



**metropolitan**  
family services

2021-2022 Head Start  
Annual Report  
**DuPage**

# REBOUNDED FROM COVID-19: FOCUS ON QUALITY CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, AND STAFF WELLNESS.

## QUALITY CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS

A return to full day classrooms with no COVID restrictions was made possible by overall quality improvements to the learning environments. MFS DuPage partnered with Lakeshore Learning to refinish all Head Start and Early Head Start center-based classrooms with state of the art, mobile furniture which promotes optimal learning environments and well defined learning areas. Several classrooms were also the recipients of new SmartBoards! The SmartBoards have brought and enhanced level of interaction to classroom group activities and family meetings!



Several MFS DuPage Head Start classrooms (6 total) were recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education as top tier classrooms by being awarded ExceleRate levels of excellence. The following sites/classrooms received outstanding recognition:

- Jefferson Early Learning Center - Gold Circle of Quality
- St. Andrews Head Start - Gold Circle of Quality
- Johnson Head Start - Silver Circle of Quality.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

MFS DuPage worked with several private funding sources to provide scholarship and learning opportunities for its staff; this included enrollment and registration in graduate level classes with 6 staff members receiving a Master of Arts in Teaching, coupled with a State of Illinois Professional Educators License.

An additional 7 staff members (Program Aides) were supported in the state's professional credentialing system. Three of these staff members were awarded their CDA (Child Development Associates) in Infant Toddler Care and an additional four staff members were awarded their CDA in Preschool Care.



## LITTLE YOUTH DENTAL EXPO

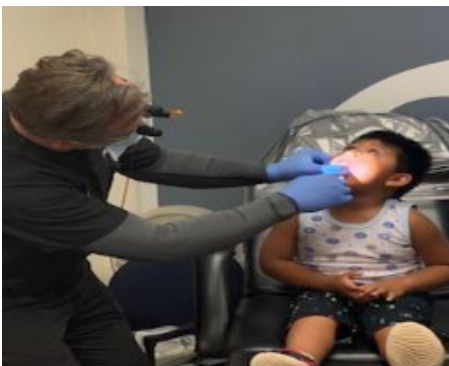
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Metropolitan Family Services DuPage hosted a Little Youth Dental Health Day in August with neighborhood clinic Jackson Family Dentistry. This event, geared toward children 0-3 years old, focused on preventative dental care and easing the fear and expectations children and parents often experience during their first dental visits.

Jackson Family Dentistry's Dr. Eric Jackson and his staff visited our Wheaton location to offer dental screenings and individualized dental health education for our children and their parents, including nutrition counseling and instruction for at-home oral hygiene. All families received special dental giveaway items including a tote bag, board book, cup, age-appropriate toothbrush, and toothpaste.

Ahead of the event, staff from Jackson Family Dentistry gave a virtual training for our staff on the importance of dental care for young children, including valuable tips on motivating families to seek regular dental care.

Early childhood cavities are five times more common than asthma and four times more common than early childhood obesity, according to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Untreated cavities can result in missed activity and school days, poor school concentration due to dental pain, infection risk, speech and eating difficulties, and increased risk of poor oral health in adulthood.



Economically disadvantaged children, the under-insured and minority groups are all at greater risk of developing the disease. Experts in racial and economic health disparities note that poor oral health adversely impacts a child's ability to eat, speak, and learn, exacerbating the challenges already facing this vulnerable population.

For these reasons, the Little Youth Dental Health Day is a huge success for children and families in Metropolitan's Early Childhood programs throughout DuPage County, including enrollees of Early Head Start and Prevention Initiative programs.

