

# EARLY HEAD START



LA CASA  
de Esperanza, Inc.



2017

## Annual Report

Program Year August 1, 2016 – July 31, 2017  
(Published: February 2017)

*La Casa de Esperanza's mission is to provide opportunities to achieve full social and economic participation in society, with emphasis on the Hispanic population.*

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## LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

On behalf of La Casa de Esperanza's Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and the children and families that participate in our programs, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve our community through the Early Head Start Program. Early Head Start is a program that clearly illustrates La Casa's mission to provide opportunities for financial and social self-sufficiency by providing services that strengthen families and give infants and toddlers the best possible head start in life. La Casa is finishing its sixth year of providing services to children and families through this valuable program and we are excited to share with you the 2016-17 La Casa de Esperanza Early Head Start Annual Report. Please note that, unless otherwise indicated, program information is for the period from August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017.

Very best regards,

Anselmo Villarreal  
President & CEO

Shari Campbell  
V.P. of Programs & Education

Hattie Bradley  
Policy Council President

## *POLICY COUNCIL*

La Casa de Esperanza's Early Head Start Policy Council is an active advisory body that consists of parents and community participants that are committed to ensuring that the children and families we serve receive the most comprehensive and quality services possible. We greatly appreciate the time and commitment that each member contributes to the Policy Council, and we highly encourage parents and other stakeholders to become involved.

### *Our Policy Council includes these distinguished participants:*

Hattie Bradley, President

Laura Jahnke, Secretary

Kerry Kretchmar

Allison Anderson

Debbie Singer

Shawna Wendt

Samara McGinty

Patricia Melero

Rudy Gutierrez (Board Liaison), Secretary



## *FEDERAL MONITORING REVIEW*



In May 2014 La Casa de Esperanza's Early Head Start La Casa de Esperanza's Early Head Start Program received its first triennial federal monitoring review. The review resulted in no areas of deficiency and no areas of noncompliance. There were no likewise no financial findings. In 2015, the program received its health and safety review. Likewise, there were no areas of noncompliance or deficiency.

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Early Head Start is a federally-funded, community-based program for low-income families with infants, toddlers, and/or pregnant women. La Casa de Esperanza’s center-based Early Head Start Program is located at our Community Center near downtown Waukesha, Wisconsin. Our center-based program operates year round from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. serving 32 children, ages six weeks to three years. Our

32 children, ages six weeks to three years. Our home-based program operates with five home-based educators and together they serve 44 children (40 through federal funding and 4 through state funding) ages birth to three, and pregnant women. Our Early Head Start program uses comprehensive and inter-disciplinary services to foster optimal growth and development, ultimately reaching our school readiness goals and promoting positive parental involvement.

## *Our Families:*

Parents and guardians that participate in the program self-report that:

- 59.85% are Hispanic and 58% live in Spanish-speaking households
- 55.57% live in households with annual incomes under \$15,000 per year
- 45.6% live in households headed by single parents
- 47.87% of the parents are under the age of 30 with 40% under the age of 24

Total number of children served	137
Total number of families served	103
Percent of Waukesha County EHS eligible children served	26%
Percent of children who received medical exams	99%
<i>*Wisconsin does not require dental exams for children ages 0-3 years.</i>	

## ENROLLMENT

La Casa de Esperanza is funded and authorized to provide services for 76 children and families. During the period of this report, 99% enrollment was maintained.

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

La Casa de Esperanza acknowledges that parents are the first and most important teachers for their children. Parental involvement is beneficial to the success of children throughout their education. As a result, La Casa de Esperanza's Early Head Start Program continuously strives to increase parental involvement by providing multiple opportunities for volunteering, collaborating with teachers, and attending events.



*Parents are always welcome at the agency and in the classroom to:*

- Help with and/or lead activities and projects in the classroom. Parents have come to read stories, assist teachers with art projects and special activities.
- Attend special events such as Breakfast with Santa , Three Kings Celebration, Fiesta Waukesha, and our Thanksgiving program
- Assist the teacher in classroom planning efforts
- Participate in activities and shared program governance through the Parent Committee and the Policy Council
- Participate in family engagement nights, socializations, and at home activities that are designed to enrich the classroom activities and experiences.



We encourage parents to share their opinions, thoughts and ideas with teachers; lend resources so that parents can work with their children on projects at home; and promote the sharing of a favorite song, tradition, or other aspect of a family's culture.

