

STRONG CHILDREN. STRONG FAMILIES. STRONG COMMUNITIES

KIDS AND COMPANY OF LINN COUNTY

FY 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Find us online at www.kidcoheadstart.org | @kidcoheadstart

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OUR MISSION

Kidco Head Start's mission is to provide a comprehensive early child development program that supports children and families

OUR JOURNEY

KIDCO HEAD START HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

1965 - Sweet Home School District 55 awarded one of the nation's initial Head Start grants to serve five-year-old children in a three-month summer program. Total enrollment was 54

1968 - Head Start becomes a 9-month school year program and operates from the former Cascadia School.

1977 - Kids and Company of Linn County, a private non-profit, is formed, primarily to be the grantee for Head Start. The program moves operation into Sweet Home and begins serving three and four year old children.

1979 - Head Start is granted the deed to Sweet Home's Sunnyside School.

1979-92 - The program expands, serving children in Sweet Home, Crawfordsville, Lebanon, Albany, Corvallis, Harrisburg and Monroe areas adding Oregon Pre-Kindergarten Program funding to Federal Head Start funding. Enrollment is now 324.

1998-02 - Program adds services to Philomath, Jefferson and Central Linn. Full-day and Full-year classes are added to the Albany center. Enrollment during this time is 387.

2002 - Head Start purchases Albany's Riverside school and grounds. Full-day / Full-year services begin for 18 children in Albany.

2002-08 - The program expands in areas served; enrollment is up to 449 students.

2010 - Early Head Start services began in 3 communities with 52 families.

2015 Spring - EHS celebrates 5 year anniversary with Kidco

2015 Spring - Kidco Head Start celebrates 50th Anniversary alongside Head Start nationwide.

2016 Winter - Kidco applies and receives federal funding to increase duration for 40% of slots.

2018 Spring - Joy Street Center in Lebanon opens.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENROLLED

Of the 366 children served during 2021-2022: 68% had at least 1 parent Employed 10% had at least 1 parent in Job Training/School 85% had at least 1 parent with a High School Degree or Higher 28% had a College Degree

FAMILIES SERVED IN 2021-2022

330 Head Start / Early Head Start

FUNDED ENROLLMENT

Head Start | 311 Early Head Start | 97

OUR VALUES

We believe we are a positive influence in the lives of children and families. We acknowledge parents as the most influential teachers of their children. We value respect.

We value relationships with families, board, community and co-workers. We value a program environment that is caring and supportive.

We value shared decision making.

HEAD START CENTERS

Albany - Periwinkle/LBCC Albany - Riverside

Corvallis

Harrisburg

Jefferson

Lebanon

Philomath

Sweet Home - Sunnyside

EARLY HEAD START CENTERS

Albany - Periwinkle/LBCC Corvallis - Old Mill Center Corvallis - 35th Street

Lebanon - Joy Street Center

WHAT WE DO

KIDCO HEAD START HELPS CHILDREN SUCCEED

Head Start is a federal program for preschool children from low-income families. The Head Start Oregon Pre-Kindergarten Program is the same program funded by the state. Children who attend Head Start participate in educational activities to help them grow mentally, socially, emotionally, and physically. They also receive free medical and dental care, healthy meals, and enjoy playing and learning in safe indoor and outdoor settings. Special services are offered to meet the needs of children with disabilities.

EHS provides the same services for pregnant women, infants and toddlers in selected communities. EHS promotes nurturing parent/child relationships and a healthy start in life. Both programs work in partnership with families, offering a sense of belonging, support, and opportunities to be engaged in activities to help the whole family.

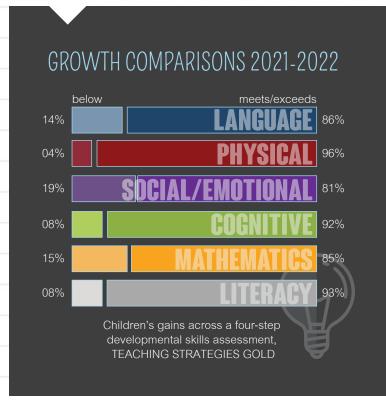
We assess children's skills throughout a school year. This data is used to plan for individual children and make program improvements to ensure all children are ready for kindergarten. Our data shows that the majority of children entering our program do not have the skills expected of their age. However, by the end of the year they make tremendous growth; about 90% have acquired the expected skills. The charts on this page indicate significant progress in the areas of social, physical, cognitive, literacy, and math.