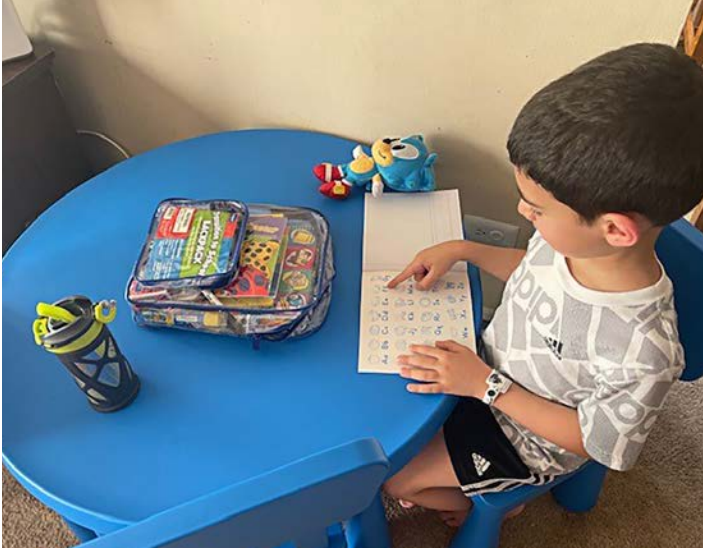
Although some families still feel hesitation around receiving health care due to pandemic restrictions, an online signup process and safety protocols ensured a safe environment for the event. As part of our holistic support for children and their families, and as an opportunity to minimize multiple doctors' visits, our staff also offered hearing and vision screenings and growth assessments as an additional service.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

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In collaboration with Community Unit School District 200 and the Wheaton Warrenville Early Childhood Collaboration, MFS Head start was able to provide kindergarten transition backpacks to all children who were entering kindergarten. Amazing feedback was received from staff, teachers, children, and parents! Funding for this project was made possible by a \$5,000 grant from the United Way.

DuPage Community Board Member Sharon D'Alessandro, led a group of volunteers in beautifying our Addison Children's Center! As part of CareFest, a day of service led by several DuPage churches, these Mpowering supporters cleaned the playground, added mulch to the playground and outside landscaping, and even assembled a climbing gym.





## STAFF WELLNESS

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Through the use of COVID Quality Improvement funds, staff wellness was able to take center stage at a few of our locations. At our St. Andrews, Outreach, and Addison Children's Center locations, calming break rooms were developed to allow for staff to focus on their mental health and stress management throughout the day. These calming spaces are also used as comfortable and family friendly meeting spaces for parent-teacher interactions and conferences.



# DUPAGE HEAD START

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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**Grantee:** Metropolitan Family Services - DuPage  
**Grant Number:** 05CH010475  
**Address:** 222 East Willow Avenue, Wheaton IL 60187  
**Phone:** 630-784-4015  
**Fax:** 630-682-5276

**Head Start Director:** Darby Pool  
poold@metrofamily.org

**Agency Website:** www.metrofamily.org

**Agency Type:** Grantee

**Agency Description:** Metropolitan Family Services - DuPage is a Head Start/Early Head Start grantee that provides services through directly operated and delegate programs throughout DuPage County.

## DIRECTLY OPERATED PROGRAM SITES

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Metropolitan Family Services - DuPage operates 9 center-based sites throughout the county, providing Monday-Friday, full day sessions (6 hours 15 minutes/day).

### **ADDISON**

#### **39 Head Start Slots**

**Army Trail Elementary**  
346 West Army Trail Blvd.  
Addison, IL 60101

### **ADDISON CHILDREN'S CENTER**

#### **16 Early Head Start Slots**

121 East Fullerton  
Addison, IL 60101

### **BENSENVILLE**

**40 Head Start Slots/  
16 Early Head Start Slots**  
**Tioga Elementary School**  
212 Memorial Avenue  
Bensenville, IL 60106

