

Parent Involvement

The Early Head Start Policy Council is made up of parents of EHS enrolled children and community members.

Policy Council members participate in policy making and other decision making regarding the program.

5 parents and 2 community members served on the Policy Council in FY 2014.

Policy Council members relay information from PC Meetings to Parent Committee Meetings at childcare partner sites.

Through Parent Committees, parents and families have the opportunity to provide input on programming and family support and help plan educational and family program events.

Parents and EHS staff develop Family Partnerships which focus on achieving family and child-centered goals.

In December of 2014, two Policy Council members attended a Parent Institute Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Community Partnership

EHS has given us the opportunity to create community partnerships that bring families, children, and child care providers together to create a more cohesive support network. In 2014 there were roughly thirty partners that worked together in the following areas:

- ↓ Transitioning between programs
- ↓ Finding quality childcare
- ↓ Providing services to children with disabilities
- ↓ Referrals
- ↓ Collaborative support for families

Self-Assessment

The EHS annual Self-Assessment was completed in September of 2014. The Self-Assessment was completed with input from EHS staff, teachers, program directors, Policy Council and Board Members, and members from various community agencies.

Through the Self-Assessment process, the EHS staff identified both program strengths and areas of need. Continuous Quality Improvement Plans were developed to address the identified areas of need and shared with the Policy Council and Board of Directors.

2014 Early Head Start Annual Report



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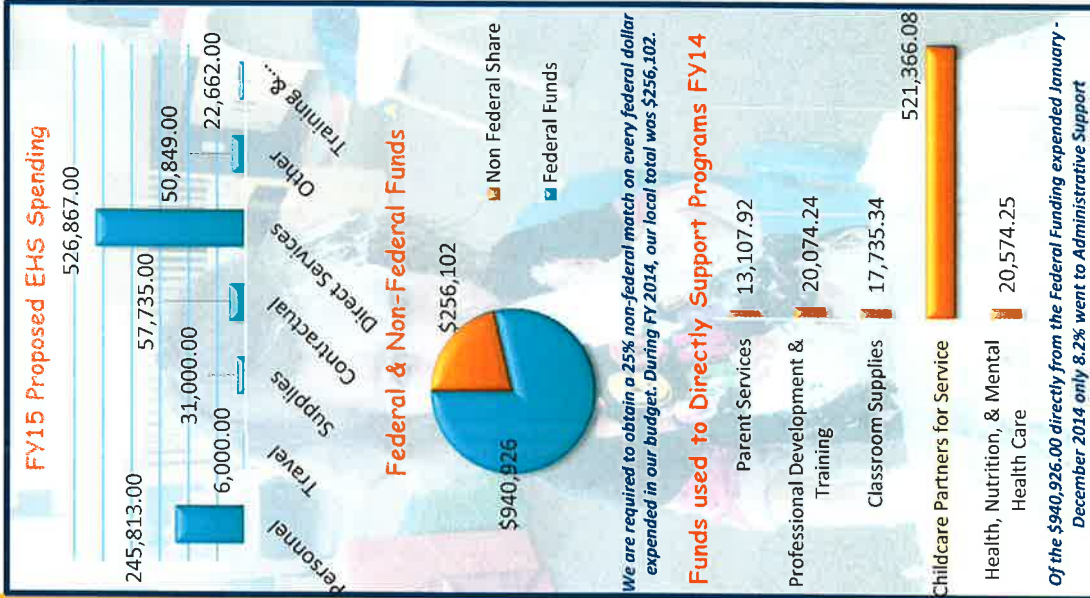
"We are a community working together to ensure that all children are valued, healthy, & thriving in school and life."



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2014 Early Head Start Annual Report

From January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, Early Head Start Services were provided to 124 children and families in the San Luis Valley. That is 19% of the approximate 650 eligible children ages birth to three in the San Luis Valley. Our current funded enrollment is 72 children being served in 11 classrooms, at 6 childcare partner sites located across four counties. Average monthly enrollment was 100%.