ABOUT US

A FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS

Head Start and Early Head Start (EHS) services provide significant educational, health, economic and social benefits. Beginning with healthy attachments in infancy, children receive early learning experiences which engage parents and strengthen families. Studies reveal that children who participated in Head Start and EHS have:

- ✓ Significantly higher cognitive and language stills
- ✓ Better achievement scores in school
- ✓ Higher rates of high school graduation
- Better employment as adults
- ✓ Less involvement in the criminal justice system
- ✓ Increased family stability



OUR PHILOSOPHY

VALUE & SUPPORT

We create an environment that promotes the social, emotional, physical and intellectual development of each child. Providing experiences that build self-confidence, self-sufficiency and creativity is key. Developing natural curiosity, thinking and problem-solving skills are tools that can be used for a life time.

We value and support parents as their child's primary teacher by inviting and encouraging parents to participate in the program. Services and opportunities are provided to each family that unify and strengthen the family/child relationship. Parents are given the chance to build on their personal skills, become more self-confident and more self-sufficient.

By providing our staff with a variety of training opportunities they are able to stay current with best practices. A positive work environment and strong team spirit are valued by the organization and staff are encouraged to develop mutually-supportive relationships with the community.

EARLY CHILDHOOD IS THE BEST TIME TO HELP A CHILD.

HEAD START PROGRAM

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Early childhood is the best time to help a child. Providing the right kind of learning experiences and nurturing relationships builds a foundation that lasts a lifetime. We are committed to doing the best job we can to help children enter kindergarten self-confident and ready to learn. This requires on-going improvement in the quality of our teaching practices. We use knowledge gained from research to inform our practices and to help us select curricula and tools. One tool, the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), is used to strengthen teacher practices that are shown to improve children's readiness for kindergarten in all areas; social, emotional, cognitive, language, literacy, and math. The tool is based on direct observation by certified education specialists and the results used to support on-going improvement in teaching practices.



SERVING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

66 children with disabilities were served in Head Start & Early Head Start during the program year or approximately 16% of those we served.

Head Start and Early Head Start recognizes that all families need support in facing challenges in order to be the best parents they can be.

CAPACITY & DEMOGRAPHICS

HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START

Number of Classrooms: 25

Number of Centers: 12

Funded Enrollment: 408 children and families

Eligible children served (0-5): 24%

Cumulative Enrollment: 366 children and 330 families

Average Monthly Enrollment: 97%

Ethnic Composition: 98 Hispanic/Latino & 254 Non-Hispanic

thnic Composition: 109 (30%) Hispanic/Latino & 257

Non-Hispanic (70%)

Additional Health Statistics:

Number of children with health insurance: 360

Number of children up-to-date on immunizations: 313

Number of children with established medical home: 359

NUTRITIONHEALTHY CHILDREN

Children need to be physically and emotionally healthy to learn and grow. Head Start works with parents to help each child be up-to-date on their medical care. We also provide a variety of screenings to see if children have vision, hearing, dental, developmental or mental health needs. We serve children nutritious meals at school to encourage healthy food choices. As well, every child in the program receives a nutrition assessment and we have a Registered Dietitian on staff to provide support to families.



PROMOTING HEALTHY KIDS

HEALTH LEADING TO ENHANCED LEARNING

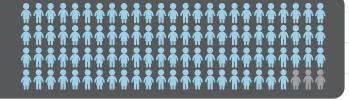
98% OF HEAD START/EHS CHILDREN ESTABLISHED A MEDICAL HOME.



95% OF HEAD START/EHS CHILDREN NEEDING MEDICAL TREATMENT RECEIVED TREATMENT.



97% OF ALL CHILDREN ENROLLED RECEIVED DENTAL EXAMS.