## *PREPARING CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL*

At La Casa we believe that preparing children for academic success begins even before birth. With our expanded EHS home-based option, it is possible to educate parents about school readiness before their babies are born. Our Home Based Educators begin to educate parents about early fetal development and the beginnings of bonding and attachment with their baby. It is through attachment and bonding that school readiness begins. A child who feels safe and secure is ready to learn. Our educators ensure that our parents and children are prepared for future academic success through the implementation of our School Readiness Goals. Our school readiness goals are generated by analyzing the data from the students' developmental assessments which cover each of the developmental domains. These domains include: Language and Communication, Cognition and General Knowledge, Health and Physical Development, Social Emotional Development and Approaches to Learning. Each goal that was created is integrated into the children's individual lesson plans, classroom curriculum and staff and parent trainings. It is evident through these goals and implementation plans that La Casa de Esperanza is committed to preparing our children and families with the tools it takes to be prepared and ready for school.

## *Our expert staff makes the difference*

In order to serve the individual needs of our children and families in a comprehensive and coordinated manner, we are excited to add these content experts to our staff team:

- Home-Based Educators and Family Service Coordinator
- Education Coordinator
- Mental Health Professional
- Registered Nurse Consultant
- Nutritionist
- Disabilities Consultant
- Teachers with an Infant/Toddler Credential, Associates or Bachelors Degrees (All classes maintain a 1:4 teacher to child ratio)



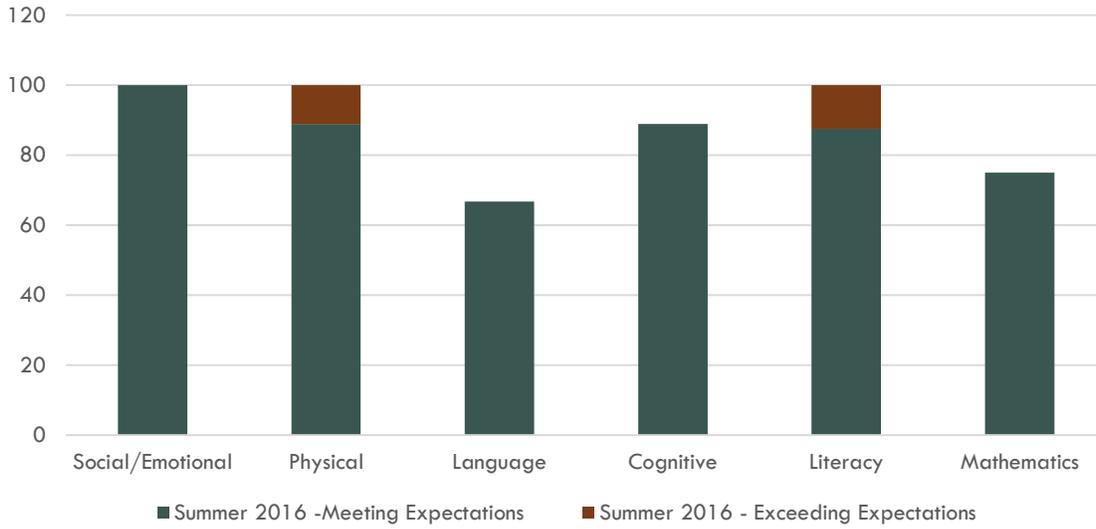
To ensure that our Early Head Start children are growing and learning at a rate that is better than or consistent with their age levels, individualized implementation plans are developed for each child through the use of these well-known and respected industry tools:

- Curriculum assessments and checkpoints
- Ages and Stages questionnaires for developmental and social-emotional screenings
- Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards
- Teacher observations
- Individualized portfolios
- Parent, teacher, and specialist team meetings and input

