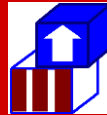




MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
COMMUNITY ACTION AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Head Start/Early Head Start

2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT



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Dear Friends

Head Start/Early Head Start is a program that works to reduce the impact of poverty on children and families. This year we did just that, as demonstrated in our annual report.

Throughout the year we have had many examples of how Head Start works to improve the lives of children and families. Children are growing their own gardens at United Way Center for Excellence; children are learning science and math concepts at LeJardin Head Start/Early Head Start and children from several different centers travelled to the Miami Children's Museum to participate in art and music learning.

This year we have focused on fathers - who are often neglected in programs. Our school year began with a Back 2 School with Dad event that provided children with a fun day with their fathers backpack giveaways. Events with fathers continued to include father-daughter dances, a Fatherhood Reading Squad, and a specific Fatherhood curriculum.

Children also succeeded. The aggregated child outcomes demonstrate their readiness for school. Many of our four year old children read their favorite books by the end of the year. Just as importantly, children have developed social skills - including curiosity, persistence, and pro-social behavior.

Natacha Janac, Head Start Policy Council chair stated, "It [Head Start/Early Head Start] changed my life. My baby had a developmental delay and now she doesn't. I was able to grow in this program and I want to give back to this community."

Our success this year is entirely due to the hard work, motivation and passion of the Head Start/Early Head Start staff. Each and every one has gone beyond their job description to ensure that children and families receive the best services possible.

Thank you to all who made it possible for a wonderful year.

Overview

Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD) Head Start/Early Head Start is a comprehensive child and family development program for low-income families with children between the ages of birth to five. Head Start offers education, health services, social services, nutrition, parent involvement activities, mental health services and services to children with disabilities. Children who are from 0 to 5 years old and meet income eligibility guidelines established by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, participate in this nationally recognized early education program. Parent involvement is the glue that links all program components together. Head Start philosophy believes that “parents are the child’s first educators” and active parent engagement with their children enhances our classrooms in our center-based program. Parents have a tremendous opportunity to develop leadership skills, exert a positive impact on their child’s overall progress and be involved in the program, personnel and fiscal decisions that affect the pre-school program.

This report is published in accordance with the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. The Act states that: “Each Head Start agency shall make available to the public a report published at least once in each fiscal year that discloses the following information from the recently concluded fiscal year, except that reporting such information shall not reveal personally identifiable information about an individual child or parent:

- A) The total amount of public and private funds received and the amount from each source.
- (B) An explanation of budgetary expenditures and proposed budget for the fiscal year.
- (C) The total number of children and families served, the average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment), and the percentage of eligible children served.
- (D) The results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit.
- (E) The percentage of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams.
- (F) Information about parent involvement activities.

(G) The agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten.

(H) Any other information required by the Secretary."



Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD) Mission Statement:

The Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD) empowers disadvantaged families and communities through advocacy, education, resources mobilization and service delivery, and provides comprehensive social services to assist children, adults and families to attain self-sufficiency, function independently and lead productive lives.

Head Start/Early Head Start Mission Statement:

To develop the social competency of young children, promote school readiness, and serve as a catalyst to empower families for growth and change.

Head Start/Early Head Start Management Philosophy:

Put children first, strive for excellence, project a professional image and attitude, and treat everyone with respect.



School Readiness

The Miami - Dade County Community Action & Human Services Department (CAHSD) Head Start/Early Head Start provides developmentally appropriate educational experiences through learning opportunities to develop school readiness skills for children birth to five. Head Start/Early Start respects and values parents as their children's primary teacher and facilitates a strong collaboration between teachers, parents and children. This collaboration results in active hands-on learning experiences, manipulating materials, describing life events and embracing communication. The Head Start/Early Head Start program uses a research-based curriculum which enhances young children's abilities to develop trusting relationships, promotes curiosity and problem solving, and increases communication skills.