78% OF HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START CHILDREN WERE UP-TO-DATE ON A SCHEDULE OF AGE-APPROPRIATE HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING AN ANNUAL MEDICAL EXAM.



95% OF HEAD START/EHS CHILDREN WERE UP-TO-DATE ON IMMUNIZATIONS.



10% OF HEAD START/EHS CHILDREN HAD A CHRONIC CONDITION THAT NEEDED MEDICAL TREATMENT.



PREPARING CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR
SUCCESS IN SCHOOL AND
THROUGHOUT LIFE.

SCHOOL READINESS

INCREASE CHILDREN'S SCHOOL READINESS

Our objectives for children are to:

- ✓ Improve services for non-English speakers
- ✓ Improve mental health services
- ✓ Implement Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) strategies in classroom
- ✓ Increase the education level of classroom staff
- ✓ Improve physical and nutrition services
- ✓ Improve services to homeless children

As well, the program has established School Readiness Goals in 6 areas including: social emotional development, perceptual, motor and physical development, language and literacy, approaches to learning, cognition, and family engagement.

SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

INVESTING EARLY YIELDS BIG RETURNS

During FY 2022, Head Start & Early Head Start average monthly enrollment was maintained at 87% of funding levels, due to pandemic limitations.

School Readiness

- ✓ Language Development
- ✓ Early Literacy
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Creative Thinking
- ✓ Mathematics

Strong Healthy Bodies

- ✓ Nutritious Meals
- ✓ Outdoor Activities
- ✓ Medical & Dental Exams
- ✓ Vision & Hearing Screenings
- ✓ Personal Safety

Special Services

- ✓ Speech and Language
- ✓ Mental Health Services
- ✓ Individual Developmental Plans

Social and Emotional Skills

- ✓ Appropriate Communication
- ✓ Social Responsibility
- ✓ Appreciation of Differences
- ✓ Self-Confidence

GOALS OF OUR CURRICULUM

CHILDREN LEARN BEST BY DOING

In our program, the most important goal is to help children become confident and secure learners. The philosophy behind our curriculum is that young children learn best by doing, supported by responsive, caring and knowledgeable adults. Learning requires active thinking and experimenting to find out how things work, and this is best accomplished through play.

Play is the work of young children. Play provides the foundation for later academic success in school. It is the preparation children need before they learn highly abstract symbols such as letters and numbers. Play enables us to achieve the key goals of our early childhood curriculum.

The activities we plan for children, the way we organize the classroom, selection of toys and materials, plan the daily schedule, and talk with children, are all designed to accomplish the goals of our curriculum and give each child a successful transition into kindergarten.

LONG TERM PROGRAM GOALS

- ✓ Provide quality services which support children in becoming successful life long learners.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for family growth and development.
- ✓ Provide cost effective integrated systems to support attainment of goals.

Our program curriculum emphasizes the involvement of families as the primary teacher of their children. Education services include home visits with caregivers to plan activities that enhance each child's individual growth and development.

Goals are identified in all areas of development

- ✓ Social / Emotional
- ✓ Intellectual
- ✓ Language
- ✓ Physical



PARENT FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ENGAGING PARENTS AT ALL LEVELS

Engaging parents at all levels of the program is very important in Head Start and Early Head Start. Staff support parents in overcoming barriers and setting goals to reach their dreams. During the school year we provided many services and referrals for families. 92% of all Head Start and Early Head Start Families in the program utilized at least one the following services:

Parent Training

- ✓ Child Development
- ✓ Child Guidance Strategies
- ✓ Health and Nutrition Information
- ✓ Mental Health and Stress Relief
- ✓ Adult Basic Education/GED
- ✓ English for Speakers of Other Languages
- ✓ Prenatal/Postnatal Care
- ✓ Breastfeeding Support
- ✓ Home Based Service
- ✓ Housing Assistance

Referrals to Community Resources

- ✓ Emergency Services (basic family needs)
- ✓ Health, Mental Health and Nutritional Services
- ✓ Job Training and Education

Educational Opportunities

- ✓ GED Program provides books, child care, transportation, study classes and testing
- ✓ Literacy, Payment of Adult Basic Education Classes
- ✓ English for Speakers of Other Languages

Family Partnerships

- ✓ Building on Family Strengths
- ✓ Setting Family Goals
- ✓ Supporting Parents to Reach Those Goals
- ✓ Supporting Families as Primary Teachers/Caregivers of Their Children

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

For parents and prior Head Start graduates who have the goal of continuing their education past high school, the program offers opportunities to apply for several scholarships, including a two year, \$2,000 scholarship that Kidco Head Start itself awards each year.

