

**McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council,
Inc.**

ANNUAL REPORT

2014 FISCAL YEAR

2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR

VISION

To reach eligible infants, toddlers, and preschoolers and their families in our service area and positively affect their lives by assisting them in obtaining the skills necessary to achieve social competence and be cognitively and physically ready to learn and grow

Chairman's Message

On behalf of McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council Inc. I am happy to point out that the agency is operating on sound financial and good executive program footing. Regular Board meetings and receiving excellent progress reports from the Executive Leadership Team have caused Board members to grow exponentially in understanding how the Head Start Professional Performance Standards are applied when operating Head Start programs. It is good that the Board learns about other approved instruments the agency uses to help reach desired achievement outcomes for children.

McIntosh Trail ECDC's hallmark is the committed administrative staff, center managers, teachers, and auxiliary workers. They ensure that the Agency will continue to receive good onsite reviews.

The Board is informed about how the Agency efficiently tracts children to determine their readiness for kindergarten when entering different school settings.

The agency anticipates a steady growth in early childhood enrollment, creating a need to further plan how to better address children and their families in all the communities of its jurisdiction.

In summary, the Agency will complete the current operating year on an encouraging note, after enduring some budgetary cuts. We made the necessary adjustments to keep management and all employees intact, and are looking forward to facing challenges the future will bring.