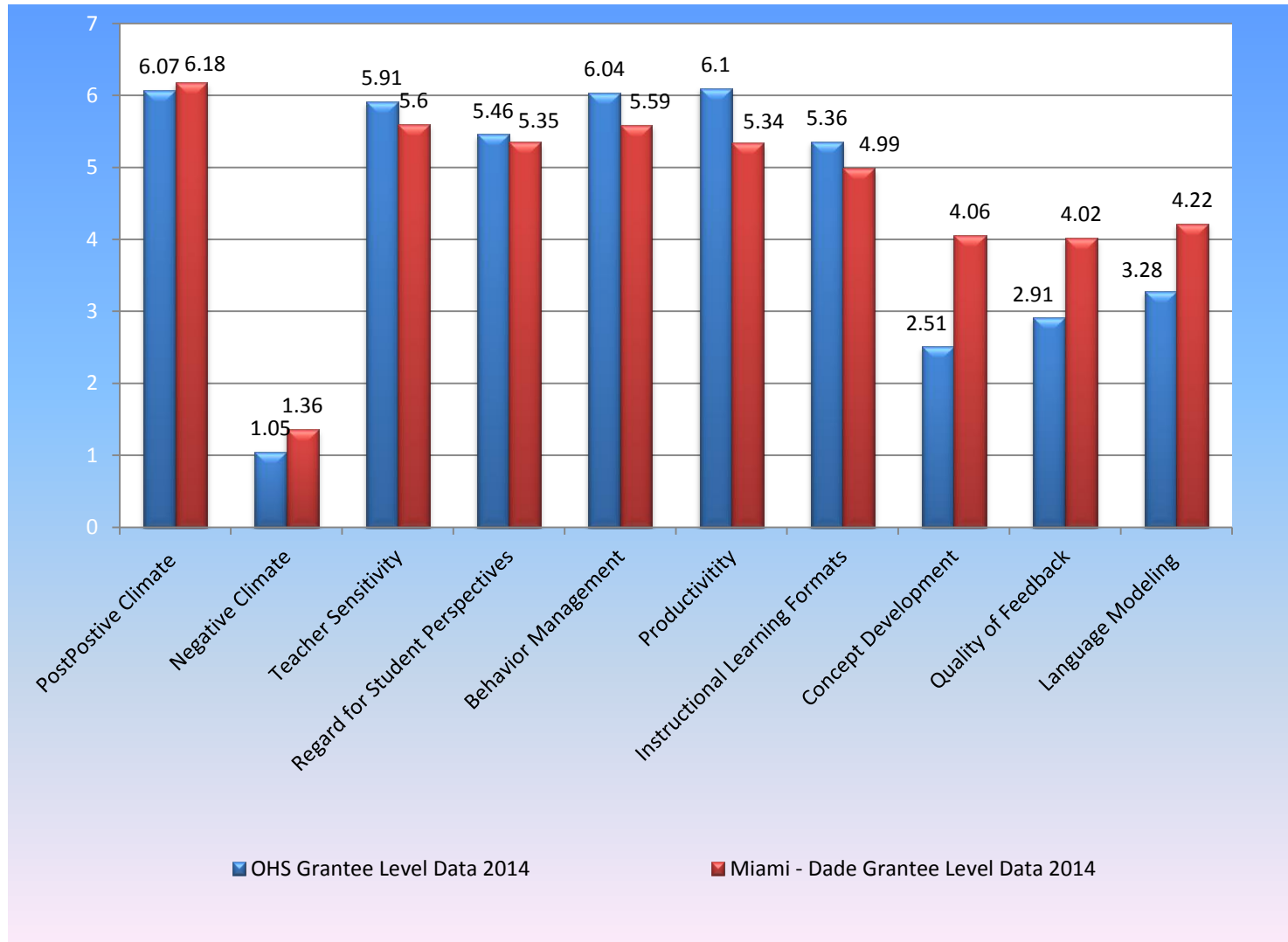
Preparing children for kindergarten and success beyond Head Start/Early Head Start is the emphasis in each classroom. Miami-Dade CAHSD HS/EHS has developed a School Readiness Advisory committee, consisting of community partners, early childcare professionals, delegate agency staff, and parents to implement innovative strategies to prepare children for success in school and life.

The Miami-Dade CAHSD HS/EHS Program engages in the following strategies to prepare enrolled children for Kindergarten:

- 1) Incorporates innovative language and literacy activities daily; integrate technology into classroom activities,
- 2) completes on-going assessment of children's progress and uses children's individualized child outcomes data to plan developmentally appropriate activities on a daily basis.

