

Concerted Services, Inc. Child Development Services

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A NHTSA Program of Achievement

2009-2010 Annual Report

Ophelia K. Gaines, Executive Director

Bonnie T. Gaskins, Director

Concerted Services, Inc. (CSI) Child Development Services operates Head Start, Early Head Start and Pre-K programs in rural Southeast Georgia. Comprehensive pre-school services are provided to 160 Early Head Start infants, toddlers, and/or expecting families; 919 Head Start pre-school children and families in which 80 children and families receive Georgia state lottery funded Pre-K blended services.

<u>County/Program</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>
Appling County Head Start	54
Atkinson County Head Start	51
Bacon County Head Start	54
Bacon County Early Head Start	24
Brantley County Head Start	33
Brantley County Early Head Start	8
Candler County Head Start	34
Charlton County Head Start	37
Clinch County Head Start	34
Coffee County Head Start	151
Coffee County Head Start/Pre-K	20
Coffee County Early Head Start	24
Jeff Davis County Head Start	37
Pierce County Head Start	51
Pierce County Early Head Start	8
Toombs County Head Start	94
Ware County Head Start	209
Ware County Head Start/Pre-K	60
Ware County Early Head Start	88

The program operates a full year, full day, center based option in which the children attend the program 6.5 hours per day for an average of 175 days. The center calendars are based on the local public school board calendar. The Early Head Start Program also operates a modified center based/home visiting program during the summer months.

Quality Standards

Georgia exempts Head Start centers from child care licensing; however, CSI voluntarily licensed the following centers: ABC Child Development/Head Start, Atkinson, A.V. Kennedy Early Head Start, Brantley, Candler, Charlton, Toombs and Ware County Head Start/Pre-School. Other centers are pending licensing application and five should be licensed within the next year. All licensed centers have received the DECAL (Department of Early Care and Learning) Standards of Care Centers of Distinction award. Also, CSI Child Development Services is a NHTSA (National Head Start Association) Program of Achievement.



New parents Sierra Buckley and Chris Martinkoski enjoyed introducing "Khloe" to Mrs. Barbara Miller during their 2-week post partum home visit.

Parent Involvement

Parents play an important role in the program by serving on Center Committees, Head Start Policy Council, and Advisory Committees. Parents also assist the program with self-assessment, program planning, curriculum planning, center activities, parent trainings, and other functions that enhance the program outcomes. Over 150 different parent trainings, meetings, workshops and events were offered. Events included Grits for Grands, P.J. Reading Parties, Keys to Success – Job Skills Workshop, Digging with Dads, Muffins for Moms, Kingdom Health Care, Pinwheel Project, Healthy Lifestyles for Families, Head Start Derby, Head Start Walk-a-Thon, and others.

Training topics included Parent Orientation; Fit WIC; Good Nutrition for Busy Families; Managing Stress during Tough Economic Times; Policy Council Orientation; Keeping Your Family Healthy; Transition to Kindergarten; Temper Tantrums – Handling the Meltdown; Put Your Money to Work; Successful Parenting; car seat safety, Zoo-Phonics, internet safety, and many others. The parents are the most important teacher a child has and the program is honored to have such great partners.



Grand.Net graduation picture spring 2010.

Grand.NET Project

Special funding from the Office of Head Start was received to work with grandparents raising Head Start grandchildren. This 3-year partnership project focuses services in three areas 1) **N**etworking for social events and resources; 2) **E**ncouragement for support groups and legal issues; and 3) **T**raining to provide workshops on early childhood development.

The second year of the project was very successful and included lunch and learn training sessions, a Grand Day Out field trip, mental health services, support groups with the RDC Kinship program, advocacy resources, and many other services.

Monitoring

The program tri-annual Federal Review was conducted in February 2008 and is in compliance with the Head Start Performance Standards. The FY-08-09 annual agency audit was conducted by Clausell and Associates. The audit report is available at the central office for review.

The program self-assessment was conducted January- March 2010 with no major issues identified. A corrective plan of action was put in place to correct minor issues.

AARA Expansion Funds

Enrollment increased by 100 Early Head Start slots this program year. The program was notified in December 2009 of the grant award and while we awaited official documentation we contacted our local Board of Education partners of the funding. Due to the winter holiday season, it was January 6, 2010, before the first placement of children funded under this grant award could be place. Due to minor repairs, hiring staff, training staff, recruitment for enrollment to target population and other items that needed coordination, all other slots were filled by mid-March.



ADA ramp at Appling County is built with AARA quality improvement funds.

Budget

Concerted Services, Inc. Child Development Services receives Federal funds to operate the Head Start and Early Head Start Programs from the Health and Human Services, Administration for Youth and Children Services, Office of Head Start. The following is a breakdown of funds:

Regular Budget HS/EHS

Salaries:	\$ 4,069,590
Fringe Benefits:	\$ 1,533,000
Travel:	\$ 10,000
Equipment:	\$ 24,000
Supplies:	\$ 303,839
Contractual:	\$ 341,610
Other (Fuel, Utilities, etc)	\$ 524,530
Training:	\$ 93,872
Indirect:	\$ 593,470
TOTAL	\$ 7,493,911

AARA Early Head Start Expansion

Salaries:	\$ 745,980
Fringe Benefits:	\$ 268,552
Travel:	\$ 12,500
Equipment:	0
Supplies:	\$ 22,900
Contractual:	\$ 8,500
Other (fuel, utilities, etc)	\$ 196,163
Training:	\$ 65,000
Indirect:	\$ 110,405
TOTAL	\$1,365,000

A 20% local match is required to operate the program.