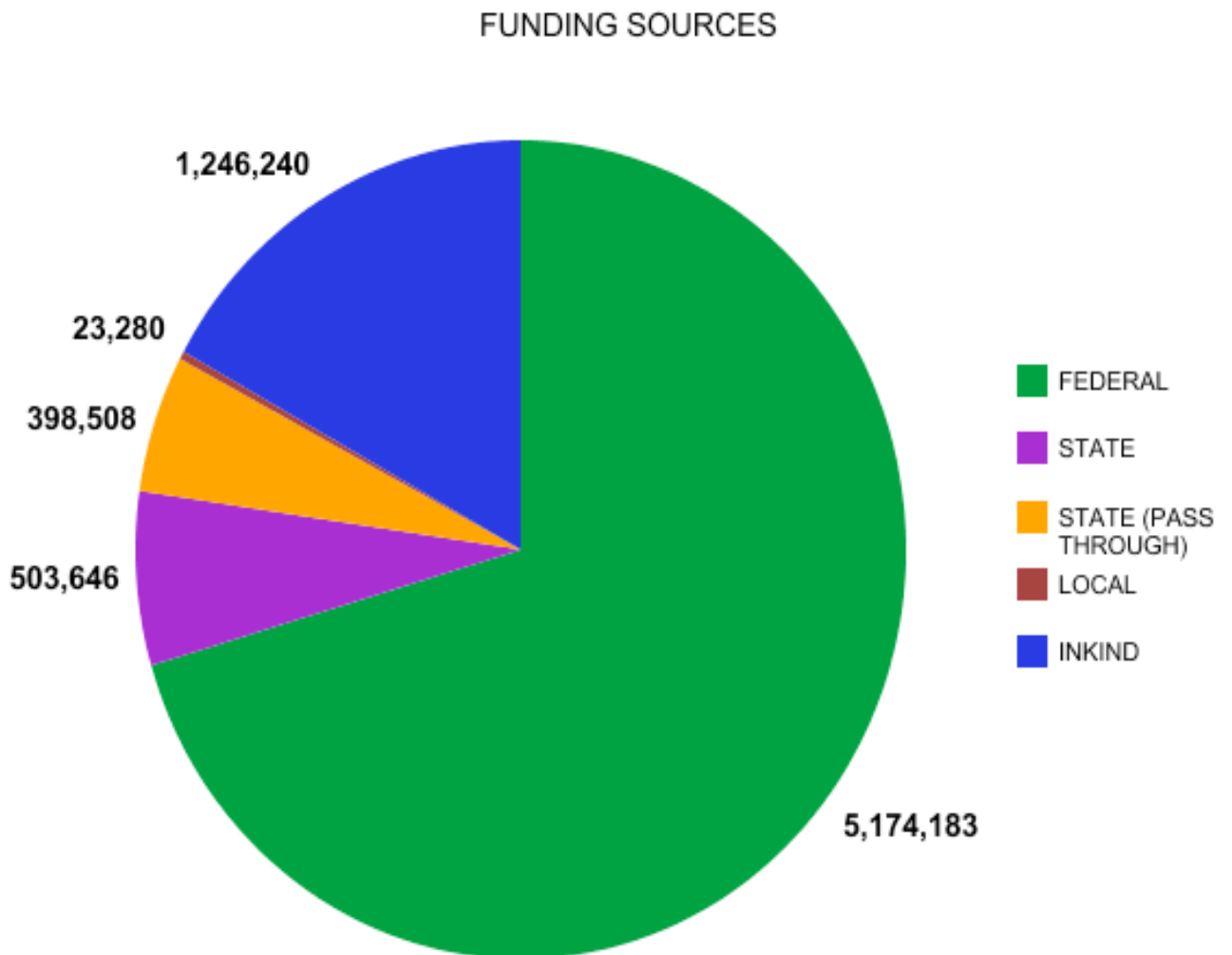
Sincerely,

Dr. William Nesbit

Board Chairman

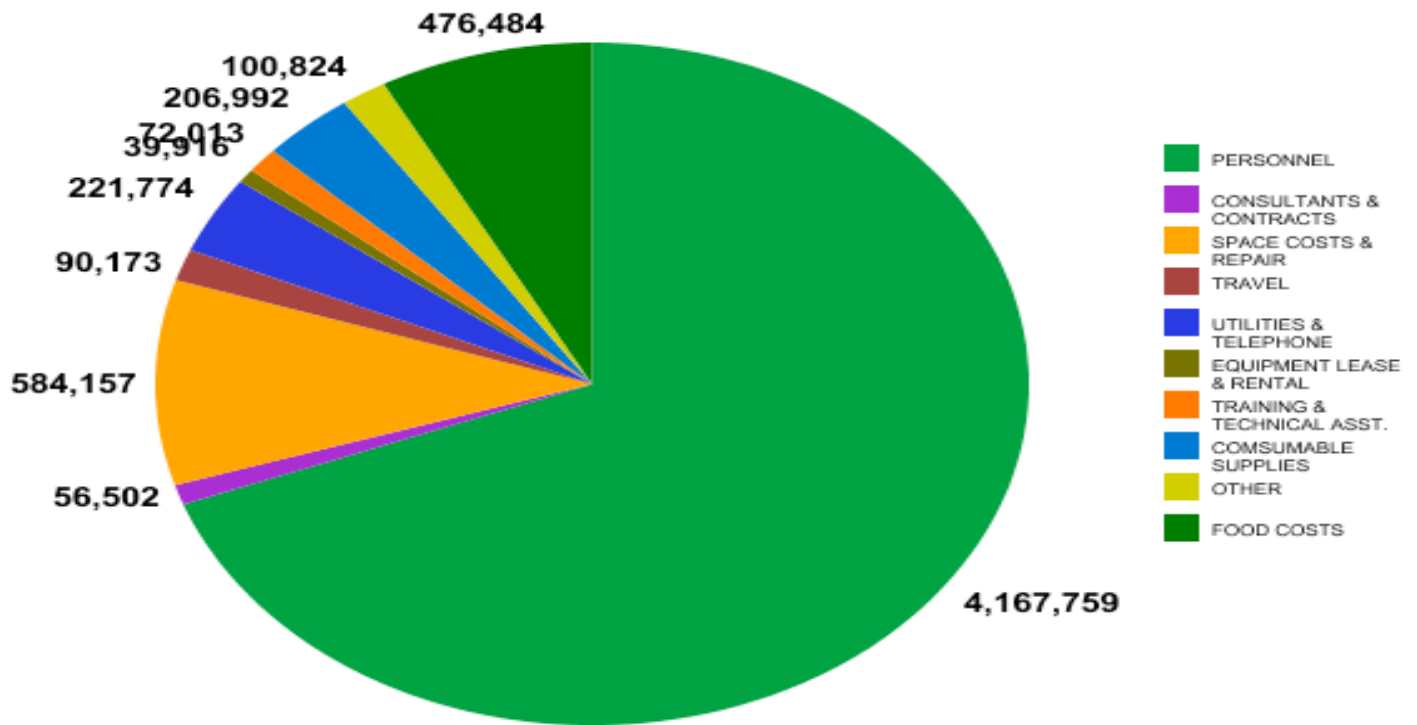
The following chart shows public and private funds received and the amounts:

- Federal \$5,174,183
- State \$503,646
- State (pass-thru) \$398,508
- Local \$23,280
- In-kind donations \$1,246,240
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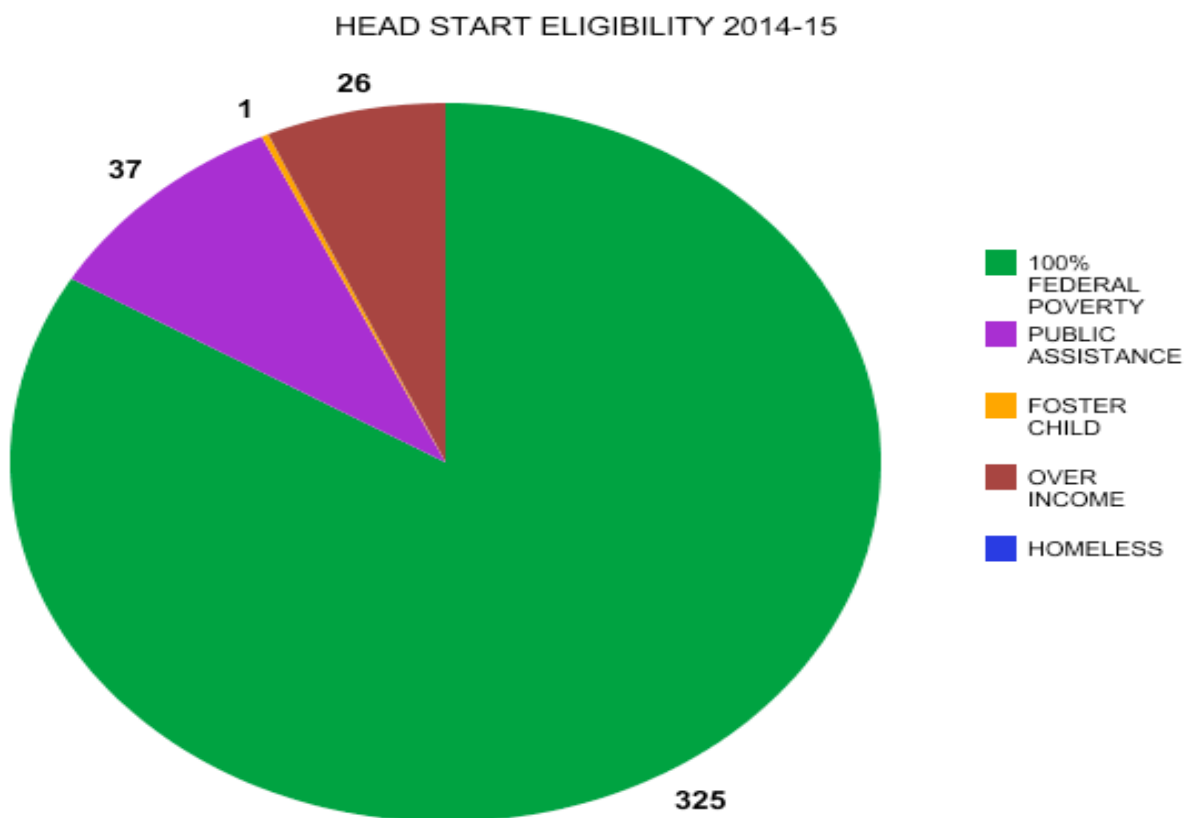


