



Friends of Children
& Families, Inc.
Head Start & Early Head Start



2022/2023 Annual Public Report

December 2023





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Executive Director Highlights

Message from the Director

As the Executive Director of FOCAF, I take great pride in sharing the 2022/2023 Annual Report with our Head Start families and stakeholders. The lasting impacts of the pandemic have not slowed us down as we continue to offer high quality services to children and families.

I am privileged to have a team of dedicated and outstanding staff that have helped to make the program strong and deliver positive outcomes. The staff's ongoing dedication to maintain a safe and positive learning environment will help to ensure our children will gain the necessary knowledge and skills essential for meeting school readiness expectations.

Thank you to all the Head Start families for your support and cooperation over the past school year. Partnering with you, our Head Start families, has been crucial to our program's success. We are committed to working collaboratively with you and will provide resources, strategies, and information to help our children succeed in the coming years.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside not only a team of dedicated staff, but also parents, family members, Policy Council members, and Board of Directors, all of whom have a passion and commitment for the future of our children.



Lisa Burke
Executive Director



About Friends of Children and Families

About FOCAF

Friends of Children and Families, Inc., (FOCAF) provides quality, comprehensive, family centered, early childhood Head Start and Early Head Start services in Ada and Elmore Counties in Idaho. This is made possible by a yearly grant provided by the Federal Government, state funds through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), USDA meal reimbursement, and other supplemental grants and funds like the Jan Williams Foundation. In Ada and Elmore Counties, the cities served by FOCAF are Boise, Meridian, Eagle, Kuna, Garden City, Mountain Home, and Glenns Ferry.

Striving to provide a classroom environment that assists children in becoming life-long learners who possess the skills, knowledge, and attributes necessary to thrive in school and beyond, is at the heart of the organization. To enhance the learning and growth of every child and family served, FOCAF works together with families, community partners, school districts and volunteers to accomplish its primary mission of providing high quality early childhood services.

Family engagement is essential to the success of children, families and the program. The importance of parents becoming their child's primary educator and advocate is greatly emphasized. Parents and staff work hand in hand to create an environment of support, trust, love and respect that nurtures the development of the whole child. Respect for the strength and dignity of the child and each family member is recognized and valued.

Every parent is encouraged to be an active participant in all aspects of the program. They play an integral part in the governance of the organization. FOCAF feels that parent involvement in the program creates a culture that is understanding and responsive to the needs of the community.

Friends of Children
& Families, Inc.

Head Start & Early Head Start





Vision, Mission and Strategic Goals

Vision Statement

Empowering our community through early education and family engagement.

Mission Statement

Providing high quality early childhood services by educating, serving, and partnering with families to create a community of life-long learners.



2019-2023 Strategic Goals

Goal 1: The program will create more innovative and efficient systems that ensure safe and healthy environments and enhance positive outcomes for children, staff and families.

Goal 2: The program will promote Early Childhood Education by delivering high quality services, leveraging partnerships and increasing public awareness to positively influence children, families and the community.

Goal 3: The program will enrich the professional development system by providing training and support to staff, enabling them to acquire and enhance the skills necessary to foster school readiness.



Federal Review Results and Enrollment

Federal Review Results

In 2023, FOCAF did not receive any federal reviews as we are in our last year of the five year grant cycle.

Enrollment

Eligibility, Service and Unmet Service Needs

Funded enrollment for the 2022/2023 program was 461 slots. 447 of those slots were federally funded by a five-year non-competitive Head Start grant and 14 of those slots were funded by the state Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

Table 1	2022/2023 Slots		
	County	Ada	Elmore
Federal Head Start Slots	318	53	371
Federal Early Head Start Slots	66	10	76
TANF Head Start Slots	11	3	14
Total Slots:	395	66	461

385 slots were allocated for center-base Head Start (HS) pre-school services and 76 slots for home-base Early Head Start (EHS) Services. Average monthly funded enrollment for Head Start was 70% due to lack of staffing. Average monthly funded enrollment for Early Head Start was 71% also due to lack of staffing. Table 1 shows the slots designated by county.

Cumulatively, 436 children and pregnant women were served during the 2022/2023 program year: 333 HS preschool children and 97 EHS infants and toddlers and 6 EHS pregnant women.

The average monthly attendance for Head Start was 81%. For Early Head Start, we provided a total of 1,922 home visits; families cancelled 549 home visits due to illnesses and family needs. The agency cancelled 0 visits.