### **CAROL STREAM**

#### **20 Head Start Slots**

**Outreach Community Center**  
345 South President Avenue  
Carol Stream, IL 60188

#### **St. Andrew's United Methodist Church**

**40 Head Start Slots**  
250 North Gary Avenue  
Carol Stream, IL 60188

### **WHEATON**

#### **19 Head Start Slots**

**Longfellow Elementary School**  
311 West Seminary Avenue  
Wheaton, IL 60187

**Jefferson Early Learning Center  
(27 Head Start Slots)**  
130 N. Hazelton Avenue  
Wheaton, IL 60187

### **WARRENVILLE**

#### **34 Head Start Slots**

**Johnson Elementary School**  
2S700 Continental Drive  
Warrenville, IL 60555

### **GLEN ELLYN**

#### **17 Head Start Slots**

**Westfield Elementary School**  
2S125 Mayfield Lane  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

# DUPAGE HEAD START

## DIRECTLY OPERATED HOME-BASED

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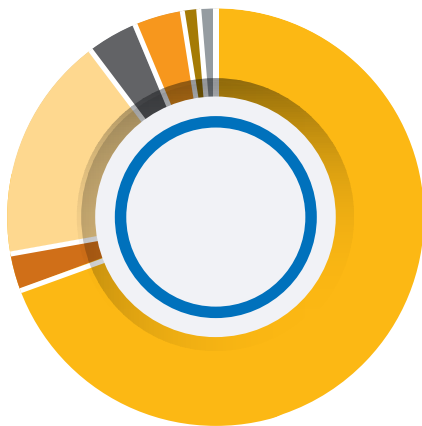
Metropolitan Family Services - DuPage operates home-based educational programs, providing services for 139 Early Head Start children and families throughout the county. The majority of Early Head Start home visiting caseloads are based in the Addison, Glendale Heights, Morton Grove, Niles Township, Skokie, Villa Park, Westmont, Woodridge, Warrenville and Wheaton communities.



# OVERALL GRANTEE BUDGET

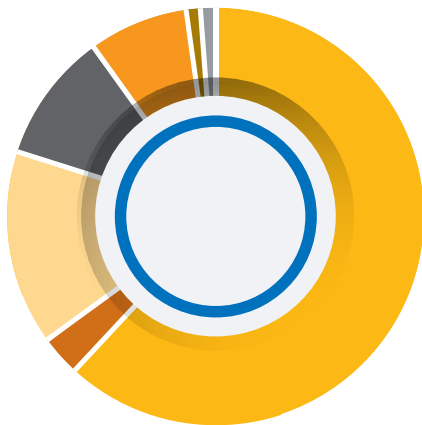
TOTAL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FUNDS RECEIVED: \$8,386,693

Public Funds		Private Funds	
Source	Amount	Source	Amount
Federal	\$6,336,789	In-Kind	\$1,559,349
State	\$222,380	Foundations/Individuals/ Corporations	\$256,925
		Fee	\$11,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,559,169</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,827,524</b>



## 2021 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES

- 69%** Salaries/Benefits
- 3%** Subcontractors/Professional Fees
- 17%** Administrative
- 4%** Program Expenses/Food
- 5%** Occupancy/Technology
- 1%** Other
- 1%** Staff/Client Transportation



## 2021 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

- 60%** Salaries/Benefits
- 3%** Subcontractors/Professional Fees
- 15%** Administrative
- 12%** Program Expenses/Food
- 8%** Occupancy/Technology
- 1%** Other
- 1%** Staff/Client Transportation



# ENROLLMENT

## FUNDED ENROLLMENT – EARLY HEAD START\*

### # ENROLLED

### % TOTAL ENROLLMENT

Total Funded Early Head Start Enrollment	171	N/A
Early Head Start Funded (Actual) Enrollment	161	N/A
Total Cumulative Enrollment – Children	183	100%
Number of Children Enrolled < 45 days	0	0%

## FUNDED ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM OPTION\*

### % FUNDED ENROLLMENT

Home-Based Program	134	78.36%
Center-Based Full-Day Full - Year 5 Days per Week	32	18.71%

## ENROLLMENT – CHILDREN BY AGE\*

Under 1 Year	60	33%
1 Year Old	52	28%
2 Years Old	54	30%

## ENROLLMENT – PREGNANT WOMEN

Total Enrollment of Pregnant Women	17	100%
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## ENROLLMENT BY ELIGIBILITY

Income Below 100% Poverty Line	139	83.62%
Receipt of Public Assistance (TANF, SSI, etc.)	9	0%
Foster Child	0	0%
Status as Homeless	9	1.13%
Over-Income	15	7.91%

## ENROLLMENT BY ETHNICITY

Hispanic or Latino Origin	70	35%
Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino Origin	113	57%

1) Percentages based on cumulative number of children enrolled throughout the year.

2) Percentages for Early Head Start include enrolled pregnant women, unless indicated by an \*.

3) Due to individual percentage rounding, a category's combined percentages may be slightly greater or less than 100%.

