

Concerted Services, Inc. Child Development Services

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A NHSA Program of Achievement

2008-2009 Annual Report

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

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 60 Early Head Start infants, toddlers, and/or pregnant women; 931 Head Start Pre-School children and families in which 60 children and families receive Pre-K blended services.

<u>County</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>
Appling County Head Start	54
Atkinson County Head Start	51
Bacon County Head Start	54
Bacon County Early Head Start	16
Brantley County Head Start	33
Candler County Head Start	34
Charlton County Head Start	37
Clinch County Head Start	34
Coffee County Head Start	171
Jeff Davis County Head Start	37
Pierce County Head Start	51
Toombs County Head Start	94
Ware County Head Start	269
Ware County Early Head Start	44

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 local public school board calendar is followed. The Early Head Start Program also operates a center based summer program in which the parents and children attend the center activities.

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, Charlton, Toombs and Ware County Head Start/Pre-School. All licensed centers have received the DECAL (Department of Early Care and Learning) Standards of Care Centers of Distinction award. The CSI Child Development Services is a NHSA (National Head Start Association) Program of Achievement.

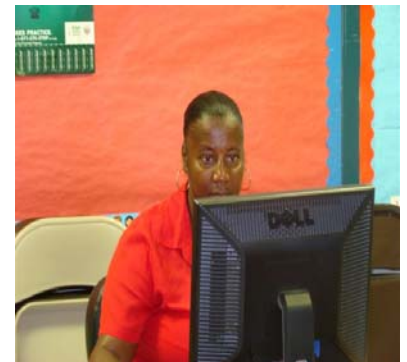
Parent Involvement

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 141 different parent trainings, meetings, workshops and events were offered. Events included Grits for Grands, P.J. Reading Parties, Dressing for Success, Digging with Dads, Muffins for Moms, Kingdom Health Care, Pinwheel Project, Healthy Lifestyles for Families, and others. Training topics included "Put Your Money to Work", "How to Feed Your Family Without Starving Your Wallet", "Successful Parenting", car seat safety, transition, Zoo-Phonics, internet safety, "Try T.A.S.T.E. and Walk for Wellness", 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 Project

Special funding from the Office of Head Start was received to work with grandparents raising Head Start grandchildren. This 3-year partnership project will focus services in three areas 1) Networking for social events and resources; 2) Encouragement for support groups and legal issues; and 3) Training to provide workshops on early childhood development.

The first year was very successful and included six lunch and learn training sessions, Grand Day Out field trip, computer classes, mental health services, support groups with the RDC Kinship program, and many other services. Plans are in progress to expand the program to the northern counties the second year.



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:

Salaries:	\$ 4,256,405
Fringe Benefits:	\$ 1,611,223
Travel:	\$ 10,000
Equipment:	\$ 24,000
Supplies:	\$ 404,467
Contractual:	\$ 341,609
Other (Fuel, Utilities, etc)	\$ 600,105
Training:	\$ 93,872
Indirect:	\$ 619,573
OHS Total	\$ 7,961,254

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

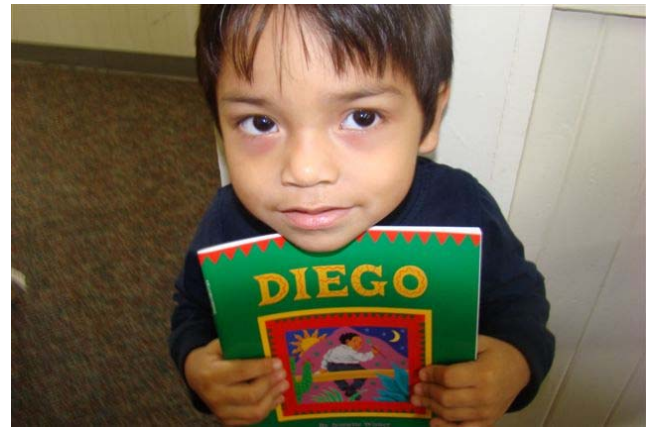
<u>In-kind Donations</u>	\$1,862,544
Volunteer time & classroom space	
<u>Other income:</u>	
USDA –Food Program	\$ 1,032,620
BFS DECAL Pre-K	\$ 253,820
Other Total	\$ 1,286,440
Total All Funds	\$11,110,238

Program funds include ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) stimulus funds of 3.06% permanent COLA increase and an 18-month 1.84% COLA increase.

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.

During the 08-09 program year, Atkinson, Brantley, Charlton, and Toombs received the DECAL Standards of Care, Centers of Distinction award. Also, ABC Child Development/Head Start and A.V. Kennedy Early Head Start received 100% compliance review from DECAL licensing.



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.



Tele-dentistry

Waycross dentist, Dr. Jon Drawdy checks the equipment at the tele-dentistry clinic housed at the Ware County Head Start/Pre-K Center. In collaboration with the Southeast Health District and the Medical College of Georgia the clinic opened in the spring of 2008. Funding for this initiative was received from both State and Federal sources. Dr. Drawdy, provides the oversight for the dental hygienists. Faculty and residents of the Medical College of Georgia Dental School actually view the children's x-rays and mouths via a closed circuit connection. They can also talk to the hygienists and parents in real time.

Program Highlights



Construction started 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 three Early Head Start classrooms, two Head Start classrooms, and the McKinney Health Clinic. Construction completion is projected for April 2010.

The Ronald McDonald's Reading Ranger's Program was expanded to Candler and Toombs County. This program promotes emergent and family literacy.



The first annual Head Start Derby was held to increase male and parent involvement at the centers.



Program Statistics 2008-2009 program year:

- **1,077** children served by Head Start;
- **65** children served by Early Head Start;
- **1053** families served;
- **24.69%** Head Start returning children;
- **8.93%** Hispanic children;
- **15.8%** child turnover rate;
- **100%** of children current on immunizations;
- **97.54%** of children up-to-date on age-appropriate primary health care;
- **1045** children completed dental exams;
- **86.17%** children received dental treatment;
- **69** children received mental health services;
- **8.78%** of children diagnosis with special need;
- **753** nutrition counseling;
- **363,120** children meals served;
- **871** family partnerships for goal setting in Head Start;
- **51** family partnerships for goal setting in Early Head Start;
- **1046** parent referrals for services;
- **384** children transitioned to kindergarten;
- **29** Early Head Start children transitioned to Head Start;
- **1140** children completed developmental screenings;
- **768** families receiving WIC services;
- **486** fathers participated in program activities;
- **18** services to homeless families;
- **41.53%** teachers with BS degrees;
- **30.76%** teachers with AS degrees;
- **21.53%** teachers in college;
- **410** counts of non credit training for 1,290 hours;
- **193** counts of college training for 6,980 hours;
- **1327** counts of Continuing Education training for 2,834 hours;
- **161** counts of Professional training for 1,205 hours;
- **88.03%** of average daily attendance for preschool;
- **87.96%** of average daily attendance for EHS
- **4,542** free Reading Is Fundamental books distributed;
- **67,412** bus miles for transportation of children;
- **230** staff members;
- **29.13%** staff members former Head Start parents;
- **17** centers and **1** administration office;
- **8** Early Head Start classrooms and **51** Head Start Classrooms; and
- Service contracts with Clinch County to operate **two** classrooms.

Program Activities



Pinwheel Child Abuse Awareness Campaign



Member of community groups reading to children



Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration at the Public Library



Deborah Polczer, Disabilities Specialist, thanks Amy White for her presentation at the IEP Workshop



Partnership meeting with local Board of Education Homeless Coordinators



Picturing America program in partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities