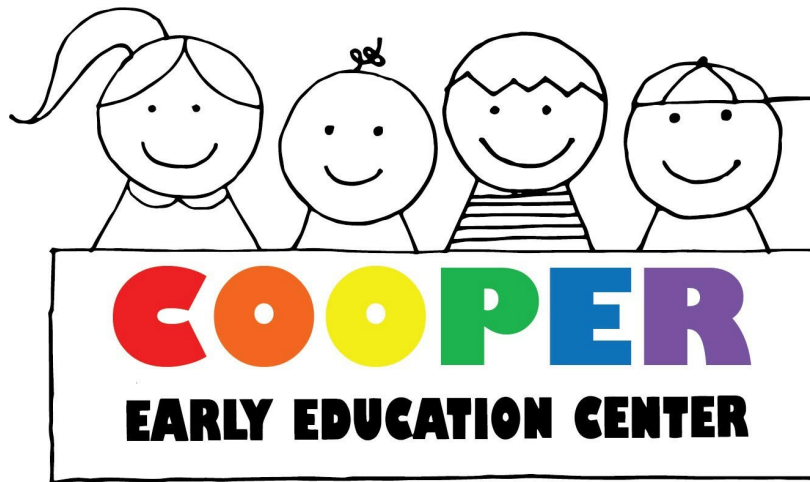


USD 373



Head Start Annual Report
2020-2021



COOPER

EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

Vision: All young children and their families will receive early learning experiences necessary for their success as contributors to society.

Mission: To provide a safe environment and quality learning experiences for young children and their families to promote life-long learning.

Cooper Early Education Center provides high quality, comprehensive preschool programs to children ages 3 - 5 through the Head Start grant, At Risk Preschool grant and Early Childhood Special Education. During the 2020-21 school year, the three programs were blended together in six classrooms operating half day sessions, two classrooms operating full day sessions and two teachers providing a remote learning environment.

Each three hour and fifteen minute half day session offered children one meal and one snack providing one-third of their daily nutritional requirements. Full day students received two meals and one snack, providing two-thirds of their daily nutritional requirements. Instructional time was comprised of lessons in language, literacy, math, science, art, social-emotional, small groups, centers, physical education and recess/free play time. Remote sessions included full group meeting times as well as individual check-ins between students, parents and teachers.

The program focuses not only on the academic achievements of the students, but also their physical and social-emotional health as well as the well-being of the family as a whole. The program supports families by hosting family centered activities during the school day and in the evening. Home visits are conducted throughout the school year to establish and maintain a healthy and trusting relationship between families and school, identify family needs and provide valuable resources for families. The program strives to encourage and support parents in becoming self-sufficient as the first and most important educators of their children.



Funding 2020-21

Program Funds: \$1,209,876

Training Funds: \$12,351

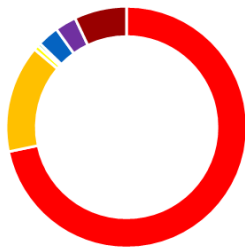
Total Funding: \$1,222,227

COVID Relief: \$114,245

Expenditures: \$1,157,184

Administrative Costs (limit of 15%): \$ 134,130 (11%)

2020-21 Final Expenditures

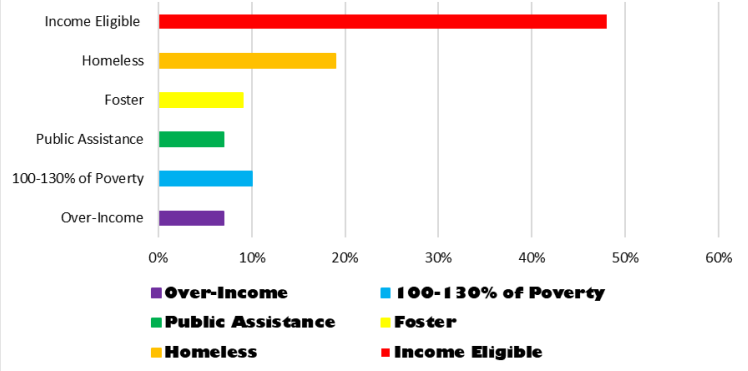


- Salaries (\$830,249)
- Fixed Costs (\$166,731)
- Transportation (\$7,452)
- Training/Travel (\$4,673)
- Consultants (\$33,377)
- Supplies, Food, Other (\$33,164)
- COVID Relief (\$81,538)

