

2014 Annual Report

November 1, 2013 - October 31, 2014



Unveiling of Project Head Start by Lady Bird Johnson-1965

What's in a symbol?

The Meaning of the Head Start Blocks:

- The two squares represent early childhood by suggesting building blocks.
- The arrangement of the blocks represent stairs.
- The vertical stripes represent the child and parent.
- The arrow pointing upward represents the direction out of poverty and on to the future.
- The colors, red, white, and blue represent the United States and the many opportunities it provides for its citizens.



2014 Program Highlights

- HCS enrolled a total of 1,351 children during the 2013-2014 program year,
- In January, Congress released a bill to restore the sequestration cuts to Head Start programs,
- HCS Head Start restored 72 preschool slots and 25 Migrant slots, converted an Early Head Start Home-based program into an Early Head Start Center Based classroom,
- HCS submitted an Early Head Start Expansion Grant to the Office of Head Start requesting to serve 72 additional infants/toddlers in August 2014,
- The Commissioner of Early Education and Care invited HCS Head Start to be a partner in the MA Pre-K Expansion grant in Springfield and in Holyoke
- Our Agency opened two classrooms in the Holyoke Public Schools in September ,
- HCS Head Start offered a variety of family engagement activities including parent meetings, parenting classes, father-involvement programs, a parent café and Parents Together

On-Site Federal Monitoring System

The Office of Head Start (OHS) assesses grantee compliance through a monitoring system that is aligned with a comprehensive five year continuous oversight plan. The Aligned Monitoring System allows for greater granularity in distinguishing between high and low grantee performance. HCS Head Start will undergo on-site monitoring events during FY2015 in the following areas:

Fiscal Integrity/ERSEA, Environmental Health and Safety and CLASS

A Message from the Executive Director

I am proud to present our 2014 Annual Report. For the past 49 years, HCS Head Start has been providing comprehensive early education and care programs, services and supports to the communities we serve. Our goal is to make certain every child, regardless of their circumstance, is prepared for school and life and every parent is ready to support their child's journey. This past year HCS Head Start enrolled a total of 1,351 infants, toddlers and preschoolers, 100% of the children enrolled had health insurance, 92% had a dental exam and our children made great gains in school readiness outcomes. By educating children, supporting families, and building healthy communities; HCS Head Start is much more than an agency-it's an investment in tomorrow ensuring each and every one of our children have the same opportunity to learn, grow, and excel. We look forward to 2015 as Head Start will be commemorating its 50th Anniversary here, as well as, across the country and we hope all of you will help us celebrate. Thank you for your unwavering support!

Sincerely,
Janis Santos-Executive Director

2014 At a Glance:

- 1351 children were enrolled during the 2013-2014 program year
- 100% of the children enrolled were eligible for Head Start, Early Head Start or Migrant Seasonal
- HCS Head Start maintained 100% enrollment throughout the program year
- 100% of the children enrolled had access to health insurance and received medical exams
- 92% of the children enrolled had a completed dental exam and 96% had a dental home
- HCS Head Start provided services to 1215 families during the 2013-2014 program year