In addition to utilizing the Preschool CLASS Observation tool, CAHSD implemented a Practice - Based Coaching initiative which has successfully improved teaching skills. CLASS is a widely used assessment tool to determine classroom quality including as part of the Head Start Triennial review. CAHSD HS/EHS CLASS scores are above national averages.

CLASS Analysis National Average 2014 Miami-Dade Grantee Level Data 2014



(a) The total amount of public and private funds received and the amount from each source.

The funding level for 2014-2015 included \$58,953,297 in the regular operating grant and \$636,948 in training and technical assistance funds. Head Start programs are required to provide at least a 20% match of their total funding in order to spend federal dollars. CAHSD HS/EHS fulfills this requirement through donated services and supplies, and documents community support received through donations, parent and community volunteer.

(b) An explanation of budgetary expenditures and proposed budget for the fiscal year.

FEDERAL HEAD START	\$51,730,611
Personnel and Fringe Benefits	\$5,475,290
Supplies(office & classroom, postage, photocopy)	\$377,586
Contracted Services (psychologist services, nutrition consultant, payment for child care slots)	\$44,527,731
Other (telephone, advertising, auto expenses, registration fees, utilities, audit, medical services, disabilities services, staff travel, parent travel & activities, pupil transportation, building leases, insurance, food, curriculum fees, licenses, and equipment maintenance)	\$881,573
Out of area travel	\$141,250
Training	\$327,181
FEDERAL EARLY HEAD START	\$6,323,051
Personnel and Fringe Benefits	\$50,137
Contracted Services	\$6,120,840
Program Expenses	\$38,335
Travel/Transportation	\$1,659
Training	\$112,080
Surplus	\$899,635

Our Program Service Providers

Miami-Dade County oversees program operations to seventeen (17) delegate agency partners to provide direct program services, ensuring the provision of high quality services to children and families. Miami-Dade County's Head Start/Early Head Start Program is funded to serve 6,310 Head Start children and 446 Early Head Start Children in 84 center-based and home-based locations throughout Miami-Dade County.

Service Providers	Enrollment
Allapattah	77
Catholic Charities	1275
Centro Mater	590
Easter Seals	488
Family Christian Association of America	524
Haitian Youth	106
KIDCO	392
Ladow Yeshiva	96
Le Jardin	512
Miami-Dade County Public Schools	2127
O'Farrill Learning Center	250
Our Little Ones	118
Paradise Christian	185
St. Alban's Enrichment Center	170
Sunflower Academy	50
United Way Center of Excellence	62
YWCA	212

(c) The total number of children and families served, the average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment), and the percentage of eligible children served.

Recruitment efforts focus on identifying all children categorically eligible for the program prior to accepting any children between the 101-130% poverty level. Although many families are employed with an income that exceeds the 100% poverty guidelines they do not reach the level of income resulting in self-sufficiency and therefore we've seen a marked increase in families within the 101-130% of poverty requesting and demonstrating need for enrollment.

2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR:

The total numbers of families served: **7674**

Total number of children served: Head Start: **7480**

Early Head Start: **681**

Pregnant Women: Total: **2**

Average monthly enrollment:

Head Start: **6809**

Early Head Start: **524**

ENROLLMENT BY INCOME CATEGORY:

Eligible- 100 % of poverty guidelines- **7198**

Eligible 100-125% of poverty guidelines - **0**

Eligible Over-Income- **110**

Eligible IEP-/IFSP- **699**

Eligible Foster Care- **10**

Eligible TANF-550/SSI- **718**

Eligible Homelessness- **127**



(d) The results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit.

Results of the Most Recent Review by the Secretary and the Financial Audit

On February 3 - 14, 2014 the Administration of Children and Families conducted an on-site review of the Head Start Program; there were three (3) non-compliance issues in the area of Program Governance, ERSEA, and Child Health and Safety. On November 18-21, 2014, a follow-up monitoring Desk Review was conducted and found the Program to be in full compliance.

The Independent Auditor's report for the fiscal year ending September 2015 issued an unmodified opinion and is available for review at the following link.