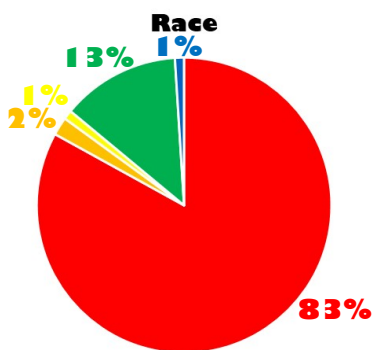
Eligibility & Enrollment

Families interested in the Head Start program must qualify by meeting locally designed requirements. Eligibility is based on family annual gross income at or below the poverty level and other risk factors. Families experiencing situations including homelessness, children in foster care, or families receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are also eligible. Below are the enrollment demographics for the 2020-21 school year:

Number of Children Served



Children and Families Served



144 Total Children Served

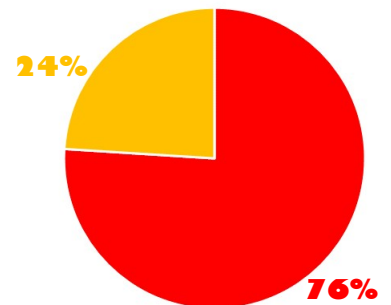
69 three year olds

75 four year olds

Primary Language of Family

English (93%) Spanish (6%) Mandarin (1%)

Ethnicity



■ White ■ Black ■ American Indian/Alaskan ■ Multiracial ■ Unspecified

■ Hispanic ■ Non-Hispanic



Education

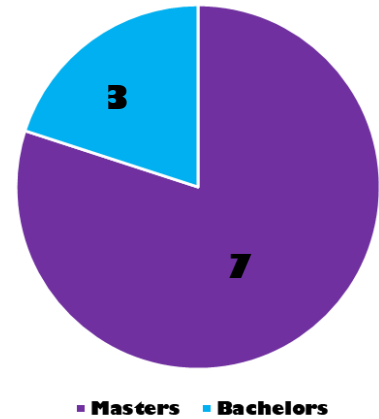
The Head Start program at Cooper Early Education Center follows the World of Wonders Curriculum. This curriculum provides developmentally appropriate instruction for PreK students, including cross-curricular activities and a focus on social-emotional development.

In addition to the academic focus, the Head Start program focuses on the social and emotional development of children as the foundation for academic success. This focus is supported through the use of the Ages and Stages ASQ-SE social/emotional screener and the ASQ-3 development screener. These two tools focus on various aspects of the child's behavior and development to identify areas of concern before the child enters the classroom and allow for early interventions to be put in place. The Head Start Program also utilizes the PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) and Zones of Regulation. PATHS is an evidence based social-emotional learning program that cultivates a safer and more positive learning environment for preschool age children. Zones of Regulation gives students the opportunity to identify their emotions based on a color and helps students realize there are no bad feelings or emotions and they are allowed to have all feelings.

Assessment of student learning was monitored and evaluated through the use of TS Gold during the 2020-21 school year. TS Gold provides teachers software to organize information collected on children's learning into domains of development, objectives and dimensions of learning, and indicators of skill level. Each learning objective is arranged into a developmental progression that allows teachers to pinpoint a child's skill level for each objective. This data is then utilized to design developmentally appropriate lesson plans for the specific classroom as well as individualize learning for each student.

