

EMANUEL COUNTY EARLY HEAD START

2020-2021 Annual Program Report

The federally funded grant program, awarded to the Emanuel County Board of Education, provides comprehensive year-round center-based services to 48 infants and toddlers up to age three and 7 pregnant women. Six mixed-age classrooms comprised of eight infants and toddlers are supervised by two trained caregivers. Full-day services are provided 220 days per year, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the new Early Learning Center adjoining Swainsboro Primary School utilizing the Creative Curriculum, Ages and Stages-3, and Ages and Stages: Social-Emotional, and The OUNCE Scale assessment instrument.

Service Area--Emanuel County-Swainsboro, Twin City, Adrian, Oak Park, Summertown, Garfield, Lexsy, and Stillmore.

Services to Pregnant Women-Pregnant teens at local high schools and middle schools are target groups.

Financial Award for 2020-2021 Budget Program Year- \$815,384 Budgetary Expenditures--\$798,184 (Salaries, fringe benefits) \$21,938 supplies (operating expenses) and \$17,200.00 Staff Training

Funding Period- September 1st to August 31st

Proposed 2021-2022 Budget Program Year- \$825,122 Budgetary Expenditures-\$807,922 (Salaries, fringe benefits) \$45,236 supplies (operating expenses) and \$17,200.00 Staff Training & Technical Assistance.

Family Eligibility-Head Start Income Guidelines Weighted Application to insure children and families most in need are served (parents in school or working). Ten percent of funded enrollment slots (6) must be made available to children with disabilities each program year.

Governance-Emanuel County Board of Education-Fiscal Agent and Governing Body

Policy Council-3 Community Representatives and 4 Parents-Quarterly Meetings

Staff-

Director-Maria Daniels

Early Childhood/Disabilities-Christy Ellington

Health/Nutrition/Services to Pregnant Women-Jennifer Kelly

Family Services Engagement Manager-Nita Livingston

Mental Health Coach and Consultant-Leslie Rowland

12 Classroom Caregivers and 3 Support Staff-Total staff-19

2 Retired

Classroom Staff Credentials

BS Degree-1

AA Degree-4

Child Development Associate Credential-7

Community Partnerships

Approximately twenty-five partnership agreements between Emanuel County Early Head Start and local community resource providers help insure enrolled at-risk families have access to needed resources and services to help them become more self-sufficient.

Program Facts

Funded Enrollment	55	Meals Served by School Nutrition Program (Breakfast and Lunch)	10,248
Average Monthly Enrollment	55	Snacks Served	5,101
Infants and Toddlers Served	48	Number on Wait List	66
Children w/ Disabilities	5	Number of children with health insurance	60
Pregnant Women Served	5	Health Checks for Children	58
Total Families Served	60	Dental Exams for Children	39
Volunteer hours	0	Family Engagement Activities	13
Family Engagement Activity Attendance	4	Fathers Attending Activities	3
Newborns/Infants of Pregnant Women Enrolled	4	Enrollment Turnover Withdrew	26
Number of Children Exceeding 85% Attendance	17		

**Decrease in numbers due to COVID-19.

Transitions

3 year old transition	16
Number who entered Head Start Program	13
Number who entered another Early Childhood Program	3
Number who did NOT enter another Early Childhood Program	0

2020 Successful Federal Monitoring of program with no findings in the Focus Area One Monitoring Protocol in February.

2015-2016 SUCCESSFUL FEDERAL MONITORINGS OF PROGRAM with No Findings in the Head Start Key Indicator- Compliant (HSKI-C) review in January and Environmental Health and Safety review in March, and No Findings in 2018 Financial Audit.

Community Assessment

The Emanuel County Board of Education serves as fiscal agent for the Early Head Start Program, which is funded to serve 55 infants and toddlers and pregnant women in Emanuel County. Full day, center-based services is provided to 48 infants and toddlers and 7 pregnant women 220 days a year in the Early Learning Center located at Swainsboro Primary School. Services is provided eight hours daily with the opening and closing times adjusted to meet the varying needs of working and student parents.

Emanuel County Early Head Start serves children and families from the following racial and ethnic representation in the county: Caucasian 59.3%; African American 33.9%; Asian 0.1%; Hispanic 4.5%; American Indian 0.2%; and Other 1.9%. (US Census American Community Survey 2015-2019)

Demographic Make-Up of Children and Pregnant Women
Eligible for Early Head Start Services in Emanuel County
(2019-2020 Georgia Kids Count Data, US Census, CCRPI, Community Partners)

	EMANUEL COUNTY	GEORGIA
Teen Pregnancies Ages 15-17 (per 1,000)	17.8% (8)	11.1%
Teen Births Ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	23.3% (17)	19.6%
Low Birthweight Babies	9.3% (26)	10.0%
Babies Born to Mothers with >12 Yrs. of Education	16.5% (46)	12.6%
Teen Repeat Births Ages 15-19	29.4% (5)	14.6%
Infant Mortality	2	7.0
Population Under 5 Yrs.	7%	6.2%
Children Living in Poverty	30.6% (1,691)	19.5%
Individuals Living in Poverty	20.9%	13.5%
Unemployment	5.3%	3.4%

	(440)	
Median Family Income	\$38,529	\$61,950
Families with Children with Annual Incomes > 150% of the Federal Poverty Threshold	41.3% (1,070)	28.1%
Children Whose Parents Lack Secure Employment	10.6% (557)	7.7%
Children in Foster Care	62	N/A
Homeless Students	52	N/A
Children Living in Single- Parent Families	48.5% (2,287)	33.8%
Households with Children Receiving Food Stamps	1,077	N/A
Children Enrolled in WIC Program, Ages Birth-4 Yrs.	620	N/A
Students Eligible to Receive Free	86.82%	N/A
Children Enrolled in Medicaid or PeachCare	4,574	N/A
Children Not Attending School Ages 3-4 Yrs.	47.0% (265)	49.7%
Teens Who Are High School Drop-Outs	11.8% (139)	4.6%
Teens Not in School and Not Working, Ages 16-19 Yrs.	20.5% (241)	7.9%
High School Graduation Rate	84.2% (229)	83.8%

In addition to the above data, the Emanuel County Department of Family and Children Services reported (as of March 2021) 2,859 food stamp households, 46 active TANF cases, 3,562 Medicaid families (adults and children). They also reported 62 children in foster care.

The Social Security Office reported 1,094 SSI cases in Emanuel County (from September 2020 until April 2021). The Emanuel County Health Department reported they are currently providing average monthly services to 88 pregnant women, 70 postpartum non-breastfeeding and 18 breastfeeding, and 148 infants under one year and 420 children one to five years of age are receiving services in the WIC (Women and Infant Care) Program. Due to COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, the Health Department temporarily cut services for immunizations and health checks, so there has been a decrease in numbers. They reported 435 children from birth to 5 years received

immunizations from January 2021 to present. However, the last report on health checks provided reflected approximately 2,218 children. The Sunshine House Child Advocacy Center reported 195 new cases of child abuse in Emanuel County from August 1, 2020 to May 10, 2021.

Other Child Development Programs

Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning collect data regarding the number of child care programs in Emanuel County. They reported 6 licensed day care centers and 2 family child care learning homes. The combined total of center-based slots in all centers is 468 (456 in child care centers and 12 in family child care learning homes). Approximately 5 of the children enrolled in childcare centers attend Head Start. The US Census American Community Survey for 2015-2019 reported 1,582 children under the age of 5 years in Emanuel County. The GA DECAL website reported 52 children are being served by a CAPS scholarship (CACDS).

In addition to childcare providers, Emanuel County Head Start has served 30 three-year-olds and 7 four-year olds during the 2020-2021 school year. This is a huge decrease from the previous years due to them meeting new COVID-19 guidelines.

Approximately 5 of the Head Start children are transported to a local day care center after the Head Start day ends. The Emanuel County Pre-K Program has served 192 four-year-olds, 137 of whom are classified as Category I (eligible for TANF, Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI, PeachCare for Kids, or receive Free or Reduced Price meals). Southeastern Technical College's Child Development Center, a licensed facility, provides services to 35 preschool children birth to three years of age.

Children with Disabilities

Babies Can't Wait, the Georgia Early Intervention Program, provides data regarding the number of children with disabilities three years of age or younger in Emanuel County. According to the state coordinator, their agency is currently serving 47 children with developmental delays in speech and motor delays. Emanuel County Early Head Start has served 5 children with disabilities during the 2020-2021 program year and 2 have been referred to Babies Can't Wait for evaluations. If approved for services, the program will exceed the requirement that 10% of funded enrollment (55) opportunities must be made available to children with disabilities. Emanuel County Early Head Start has a formal partnership agreement with Babies Can't Wait, which is renewed annually to ensure that enrolled infants and toddlers with disabilities receive all needed services on-site at the center.

The Emanuel County School System Preschool Special Education program, located at the primary school, provides on-site services to all three-year-olds with diagnosed disabilities. Services to each three-year-old continues until the child transitions from Early Head Start to the preschool special education program.

Pregnant Teens

During the 2020-2021 school year, the two local high schools and middle schools have referred 9 pregnant teens. Five pregnant women from the community have also received Early Head Start services. Pregnant teens at the local high schools and middle school are no longer the key target group for Early Head Start enrollment as identified in the initial grant application and in the past annual community assessment results. Currently our Community Assessment shows a major reduction of teen pregnancy in our county. The Kids Count Data Center reported a drastic decline in teen pregnancies among 15-17 year

olds. Emanuel County had a 17.8% rate in 2019 compared to a 43.6% rate in 2015. Georgia’s overall rate declined from 15.6% in 2015 to 11.1% in 2019.

Teen Pregnancies, Ages 15-17 (per 1,000) in Emanuel County (Kids Count Data)

Location	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Georgia	15.6%	14.4%	12.3%	12.0%	11.1%
Emanuel Co.	43.6% (18)	35.1% (14)	13.9% (6)	17.4%(8)	17.8%(8)

Community Resources

Emanuel County Early Head Start has established informal partnership agreements with approximately 25 resource providers in Emanuel County to ensure that enrolled children and their families have access to needed services. Each agency is contacted by staff for annual renewal of each agreement. Formal partnership agreements are signed annually with Babies Can't Wait, Emanuel County Head Start, Southeastern Technical College, Emanuel County Health Department, Sunshine House, Emanuel County Department of Family and Children Services, Emanuel County Schools and other agencies. Prevent Blindness does free vision screenings on the enrolled 3 year olds once a year.

1. Chosen Program Option and Funded Enrollment Slots

Emanuel County Early Head Start is a center-based program option that provides services to children and families.

PROGRAM OPTION – CENTER-BASED

	Center-Based	Pregnant Women	Funded Enrollment
EHS	48	7	55

Emanuel County Early Head Start School Readiness Goals

Social and Emotional Goals

Early Head Start Infants and Toddlers Will:

- 1.) Develop secure relationships with a trusted adult.
- 2.) Demonstrate developmentally appropriate behavior and the ability to self-regulate in a group setting.
- 3.) Develop social awareness of other children and build positive relationships with their peers.

Language and Literacy

Early Head Start Infants and Toddlers Will:

- 1) Demonstrate increased receptive language skills and comprehension.
- 2) Develop oral language skills in conversation and communication with others.
- 3) Begin to identify print as a means of communication.
- 4) Develop an interest in books and having adults read to them.

Physical Well-Being and Motor Development

Early Head Start Infants and Toddlers Will:

- 1) Demonstrate increased control of large muscles in body movements, coordination, and balance.
- 2) Demonstrate increased control of fine motor skills in using hands and fingers and hand-eye coordination.
- 3) Identify and participate in health, nutrition, and safety practices.
- 4) Demonstrate independence in self-help skills.

Cognition and General Knowledge

Early Head Start Infants and Toddlers Will:

- 1) Develop a foundation in mathematical thinking and number concepts.
- 2) Observe, explore, question, and use language to describe their environment.
- 3) Develop age-appropriate reasoning and memory skills.

Approaches to Learning

Early Head Start Infants and Toddlers Will:

- 1) Develop a sense of curiosity in learning new things.
- 2) Begin to develop the ability to persist in classroom activities and task.
- 3) Begin to develop creative solutions to solve problems.

Emanuel County Early Head Start School Readiness Data Aggregation 3rd Data Aggregation June, July, August 2021

Classroom Data

*4 out of 6 classrooms have child/children with IFSP and/or IEP

*2 out of 6 classrooms have 0 children with IFSP/IEP

Analysis of classroom screening and assessment data, based on the Ounce Scale indicators for prescribed age levels present in each classroom, and attendance, revealed that all children were developing as expected, with the exception of children with an IFSP, IEP, delay on Ages and Stages, Ages and Stages: Social-Emotional screening tool or receiving private speech therapy. Assessment age levels are birth to 4 months, 4-8 months, 8-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months, 24-30 months, 30-36 months, and 36-42 months.