**FUNDED ENROLLMENT – EARLY HEAD START****# ENROLLED****% TOTAL ENROLLMENT****ENROLLMENT BY RACE**

American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0%
Asian	69	35%
Black or African American	15	8%
White	58	29%
Biracial/Multi-racial	8	4%
Other	4	2%

**ENROLLMENT BY PRIMARY LANGUAGE**

English	50	25%
Spanish	47	24%
Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages	55	28%
East Asian Languages	0	0%
European & Slavic Languages	4	2%
African Languages	3	2%

**FUNDED ENROLLMENT – HEAD START****# ENROLLED****% TOTAL ENROLLMENT**

Total Funded Head Start Enrollment	241	N/A
Head Start Funded (Actual) Enrollment	269	N/A
Total Cumulative Enrollment	269	100%
Number of Children Enrolled < 45 days	9	3%

**FUNDED ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM OPTION****% FUNDED ENROLLMENT**

Center-Based		
Full Day Enrollment - 5 Days per Week	14	6%

**ENROLLMENT – CHILDREN BY AGE (at enrollment)**

2 Years Old	7	3%
3 Years Old	118	44%
4 Years Old	144	54%
5 Years Old	0	0%

**FUNDED ENROLLMENT – HEAD START****# ENROLLED****% TOTAL ENROLLMENT**

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**ENROLLMENT BY ELIGIBILITY**

Income Below 100% Poverty Line	216	80%
Receipt of Public Assistance (TANF, SSI, etc.)	11	4%
Status as Foster Child	1	0%
Status as Homeless	7	3%
Over-Income	12	4%

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**ENROLLMENT BY ETHNICITY**

Hispanic or Latino Origin	111	41%
Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino Origin	188	70%

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**ENROLLMENT BY RACE**

American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0%
Asian	67	25%
Black or African American	43	16%
White	25	9%
Biracial/Multi-racial	4	1%
Other	19	7%

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**ENROLLMENT BY PRIMARY LANGUAGE**

English	94	35%
Spanish	78	29%
Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages	58	22%
East Asian Languages	1	0%
European & Slavic Languages	14	5%
African Languages	8	3%
Other	15	6%



# HEALTH

## HEALTH SERVICES INFORMATION - EARLY HEAD START # ENROLLED % TOTAL ENROLLMENT

Children With Health Insurance	157	86%
Number Enrolled in Medicaid and/or CHIP	147	80%
Number With Private Insurance	9	5%

### MEDICAL HOME (at end of enrollment)

Number of Children With an Ongoing Source of Continuous, Accessible Healthcare	157	86%
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### MEDICAL SERVICES (at end of enrollment)

Number of all Children Up-to-Date on:		
EPSDT Schedule	47	26%
Of These, the Number Diagnosed With a Chronic Condition Needing Medical Treatment	1	1%
Of These, the Number Who Have Received or are Receiving Medical Treatment	1	1%
Number of all Children who Received Medical Treatment of the Following Chronic Health Conditions, Including Those Diagnosed Prior to June 30, 2017:		
Anemia	0	0%
Asthma	1	1%
Hearing Difficulties	0	0%
Vision Problems	0	0%
High Lead Levels	0	0%

### IMMUNIZATION SERVICES (at end of enrollment)

Number of Children Determined Up-to-Date or on Catch up Schedule	90	49%
Number of Children Exempt	1	1%

### DENTAL HOME (at end of enrollment)

Number of Children with Continuous, Accessible Dental Care Provided by a Dentist	102	56%
Number of infant/toddlers determined up-to-date on EPSDT Schedule for oral care	58	32%

## HEALTH SERVICES INFORMATION – PREGNANT WOMEN # ENROLLED % TOTAL ENROLLMENT

### HEALTH INSURANCE (at end of enrollment)

Number of Pregnant Women With at Least One Type of Health Insurance	11	65%
Pregnant Women – Services		
Prenatal Care	15	88%
Postpartum Care	9	53%
Mental Health Interventions and Follow-up	5	29%
Substance Abuse Prevention	0	0%
Prenatal Education on Fetal Development	11	65%
Breastfeeding Education	13	76%
Number of Pregnant Women Who Received a Professional Dental Exam and/or Treatment	8	47%