Budgetary Expenditures	2013-14	2014-15
Personnel	\$3,876,702	\$4,167,759
Consultants and Contractual Services	60,725	56,502
Travel	42,082	90,173
Space cost and repairs	731,088	584,157
Utilities and telephone	198,009	221,774
Equipment lease and Rental	41,662	39,916
Consumable Supplies	199,128	206,992
Food costs		476,484
Training and Technical Assistance		72,013
Other	660,437	110,824

2014-2015 PROGRAM BUDGET

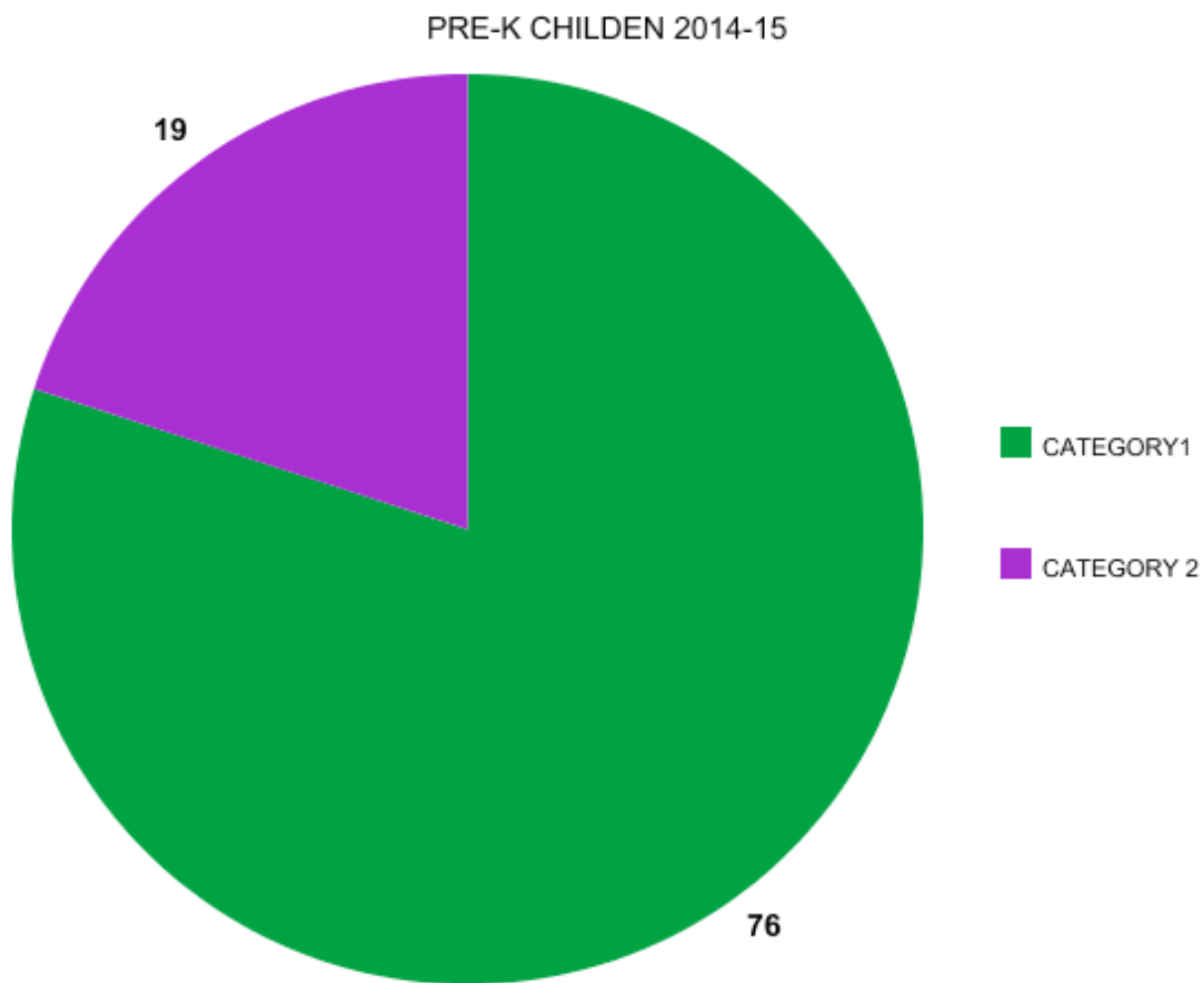


The Head Start program served 389 children in the 2014-15 school year and 367 families. Thirty-seven children were accepted based upon their receipt of public assistance. Three hundred twenty-five children were income eligible according to the federal poverty guidelines. There was one foster child. Twenty-six children were over income. Ninety-four percent were income eligible. Nine percent or 29 children were diagnosed with a disability.