FAMILY NEEDS

WORKING TOWARD COMMON GOALS

Family advocates provide many resources to assist parents in improving their education and working toward their financial goals.

FAMILY SERVICES



92% of families received 1 or more family service

FAMILY HOUSING



19% of families were experiencing homelessness



13% of homeless families acquired housing during the enrollment year

PARENT EDUCATION LEVELS

Less Than High School	15%
High School Diploma or GED	57%
Some College, Vocational or AA/AS	12%
BA/S or Advanced Degree	15%

EVALUATION

FEDERAL REVIEW

With the new 5 year grant cycle, the Office of Head Start has moved to an aligned monitoring system, with reviews occurring throughout that 5 year cycle.

Kidco's most recent review was in Spring of 2021, and was a Focus Area 1 review. The Focus Area review was a clean review with zero findings.

AUDIT STATEMENT

Kids and Company of Linn County is audited in accordance with Government Auditing Standards every year.

SingerLewak conducted the FY 2022. The audit was an unmodified opinion with zero findings.

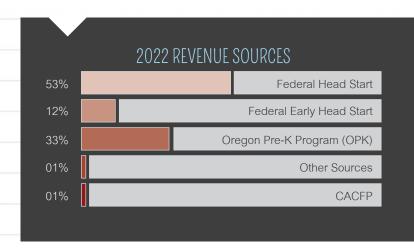


BUDGET EXPLANATION - 2023

PROGRAM SERVICES

Kidco Head Start is funed to provide comprehensive preschool services to 408 Head Start and Early Head Start children and their families through yearly grants provided by the Federal Government and the State of Oregon.

Program services include educational activities based on individual needs, nutritious meals and snacks, transportation, assistance in securing medical, dental and mental health care, educational opportunities for parents and support for family needs through referrals and goal setting.



FINANCIAL

HOW WE'RE FUNDED

Revenue Sources (FY 2022)

Department of Health and Human Services

Federal Head Start/Early Head Start \$4,580,977

Department of Education

Oregon Pre-Kindergarten Program (OPK) \$3,688,427 Child and Adult Care Food Program (USDA) \$148,710

Other Sources

Misc. Income, grants, donations \$133,000 and volunteer time

Total Amount \$8,551,114



PROPOSED BUDGET - 2023

A DETAILED LOOK

Revenue	/ Support
Nevellue	/ ԾԱՄՄՍԱ

Department of Health Human Services

Federal Head Start / Early Head Start \$4,399,778

Department of Education

Oregon Pre-Kindergarten Program (OPK) \$3,906,786 Child and Adult Care Food Program (USDA) \$339,306

Other Sources

Misc. Income, donations, in-kind and \$163,000 volunteer time

Expenses

Payroll and Fringe Benefits	\$6,916,626
Travel	\$20,000
Equipment	\$88,487
Supplies	\$287,700
Contractual	\$191,109
Property Services	\$476,637
Other-Purchases	\$542,446

(including nutrition, child services, volunteers, substitutes, parent services, accounting and legal, publications, training/staff development, occupancy, transportation)

"Children attending preschool had high school graduation rates averaging nearly 80%, while the rate for those not enrolled in preschool was only 60%."