## HEALTH SERVICES INFORMATION (CHILDREN) - HEAD START

## # ENROLLED % TOTAL ENROLLMENT

### HEALTH INSURANCE (at end of enrollment)

Children With Health Insurance	267	99%
Number Enrolled in Medicaid and/or CHIP	262	97%
Number With Private Insurance	5	2%

### MEDICAL HOME (at end of enrollment)

Number of Children With an Ongoing Source of Continuous, Accessible Healthcare	267	99%
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### MEDICAL SERVICES (at end of enrollment)

Number of all Children Up-to-Date on:

EPSDT Schedule	232	86%
Of These, the Number Diagnosed With a Chronic Condition Needing Medical Treatment	6	2%
Of These, the Number Who Have Received or are Receiving Medical Treatment	4	1%

Number of all Children who Received Medical Treatment of the Following Chronic Health Conditions, Including Those Diagnosed Prior to June 30, 2017:

Anemia	0	0%
Asthma	2	1%
Hearing Difficulties	1	0%
Vision Problems	3	1%
High Lead Levels	0	0%

**HEALTH SERVICES INFORMATION - HEAD START****# ENROLLED****% TOTAL ENROLLMENT****IMMUNIZATION SERVICES (at end of enrollment)**

Number of Children Determined Up-to-Date	129	48%
Number of Children Exempt	4	1%

**DENTAL HOME (at end of enrollment)**

Number of Children with Continuous, Accessible Dental Care Provided by a Dentist	250	93%
Number of Children who Received Preventative Dental Care	200	74%
Number of Children in Need of Treatment	36	13%
Number of Children who Received Treatment	18	7%

## FAMILY INFORMATION

**NUMBER OF FAMILIES - EARLY HEAD START****# ENROLLED****% TOTAL ENROLLMENT**

Total Number of Families	150	100%
Number of Two-Parent Families	102	68%
Number of Single-Parent Families	46	31%

**FAMILY SERVICES**

The Number of Families who Received Services:

Emergency/Crisis Intervention	63	42%
Housing Assistance	7	5%
Mental Health Services	54	36%
ESL Training	46	37%
GED	0	0%
Job Training	32	21%
Substance Misuse Prevention	0	0%
Substance Misuse Treatment	0	0%
Child Abuse and Neglect Services	0	0%
Domestic Violence Services	0	0%
Child Support Assistance	0	0%
Health Education	78	52%
Parenting Education	85	57%
Relationship Education	1	1%
Assistance to Families of Incarcerated Individuals	0	0%
Asset Building Services	3	2%
Number of Families That Received at Least One Service	119	79%



## NUMBER OF FAMILIES – HEAD START

## # ENROLLED

## % TOTAL ENROLLMENT

Total Number of Families	252	100%
Number of Two-Parent Families	151	60%
Number of Single-Parent Families	101	40%

## FAMILY SERVICES

The Number of Families who Received Services:

Emergency/Crisis Intervention	127	50%
Housing Assistance	12	5%
Mental Health Services	202	80%
ESL Training	27	11%
GED	0	0%
Job Training	29	12%
Substance Misuse Prevention	3	1%
Substance Misuse Treatment	2	1%
Child Abuse and Neglect Services	0	0%
Domestic Violence Services	0	0%
Child Support Assistance	0	0%
Health Education	20	8%
Parenting Education	169	67%
Relationship Education	9	4%
Assistance to Families of Incarcerated Individuals	1	0%
Asset Building Services	25	10%
Number of Families That Received at Least One Service	250	99%

# SCHOOL READINESS

Special Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten

## SCHOOL READINESS GOALS

### Social Emotional:

- Children will demonstrate positive social, interpersonal, and self-help skills.

### Physical Development:

- Children will develop control and manipulation of large and small muscles.

### Language:

- Children will increase their ability to communicate.

### Approaches to Learning:

- Children will develop skills to foster learning.