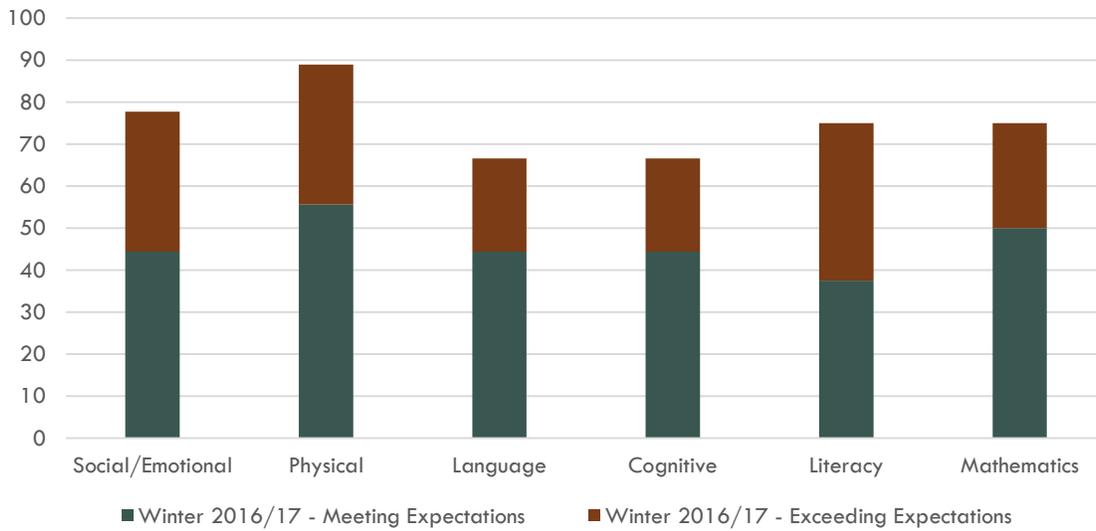
Using all of these tools teachers are able to create a deeper understanding of where each child is in his/her areas of development. Using this information, the teacher can plan activities to better support each child's learning and development.

Shown below are examples of the data collection comparisons between Summer 2016/17 and Winter 2016/17 Curriculum Assessment Checkpoint in Teaching Strategies Gold. It depicts a data sample of 1-2 year old children's assessment score. Because we collect and analyze data derived from our children's assessments, we are able to look at trends and make determinations such as what kinds of trainings our staff and parents receive, monitor progress on our goals and celebrate the progress we have achieved. These trends below show that the area of physical and social/emotional are areas of strength; most of the children are meeting the expectation and quite a few are even exceeding that expectation for their age. Through these comparisons, we can implement strategies to improve our children's skills over the year by focusing on the overall needs of the children. You can also see a slight decline in results in the social/emotional area from Summer to Winter. By comparing data throughout the year we can see what classrooms may need extra help or look at the specific children to individualize activities and goals to make their next assessment scores better. This example, specifically, one of the children that scored lower in social/emotional from Summer to Winter was dealing with family displacement. Using our team of professionals we are able to work closely with these families and one on one with the students to achieve higher outcomes. Using strength based approach; we can analyze what is working in our program and use that information to strengthen our weaker areas. We utilize a similar process for all age groups to further identify areas of strength, weakness, and trends.

### 1-2 Year Olds Summer 2016



### 1-2 Year Olds Winter 2016/17



# FINANCIALS

## 2017 Calendar Year Agency Budget:

### Revenue

### Expenses

Admin. Support from Programs	<b>54,000</b>	Cost of Goods Sold	\$6,262,575
Fee For Service Income	<b>1,752,371</b>	Personnel Expense	6,004,853
W-2	1,258,437	Program Expenses	925,950
Parent Fees & Co-Pays	322,514	Marketing & Program Development	30,499
Other Fee For Service Income	171,420	Special Events Expenses	147,600
Rental Income	9,444	Administrative Expense	1,147,691
Private Contributions	<b>911,942</b>	Building & Equipment Expense	593,051
Special Events Revenue	<b>244,500</b>	Depreciation Expense	389,476
Grant & Contract Revenue	<b>12,808,878</b>	In Kind Expenses	228,592
Weatherization	9,838,059	Interest Expense	258,643
Early Head Start Federal Share	923,296	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$15,988,930</b>
Early Head Start State	46,200		
United Way Grants	383,771		
DPI Meal Program	142,334		
DPI Charter School Grants	992,343	<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$16,000,283</b>
VITA Federal Grants	33,400	<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$15,988,930</b>
VITA Greater Milwaukee Foundation	100,000	<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$11,353</b>
Other Grants	349,475		
Interest and Investment Income	<b>0</b>		
InKind Contributions	<b>228,592</b>		
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>16,000,283</b>		

During 2017 La Casa is budgeting over \$14 million in Program participants direct expenses, the major concentration are in the "Cost of Goods and services provided for the Weatherization Program and La Casa's Program's Direct Personnel and Operating Expenses.

Indirect Expenses are budgeted to be \$1.1 million for the year and \$2.5 million of others program expenses such as space, food, supplies, marketing, insurance and interest expenses.

#### La Casa's Financial Audit:

- There were no findings related to the Early Head Start Program at La Casa's Financial audit for the period ending December 31, 2016
- La Casa's 2016 financial audit was reviewed and accepted by its Board of Directors and EHS Policy Council. For a complete copy of the audit, please contact Ailec Gonzalez, VP of Finance at 262-547-0887.



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