Early Head Start

2016-2019 Program Goals

Goal 1

Integrate and implement the newly revised Head Start Early Learning Outcomes to ensure that children receive high quality comprehensive services.

Objective 1: To align curricula, assessments, and professional development to the program's school readiness goals with the Early Learning Outcomes. **Year 2**

Strategies

- Train staff on the new Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

- Revise School Readiness goals to correlate with Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

- Teachers will use the Framework to guide their choices in curriculum and learning materials, plan daily activities and inform intentional teaching practices.

- Utilize local universities to analyze data collected.

Objective 2: Increase teaching staff's knowledge and understanding of early childhood development and school readiness for infant and toddlers as outlined in the programs School Readiness Goals. **Year 2-5**

Strategies

- Provide training and technical assistance on implementation of school readiness goals using Program for Infant Toddlers and Children/best practices.

- Utilize Mentoring teachers to assist teachers who need additional support.

- Expand opportunities for professional development for teaching staff.

Objective 3: Effective engagement of families in understanding and planning meaningful adult-child relationships**.**   **Year 2-5**

Strategies

- Provide families with information to incorporate quality interactions within the home, using newsletters and at parent meetings.

- Collaborate with family engagement to identify individual family needs and dynamics.

Objective 4: Ensure safe, secure and healthy learning environments to support children's learning and development.   **Year 2-5**

Strategies

- Provide ongoing monitoring and collaboration for lesson planning, documentation, observations and TS Gold checkpoints.

- Analyze ITERS/ECERS results to identify subscales of greatest need in order to plan relevant professional development for teachers in order to maximize a child's learning environment.

Objective 5:   Implement effective mentoring to enhance staff skills, which will foster positive child outcomes and school readiness.   **Year 2-5**

Strategies

- Provide training for mentors that encourages reflective thinking and expectations of them as a mentor teacher.

- Ensure that mentors are providing appropriate support by reviewing and analyzing documentation submitted by mentors. Provide follow-up training as needed.

- Develop and utilize follow-up surveys to determine effectiveness of mentorship and to identify additional training and/or supports needed.

Goal 2

Improve access to family literacy and educational support services for EHS families.

Objective 1: Improve opportunities for families to engage in literacy activities that will increase children's readiness for school.

    Strategies

- Families will be trained and supported in learning age appropriate developmental milestones and early literacy activities for their children**.**   **Year 2**

- Increase communication between parents, families and teachers to promote their child's development and learning through positive adult child interaction.   **Year 2**

- Increase communication between teachers, parents and family members about school readiness goals and expected outcomes for their children.   **Year 2**

- Create a lending library for parents to include age appropriate books and guided activities to support parent and child interactions, achieve developmental milestones, and increase language and literacy skills.   **Year 2-5**

Objective 2: Enhance community collaboration to improve community awareness and develop community partnerships to support family literacy services provided to Early Head Start children and families.   **Year 2-5**

    Strategies

- Identify, collaborate and partner with community agencies to connect and support parent participation in community programs. (i.e. Family Literacy Program, Basic Adult Education Classes, English as a Second Language Classes, Adult Tutoring Classes

Objective 3: Identify resources, develop and distribute parent child activity that including bilingual and culturally appropriate resources. **Year 2-5**

Strategies

- Research and identify web based resources to support literacy activities.

- Design a quarterly Literacy Newsletter to distribute to staff and parents.

- Connect parents with local community libraries to obtain library cards.

- Develop Reading Adventure Packets containing developmentally appropriate books and activities to support at home reading activities.

Goal 3

Strengthen the coordination of health care services and resources to increase documentation and tracking of health services to EHS children.

Objective 1: Implement strategies to identify challenges and barriers that prevent families from completing Well Child Visits, updating immunizations, and obtaining medical and dental homes.

> **Strategies**
>
> - Provide surveys to parents that can assist in the identification of barriers to accessing and obtaining ongoing medical care for their children.   Year 2
>
> - Utilize Health Services Advisor Committee to help develop strategies to address challenges and barriers to families obtaining medical care for their children.   Year 3

Objective 2: Promote increased collaboration between medical, dental and health care providers and Early Head Start.

> **Strategies**
>
> - Assist parents to effectively communicate with medical and dental providers by implementing the use of tools to prepare for medical appointments.   **Year 3**
>
> - Assist families in accessing transportation to get to medical appointments. **Year 2**
>
> - Increase membership on the Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) to include individuals from both medical and dental fields.   **Year 2**

> **Objective 3**: Improve access to culturally and linguistically appropriate mental health services for Early Head Start families.

Strategies

- Work with Health services Advisory Committee to identify all local sources for mental health services for families. **Year 4**

- Work with local business partners to get stipends for gas and/or bus tokens to access mental health or health services. **Year 4**

- Identify any grant-funded services that may offer low cost or reduced fees for treatment services. **Year 5**

Goal 4

To improve the programs data driven practices through the use of updated equipment, improved technology and software for continuous program improvement and documentation of program improvement.

Objective 1: Implement new Head Start Performance Standards and provide training to staff, Policy Council and Board.

Year 2

Strategies

- Provide training to Board, Policy Council, EHS Staff and Parents on revised Standards

- Monitor for compliance

- Revise EHS Policies and Procedures, provide training with governing body approval

- Monitor for effectiveness

Objective 2: To ensure oversight through the implementation of all regulatory guidance, approved policies and procedures, fiscal guidance requirements and the aligned monitoring system**.** **Year 2-5**

Strategies

- Participate in fiscal trainings/conferences to keep abreast of current best practices and changes in fiscal requirements.

- Update fiscal software, policies and procedures as needed

Objective 3: Improve, promote and track high quality staff practices with children and families to ensure high quality comprehensive services**.**   **Year 2-5**

> **Strategies**
>
> - Expand opportunities for professional development for staff via technology, distant learning and coaching.
>
> - Identify and analyze internet service providers to supply additional bandwidth to outlying centers.
>
> - Install Wireless access to one site.
>
> - Provide training ChildPlus and TS Goal to ensure fidelity of data collection.
>
> - Upgrade and replace broken and outdated laptops, iPod, and iPads.

Objective 4: Increase focused attention and intentional observation of children, and promote track and document positive child and family outcomes**.**   **Year 2-5**

> **Strategies**
>
> - Upgrade security systems at each site, which includes cameras in the classroom, playground and entrances.
>
> - Increase the overall competence and skills of teaching staff by utilizing technology to document teacher/child, parent/child interactions.