### Literacy:

- Children will develop pre-reading and writing skills

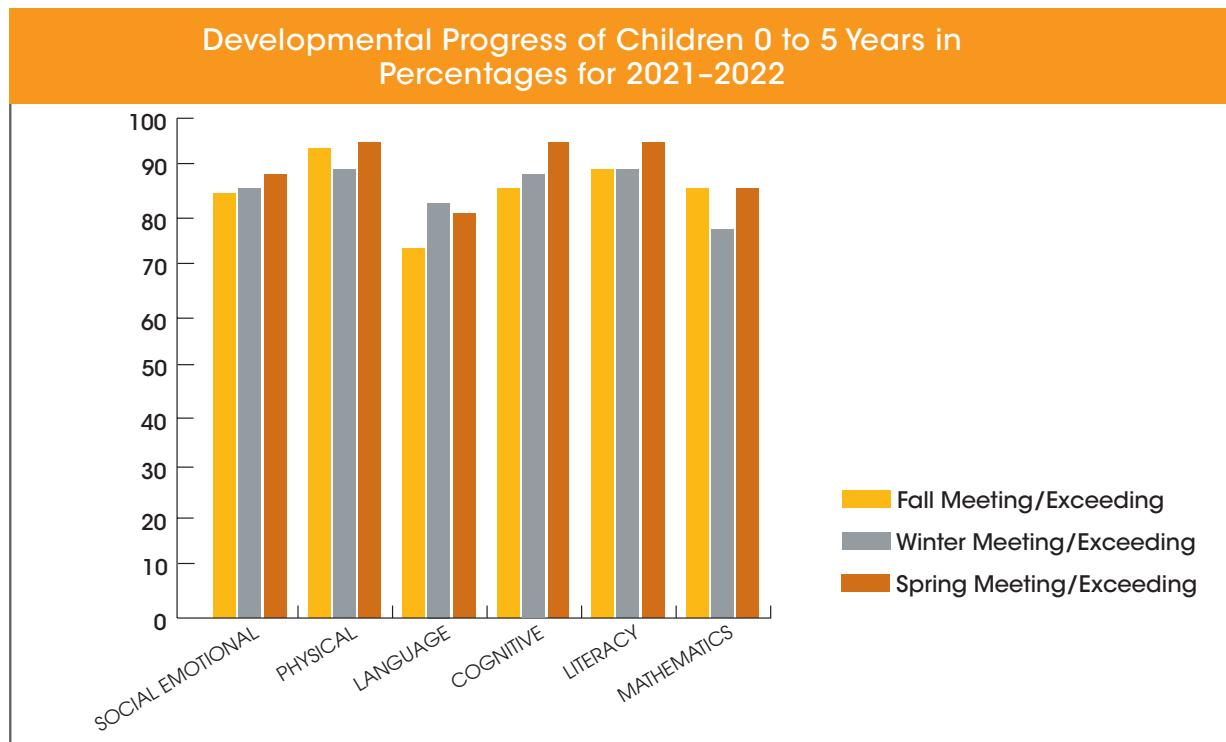
### Mathematics:

- Children will demonstrate mathematical concepts, ideas, and language.

### English Language Acquisition:

- Dual Language Learners will demonstrate progress in English language development.