In-kind Donations **\$2,214,728**
Volunteer time & classroom space

Other income:
CACFP – USDA \$ 667,176
DECAL Pre-K \$ 253,820
Grand.NET \$ 25,000

Program Statistics 2009-2010 program year:

- **1071** funded enrollment slots for Head Start and Early Head Start
- **1,078** children served by Head Start;
- **152** children served by Early Head Start;
- **20** expectant families served by Early Head Start;
- **1041** families served;
- **24.46%** Head Start returning children;
- **50.0%** Early Head Start returning children to EHS program [does not include Expansion EHS];
- **9.2%** Hispanic children;
- **14.57%** child turnover rate;
- **99.99%** of children current on immunizations;
- **97.06%** of children up-to-date on age-appropriate primary health care;
- **897** children completed dental exams;
- **98.86%** children received dental treatment;
- **76** children received mental health services;
- **11.0%** of children with special needs;
- **1,170** nutrition counseling;
- **401,087** children meals served;
- **1122** parent referrals for services;
- **299** children transitioned to kindergarten;
- **52** Early Head Start children transitioned to Head Start;
- **1199** children completed developmental screenings;
- **898** families receiving WIC services;
- **327** fathers participated in program activities;
- **13** services to homeless families;
- **4.3%** teachers with MS degrees;
- **34.0%** teachers with BS degrees;
- **34.0%** teachers with AS degrees;
- **16.48%** teachers in college;
- **736** counts of non credit training for 1,934 hours;
- **222** counts of college training for 7,974 hours;
- **3,148** counts of Continuing Education training for 7,085 hours;
- **117** counts of Professional training for 900 hours;
- **87.70%** of average daily attendance for preschool;
- **89.05%** of average daily attendance for EHS
- **4,575** free Reading Is Fundamental books distributed;
- **63,234** bus miles for transportation of children;
- **265** staff members;
- **8.67%** staff members former Head Start parents;
- **19** centers and **1** administration office;
- **20** Early Head Start classrooms and **51** Head Start Classrooms; and
- Service contracts with Clinch County to operate **two** classrooms.



Hazzard Hill EHS Center in Ware County is almost ready for the big move.

Construction is almost completed on the Hazzard Hill CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Project in Waycross. This is a partnership project with the City of Waycross. The building will house five Early Head Start classrooms and the McKinney Health Clinic. Construction completion is projected for October 2010.



The program puts emphasis on male involvement at the center and at home.

Education

The program used the Creative Curriculum which is enhanced with the I'm Moving, I'm Learning, Second Steps, Zoo-Phonics, STEPS Emergent Literacy, and Safety Sam activities in the classrooms. Children are screened using the DIAL-R instrument and accessed using the COR Continuum. Transition activities for children and parents include field trips to the kindergarten school, parent and staff training on requirements for kindergarten registration and expectations, and transition summer activity booklets with activities for parent and child.



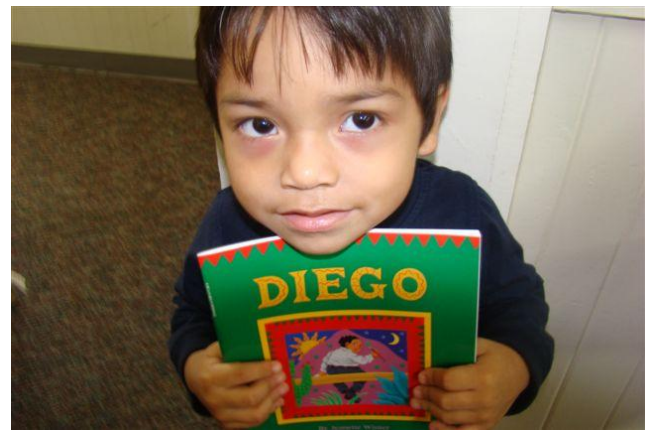
Children, staff, parents and volunteers join the first annual Head Start Walk-a-Thon event.



Parent orientation training helps the parent and child transition into the program. The staff take the opportunity to welcome the parents into the center and complete necessary paperwork.



Bonnie Gaskins, Director, thanks Brandi Threat, DFCS Director, for her participation in the Child Safety Focus Group. She received a masterpiece that was created by a Head Start child during the "Easy as Child's Play" Grassroots Art Program.



Diego Garcia from Appling County selects his free RIF book to take home to start his personal home library. Over 5,000 books were distributed during the program year.



Taylor Hereford, Leadership Waycross member, enjoys his volunteer time with the children during the Read to A Child Event.

Mission

Concerted Services, Inc.'s mission is to empower people to become self-sufficient by instilling hope through advocacy, partnerships, and services that promote economic and family stability.

Concerted Services, Inc. Child Development Services mission is to provide quality teaching and learning environments to meet the developmental needs of all children to ensure future educational success.