Based on our 2023 Community Needs Assessment data, it was clear to see that due to limited federal resources, there were unmet service needs identified in Ada and Elmore Counties. In Ada County 11% or 3,369 of children under the age of six live in poverty and are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services. In Elmore County, 18% or 456 of children under the age of six live in poverty and are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services. FOCAF is only able to serve 11% of eligible children in Ada County and 14% of eligible children in Elmore County. (Community Needs Assessment 2023)



Board of Directors



Dr. Ruth Calnon
Early Childhood Education/Family
Services
2015-2023



Sheryl Logan
Early Childhood Education/Real
Estate
2009-2023



Virginia Wood
Early Childhood Education/Child
Care
2005-2023



Staci Cluff
Education/Teacher
2019-2023



Alex Grande
Attorney
2020-2023



Jeff Van Nest
Fiscal/CPA
2016-2023



Kristen Trombley
Past Policy Council Parent/ECE Advocate
2021-2023



2022 Budgetary Expenditures

Budgetary Expenditures: Audited Financial Statements 2022

EXPENSES	Program Services				Supporting Services			
	Head Start & EHS			Other Programs	Total Program Services	Board	Total Support Services	Grant Total
		USDA	TANF					
Personnel	2,990,924	48,237	93,442		3,132,603			3,132,603
Fringe Benefits	687,569	10,681	25,524		723,774	(116)	(116)	723,658
Equipment	138,314				138,314			138,314
Supplies & Grant Assets	584,656	96,564	7,500	32,962	721,682			721,682
Child Services	76,280			1,132	77,412			77,412
Family & Parent Services	33,302			1,500	34,802			34,802
Child Services Consultants	27,129		797		27,926			27,926
Occupancy	669,829		13,067		682,896			682,896
Travel	57,572	50			57,622			57,622
Staff Development	111,069	75			111,144	8,981	8,981	120,125
Other Expenses	51,668	75	6,655	871	59,269	4,547	4,547	63,816
Interest						6,193	6,193	6,193
Depreciation						117,854	117,854	117,854
In-Kind Expense						207,092	207,092	207,092
TOTAL EXPENSE	5,428,312	155,682	146,985	36,465	5,767,444	344,551	344,551	6,111,995





2023 Proposed Budgetary Plan

2023 Proposed Budget

	EHS Main	EHS T/TA	HS Main	HS T/TA	TOTAL
	Jan-Dec '23	Jan-Dec '23	Jan-Dec '23	Jan-Dec '23	
Federal Grant	1,077,240	21,058	4,365,811	43,585	5,507,694
Personnel	674,700		2,868,330		3,543,030
Fringe Benefits	216,666		748,969		965,635
Equipment					
Supplies	52,367		261,018		313,385
Child Services	1,488		69,593		71,081
Family & Parent Services	15,084		43,256		58,340
Child Services Consultants	13,482		25,128		38,610
Occupancy	73,897		289,114		363,011
Staff Travel - Mileage	21,284		20,000		41,284
Staff Development	2,135	3,960	9,840	23,035	38,970
Travel (Out of Area)		17,098		20,550	37,648
Other	6,139		30,561		36,700
Totals:	1,077,240	21,058	4,365,811	43,585	5,507,694

*Per Zwygart John & Associates CPAs, PLLC Fiscal Auditors, FOCAF had an unmodified fiscal audit for 2022

In-kind: Thank you to the Board of Directors, families, and community members for generating \$739,980 in non-federal matching funds through volunteer time and donations. This amount was less than our non-federal share requirement due to the challenges during the Coronavirus Pandemic. We were able to apply for and were granted a waiver for the fiscal year 2022





Children's Services

Children's Services

Friends of Children and Families, Inc. views school readiness as the result of families, schools, communities and services, working together to provide the environments and experiences to support the whole range of development and well-being of infants, toddlers and preschool children. FOCAF works closely with parents to help children progress in their skill development toward school readiness.

Program Curriculum and Assessment Tools

FOCAF uses research-based *Creative Curriculum for Preschool* as its main curriculum source for Head Start children, 3 to 5 years of age, and research-based *Parent as Teachers Curriculum* as its main curriculum source for Early Head Start children, 0 to 3 years of age, and pregnant women.

In addition, FOCAF assesses growth and provides individualizing educational services for infant, toddlers and preschool children to ensure developmental progress is made throughout the program year. At least two goals per year are developed with parents to support the individualizing process.

