Three Rivers Early Childhood Programs

Head Start and Early Head Start Home Visiting
Head Start Funding

* Federal Grant- $1,863,128.00  Funds 169 Head Start children
* State Grant- $465,782.00  Funds 22 Head Start children
* Pathway II State Scholarships- $456,796.00 (over two years)  Funds transportation for all Half Day programming and bilingual staff
* COVID Grants through 3/31/2023- $202,209.00 American Rescue Plan
## Head Start Service Model

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Head Start Program Data
We served 202 children.
Head Start collects a large amount of data which we use throughout the year to monitor how well we are achieving our program goals. This data is also used to help us plan for the following school year. We look at many variables that affect a child’s outcomes.

- Demographics
  - Outcomes by Age
  - Attendance
  - Home Language
  - Compared to other HS programs
  - Family Home stability and child outcomes
Race and Ethnicity

- American Indian/AK Native
- Multiracial-Hispanic
- Black or African American
- Multiracial-Not Hispanic
- White-Hispanic
- White-Not Hispanic
Language Spoken

- Somali: 19%
- English: 63%
- Spanish: 18%
Three Rivers Compared to All MN Programs

Overall Score all children

Summated Score

- Fall
- Winter
- Spring

- All programs within selected years
- Selected programs within selected year
Attendance Does Matter

Impact of Attendance on Child Outcomes

- SocEm
- Physical
- Language
- Cognitive
- Literacy
- Math

0% - Below 80%
80% - 89%
90% - 100%
Family Life Assessment and Child Outcomes
4yos

![Bar chart showing Spring Score for SocEm, Physical, Language, Cognitive, Literacy, and Math categories. The chart compares scores across different age groups (0-2.99, 3.00-3.99, 4.00-5.00).]
Program Goal: 85% Ready for Kindergarten 4 Year Olds

Percent Ready for K in spring (Target: 312)

87.3%
Early Head Start Funding

- MN Department of Health
  $1,086,960.00 over 4 years Funds 36 families. Includes Families First, Jeremiah Project, Semcac as partners

- MN Department of Health Strong Foundations $252,000.00 for the first year starting January 1, 2023

- MN State Head Start Grant
  $465,782.00 Funds 10- families
History of Early Head Start Home Visiting

Head Start is considered one of the pioneers in education based home visiting and originally began as a completely home based program at its inception in 1965. Teachers would go into the homes of low income/rural families in order to help prepare their children for Kindergarten.

*Goodhue County has had a Head(3-5) Start/home visiting program since 1966 through Three Rivers Community Action.

*The first federal Early Head Start grants were awarded in 1995 to include children 0-3 and pregnant moms.
Home Visiting Main Components

- Curriculum used – Partners for Healthy Babies/Conscious Discipline (social – emotional tool)
- Ongoing assessment tool: DRDP (Desired Results Developmental Profile)
- Screening tools: Brigance (every 3 months until age 2, then every 6 months) as well as the ASQ:SE2 (social-emotional screener)
- Data Management system: Child’s Plus (tracking of home visits, family goals, assessment and screening results)
- Weekly 1.5 hour home visits done with families and Early Head Start home visitor – 48 visits a year. Tailored visits to meet the needs of the family. Work on setting goals around parenting, developmental outcomes for target child or children, family needs, crisis intervention, parent advocacy, connection to resources
- Monthly socialization opportunities for families of infants/toddlers to come together to learn about parenting, nutrition, child development, ect.
Transition to Head Start

Children who are enrolled in our EHS home visiting program will automatically roll over into one of our HS classrooms once they turn 3 years of age and there is a space available. Home visitors will continue to work with families until this can take place.
Ideas for the Future
Family Childcare Entrepreneurs

- Infant/Toddler center closed but together with our partners, including Healthy Community Initiative and Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation we are continuing our mission to support childcare needs in the Northfield community.

- New Family Childcare model includes classroom space provided by Three Rivers and business support provided by Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation

- Marketing to individuals who are looking to start a new career or relocate their current family childcare business.

- Benefits to the selected applicant include: Quality classroom space at an affordable rent, starter kit of classroom environment materials and business supplies and premier business consulting services and coaching through Three Rivers
MN Head Start State Data: School Readiness Goals Project 11 Years In the Making
Children’s Growth and Achievement

Student Characteristics and Outcomes:

• Gender: Boys score lower in the spring, but their growth rates are similar to girls

• Race: Children from different racial background have similar growth and achievement

• Home language: Children with non-English home language have lower spring scores but their growth rates are higher than kids with English-speaking households

• Age: Older children score higher in the spring but their growth rates are similar to younger kids

• IEP: Children with IEPs post low scores in the spring, but their growth rates are only slightly lower than kids not on IEP
Program Option and Dose/Duration

Attendance:

• Kids that are chronically absent score lower in the spring and have lower growth rates. Kids absent about 10-20% of the time have lower spring scores but show similar growth rates relative to kids that are absent 0-10% of the time.

Hours per week:

• More hours per week is strongly associated with higher spring scores and growth rates are higher for kids in the 30+ hours per week group relative to the group that meets for 0-14 hours per week.

Years of HS and EHS:

• Kids with 2+ years of HS or EHS score about 15 points higher in the spring, but their growth rates are about 10 points lower (could be that they get a larger boost in the first years of HS than in later years).
Teachers’ Experience and Skills

Teacher Experience:
• Kids with more experienced teachers score higher in the spring, but their growth rates are only higher for kids with teachers with 2-4 years of experience

CLASS Instructional Support:
• Higher CLASS Instructional Support scores are associated with higher spring scores and growth

Teacher Turnover:
• Teacher turnover is clearly bad for both spring scores and growth

Virtual vs. In-person Classroom:
• Kids in virtual (or other/unknown program delivery) score lower and have lower growth rates relative to kids with in-person program delivery
EHS/HS Experience and Age: 3rd Grade

- Head Start children that are young for their grade appear to get more benefit from a 2nd year of HS
- Young kids with 2 years of HS outperform similar non-HS kids on both MCA exams in 3rd grade
- The benefit of HS for older kids is less pronounced
No Surprises: High Quality Programming is Key to Head Start’s Future

Realizing the vision of the 2016 Head Start Performance Standards for high quality, comprehensive services into the future means to:

• Enroll more families with children under 3 and serving them for at least 2 years
• Ensure all children can get 30 hours of service per week and more working families can receive full-day, full-year services
• Address teacher pay parity to foster stability and coach/mentor all teachers to enhance their instructional practices
• Foster strong parent partnerships to boost daily attendance and support families as their children’s first teacher
Questions?