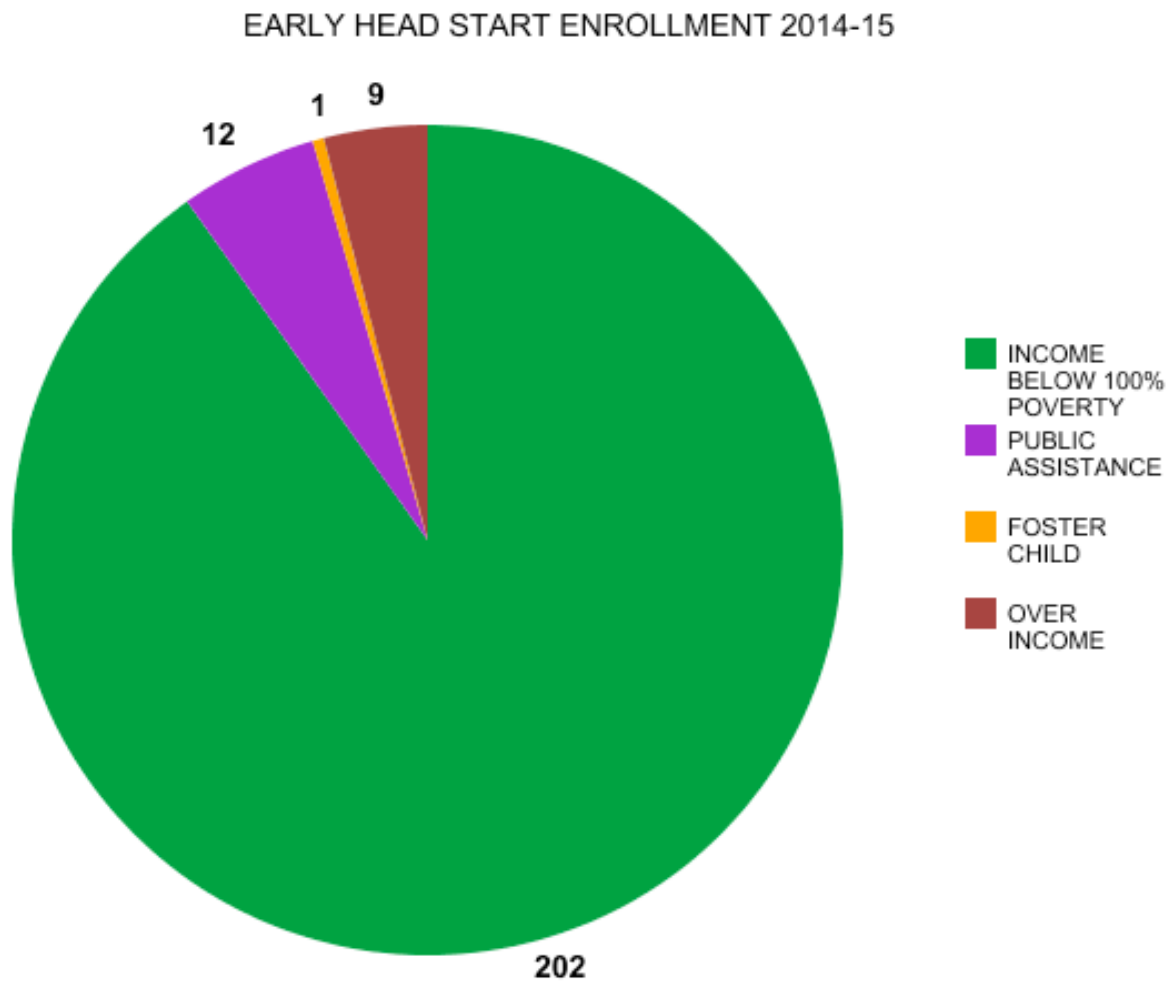


The attendance average for the school year was 82%. Beginning in the 2014-15 school year attendance was calculated by multiplying number of days X number of children and dividing that total by the number of children attending each day. This calculation is lower than ChildPlus' attendance report but McIntosh Trail ECDC Inc. feels it is more accurate.

The state funded Pre-K program operated by McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council served 95 children. The agency provided Pre-K in Newton, Henry, Spalding, and Upson Counties. Three classrooms were blended which means those children were dual enrolled in Head Start and Pre-K and received all services from both programs. Pre-K serves only four year olds and there is no income eligibility. Seventy-six of those children were classified as Category I, which is similar to Head Start's income eligibility requirements and denotes those children, met Federal poverty guidelines. The remaining 19 children were in Category II.