- HighScope Perry Preschool Study

USDA NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- 1. mail:
 - U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- 2. fax:
 - (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. email:
 - Program.Intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

HEAD START ELIGIBILITY

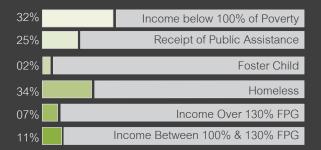
BASED ON INCOME AND NEED

Families are eligible for Head Start based on income and need. 90% of children enrolled must be from families whose income is less than 130% of the federal poverty guidelines; 10% may be accepted due to special needs regardless of income.

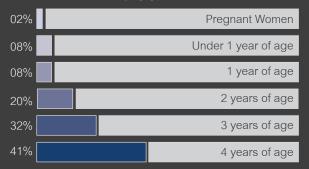
2022 federal poverty guidelines:

- ✓ Family of three with an income of \$23,030 or less
- ✓ Family of four with an income of \$27,750 or less

PRIMARY TYPE OF ELIGIBILITY



AGES SERVED



YEARS OF ENROLLMENT Early Head Start

31%	2 years or more
08%	3 years or more

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

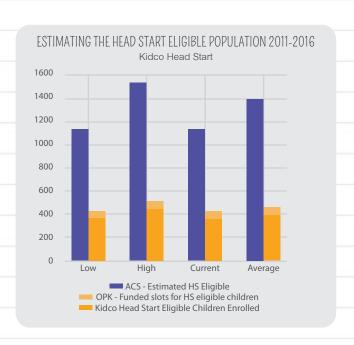
HOUSING

Adjusted for inflation, the weighted average median rent in Kidco's service area has increased by 18% over the past 7 years.

In Kidco's service area, the percentage of households that are "rent-overburdened" is 49%, meaning that nearly half of rent paying households pay 35% or more of their monthly income toward rent compared to 24% in the state of Oregon as a whole.

These trends are also reflected in Kidco's family services data. Among Early Head Start families the need was even more acute, with 63% of Kidco EHS families requesting or needing such services compared to 15.2% in the state and 10.6% in the US as a whole.

In the most recently completed program year, 26% of Kidco Head Start children and 21% of Kidco Early Head Start children were homeless, compared to 13% of Head Start children and 17% of Early Head Start children statewide.



COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT [CONT.]

ECONOMIC ISSUES

There are two, seemingly conflicting economic trends occurring in the service area. The poverty rate for young families is dropping, down to 20%, an 9-year low from a high of 30.6% in 2013. Median family income is also increasing, from \$50,015 per year in 2010 to \$59,547 in 2021. At the same time both the number and percentage of households on Supplemental Security Income (SSI), cash public assistance (TANF) and SNAP benefits are all on the rise. This may indicate wider income disparities in the area, and with rising rents low income families are under even more financial pressured. Some of the upward economic trends may be due to recent increases in the state minimum wage.

GET INVOLVED

Volunteers are an important part of our Head Start program. The program and children benefit each year form the invaluable support of volunteers. In 2021-2022, Kidco had a total of 77 volunteers. Volunteers were greatly limited due to pandemic restrictions.

Opportunities for involvement at the center:

Classroom: Assist children with classroom activities.

Kitchen: Assist the Kitchen Manager with the preparation of meals (Food Handler's card required).

Parent Planning: Work with the Family Advocate to plan workshops and Family night activities.

Parent Committee: Meet once a month for Family Night for business and an activity or training.

Fundraising: Plan fundraising projects, earning money for center activities and field trips.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Pat Smith - Warehouse Worker, Retired Air Force

VICE PRESIDENT

Jeff Kershaw - Program parent; Retired Air Force

SECRETARY / TREASURER

Kay Whittington - Accounting, Boys & Girls Club of Corvallis

Jennifer Meltzer - Bank Manager Don Andrews - Retired Attorney

Angie Passmore - Family Building Blocks

Kids and Company of Linn county is the non-profit sponsor of the Kidco Head Start program. The board provides general oversight, direction and evaluation of the Head Start program. The board also fosters public awareness for the Head Start program and joins in raising donations for advancing program projects

POLICY COUNCIL

Kandi Meyers- Chairperson

Rochelle Goodall - Vice-Chair

Stephanie Nading - Recording Secretary

Angelica Riddle & Kandi Meyers - State Reps & Personnel Delegates

A decision making body whose membership includes at least 51% parents of Head Start children currently enrolled in the program plus representatives of the community. The Policy Council helps to establish the goals of Head Start programs and ways to meet such goals within OHS guidelines.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS A HEAD START?