For Head Start and Early Head Start children, *Teaching Strategies Gold* is used to measure growth, development and school readiness in children ages 0-5. The assessment includes 38 different objectives in which teachers measure each child's skill level.





School Readiness

School Readiness

FOCAF views school readiness as children becoming life-long learners who possess the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to thrive in school and beyond. School readiness is the result of families, schools, communities and services working together to provide the environments and experiences to support the whole range of development and well-being of infants, toddlers and preschool children.

Three times a year, children are assessed using research-based tools to analyze their developmental progress and school readiness. School readiness is assessed using the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework for children birth to five. The five following domain areas used: Social and Emotional Development, Language and Literacy, Approaches to Learning, Cognition and Perceptual, Motor & Physical Development.

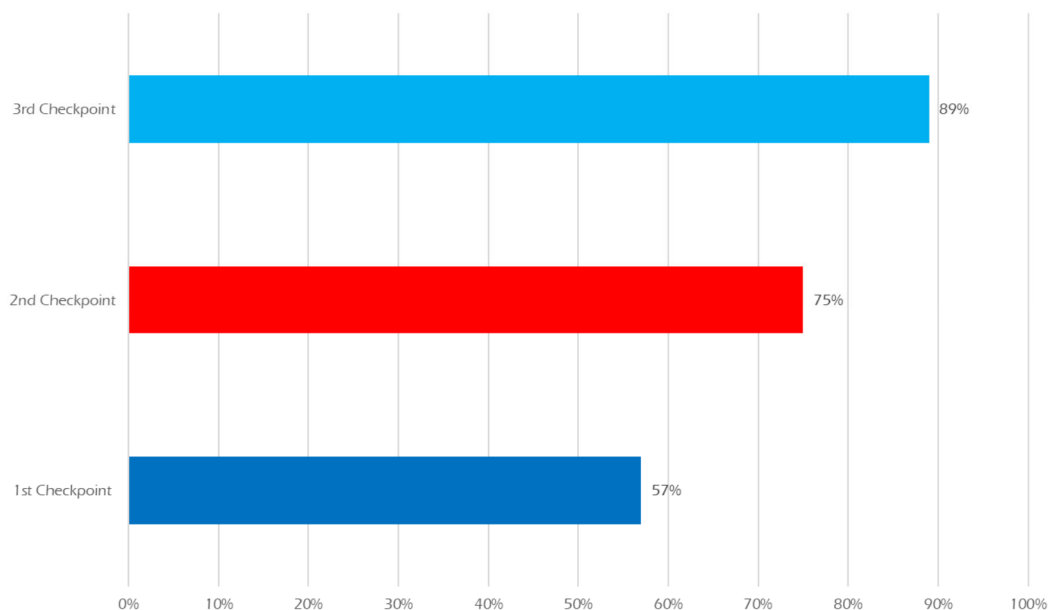
Head Start School Readiness– 3rd Checkpoint Data

In the five domain areas, Head Start children achieved the following outcomes:

Social and Emotional Development: In this domain area, 89% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 1: Children will develop and engage in positive relationships and interactions with adults and peers. (86%)

Goal 2: Children will begin to develop a sense of self and of belonging to the community. (92%)



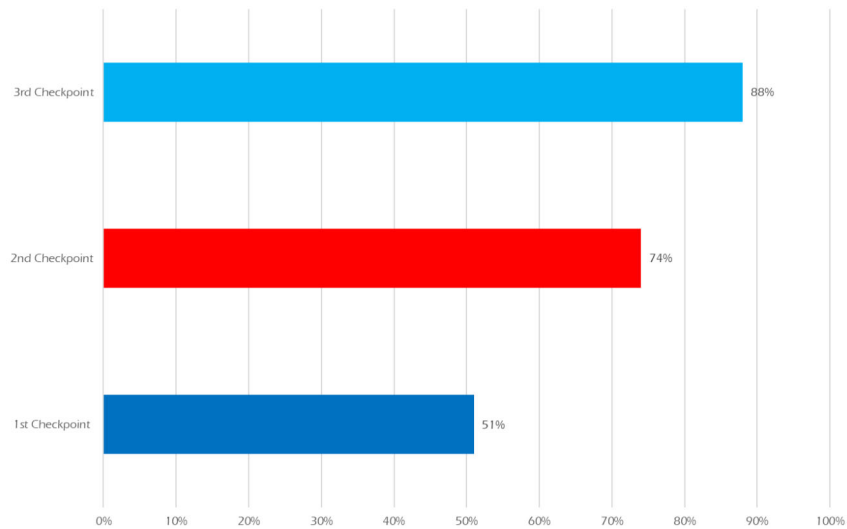


Head Start School Readiness

Language and Literacy Domain; In this domain area, 88% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 3: Children will demonstrate receptive and expressive language skills and communication strategies in their home language. (87%)