<http://www.miamidade.gov/finance/library/single-audit-2015.pdf>

CHILD HEALTH & IMMUNIZATION SERVICES

Head Start and Early Head Start's commitment to wellness embraces a comprehensive vision of preventative health care services for our children and families. We provide a comprehensive health service program that includes preventive Hearing and Vision screenings, CDC recommended immunizations schedule, and physical examinations that exceed the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) schedule and meets the American Academy of Pediatrics Professional association recommendations. Head Start/Early Head Start is committed to the whole child, thus the program also provides Developmental, Behavioral and Social - Emotional Screenings.

The program's health practices include ensuring that children and families obtain a medical home within 30 days of attendance, which facilitates health screenings that lead to preventive, early detection, health education and treatment health services.

The Preventative Health Care Services listed below were provided to a total of **7480** *Head Start* and **681** *Early Head Start* children. Head Start requires that all children have an ongoing source of continuous medical and dental care that helps prepare parents to be active partners in their child's ongoing health care needs. Our commitment to each wellness helps to ensure school readiness and success for families and children well beyond the preschool years. The health services are designed to support children's health, well-being and development.



Preventative Health Care Services	Number at end of enrollment	Percentage at end of enrollment
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Head Start

Children with health insurance	7406	99.01%
Children with up-to-date immunization, all possible to date or medical/religious exemption	7437	99.43%
Children up-to-date on a schedule of preventive and primary health care per EPSDT schedule	6874	91.90%

Cumulative Enrolled Head Start Children - 7480

Early Head Start

Children with health insurance	672	98.68%
Children with up-to-date immunization, all possible to date or medical/religious exemption	662	97.21%
Children up-to-date on a schedule of preventive and primary health care per EPSDT schedule	538	79.0%

Cumulative Enrolled Early Head Start Children - 681

Children who receive medical treatment for a chronic condition	Number of Children
Anemia	185
Asthma	372
Hearing Difficulties	8
Vision Problems	55
High Lead Levels	3

ORAL HEALTH AND DENTAL SERVICES

Head Start/Early Head Start oral/dental care continues to be a vital element of wellness.

Preventive oral health services and treatment are designed to ensure that a child's teeth and gums are healthy, and that oral/dental problems are addressed early and do not affect a child's overall health. Our oral hygiene practices consist of daily tooth brushing. Our Head Start children receive a yearly comprehensive oral examination, which includes fluoride application. Our children and their parents are educated on effective oral hygiene, which includes age appropriate teeth cleaning practices.



DENTAL SERVICES Head Start Children	Number at end of enrollment	Percentage at end of enrollment
<i>Cumulative Enrolled Head Start Children - 7480</i>		
Children completing a professional dental examination	6527	87.25%
❖ Of this number, the percentage of children needing professional dental treatment	367	5.6%
▪ Of this number, the percentage of children who received dental treatment	201	54.76%



Nutrition Services that are provided through Head Start include:

- ❖ Planned Head Start and Early Head Start four weeks cycle menus;
- ❖ Completion of nutrition analysis for the Head Start and Early Head Start four weeks cycle menus to ensure 2/3 of participants daily recommended dietary needs are met;
- ❖ Provision of therapeutic and special menus to include: no milk, no peanuts or any nuts, vegetarian, no pork, no corn, no eggs, no citrus, bland, no wheat, mechanical soft, specialized diet for autistic children(based on the child's condition), no seafood;
- ❖ Completion of 4,572 nutrition assessments of Head Start and Early Head Start children;
- ❖ Provision of follow up services to children identified with nutrition related health problems:
 - ❖ 185 anemia/low hemoglobin or hematocrit
 - ❖ 2472 overweight/obese
 - ❖ 496 underweight
 - ❖ 352 food allergies
 - ❖ 7 metabolic disorders
- ❖ Development of the 2015 Nutrition Education Calendar that provides fun nutrition activities, current nutrition related health information and healthy recipes;
- ❖ Provision of coaching/mentoring and technical assistance to 17 delegate nutrition coordinators/managers and four nutrition consultants;
- ❖ Provision of food services to 8,161 Head Start and Early Head Start children:
 - ❖ 1,002,443 breakfasts
 - ❖ 1,038,209 lunches
 - ❖ 1,021,570 snacks



MENTAL HEALTH

DECA DATA SYNTHESIS AND ANALYSIS

The Devereaux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) data is as follows for children who were screened during the first 45 days and identified with an area of need in initiative, self- control, attachment-relationships or behavioral concerns. A pre post comparison denoting improved social, emotional and behavioral functioning is also provided.