# CHILD OUTCOMES DATA



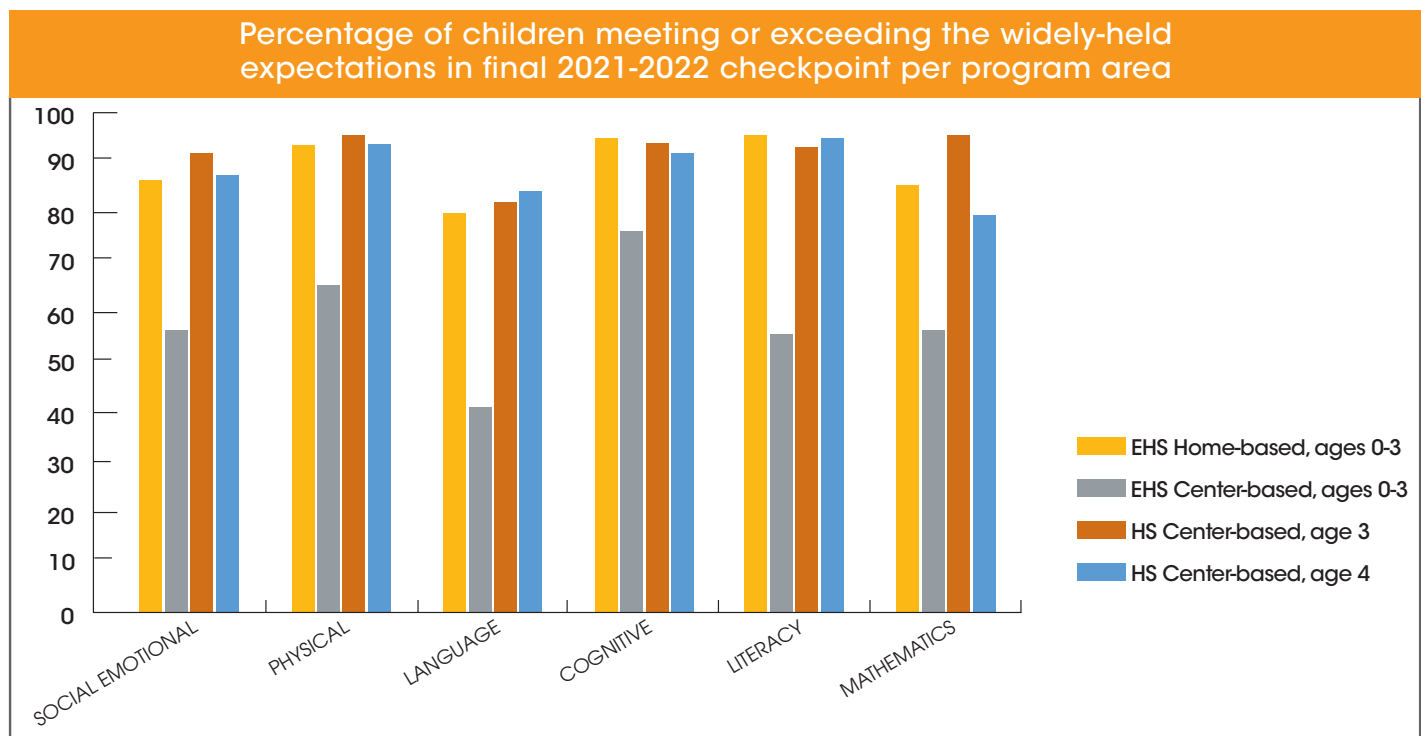
*This chart represents data from children in both center based and home based programs, ages 0-5. Children were assessed in the Fall, Winter, and Spring.*

When reviewing data for all programming across the three checkpoint periods, we see growth from fall to winter/spring in all areas of development. The greatest growth throughout the program year was in the Literacy domain.

Our grant goal is that 85% of children will meet or exceed the widely held expectations. By Spring, the programs were in alignment or exceeded this goal in the areas of: social emotional, physical, cognitive, literacy, and mathematics. After each checkpoint period, all staff participate in data dialogues, peer learning groups, and team meetings to help increased their understanding of school readiness scores and outcomes.

These data dialogues have led to increased professional development opportunities, for example, in the areas of working with dual language learners and children who have experienced trauma and loss as a result of the current pandemic.

# CHILD OUTCOMES DATA



When considering the spring checkpoint data by program option, we can see the pandemic definitely had an impact on development and learning. Consistent quarantining and multiple moves from virtual to in person learning caused interruptions in concept development longitudinal learning experiences.

Despite these challenges, children in all program options exceeding the 85% target in physical and cognitive domains. The social emotional scores are also high considering the multiple interruptions in relationship building throughout the program year.

Teachers and home visitors will focus on relationships, routines, and transitions during the 2021-2022 program year as programming transitions back to full time in person learning.



# MONITORING REVIEW

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As a result of the pandemic, MFS DuPage early learning programs were not monitored by the Office of Head Start or the Illinois State Board of Education in FY21.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

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Metropolitan Family Services DuPage offered a variety of opportunities for parents to be supported and engaged in their children's learning and educational process. Several diaper and food distribution events were held throughout FY21. Teachers and home visitors also created at home learning kits, filled with art supplies and classroom materials so children and parents could work together to continue their learning in a virtual setting.

