

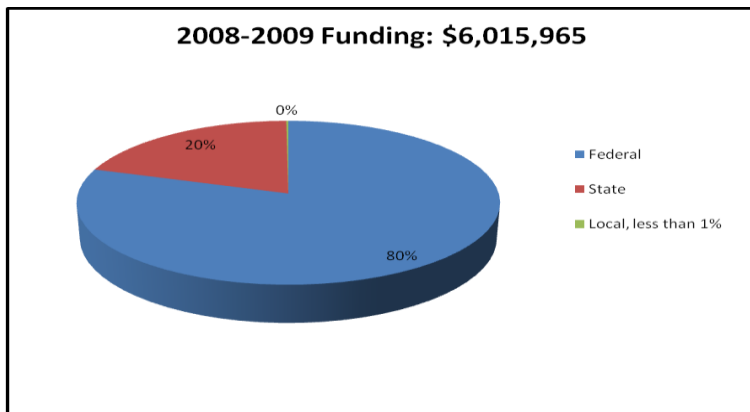


North Coast Opportunities, Inc.
 Head Start Child Development Program
Empowering children to reach their highest potential.

2008-2009 Annual Head Start Report

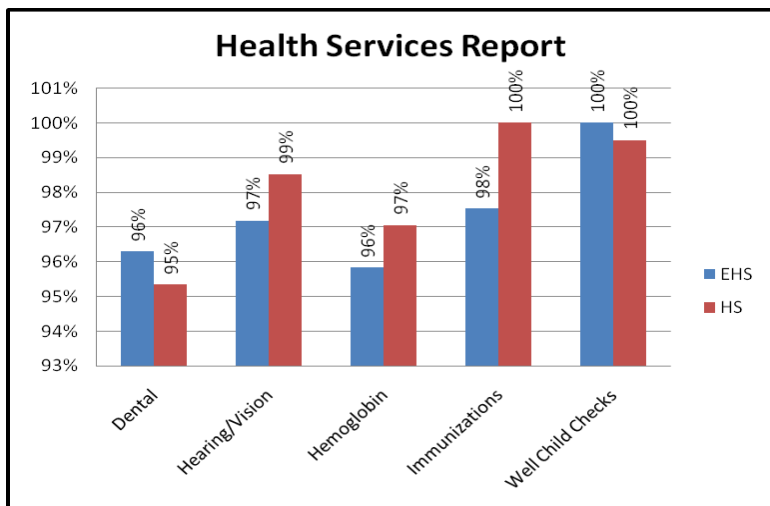
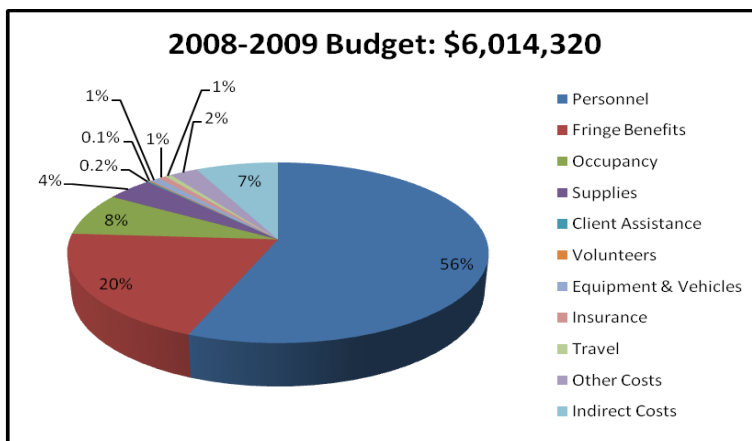
The Head Start Act of 2007 requires that each Head Start agency shall make available to the public an annual report.

**We are pleased to present to the community the
 2008-2009 NCO Head Start Child Development Program Annual Report.**



- Our Federal funding primarily comes from the Head Start Grant (PA 22), Head Start Training Grant (PA 20), Early Head Start Basic Grant (PA 25), Early Head Start Training Grant (PA 26) and U.S.D.A. Food Program Reimbursements.
- State funding comes from reimbursements for CCTR and the State Preschool program, as well as from various grants.
- Local funding comes from the Ukiah Unified Schools "Network for a Healthy California".
- Funding from Private sources make up less than 1% of total funding.

Each Grant and Reimbursement Program has an individual budget that must be monitored and updated. Here, the budgets have been combined and broken down by expense.