DECA Total Number Screenings Re-screenings Completed by Teachers	Number of Children w/Pre Areas of Need	Number of Children w/Mid Areas of Need	Number of Children w/Post Areas of Need	Pre Post Data for Children w/Improved Functioning
Head Start- 8075	688	206	143	80%
Early Head Start-654	30	5	3	90%

The DECA Pre, Mid and Post results data were utilized in conjunction with the Galileo data to plan individually for children with identified areas of need in attachment/relationships, self- regulation, initiative and behavioral concerns.

DELEGATE AGENCIES MENTAL SERVICES PROVIDED

Direct services were provided by the delegate agencies licensed mental health professionals for 939 Head Start and 75 Early Head Start enrolled children who were identified on the DECA and/or by parents or teachers with a social, emotional, or behavioral concern as follows:

Children with Staff Consultations

Program	Number of Children
Head Start	939
Early Head Start	75

Children with Three or More Staff Consultations

Program	Number of Children	Percentage
Head Start	405	43%
Early Head Start	30	40%

Children with Staff-Parent Consultations

Program	Number of Children	Percentage
Head Start	440	47%
Early Head Start	32	43%

DISABILITIES

Miami-Dade County Head Start/Early Head Start ensures that every child suspected or diagnosed with special needs is valued, supported and fully included in all aspects of our program. Our ongoing observations and assessments indicated that every child with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) demonstrated various positive aspects towards individualized growth in attaining and achieving their own targeted school readiness goals. Programmatically, we successfully met the 10% enrollment mandate for Early Head Start. However, one of our greatest evolving challenges this year was satisfying 9.06% of the required 10% enrollment mandate of pre-school children with disabilities within Head Start.

Program	Funded Enrolled Children with IEP's / IFSP's	Pending Miami-Dade County Public Schools Eligibility for Services	Further Evaluations Needed
Head Start	572 of 6310 (9.06%)	263	59
Early Head Start	127 of 512 (24.80%)	N/A	N/A



FAMILY SERVICES

Head Start is committed to helping each child and family achieve success through a comprehensive partnership. This partnership begins at enrollment and continues through transition and beyond. Parents are welcomed in the classroom and encouraged to engage in daily activities and participate in events and programs such as the Read to Learn Book Club, Viva Expo for Parents, Reading Under the Stars Night, ECHOS Parent Leadership, A Night of 100 Languages, Father/Daughter Dance, Cultural: Hispanic Heritage & Black History Celebrations, Literacy Kickoff with Dad & First Time Homebuyers, Parenting classes and Health Fairs.

Staff also had the opportunity to work with each family, addressing family needs and goals. During the 2014-2015 program year:

- ❖ 670 parents became employed
- ❖ 269 Head Start and Early Head Start employees were current or former parents
- ❖ 1467 trainings/workshops were conducted
- ❖ 71% of families received services (i.e. parenting education, health education, emergency/crisis intervention, ESL)
- ❖ 43 homeless families acquired housing
- ❖ Transition packets (kindergarten registration requirements, summer activities, kindergarten readiness skills) were provided to Head Start children entering kindergarten