MFS DuPage's early learning programs introduced the Learning Genie © app to families in FY21. This app allowed parents to stay connected with teaching teams while the children were learning virtually and in person. This app provides daily updates on each child's day when children are in person and also provides activities, songs, and videos when the families are participating in at home learning (virtual) services.

We provide each family with access to individualized family support services, family trainings and workshops, play and learn socialization groups for our home based programming, and monthly Policy Council meetings. All of these parent involvement activities help connect families with their children's early education.

## FINANCIAL AUDIT

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Metropolitan Family Services' financial audit for fiscal year 2018 was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards as established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The Audit did not identify any deficiencies or material weaknesses in the agency's internal controls. The DuPage Parent Policy Council shared the audit report on November 15, 2018 and by the Metropolitan Board of Directors on November 27, 2018.

# HOLISTIC STRATEGY TO EMPOWER FAMILIES



## EDUCATION

We prepare young people and parents for success, from the early years throughout school, and all the way to college.



## EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

We encourage healthy and productive lives through counseling and mental health services, parenting and family support and older adult services.



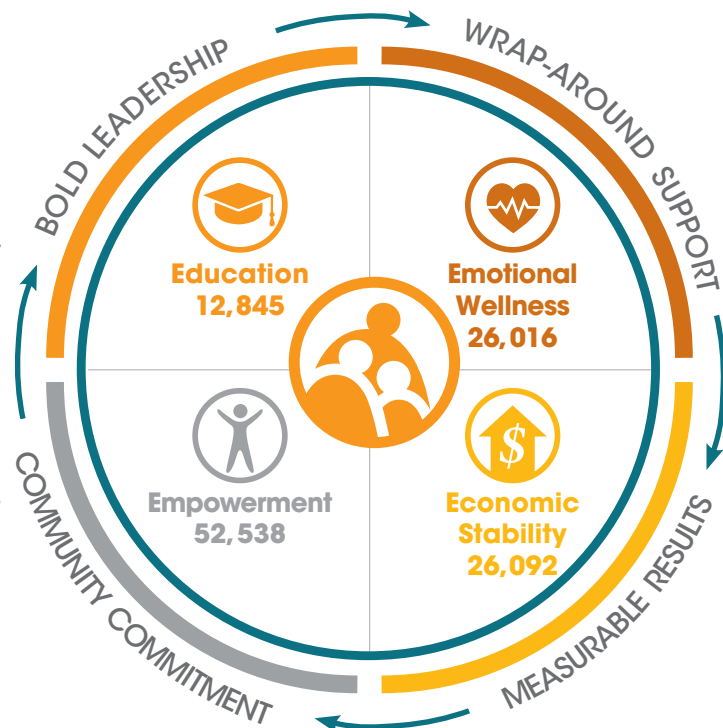
## ECONOMIC STABILITY

We equip strong, self-sustaining families with the tools to find and maintain employment, achieve financial literacy, and build family wealth.



## EMPOWERMENT

We help families stand up and be heard by providing legal aid, violence prevention, and domestic violence services.



## Our Mission

To provide and mobilize the services needed to strengthen families and communities.

## Our Vision

To be widely acknowledged as a major catalyst and resource for promoting family and community strengths.

## FAMILY Values



### FOCUS ON STRENGTHS

As servant leaders, we value individuals, families and communities, their inherent strengths, their ability to learn and grow, be resilient and find solutions to challenges. Our servant mindset inspires us to help people reach their full potential and own their empowerment.



### ACCOUNTABILITY

We are honest and transparent, effectively managing resources entrusted to us, and in turn, investing in the people and communities we serve.



### MOBILIZE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

We work to increase diversity, racial, gender and economic equity, inclusion and cultural competency in all that we do.



### INNOVATIVE CULTURE

We are agile, responsive to complex and emerging social challenges. We are equally agile in our operations and management functions, while maintaining the integrity of our operational and management systems.



### LEARNING ORGANIZATION

We value experience gained from mistakes, knowing this is key to continuous improvement and greater wisdom.



### YES-MINDED APPROACH

We look for what is possible and find creative solutions, transforming challenges into viable opportunities.

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