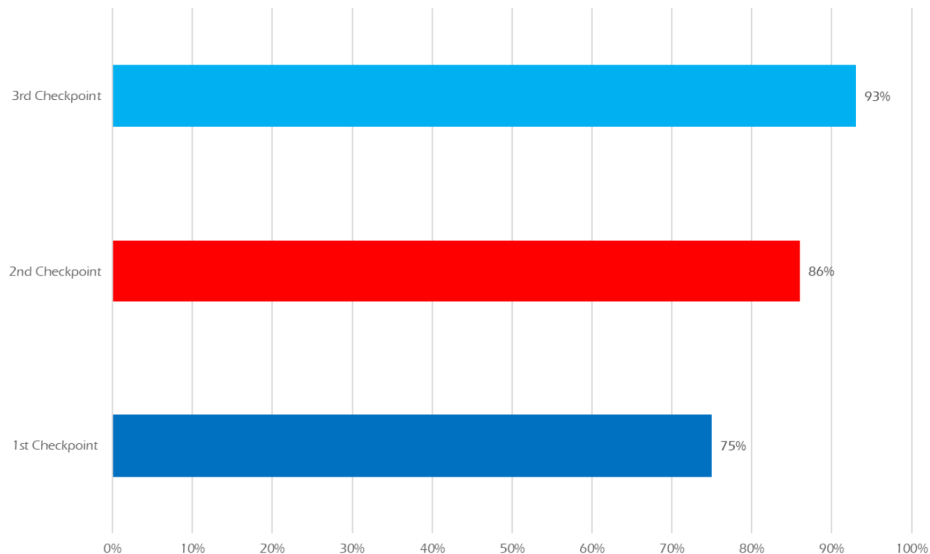
Goal 4: Children will engage with stories and books. (87%)



Approaches to Learning Domain: In this domain area, 93% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 5: Children will demonstrate interest, curiosity, and persistence in exploring and learning about the world around them. (93%)

Goal 6: Children will begin to develop and demonstrate control over their feelings and behaviors. (94%)



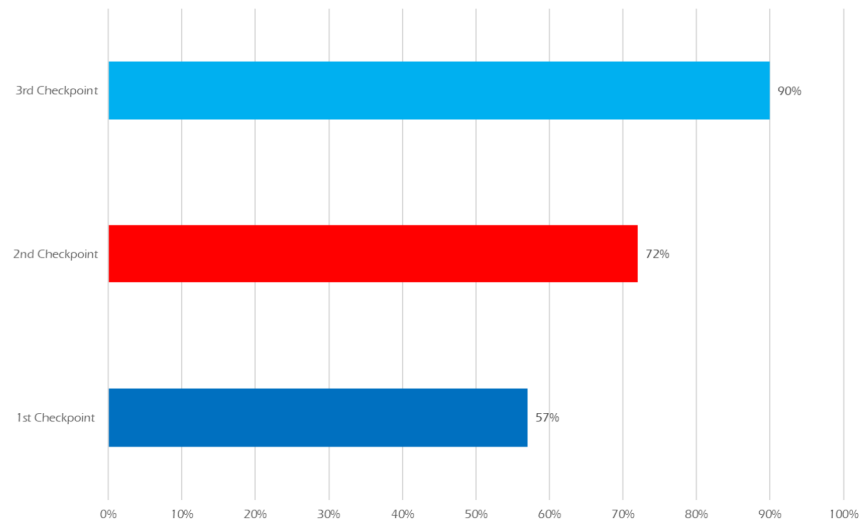


Head Start School Readiness

Cognitive Development Domain: In this domain area, 90% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 7: Children will learn and use math concepts during daily routines. (77%)