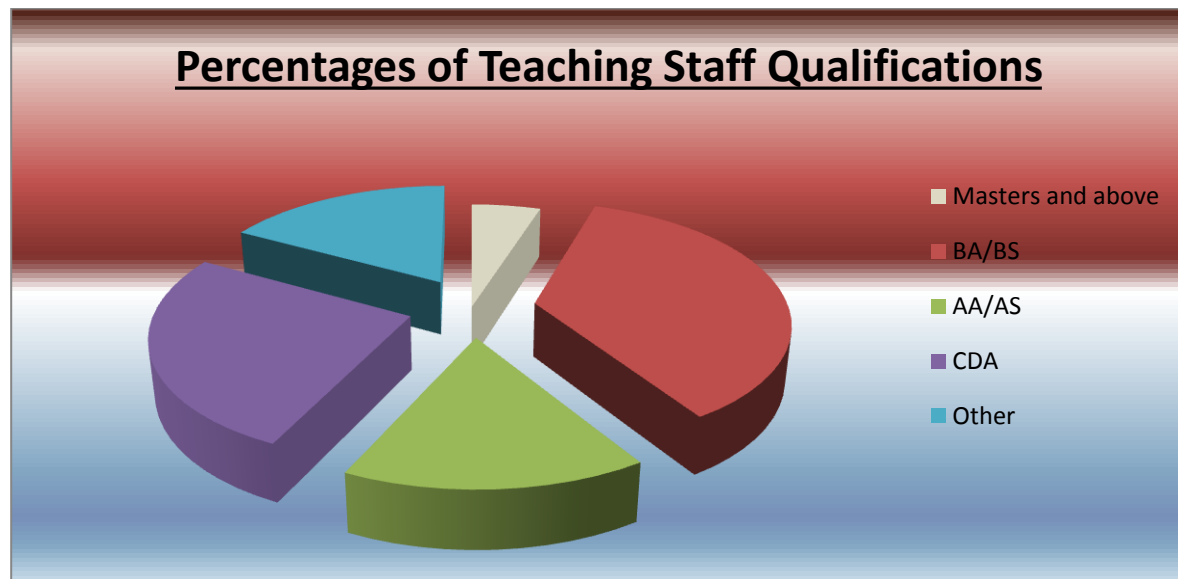
"I am thankful for the Head Start Program and O'Farrill Learning Center for the opportunities given to me and my family. I will provide families with the best service we can give them. "Enmely G Rodriguez"-Head Start parent and staff".

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

The Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services (CAHSD) Head Start/Early Head Start Program understands the importance of having qualified staff. Of the 724 teachers employed by the 17 Delegate Agencies, 57% percent have an Associate's Degree or higher.

The Program also understands that qualified staff must stay abreast of current trends in their field of expertise. Thus, a great deal of effort is placed on professional development opportunities, some of which include: attendance at local and out-of-town conferences and workshops; in-house workshops; workshops conducted at the program's Early Head Start and Head Start Pre-Service Training Conferences; and college accredited coursework. Additionally, close partnerships with local community colleges and universities have been formed along with a qualified pool of local, state and national training providers.

The employment of qualified staff has enabled the Miami-Dade County CAHSD Head Start/Early Head Start Program to provide quality services to children, families and the communities in which we serve.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Miami-Dade Community Action & Human Services Head Start/Early Head Start Program has diligently strived to create community partnerships that support the health, well-being, growth and development of the infants, children and families we serve. With our focus on this population we have combined the resources, strengths and ideas from our 2014-2015 partnerships and broadened our ability to provide in depth services to the community.

Our 2014-2015 Head Start/Early Head Start formal and informal collaborative partnerships include the following providers and service organizations:

Early Childhood Partners

- ❖ Early Learning Coalition
- ❖ Early Steps
- ❖ The Children's Trust

Family Support Partners

- ❖ Florida Department of Children & Families
- ❖ United Way
- ❖ Legal Services of Greater Miami
- ❖ CareerSource
- ❖ Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade
- ❖ Miami-Dade Transit
- ❖ Family Counseling Services of Greater Miami

Universities, Colleges, and Educational Partners

- ❖ Florida International University
- ❖ Miami Children's Museum
- ❖ Miami Dade College
- ❖ Miami Dade County Public Schools
- ❖ Museum of Science
- ❖ University of Miami

Health Partners

- ❖ Florida Department of Health
- ❖ U.S. Department of Health
- ❖ United Health Group
- ❖ Public Health Trust
- ❖ Women, Infant and Children (WIC)
- ❖ Crysalis Health
- ❖ Family Counseling Services of Greater Miami
- ❖ Borinquen Health Care Center
- ❖ New Horizons Community Mental Health Center
- ❖ Center for Family and Child Enrichment
- ❖ Bio-Behavioral Corp
- ❖ University of Florida/Miami-Dade County Cooperative Extension Service

Media Partners

- ❖ Channel 4 Neighbors 4 Neighbors



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Mayor

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