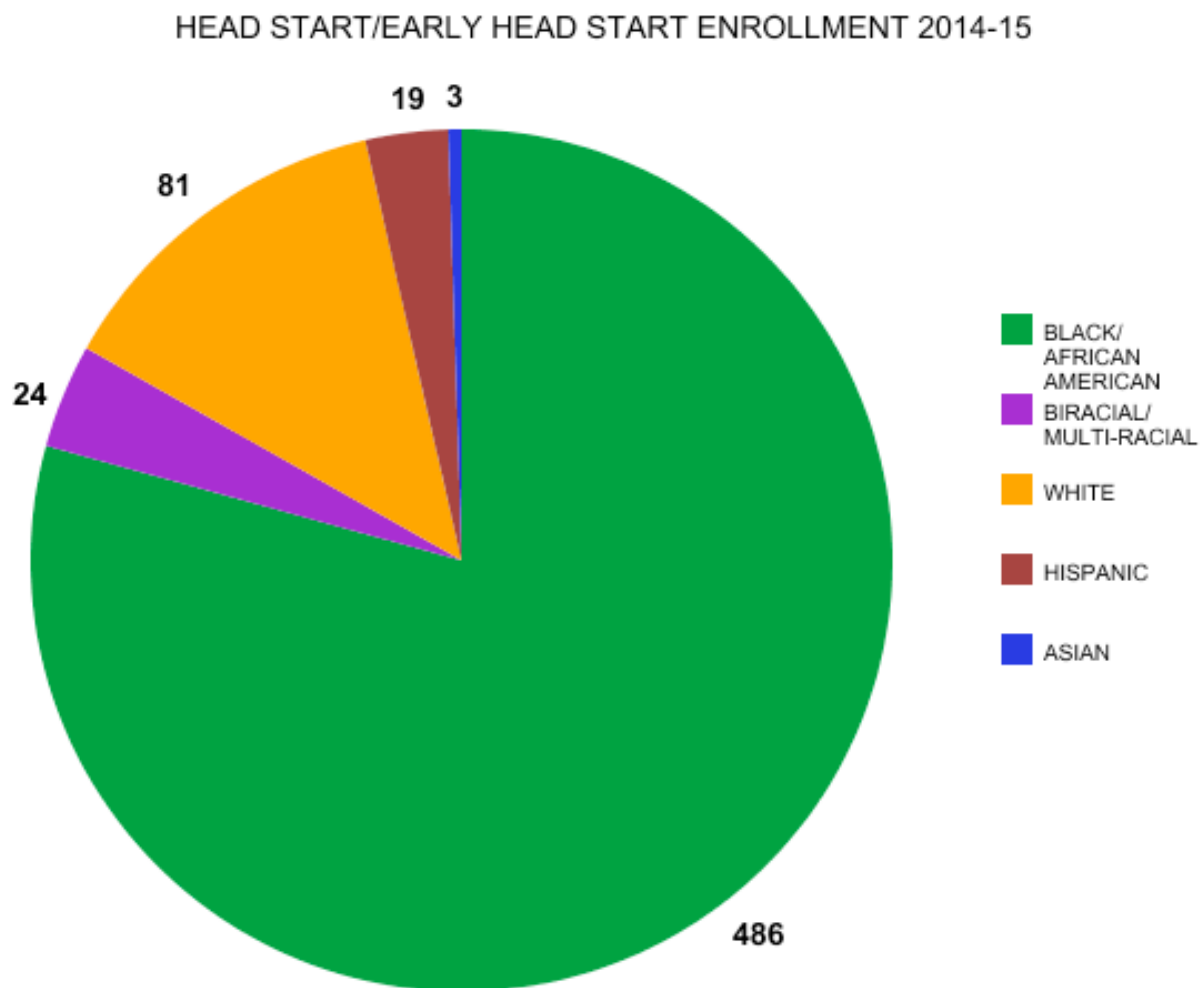
The Early Head Start program served a total of 224 children and pregnant moms in the 2014-15 school year. Twelve percent or 25 children had an Individual Family Service Plan and received services from Babies Can't Wait (Public Health).



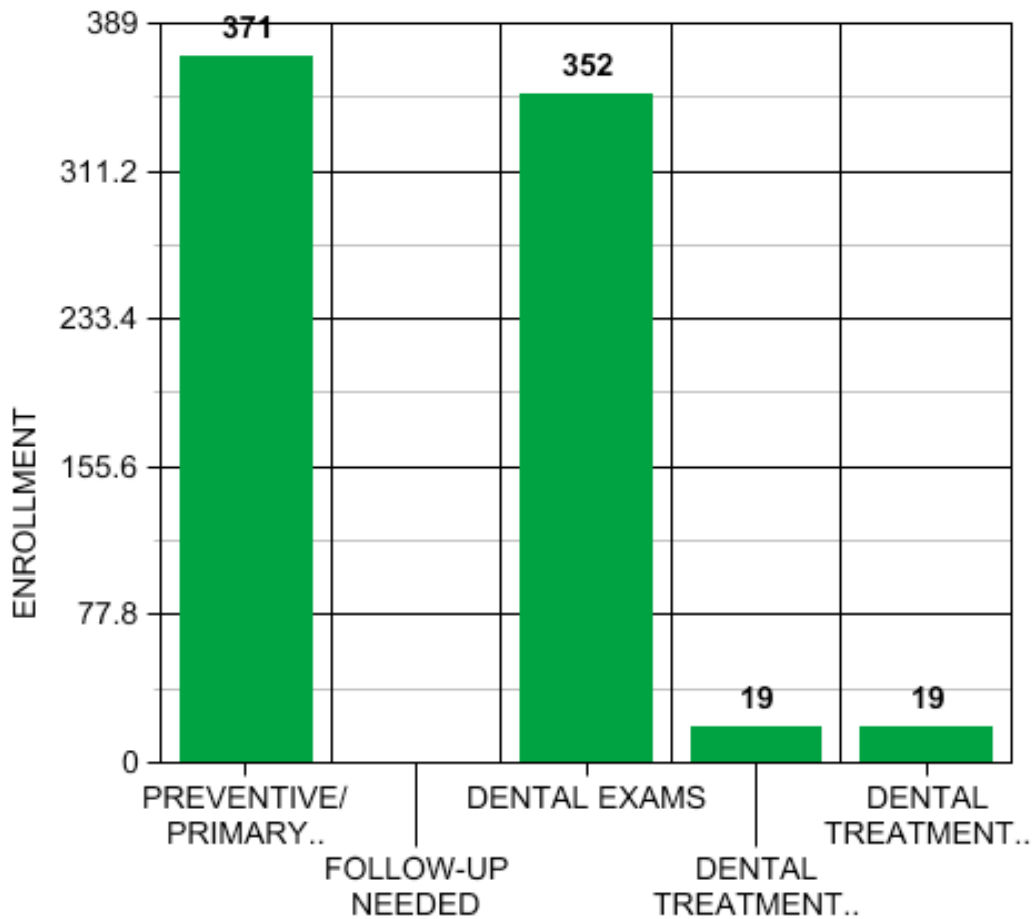
In the seven counties there were 190 families that received services. Twenty-two pregnant women were enrolled in the program. Twelve were accepted into the Early Head Start program based upon their receipt of public assistance. The number of infant and toddlers enrolled based upon income eligibility (federal poverty guidelines) were 202. One was a foster child. Nine infants were over income. Ninety-one percent