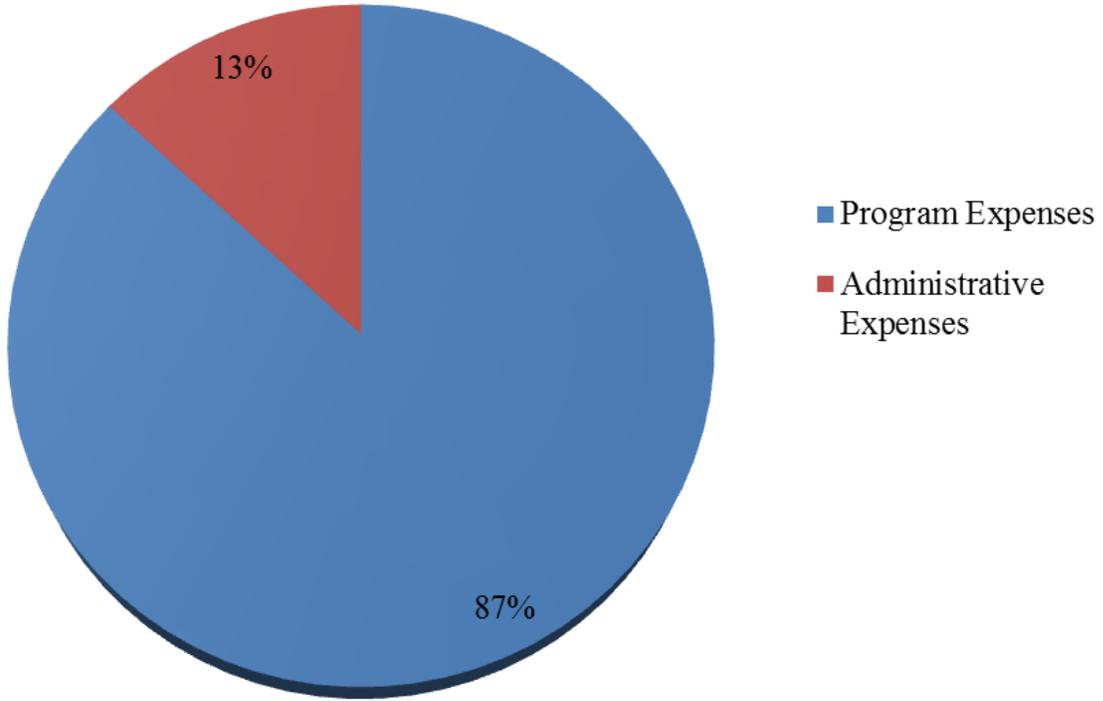
Statement of Financial Position

	Actual	Budget
INCOME		
FEDERAL FUNDS	11,863,068	10,784,035
STATE FUNDS	3,438,662	3,405,567
TUITION AND FEES	229,750	201,500
OTHER REVENUES	203,426	235,479
FUNDRAISING	13,713	10,000
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS	1,458,042	1,932,245
TOTAL INCOME	17,206,662	16,568,825
EXPENSES		
SALARIES AND WAGES	9,431,028	9,117,046
PAYROLL TAXES & FRINGE BENEFITS	2,249,682	2,309,477
ADVERTISING	31,203	25,500
AUDIT AND ACCOUNTING FEES	54,100	50,000
COMPUTER EXPENSE	190,251	65,375
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	409,210	366,913
COURSES, MEETINGS, AND TRAINING	118,997	104,399
EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE	156,377	61,950
FOOD	687,404	560,756
IN-KIND	1,458,042	1,932,245
INSURANCE	165,751	147,494
INTEREST	56	0
LEGAL	5,466	8,200
LICENSES, FEES, AND PERMITS	27,486	14,000
MEMBERSHIPS DUES, AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	16,399	16,500
POSTAGE	12,222	11,000
RECRUITMENT/SPECIAL EVENTS	22,351	12,000
RENT	681,811	608,700
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	280,677	229,478
SUPPLIES	440,773	339,270
TELEPHONE	148,063	132,150
TRAVEL	233,731	240,554
UTILITIES	163,621	184,450
TOTAL EXPENSES	16,984,699	16,537,457
TOTAL NET INCOME	221,963	31,368
DEPRECIATION	251,969	0

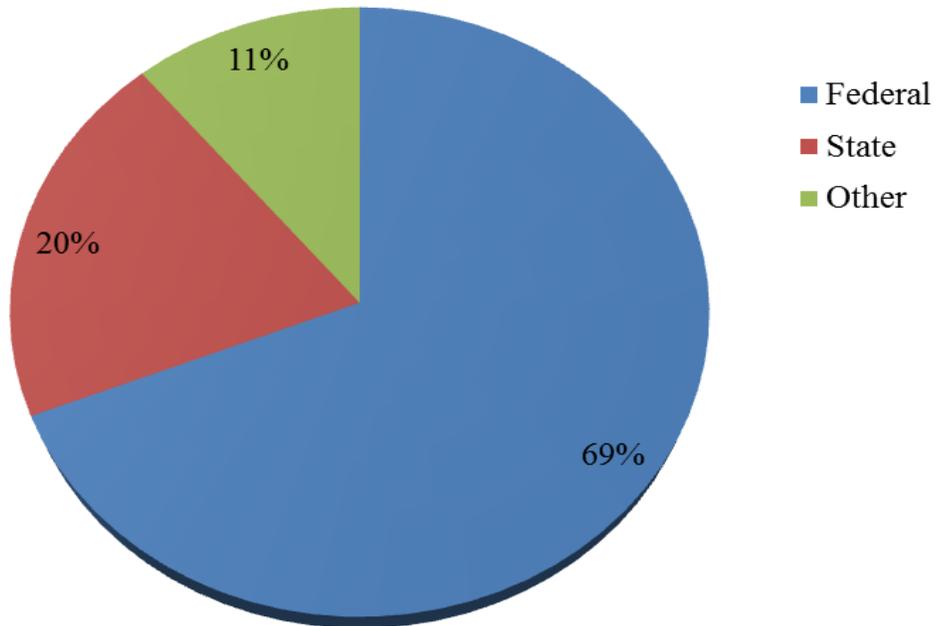
Actual Expenses vs. Budgeted Expenses - November 2013 through October 2014