Program-Wide Data

*Program-level data aggregation included 7 Infants, 15 one-year-olds, 15 two-year-olds, and 16 three-year-olds

*5 Children have IFSP and 0 child has an IEP

*3 Children are receiving private speech therapy

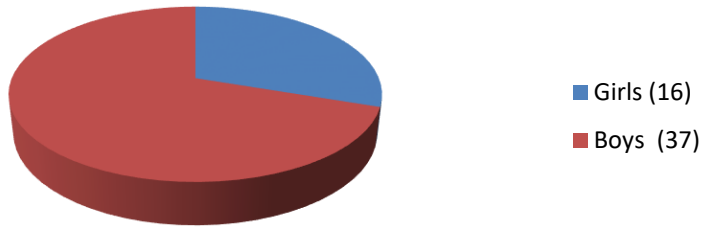
*1 Child referred to BCW

*44 children are developing as expected and 9 need development. 53 children were enrolled June through August. Two girls out of 16 need development and 7 boys out of 37 need development.

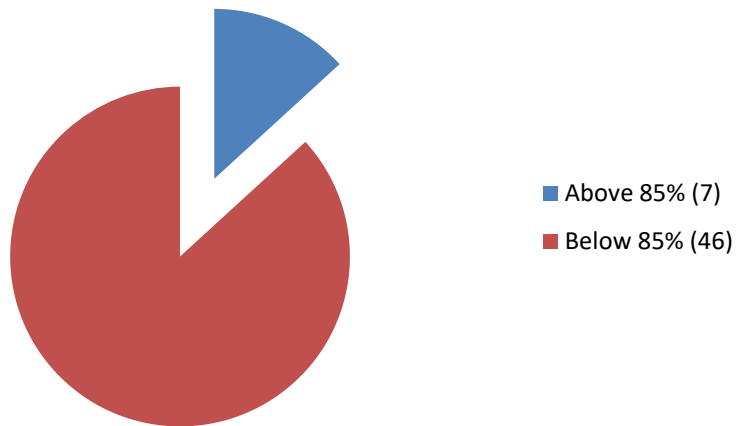
*Program-level data aggregation reported 0 infants need development, 2 one-year-olds need development, 4 two-year-olds need development, and 3 three-year-olds need development.

Serving children in mixed-age classrooms results in enrolling infants and toddlers throughout the program year. Therefore, date of enrollment and age of child impacts the ratings on the child's School Readiness benchmarks.

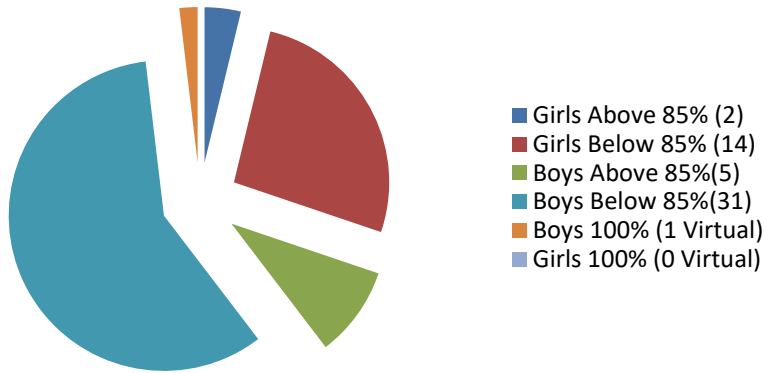
EHS Enrollment (Male and Female)



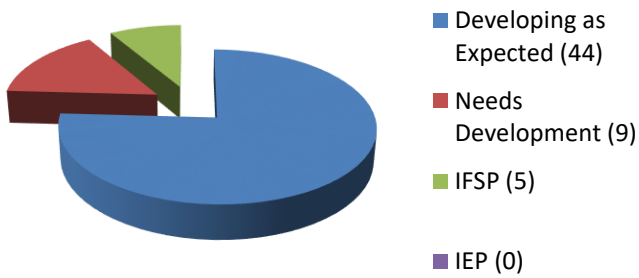
Average Attendance All Children



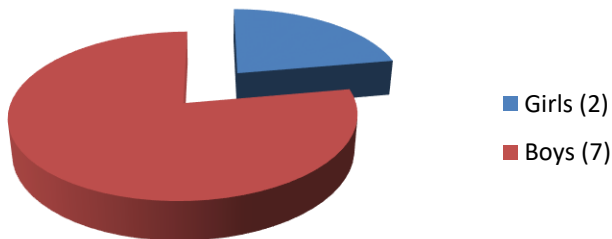
Average Attendance Male and Female



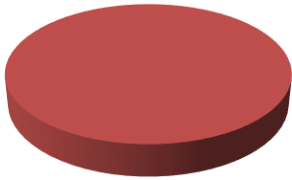
Assessment Data All Children



Needs Development (Comparison by Sex)



Needs Development (Attendance)



■ Above 85% (0)

■ Below 85% (9)