of the total number of children served was income eligible. The average attendance for their school year was 81%.

Families were asked to denote their child as one of eight possible choices of race. Nineteen children of the total enrollment were identified as of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. The graph below demonstrates the information given by parents.

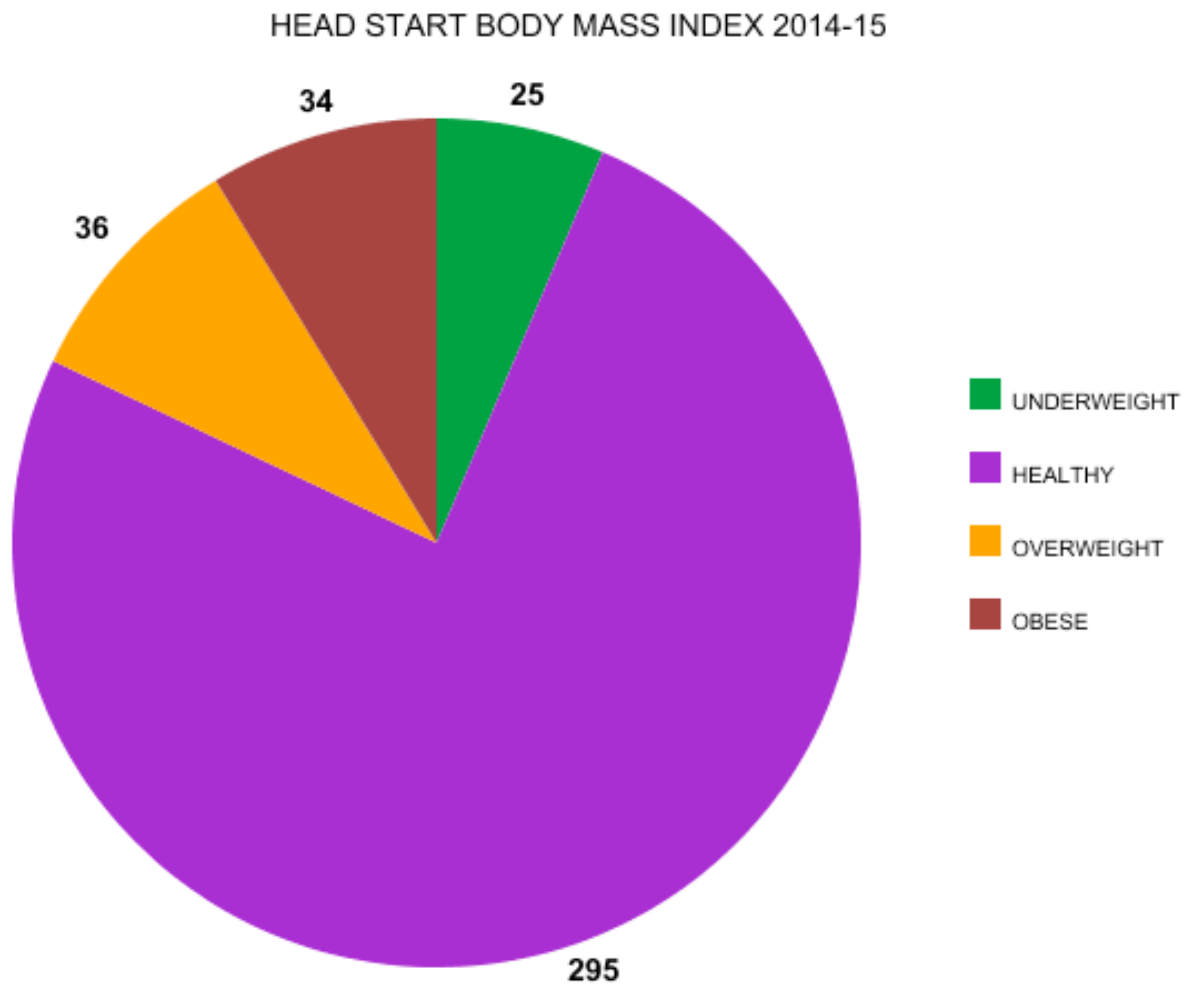


HEAD START MEDICAL/DENTAL SERVICES 2014-15

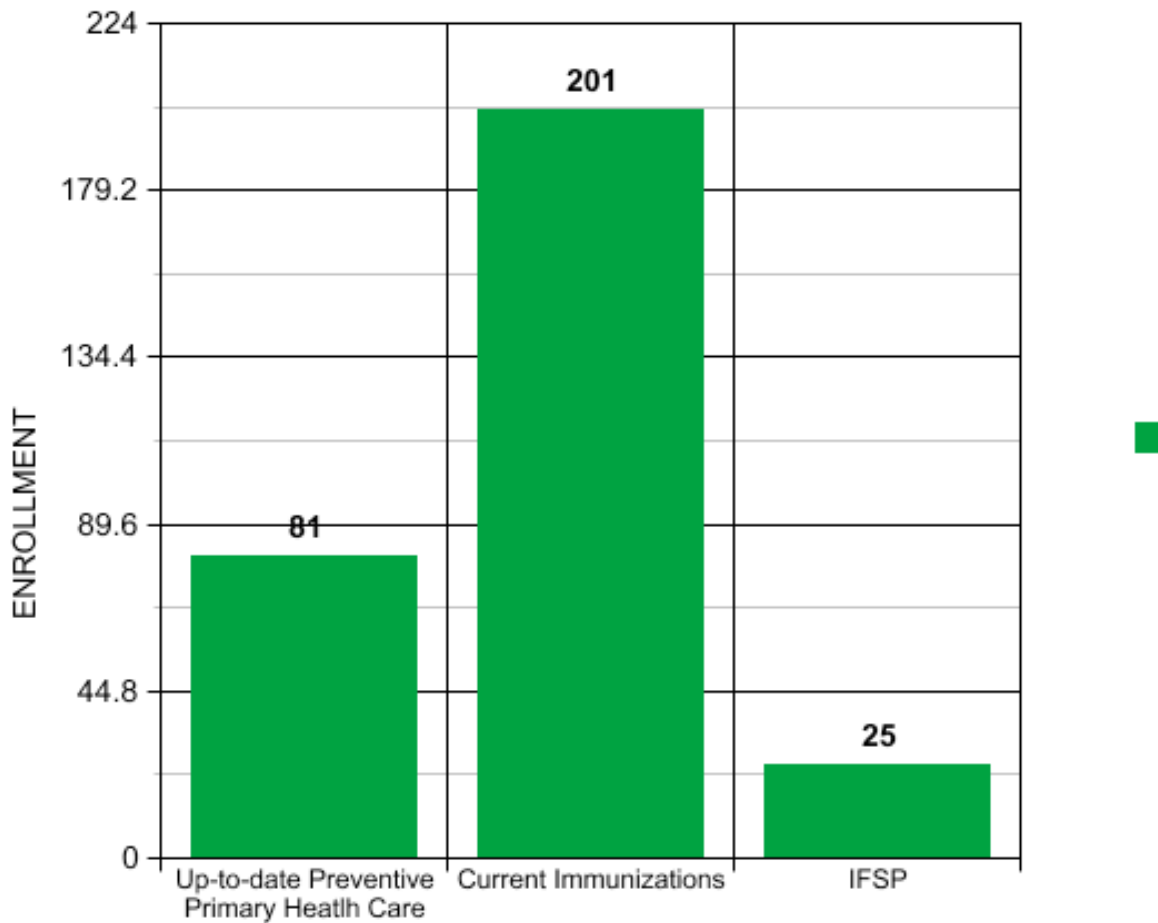


The above information reflects services provided by the Head Start program. Children not receiving services were due to dropouts and changes in enrollment. Pre-K does not provide funding for any medical or dental services for children served in that state funded program and therefore it is not tracked. All children needing dental treatment received that needed care.

All children's height and weight are completed two times a school year. Any children found to be of concern are referred to the Nutrition Department who work with a licensed nutritionist. They work with parents to discuss the nutritional needs of the child and help with menu planning.



EARLY HEAD START MEDICAL/DISABILITY SERVICES 2014-15



Early Head Start is a year round program serving pregnant moms, infants and toddlers birth to three years of age. The above numbers represent the program's tracking of Well Checks, which are due several times a year according to the state's EPSDT schedule for well child care. Staff work with parents and guardians to ensure that all infants and toddlers are up-to-date and referrals are made as needed. An IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan) indicates they have been determined eligible by the Part C Agency to receive early intervention services under the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA).

AUDIT

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON
COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED UPON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT
STANDARDS



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON
AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

McIntosh Trail Early Childhood
Development Council, Inc.
Jackson, Georgia

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc. (the "Council"), which comprise the statement of financial position as of March 31, 2015, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the fiscal year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 25, 2016.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purposes of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs that we consider to be material weaknesses. 2015-001

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

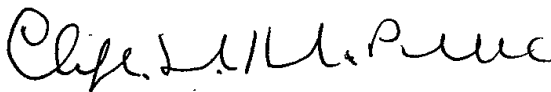
McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s Response to Findings

McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Macon, Georgia
February 25, 2016





**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON
COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON THE
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
REQUIRED BY OMB CIRCULAR A-133**

McIntosh Trail Early Childhood
Development Council, Inc.
Jackson, Georgia

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council's major federal programs for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015. McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s compliance.