Annual audit conducted by Moriarty & Primack, PC in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. HCS Head Start, Inc. had no findings in its audit performed on fiscal year ending October 31, 2013. Audits are reviewed annually by the Finance Committee of the Governing Board.

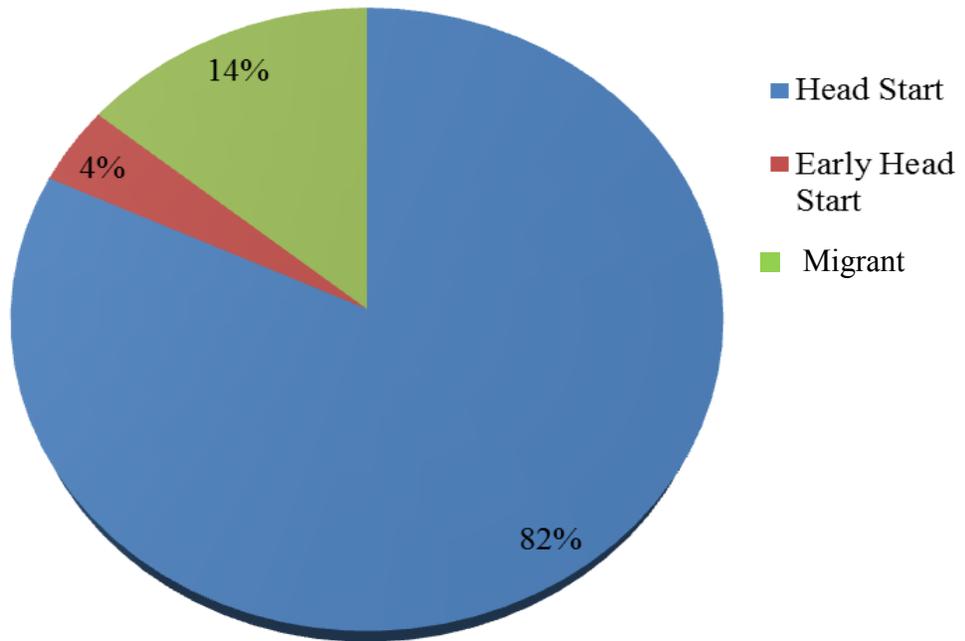
FY2014 Total Agency Expenses \$17,236,668



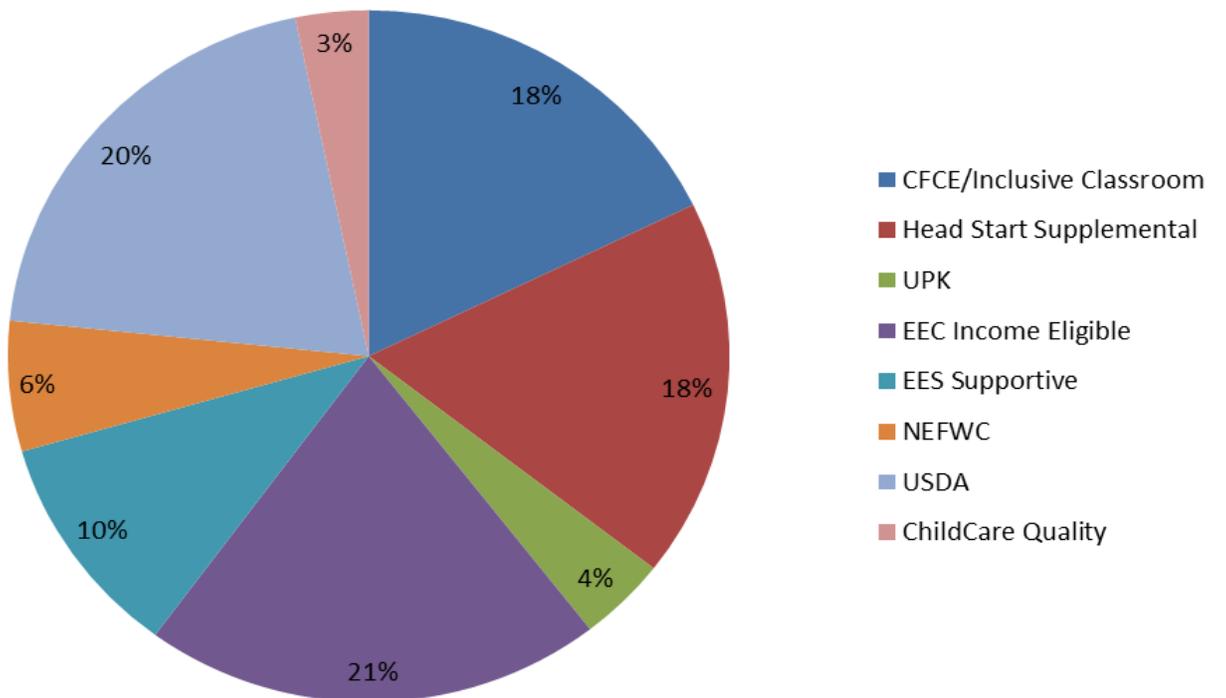
FY2014 Total Agency Funding \$17,206,662



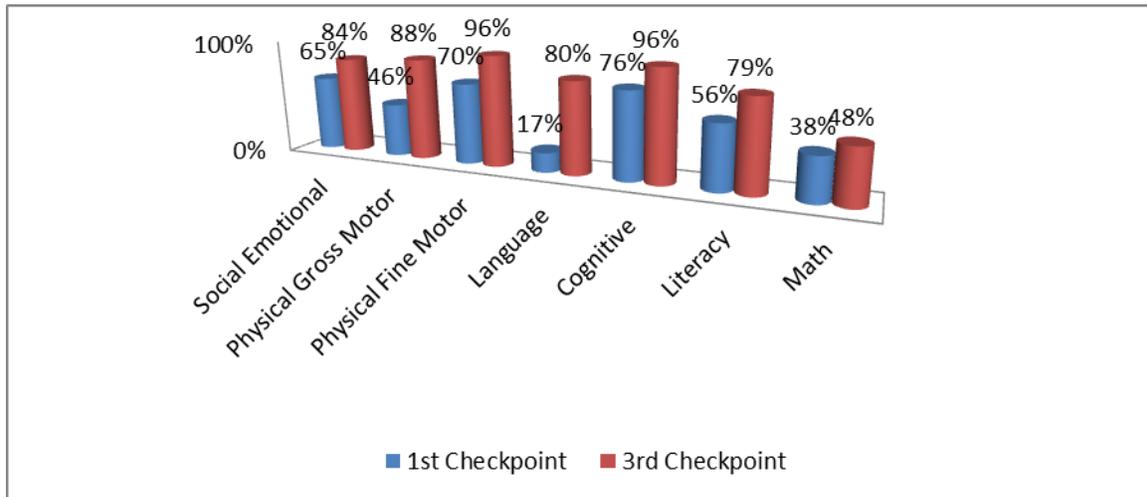
FY2014 Total Federal Funding \$11,863,068