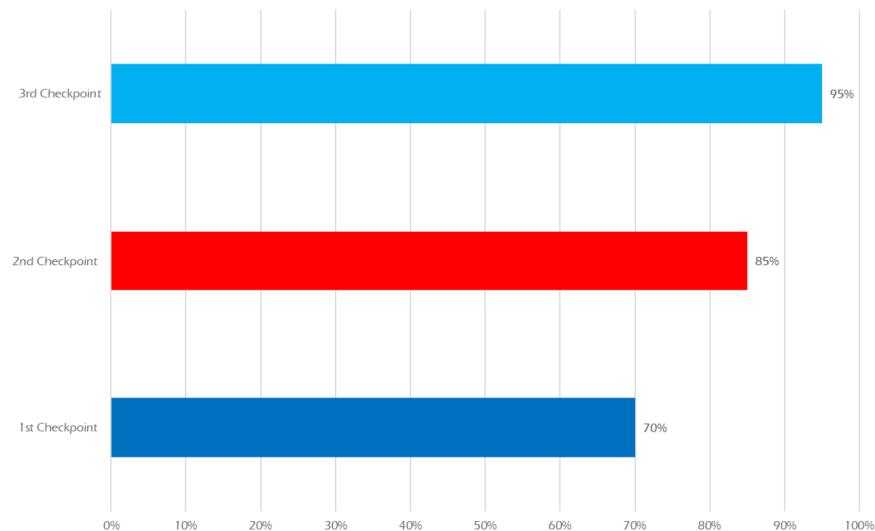
Goal 8: Children will develop and demonstrate the ability to remember and connect new and known experiences and information. (90%)



Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development Domain: In this domain area, 95% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 9: Children will develop control of large and fine muscles for movement, navigation, balance and manipulation of a variety of objects. (95%)

Goal 10: Children and their families will demonstrate an understanding of healthy and safe habits by following basic health and safety practices and by participating in their own preventative health care. (94%)





Teacher Effectiveness Scores

Teacher Effectiveness Scores

School readiness is one of the main focuses of Head Start. FOCAF utilized coaching and mentoring of teaching staff to improve their effectiveness in providing instructional time to children. Weekly planning and team collaboration time is provided to ensure the development of rich instructional classroom time for children.

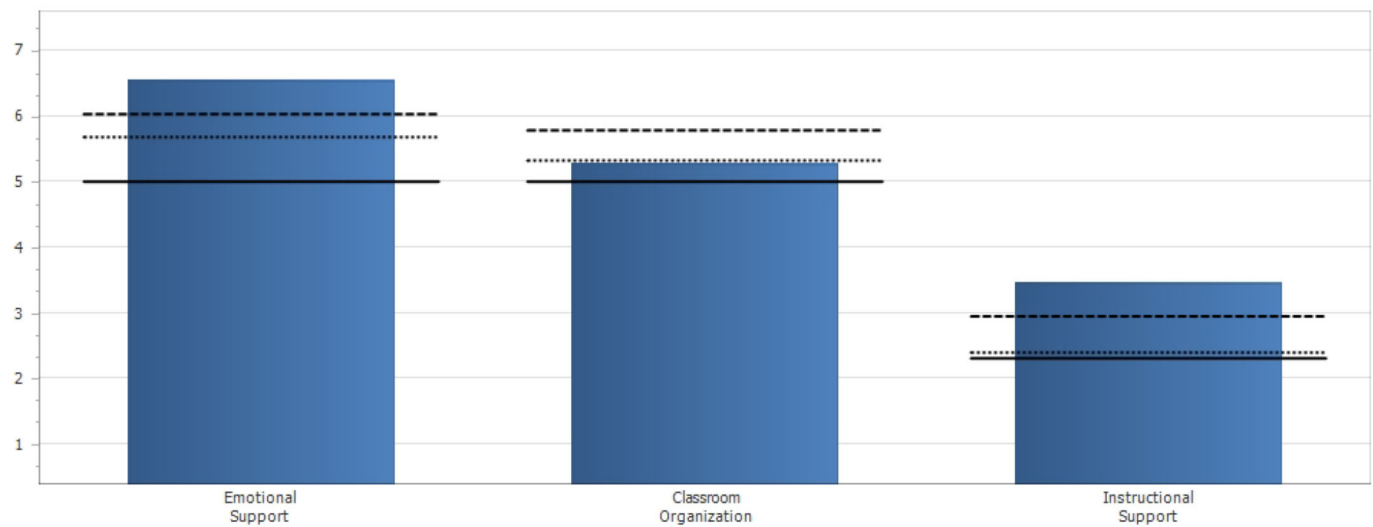
11/27/2023
5:14 PM CLASS

Friends Of Children And Families
5630 - Pre-K CLASS® Average Score Charts
Observations occurring: 9/1/2022 - 5/19/2023

