



Domain Comparison Students Assessed in all of the following assessment periods: Fall 2010 and Spring 2011

Percentage of Student Ratings in the Top Two Developmental Levels



About this Page:

The top chart includes all students assessed in the Spring 2011 assessment period. The lower chart includes only those students assessed in all of the following assessment periods: Fall 2010, Winter 2011, and Spring 2011. Neither chart includes any unrated measures. As a result of this and rounding error, these charts may differ from other tables and charts in this report.

Note:

Total Students Represented by Charts:

Spring 2011	Winter 2011	Fall 2010	Fall 2010
Spring 2011	Spring 2011	Spring 2011	Spring 2011
24	20	4	343

Community Partners

SCCCC Head Start is fortunate to have strong and vibrant community partnerships. Over the past five years one of our primary goals has been to seek out opportunities that allow us to combine our resources, energy and expertise with other community partners. Our expansion grant in 2009 allowed Early Head Start to form alliances with substance abuse treatment programs, teen parents and child care centers. During the past year these new programs have expanded services in Santa Cruz County and provided additional resources for children and families.

The program contracts with three separate community child care centers to provide quality care for working families, and our Teen Parent Program provides center care for children while their mothers attend high school. The program also offers mothers enrolled in the Primeros Pasos substance abuse treatment program the resources and support of early childhood education and EHS Home Visiting services.

Collaborations and partnerships have provided these very specialized populations with resources that would not have been possible a year ago. It has also brought a new level of expertise and training to the staff.

The new administrative building at Westridge has offered unlimited opportunities for shared training, community meeting space, and expanded partnerships.

Individually, we are one drop.
Together, we are an ocean.

- Ryunosuke Satoro



Parents – continued from page 4

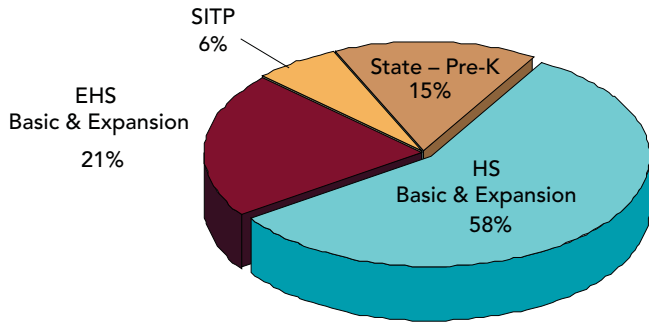
Parent involvement is a very special gift parents can give their child which lasts a lifetime. The memories that children have of when their parent participated in their school will be with them forever. Parents do more than simply teach their children. The

greater truth is that parents are a child's first and most important adult. Parents affect almost every aspect of a child's life: self-esteem, health, attitudes, values, behavior, readiness for school and success in life.

Partnership with parents has always been a cornerstone of Head Start/ Early Head Start programs.

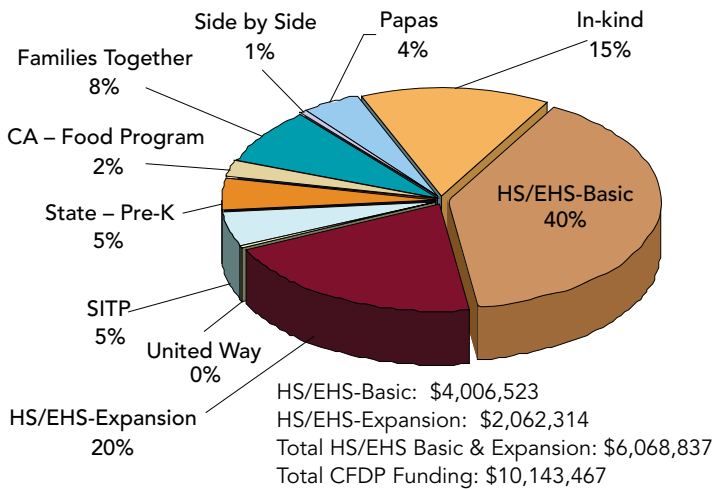
Financial Snapshot

Child and Family Development Programs Enrollment



Total CFDP Enrollment: 795

Child and Family Development Programs Funding Sources



HS-Basic + Expansion

HHS-Basic	3,447,267.00
HHS-Cola	20,495.00
HHS-Training	42,196.00
HHS-Ed Enhancement	9,039.00
HHS-Program Improvements	32,000.00
HHS-Expansion	387,600.00
CACFP food program	166,065.72
Total	4,104,662.72

EHS-Basic + Expansion

HHS-Basic	501,901.00
HHS-Cola	2,984.00
HHS-Training	12,548.00
HHS-ARRA	30,575.00
HHS-Expansion	1,679,453.00
CACFP food program	5,404.79
Total	2,232,865.79

State Pre-K

COE	475,840.00
CACFP food program	20,616.90
Total	496,456.90

Families Together	844,095.00
PAPAS	412,000.00
SITP	500,000.00
United Way	7,736.22
Side by Side	80,000.00
Total	1,843,831.22

Totals 8,677,816.63



**Santa Cruz
Head Start –
Early Head Start**



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Watsonville, CA 95076

It is easier to build
strong children than
to repair broken men.

Frederick Douglas