FY2014 Total State Funding \$3,438,662



Infant & Toddler



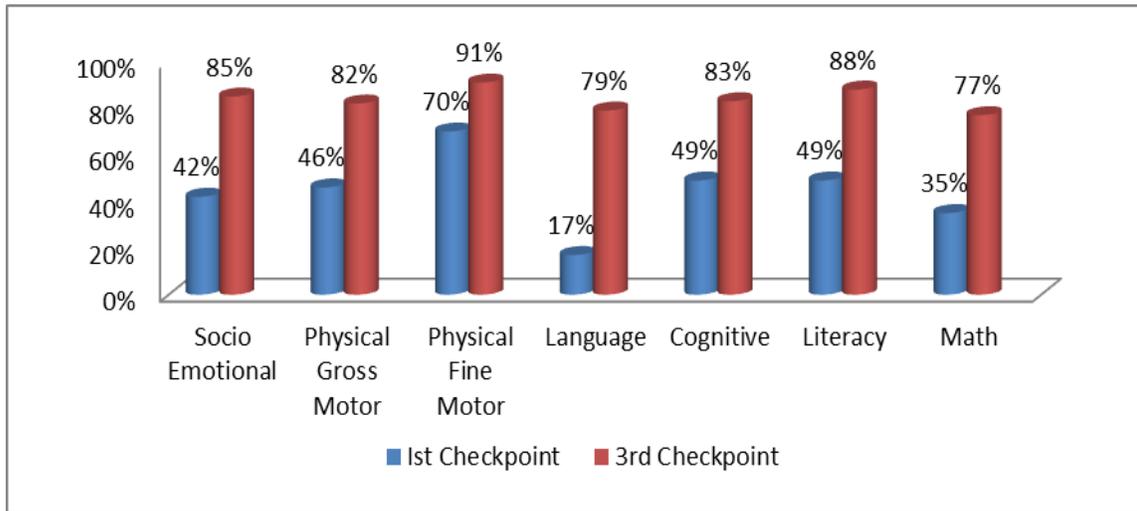
Child Outcomes

HCS Head Start continues to be a comprehensive child development program with the ultimate goal of enhancing social competence and school readiness in preschool children from low-income families. As a federally funded program, HCS Head Start must comply with the Head Start Program Performance Standards because meeting the Program Performance Standards provides the context in which children are most likely to achieve positive learning outcomes, social competence, and school readiness.

Child observation and ongoing assessment continue throughout the child's enrollment in Head Start. Staff and parents follow each child's progress, coming to know the child's strengths, interests, needs, and learning styles in order to individualize the curriculum, to build on each child's prior knowledge and experiences, and to provide meaningful curriculum experiences that support learning and development. In these ways, staff, parents, and programs support each child's progress toward individual goals.

As you will see from the charts above, children enrolled in both Early Head Start and Head Start made significant gains from the beginning of the school year to the end. The largest gains made in language for both infants/toddlers and preschoolers; 63% increase for infants and toddlers and a 62% increase for preschoolers.

Preschool



Quality Rating and Improvement System

The Commonwealth's new Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) is a key tool, among many, that Massachusetts is developing to help families, communities, and policymakers understand what constitutes quality. Building on a strong foundation of licensing, the QRIS is designed to support to all children and youth (birth to 13) served in settings across the Commonwealth's mixed delivery System.

The MA QRIS offers guidance to professionals in early education and care and out of school time settings on a path towards quality, recognizing that higher expectations of programs must be matched with increased supports that include a better-articulated career ladder, financial incentives, and professional development and technical assistance, which are grounded in the science of child development.



Currently the agency has 16 sites Self-Assessed at a Level 3 in the QRIS system. The agency will self-assess centers once again in the spring of 2015 to meet Level 4.

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Educating Children
Supporting Families
Building Healthy



EDUCATING children.
SUPPORTING families.
BUILDING healthy communities.

Did You Know...

- Head Start children are “ready to learn,” by the spring of their kindergarten year, they showed substantial increases in word knowledge, letter recognition, math skills, and writing skills in comparison to national norms.
- Head Start children are significantly more likely to complete high school and attend college than their siblings who did not attend Head Start.
- Parents who participate in Head Start are found to have greater quality of life satisfaction; increased confidence in coping skills; and decreased feelings of anxiety, depression, and sickness.

(Source: NHSA Research Bites)

HCS Head Start, Inc. is committed to providing low-income children and their families with a **BEACON OF HOPE** and source of support for a brighter future. We strive to do so by providing high quality comprehensive child development services to enrolled children and empowering families to achieve stability in their home environment.

2014 Head Start Teacher of the Year

We are proud to present Mrs. Denise Trask, Massachusetts Head Start Teacher of the Year Award recipient. Denise has proven to be a critical asset to the HCS Head Start family. Her unwavering devotion to the children and families she works with is second to none. She has committed her career to Head Start and for close to 28 years, HCS Head Start has reaped the benefits of her talents as a teacher.

From the moment Denise began working at Head Start she was exactly the type of teacher that the organization was looking for and since 1986, Denise has embodied

the Head Start spirit often going above and beyond the call of duty. We are happy to celebrate and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Denise; congratulations!



MA DEEC Commissioner
Thomas Weber and
HCS Head Start Teacher
Director Denise Trask