Page 1 of 1
aarnhalt

2020 Lowest 10% Nationally
2020 National Average - - - -
Re-competition Level _____

Friends Of Children And Families



	ES	CO	IS
9/1/22 - 5/19/23	6.54	5.28	3.45





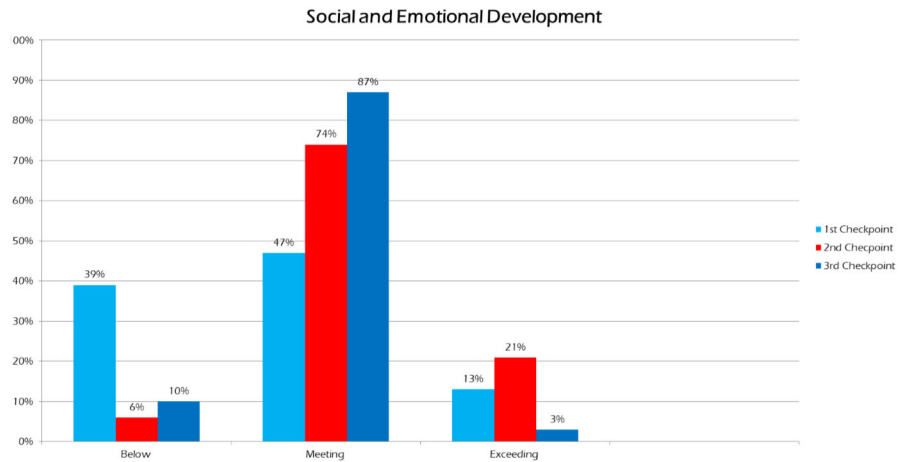
Early Head Start School Readiness

Early Head Start School Readiness– 3rd Checkpoint Data

Social Emotional Development: In this domain area, 90% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 1: Children will develop and engage in positive relationships and interactions with adults and peers. (92%)

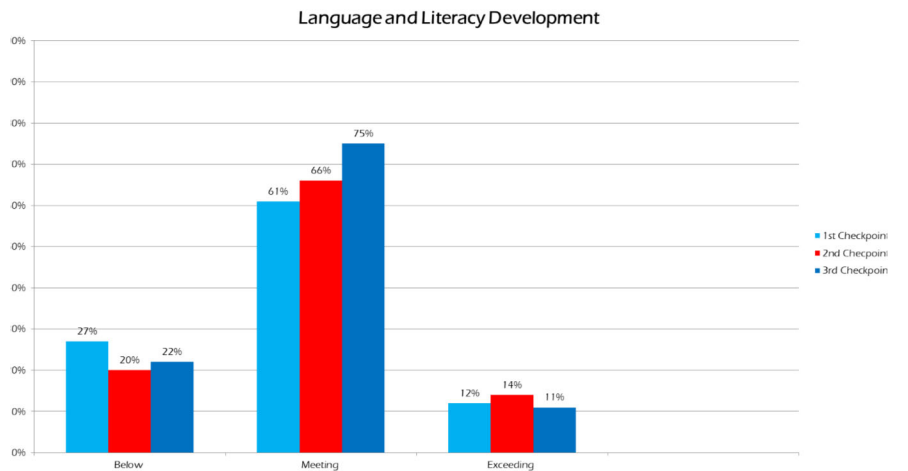
Goal 2: Children will begin to develop a sense of self and of belonging to the community. (96%)



Language and Literacy: In this domain area, 86% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 3: Children will demonstrate receptive and expressive language skills and communication strategies in their home language. (71%)

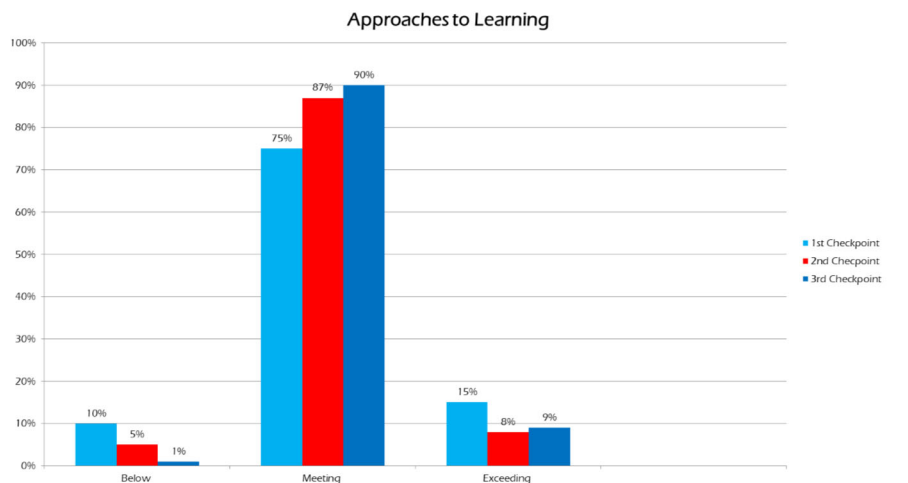
Goal 4: Children will engage with stories and books. (85%)



