

Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation (NEICAC) Early Childhood Programs (Head Start & Early Head Start) for the year ending January 31, 2009

We offer the following information about the Head Start and Early Head Start Programs administered by Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation (NEICAC) for the fiscal year February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009.

For the Fiscal Year ending January 31, 2009, NEICAC's Head Start Program received \$3,277,951 in total public funding. We received \$2,430,933 in funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, \$89,966 in funding from Shared Vision Areas, \$507,000 from Iowa State Wrap-Around Child Care funds, and \$250,052 from Iowa State Shared Visions funds.

We served a total of 420 Head Start and Early Head Start children and their families throughout the year. Our average enrollment at any one time was 100% of our funded enrollment of 347. Of the 420 children: 95% were income eligible; 99% were up-to-date on all immunizations; and 86.9% received dental exams.

In March 2008, the Administration for Children and Families conducted an on-site review of the Head Start and Early Head Start Programs and are considered to be in full compliance.

The Independent Auditor's report for the Fiscal Year February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009 issued an unqualified opinion and reported no audit findings or questioned costs. The budgetary expenditures for this Fiscal Year are as follows.

P.A. 11 & 20 Grant Revenue	40,982
P.A. 22 & 25 Grant Revenue	2,382,604
Total Revenue Sources	2,423,586

Personnel	1,262,643
Management & Admin	127,981
Consultants/Contractual	57,200
Travel/Transportation	44,360
Space Costs	116,339
Supplies	64,980

Equipment	6,497
Training Costs	41,832
Other	98,815
Indirect	230,320
Total Per Cost Categories	2,423,586

Total Non Federal Share 605,897

Client Population 420

Parent Involvement Activities/Transition to Kindergarten

Parent involvement begins at the time that the parent chooses to enroll their child into the program. Parents are the first and primary teachers of their children and we provide a variety of opportunities for parents to get involved. Such as:

- Welcoming parent participation in classrooms, whether merely as observers or as volunteers who help with daily activities
- Working with parents to schedule home visits and parent activities at a time when they are best able to fully participate.
- Participating in and taking leadership roles in monthly parent group meetings.
- Representing their parent group at the Head Start Policy Council.
- Providing input on curriculum planning, being a part of the annual program self assessment, sitting on job interview panels and working with other community groups.
- Attending trainings provided by the program throughout the year.

Early Head Start (EHS) home visits are scheduled when convenient for families socialization opportunities are scheduled every other week and locations vary to be convenient for parents attending. Parent involvement is

program wide and encompasses all program areas.

The successful transition of students to kindergarten begins with enrollment into the Head Start (HS) program. Students coming from EHS make a transition visit with their Home Visitor to transfer information and assure a comfortable transition for the child and parents.

Early in the fall each classroom schedules a meeting with their local school district kindergarten staff to discuss expectations of students who will be enrolling next school year. Individual student progress is monitored and shared with parents at conferences and home visits using the Creative Curriculum Checklist. In the spring, school district teachers or principals are invited to Parent Meetings to discuss expectations of the district. HS classrooms visit schools and participate in transition activities including spending time in the classroom and having lunch with the "big kids".

NEICAC is the recipient of a State of Iowa Dept. of Human Services Wrap Around Grant which allows us to extend Head Start Services for families who are working, in school full time or in training programs.

Based upon the need for services children may be dropped off as early as 6 a.m. and picked up by 6 p.m. for qualifying families. Both parents must be working or in school at the time of service. Services are available 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. No school days (weather, in-service, conference days) and year round services are available 50 weeks per year. This program provides continuity of services with one site, one staff, and one curriculum for enrolled children.