EHS Children are prepared for Kindergarten in a variety of ways!

The ECC SLV Early Head Start helps prepare children and their families for success in Kindergarten, and throughout life, by addressing the five areas of School Readiness identified by the Office of Head Start. These areas are: the development of positive Social and Emotional skills, Language and Literacy Development, Approaches to Learning, Cognition and General Knowledge Skills, and the children's Physical Well-Being and Motor Development.

With support from EHS staff members, families and parents are encouraged to embrace the role as their child's first teacher. Working together, the EHS staff and families set the child's individual developmental goals during Home Visits and Family/Teacher Conferences. This lays a foundation of parental interaction and involvement and helps families to value themselves as full partners in the education of their child.

By building responsive, respectful, reflective relationships children learn to trust their caregivers. With this security they develop positive social emotional skills.

The more children are read to and spoken to, the more language they learn - which in turn will help them be successful throughout life. A child's home language is included in the classroom with teachers that provide consistency from the child's home whenever possible.

Children's individual interests are observed and planned for by the qualified classroom staff and the child's family to encourage development and the child's approach learning. Children with disabilities are included in the classrooms whenever possible.

Both indoor and outdoor activities are provided to encourage children's gross motor development. Art, shape sorters, rattles and many other age appropriate materials are provided in the classrooms to encourage children's fine motor skills.

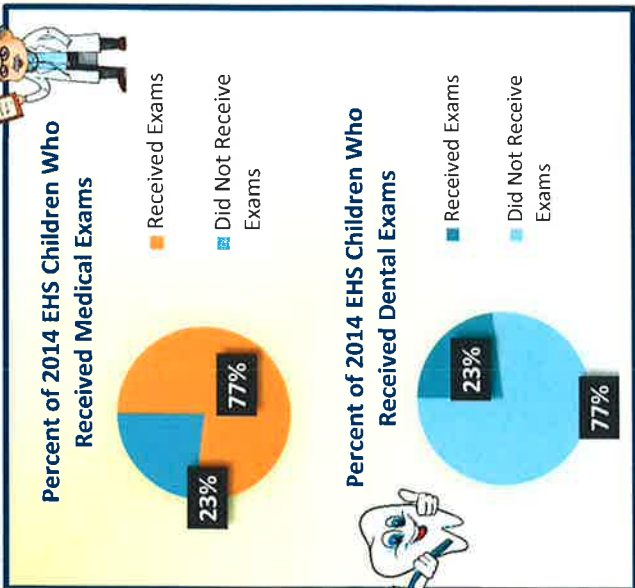
Children are involved in simple personal hygiene tasks and the EHS program works with families to provide the best nutritional information for the child and the family unit. Using this team approach and addressing individual children's strengths, interests, and needs helps prepare them for success in Kindergarten and throughout their life.

Federal Review

In April of 2014 the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted an onsite monitoring review for the ECCSLV Early Head Start Program. The Findings Report was received on June 12, 2014. There were no findings in Fiscal Management or Child Safety, but the program was found out of compliance in Human Resources. The ECCSLV EHS immediately addressed the issue, taking corrective action within the 120 day window.

School Readiness for Infants & Toddlers

The School Readiness Focus Group continues to meet on a quarterly basis. This group of site Directors, parents, and EHS staff worked to establish School Readiness Goals for the Early Head Start Program and now studies data relevant to child progress and program improvement. School Readiness goals are specific to children ages birth to 3, their families, and program staff. EHS School Readiness Goals, data, and progress is shared out through the SR Focus Group. The expectation is that members distribute information to teachers and other interested community members.



Audit Report

Wall, Smith, Bateman & Associates, Inc. Certified Public Accountants audited the financial statements for the ECCSLV EHS for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012 and have issued their report thereon dated May 28, 2014. In the auditor's opinion, "the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the ECCSLV, Inc. as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended December 13, 2013 and the eighteen months then ended December 31, 2012, in accordance principles generally accepted in the United States of America." Meaning there were no findings in this report and the ECCSLV was in accordance with Government