Opinion of Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc. complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc. is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc.'s internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

McIntosh Trail Early Childhood
Development Council, Inc.
Page Three

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by OMB Circular A-133

We have audited the financial statements of McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council, Inc. as of and for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015, and have issued our report thereon dated February 25, 2016, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by OMB Circular A-133 and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditure of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.



Macon, Georgia
February 25, 2016

Information about Family Engagement Activities:

Fathers play a very important role in the success of their child's life. McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council decided to strengthen the agency's focus and efforts to increase fatherhood involvement. Children that have an absent father tend to have poor performance in school and are at risk for drug use, violent behavior, and criminal activity. One of the objectives of the program is to ensure Head Start staff and parents have knowledge and skills needed to support the ongoing involvement of fathers in the program and in the lives of their children.

In the 2014-15 school year monies were limited to sponsor many of the activities held in the past to strengthen the fatherhood initiative. But staff continued to work to keep fathers engaged in the centers. Some of the activities that were done to encourage fathers and students were: "Read a Story", "Flying Kites with Dad", "So lucky You Love Me Dance", "Planting Flowers with Dad", "Cutting Children's Hair with Dad", and "Playing Games and BBQ with Dads", and "Building Birdhouses with Dad (sponsored by Home Depot). Dads volunteered in the classrooms and on the playgrounds. They helped to decorate pumpkins and make Christmas stockings. During the week of November 18 fathers in the Henry County center celebrated an entire week with their children in the center by participating in a variety of activities. We had a total of 118 fathers to participate in the centers and programs for the 2014-15 school year.

As we put additional emphasis on fatherhood each year staff have seen a decrease in behavioral problems in classrooms and the number of behavioral referrals that have been made to the Mental Health team. Research indicates there are beneficial physical, mental, emotional, academic, and spiritual impacts on a child who connects positively with a male role model.

Presently the Program Information Report is very narrow in its definition of "father figure". At this time the program cannot count other "father figures" involved in the child's life in various ways such as grandfathers, uncles, older brothers, or neighbors.

The Agency's Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten (School Readiness)

McIntosh Trail Early Childhood Development Council supports school readiness and positive child outcomes in Early Head Start and Head Start through comprehensive child development services, age

appropriateness, individual appropriateness, meaningful curriculum, child observations, screenings, and assessments.

The School Readiness Team is composed of program administrators, center managers, family service workers, parents, and teaching staff. The School Readiness Team meets on a quarterly basis to review program goals, provide valuable input, and ensure that federal mandates and best practices are met. There were also several parents and community partners on the team, retired educators, as well as current local educational agency representatives from several of the counties within the service area. The Policy Council and Board reviews and assists in the project. They work together to develop School Readiness goals and a plan that will meet Federal regulations and best practices.

The Family and Community Engagement staff works with parents to set school readiness goals for themselves and their children as well as provide input for the program. Staff continues to enhance the quality, intentionality, and effectiveness of staff interactions with children and families in the program to promote school readiness.

The program's School Readiness Team meet with the local public school's Kindergarten administrators to discuss what is expected of the children coming into Kindergarten and how the program can ensure that each child and family is ready for them to transition into the next stage of their learning career. During the months of February and March teachers begin encouraging parents to register their children for kindergarten and provide assistance as needed. When kindergarten registration information is published in the local newspaper, copies are sent home to each parent whose child will be going on to public school in the fall.

Family Service Staff work with teachers with four year olds in their class to prepare packages (*Going to Kindergarten*), which contain vital information and forms to be completed by the parent. This information helps the teachers to work with the parents and children to have a smooth transition. Once completed, with parental permission, the packages are sent on to the public school. Teaching staff make a home visit to talk with parents about the child outcomes and transitioning into another school setting, whether public school or private preschool. The School Readiness Team also prepares children to transition from Early Head Start into Preschool Head Start. Early Head Start teachers are encouraged to transition 3-year-old children into the Head Start setting based on child development

and maturity to allow the child to become comfortable with the new setting. Children with Individual Family Service Plans received the support needed to make the move smooth for the child and family. The teacher participates in all Individual Education Plan meetings with the local educational agency.

The Kindergarten Administration is invited to the center's parent meeting to talk about the importance of registering their children for kindergarten. They also discuss activities to do with children during the summer and ways to prepare for the first day of school. They talk about what items to bring and what to expect. Children entering kindergarten in the upcoming fall take a field trip to the appropriate kindergarten class to spend the morning.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

Going Green. A *Grants to Green* Implementation grant was received for the Newton County center to fund 50% of building upgrades to make the center more energy efficient. All lighting and plumbing fixtures were replaced with energy efficient components. Since completion of the work to make the center more energy efficient, the program has seen a reduction in utilities for that facility.

In the past year the agency and programs has been randomly selected for several studies and projects centered on Birth to Five programs and services. Additional information about McIntosh Trail ECDC Inc. and its program is available on the agency's website, www.mtecdc.org.

In February of 2016 McIntosh Trail ECDC Inc. underwent an Environmental Health and Safety Federal Review on the Early Head Start and Head Start program. The program was found to be 100% in compliance with no findings.