Approaches to Learning: In this domain area, 99% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 5: Children will demonstrate interest, curiosity, and persistence in exploring and learning about the world around them. (94%)

Goal 6: Children will begin to develop and demonstrate control over their feelings and behaviors. (89%)



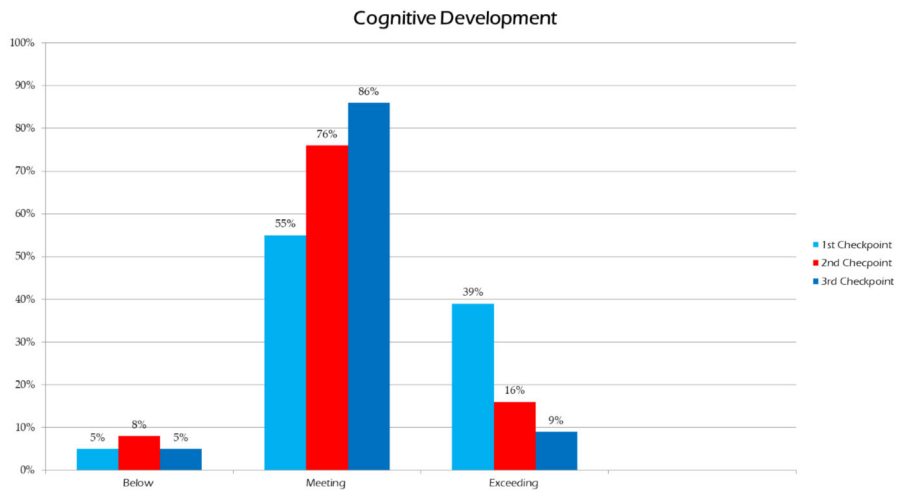


Early Head Start School Readiness

Cognitive Development: In this domain area, 95% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 7: Children will learn and use math concepts during daily routines. (66%)

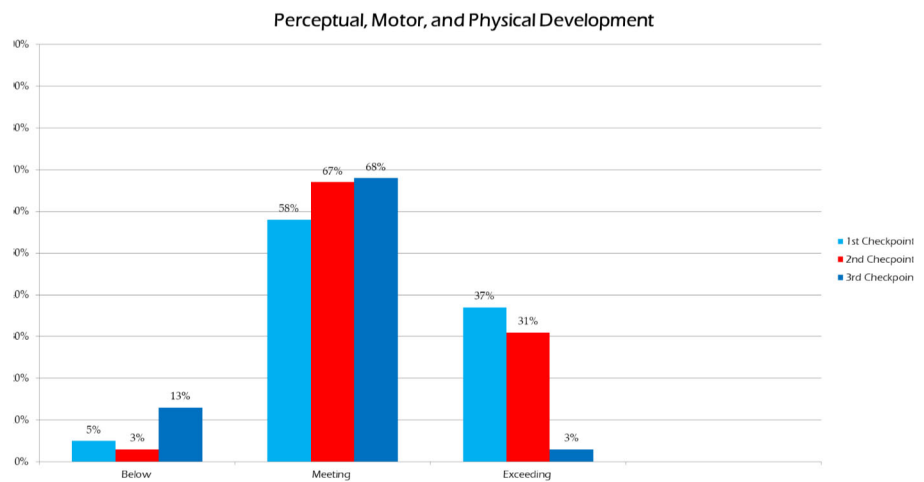
Goal 8: Children will develop and demonstrate the ability to remember and connect new and known experiences and information. (100%)



Physical Development and Health: In this domain area, 71% of children were meeting or exceeding by the 3rd checkpoint.