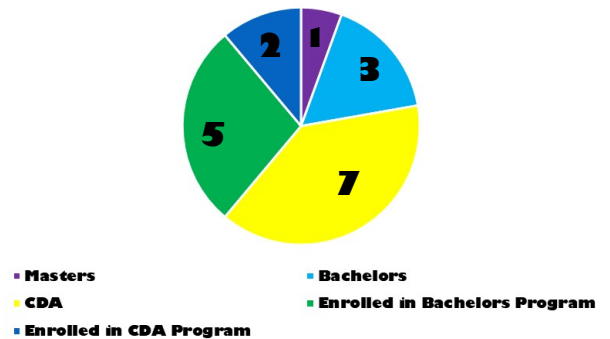
Teacher Qualifications

10 Total Teachers



Para Educator Qualifications

18 Total Paras

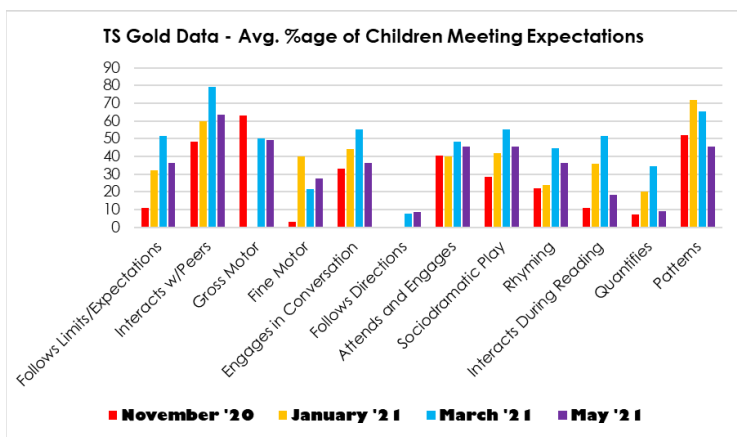


Educational Data

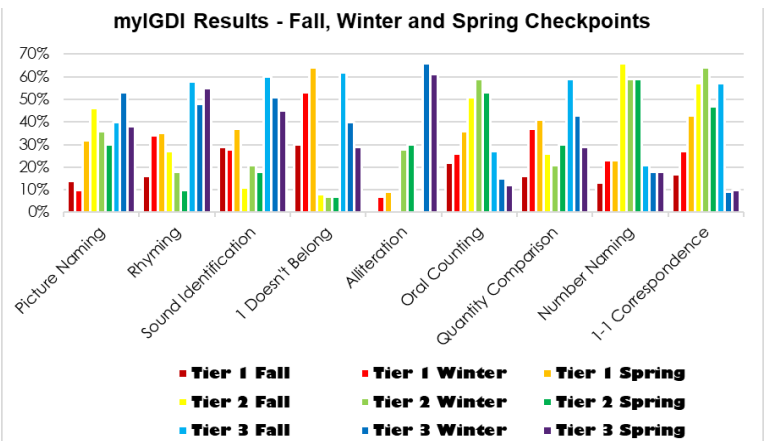
Three year olds were assessed using TS Gold which monitors progress in each of the major developmental areas, including social, fine motor, gross motor, adaptive, cognitive, and communication.

myIGDI early literacy and early numeracy assessments are administered three times per year to students who will be age-eligible for Kindergarten the following fall. Early literacy skills include Picture Naming, Rhyming, Alliteration, Sound Identification, and Which One Doesn't Belong. Early numeracy skills include Oral Counting, One to One Correspondence, Quantity Comparison, and Number Naming.

3 Year Olds



4 Year Olds



Health Services



Healthy children are children who are ready to learn. This begins with making sure Head Start families are connected with medical and dental homes in order to provide the family a continuous accessible source of care to support the child's healthy development and well-being. The program's Health Coordinator and Family Consultants work with families who enter the program without medical and dental homes to make these valuable connections in the community. The Health Coordinator also supports families to ensure children are up to date on immunizations, have a current (within one year) physical, and have a current dental exam.

Health Requirements Of 86 Students:

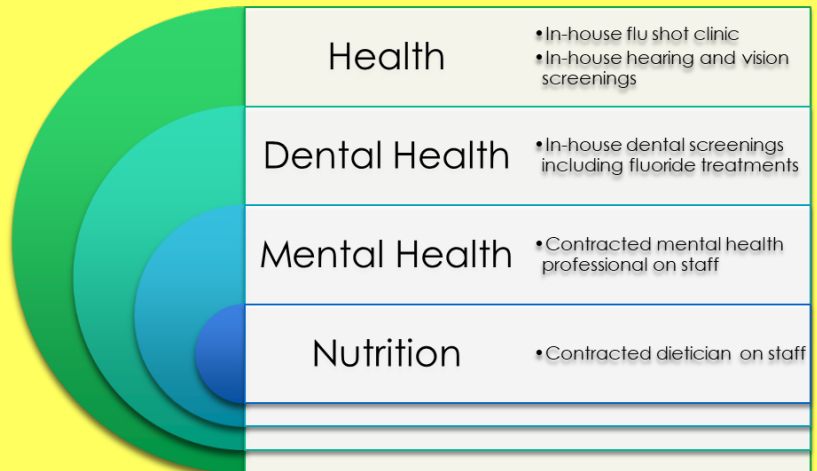
85 (99%) established a medical home by the end of enrollment

68 (79%) were up to date on age-appropriate preventative and primary health care

86 (100%) were up to date on all immunizations appropriate for their age

72 (84%) completed a professional dental exam

Health Highlights



The program at Cooper Early Education Center also provides in house dental screenings and fluoride varnish to all enrolled children as well as an annual flu shot clinic, both with signed consent.

Twice a year the Health Coordinator meets with the Health Advisory Committee which is comprised of community health, mental health and dental providers as well as Head Start parents to discuss the health policies of the program, brainstorm new and better ideas to make healthcare accessible to families and review the program's progress on health requirements.