For information about the services we provide please contact our Administration Office

300 Market Street, Suite 200 Lebanon, Oregon 97355 P: 541.451.1581

Or visit us online at www.kidcoheadstart.org



KIDCO FAMILY STORY

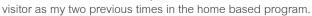
My name is Angelica Riddle and my journey with Head Start began in April of 2013 when I was an 18 year old mother of a 4 month old. My son was born with a heart defect and had heart surgery when he was a week old. I had spent my childhood feeling that love was something that you had to earn, that it was conditional. I knew that I wanted to parent different than I had been parented but I wasn't sure how to do that or where to begin. My parents were not happy over my pregnancy and I was encouraged to "do" something about it.

I began to believe that I didn't have what it took to be successful in life. The principal of my high school told me that I would never graduate and accomplish anything in life. I lacked any self-confidence that would allow me to become the person and mother that I wanted to be. My school counselor had concerns that my anxiety and fears would impact my bond with my baby. She suggested Early Head Start. I wanted to be the best mom I could and I hoped I could gain skills and knowledge to make that possible. I was in an emotionally and



mentally abusive relationship and my home visitor made me feel safe. With the consistent encouragement from my home visitor, I continued doing my school work from home and was able to graduate (even though it was a few months after the rest of my class).

My home visitor listened to my fears and started giving me hope. She encouraged me to reach out for counselling. I learned how my baby learns and fun and easy activities to do with him. I began to have hope that I could be a good mother, however with so much negative in other areas of my life, I decided to let my son's grandparents have custody of him because I was told that they would be able to provide for him better. I was able to leave that relationship but found myself in another relationship that wasn't any better. When I was pregnant with my daughter, I again worked with my home visitor. Once again, I felt safe and that she "heard" me. I was excited to learn and began feeling hopeful for my future and the future of my children, however, I moved out of the area and began working. I was not able to continue with Early Head Start.For the second time, I had the courage to leave a relationship that I knew was not healthy for myself or my daughter. In 2015, I met a man at work who taught me what a healthy relationship is. He provided stability and for the first time in my life, I learned what true unconditional love is. Even with some major health issues I had, I knew I was safe, loved and was taken care of.We had our son in January of 2020. Russell was enrolled at birth and I had the same home





We had weekly visits which soon turned into virtual weekly visits. A lot of people would wonder how a virtual visit would be successful but for me, they were perfect. I didn't have anxiety worrying that maybe my house was cluttered. I learned fun and exciting activities to do with Russell. We participated in the virtual playgroups and had so much fun doing the different activities. Every week we would meet online and I knew my questions were "heard" and what I learned was taught in a way that was easy to understand. Once again, my home visitor encouraged me to reach out to counseling. I had a fear of ruining my relationship by expecting him to be like the other men in my life and from my lack of self worth. My home visitor constantly reminded me that I am worth of unconditional love. My son recently aged out of Early Head Start and is now going to start Head Start next week.

When I first became a Head Start parent, I was told about Policy Council but at the time life was overwhelming and I lacked the confidence to join. My home visitor never gave up talking to me about Policy Council and always encouraged me to join. I finally felt I was in a place in my life to join during the 21/22 school year. I was elected to be a state rep for our program and attended

the spring conference. I learned so much from the sessions I attended and felt completely welcome. This year, with the encouragement from my home visitor and admin staff, I ran for the chairperson position and was elected. I am loving learning more about this great program.

In summary, I guess I'd like to say that a few of things that stand out about my Head Start experience is that there has NEVER been judgement. I feel that I am enjoying motherhood so much more than I ever expected. My home visits and participation have set me up for success and has been the one positive in my life for the past 10 years. With the help and support of Head Start I am daily able to prove that my high school principal was wrong about me. I did graduate and I am someone....I am a wonderful mother, partner and Head Start parent.

Thank you for your time.