Goal 9: Children will develop control of large and fine muscles for movement, navigation, balance and manipulation of a variety of objects. (87%)

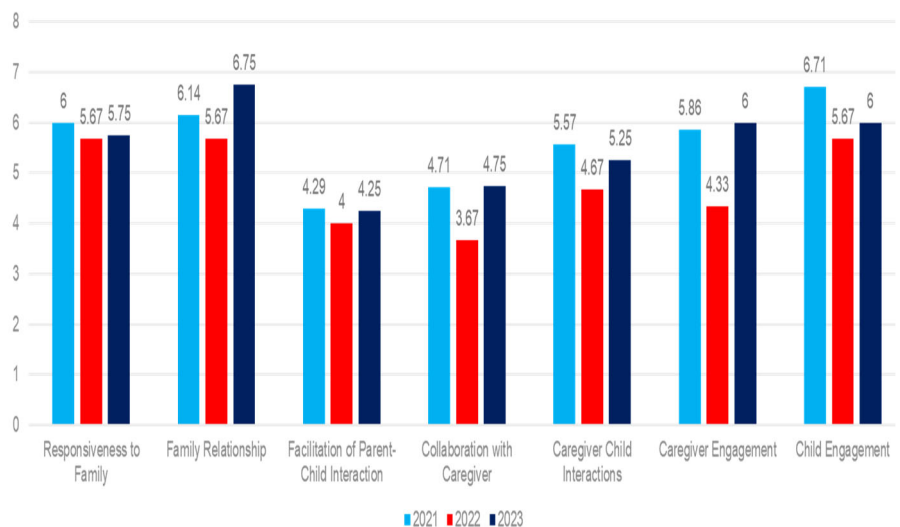
Goal 10: Children and their families will demonstrate an understanding of healthy and safe habits by following basic health and safety practices and by participating in their own preventative health care. (89%)



Home Visit Rating Scale (HOVRS) Process Quality/Home Visit Practices
1: Needs Support 3: Adequate 5: Good 7: Excellent

Early Childhood Parent Educator Effectiveness Quality/Engagement

Data from the Home Visiting Rating Scale (HOVRS) showed that the Early Childhood Parent Educators were scoring within the adequate to good range on parent-child interaction, parent engagement and child engagement.





Health Services

Health Services

FOCAF offers comprehensive services in the areas of physical health, oral health, mental health, nutritional health, preventive health services, community involvement and family wellbeing. The focus of FOCAF health services is to prevent health problems whenever possible by carefully addressing the needs of enrolled children.

Number of Children Served

The total number of children and pregnant women served during the 2022/2023 program year was 436: 333 Head Start children, 97 Early Head Start children and 6 pregnant women.

Health Services

99% of HS children, 99% of EHS children and 100% of pregnant women had insurance at the end of the 2022/2023 program year. The table below shows the percentages of health occurrences throughout the year.

Disabilities Health Services

14% of HS children had a disability with an Individualized Education Program and 10% of EHS children had a disability with an Individualized Family Service Plan.

Number of Children Referred for an Evaluation under IDEA

27 children in Head Start and 5 children in Early Head Start were referred for evaluation.

Health Events	Head Start Program 3 - 5 year olds		Early Head Start Program 0 - 3 years olds	
	at Enrollment	at End of Year	at Enrollment	at End of Year
Up to Date				
Medical Home	99%	99%	99%	99%
Well Child Exam—Up to Date	67%	79%	22%	34%
Received Follow-up Treatment		99%		70%
Immunizations—Up to Date	77%	77%	79%	86%
Dental Home	88%	94%	85%	90%
Oral Health Exam/Screening		71%		64%
High Risk Pregnancies				3



Family Services

Family Services

Families are the heart of the Head Start program. Together with parents, FOCAF cultivates family engagement in the home and at school. We celebrate the talents of parents and encourage the support for their children as life-long learners.

FOCAF provides parents with many opportunities to get involved in the program. They are encouraged to volunteer and share their talents throughout the organization. Volunteering in the classroom, sitting in on new staff interviews, serving on parent committees and planning family engagement and fatherhood activities are but a few of the ways that parents can get involved. In addition, parents are encouraged to apply for employment opportunities within the organization.

Combined Program Information:

- 53% were two parent families
- 70% families had one or more parents employed
- 58% families received parent education
- 87% received health education
- 14% of parents received job training
- 205 dads participated in their child's Head Start experience
- 11% of children experienced homelessness and 3% of children were in the foster care system

Head Start	308
Early Head Start	87
Total families served:	395





USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax:
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email:
Program.Intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Friends of Children
& Families, Inc.

Head Start & Early Head Start



By Lisa Burke, Executive Director