Family Services

Head Start staff partner with families to provide or connect them with culturally and linguistically relevant services designed to strengthen families and provide a foundation for the child and family's success. In the Head Start program, Family Consultants work with all families to develop individualized family partnership plans and set attainable goals.

The Family Consultants at Cooper Early Education Center make an extra effort to involve fathers in the family partnership agreement and goal setting process. The program has seen steady growth in father/father figure involvement over the years of operation.



Total Number of Families Served: 80

38 Two Parent Families

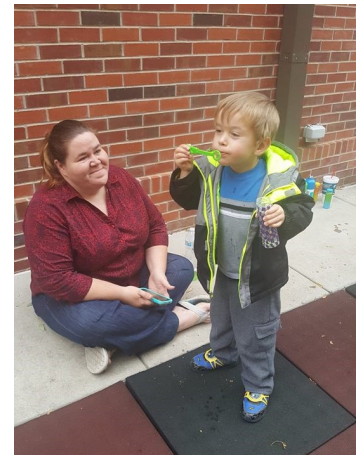
42 One Parent Families

- 62 of these families had at least one parent/guardian employed
- 5 of these families had the parent/guardian in school/training
- 13 of these families had no parent/guardian employed or in school/training

Family Engagement

Parents and Children Together (PACT) Nights are offered throughout the school year as an opportunity to bring families together and to provide useful information and resources to enrolled families. Due to COVID restrictions, PACT nights were canceled for the 2020-21 school year. However, take-home kits were created to provide families with activities to complete together based on PACT night themes. Take home kit themes include:

- ◆ **Fall Fun - Turkeys**
- ◆ **Family Game Night**
- ◆ **Mommy and Me**
- ◆ **Daddy and Me**
- ◆ **Gingerbread**
- ◆ **Art**
- ◆ **Summer Fun**



Head Start Aligned Monitoring System

The Office of Head Start assesses grantees' compliance through a monitoring system aligned with a comprehensive five year continuous oversight plan. The Aligned Monitoring System provides the Office of Head Start with the performance data needed to determine whether the grantee will need to compete for further Head Start funding according to the Designation Renewal System. The Office of Head Start also will better distinguish between compliance and quality, enabling the office to identify and track elements that reflect strong performance. The Aligned Monitoring System aids in intensive examination of performance in these core areas:

- Fiscal Integrity
- Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, and Attendance (ERSEA)
- Teacher-Child Interactions, as addressed through the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) observation instrument
- Environmental Health and Safety
- Comprehensive Services and School Readiness
- Leadership, Governance, and Management Systems

The revamped monitoring system implemented by the Office of Head Start at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year is comprised of three monitoring events over the five year grant cycle. These include:

- Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) - on-site
- Focus Area One: Understanding the Approach to Program Services - off-site
- Focus Area Two: Understanding Performance for Continuous Program Improvement - on-site

The Head Start program at Cooper Early Education Center had no reviews scheduled for the 2020-21 school year.



COVID-19 Response

The Head Start program at Cooper Early Education Center returned to in-person services September 3, 2020. The program had a plan in place to keep enrollment numbers low to allow for social-distancing within classrooms. Remote learning was offered for families uncomfortable with sending their children to school. Masks were required throughout the district for all students and staff unless directed by a doctor. The program purchased two reusable masks for every student and four for every staff member. The school district also provided two reusable masks to students and staff. Temperature checks of all students and staff were taken upon arrival to the school with no-touch thermometers or facial scanners. Individual school supplies were purchased for all Head Start students as well as lap desks, yoga mats and floor cushions to assist with social-distancing. Additional space was utilized to create a second cafeteria space and additional tables were purchased to space children out at meal times. Each classroom was supplied with a UV light toothbrush sanitizer and a counter top sanitizer. Increased frequency of cleaning and hand washing procedures were implemented. Visitors in the building were limited to those who had an educational engagement, such as an IEP meeting, to attend. Family engagement activities were not held in person. The program put together semi-monthly, themed take-home kits including several activities for families to complete together. At the end of the school year, the program provided summer carry-over support by distributing safety kits containing items such as no-touch thermometers, cleaners, first aid kits, masks, etc.; summer school backpacks containing school supplies, activity books, reading books, math manipulatives, flash cards, etc.; and a food basket of non-perishable items to all Head Start families.



Community Involvement

(Pictures from 2019-20)

Prairy showed students how they make peppernuts!



Health Ministries provided dental screenings for students!



Bethel College students taught us all about the different sports you can play when you grow up and go to college!



Cooper teachers need to know about fire safety too!



The Newton Fire Department taught us about fire safety!