- The EHS Health program saw improvements over previous years. The increased education of families on the importance of health requirements and the awareness of the program requirements to the health community has been beneficial in completing the requirements and contributed to the improvements in the program.
- The HS program has had a strong showing in terms of meeting the mandated exams/screenings. All screening areas look good. A system is now in place for monitoring Lead Tests in the 2009-2010 year.

Eligibility, Service and Unmet Service Needs from 2008-2009

County	Low-Income Eligible Children	Low-Income Unserved Children	Head Start Enrollment
Head Start	5,055	4,636/92%	419
Early Head Start	3,331	3,247/97%	84
Totals	10,497	7,883/94%	503

NCO HSCDP served 503 children and their families at our 7 Head Start and 2 Early Head Start centers located throughout Mendocino County and 4 Head Start centers located in Lake County. Our average monthly enrollment was 100% of funded enrollment.

**Note: NCO HSCDP does not provide an EHS program in Lake County; therefore, the total number of children age-eligible for services has been reduced to reflect only Mendocino County eligibility.*



2008-2009 Parent Involvement

Parent Events were scheduled this year to involve families in the education and development of their child, and receive training on performance standard topics and topics requested by families.

Site staff completed the Parent Involvement Outline. This outline is a tentative annual plan for parent events and topics for the year. We have highlighted some of the topics and activities families participated in:

Family Orientation - During Family Orientation families learn about the services available in HSCDP, meet site staff and tour the center. Early Head Start families receive one Orientation when they enter the site in addition to an individual meeting to review and discuss the Family Orientation Agenda form.

Nutrition and cooking projects – Some of the cooking projects that occurred this year were smoothie making and salad & melon tastings. There was training on label reading and preparing meals on a budget. A parent in Fort

Bragg regularly assisted with preparing food for the Parent Events.

Health and Safety - The Health Specialist attended parent events to provide training on program requirements in terms of immunizations, lead exams, and Hearing and Vision screenings. The Health Specialist also presented information on home safety, disaster preparedness, lead training and medications and poison control.

Community Resources - Child abuse and neglect, child support, substance abuse handouts and discussions took place on these topics throughout the year by site staff and sometimes the Mental Health Consultant or a community member. Referrals were made to Adult Education, GED, and the HELP Program.

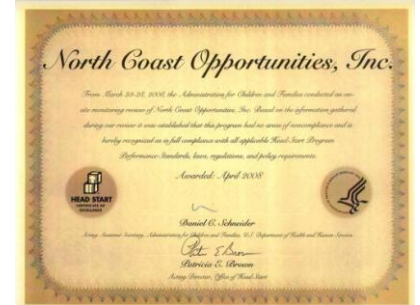
Child Development - Site teachers attended parent events to share information with families regarding, child development, lesson plans, describing the different areas in the classroom and how this can support a child learning and the Second Step and Creative Curriculum.

Mental Health - The Mental Health consultants from both counties attended parent events to provide information on their role in Head Start, Mental Health Services in Head Start, substance abuse, child abuse and neglect. A Behavior Specialist was invited to be a guest speaker to discuss behavior support for families and children.

PPC - The Program Policy Council representatives and alternates were elected during the first 2 parent meetings of the year. Site staff attended the first two PPC meeting with new representative to provide support.

Parent Education - Family Support Specialists and Family Resource Specialists provided information on Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) and reviewed tips sheets available from Triple P. Some examples of information shared are the Triple P booklet, the *Coping with Stress*, and *Being a Parent* tip sheets.

Literacy and RIF - Families visited local libraries and received information on how to obtain a library card and toured the library. Through RIF Book Distribution children received 3 free books of their choosing.



NCO HSCDP staff work in partnership with parents, school districts and the community to ensure all children are equipped with the necessary life-long skills to be successful in the Public School Setting. Using the Desired Results Developmental Profile-Revised (DRDP-R), Teachers focus on the following areas to ensure that the children are ready for Kindergarten:



- **Personal and Social Competency**
- **Learning Effectively**
- **Physical and Motor Competency**
- **Safe and Healthy**

Based on the results of the DRDP-R, the teachers worked with each family to set goals to enhance all domains of learning. The Creative Curriculum is used to provide quality learning environments that support children's growth and development.

A **Kindergarten Transition Plan** is developed by staff, including but not limited to some of the following activities and information shared with children and families:

- **Visits to and from Elementary School Teachers.**
- **Joint in-service events and meetings.**
- **Community Outreach-School Readiness Backpacks distributed.**
- **CONNECTING HEAD START PARENTS TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SETTING booklets reviewed and given to families.**
- **"101 Days of Summer" learning activities shared to continue the growth and development of their Kindergarten bound child.**