



**Regina Coeli**  
Child Development Center

*Head Start and Early Head Start*

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

2018-19

Since 1969, Regina Coeli Child Development Center has impacted the lives of thousands of children and their families in Southeast Louisiana. Head Start provides education, health, nutrition, social and special needs services to low income and at-risk families. The program is funded to provide early childhood services to over 1600 children and employs over 500 people in a five-parish area.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Regina Coeli is to provide the highest quality of service to children and families through a community team effort based on the question:  
“Is it good for children?”



## 2018-2019 Board of Directors

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## RCCDC Management

**Executive Director:**  
Dr. Susan Spring

**Program Director:**  
Kim Harrell-Jones

**Program Director:**  
Ola Magee

**Financial Controller:**  
Philip Morris

**Human Resources**  
Sandra Flad

**Facilities & Maintenance  
Manager:**  
Reginald Knox

## A Word from the Director

This year was the last year of the first five-year cycle for Head Start grants. The year was spent preparing a new grant application for the next five years. Efforts included reflection on the self assessment and gathering information for the changes in community assessment. Over the last five years the demographics of the five parishes changed with population shifts, increased need for mental health services, new collaborations with community partners and requests for adding Early Head Start to other locations. The addition of Early Head Start to Amite, Hammond, Ponchatoula and Angie led to more awareness of the outstanding program. As the year ended we learned we were awarded the grant for the next five years. And off we go!



# 2018-2019 Enrollment

## Head Start (3-5 years)

Children Served	Families Served	Funded	Average Monthly Enrollment	Average Monthly Enrollment (%)	Percent of Children Served
1588	1483	1374	1373	99.64%	100%

## Early Head Start (6wks-3 years)

Children Served	Families Served	Funded	Average Monthly Enrollment	Average Monthly Enrollment (%)	Percent of Children Served
334	334	244	247	100.82%	100%

## Early Head Start Expansion (6wks-3 years)

Children Served	Families Served	Funded	Average Monthly Enrollment	Average Monthly Enrollment (%)	Percent of Children Served
158	138	104	106	46.15%	100%

## Pregnant Women's Program

Women Served	Families Served	Funded	Average Monthly Enrollment	Average Monthly Enrollment (%)
58	70	28	27	100%

Total Number of Children Served:

**2,138**



# Education & Special Needs Services

Our teachers use a developmentally appropriate curriculum designed to improve emergent literacy, numeracy, language, general cognitive and motor skills in a positive learning environment. Children are prepared for kindergarten through classroom activities, field trips to the kindergarten, parent meetings with school representatives, and periodic assessments to set goals and prepare the individual child for the next school setting.

RCCDC Head Start teachers use Creative Curriculum, a comprehensive, research-based curriculum designed to address the needs of the whole child. Children are active learners participating in direct, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events, and ideas. Children make choices, plans and decisions in the learning process. Adults expand children's critical thinking skills through supportive teaching strategies. Teachers send home activities for parent engagement and preparation for school.

Head Start and Early Head Start teachers use the Teaching Strategies Assessment to measure the child's ability in the beginning of the year, and the child's progress on a variety of skills. The results are shared with parents and used to determine appropriate learning activities and goals for each child throughout the year. The child's progress is tracked by comparing the final assessment to the earlier assessments and all are share with the child's parent.



Results from the Teaching Strategies Widely Held Expectation Report: Spring 2018-19 program year  
RCCDC child outcomes increased across all domains.

- ◆ Social Emotional increased by 3 %
- ◆ Physical Development increased by 4%
- ◆ Language Development increased by 1%
- ◆ Cognitive Development increased by 6%
- ◆ Literacy Development increased by 7%
- ◆ Mathematic increased by 4%



**Disabilities:** Teachers work with children who have identified special needs just as they work with typical children to accommodate the needs of the child in order to provide a successful learning environment. Over 17% of the enrolled children had disabilities with 10% of those being significant disabilities.

# Health Services

Children who begin school with untreated health concerns are likely to experience difficulty in their academic endeavors. Therefore, the program coordinates health-related services for children such as speech screenings, hearing tests, dental exams, immunizations, and physicals.

RCCDC Centers participate in the I'm Moving, I'm Learning project which adds physical movement to the child's day at school and improves healthy food choices at school and for life.

## PHYSICALS

Head Start:	95%
Early Head Start:	99%
EHS Expansion:	96%
Pregnant Women:	73%

## DENTALS

Head Start:	98%
Early Head Start:	92%
EHS Expansion:	96%

# Nutrition

Children enrolled in center-based programs receive meals which meet at least two-thirds of their daily nutritional requirements. Children are measured for height and weight and the BMI percentile is calculated.

Participation in the CAC Food Program provides reimbursement for the cost of preparing the meals served to the children and extends



# Mental Health Services

Mental health and wellness for children is important for success in school and life. RCCDC programs help children feel good about themselves, develop healthy relationships, manage daily stress, and solve problems. Mental health classroom activities provide children with the social and emotional skills they will need throughout the life span. RCCDC staff provide materials and opportunities for each child to explore, experiment create, question and make sense of the world around them. Our programs can provide both children and families with the necessary skills to help them cope with adverse and stressful events, as well as assist families during times of needs

# Parent Involvement Activities

Access to education, training, and support services is just as important for parents and other family members as it is for children. Over the past year, parents supported the program through involvement at the program level through the Policy Council, School Readiness Committee, the Nutrition Advisory Committee, and the Health Services Advisory Committee. In addition, parents support the individual centers by volunteering for classroom activities, home to school activities, male involvement activities, fundraising activities, and even working in the kitchen or as a custodian. Staff members also meet with families to address needs including vocational education, counseling, and parenting skills. Some of the activities include:

- Read for the Record
- Community Network Events
- Fall Festival
- Head Start Awareness Activities
- Cultural Awareness Activities
- Muffins for Moms
- Donuts for Dads
- Grandparents Day
- Festival of the Young Child
- Monthly Parent Committee Meetings
- Monthly Parent Workshops
- Literacy Festivals
- Red Ribbon Week Activities



# Funding & Budget

## Office of Head Start Federal Funding

	HEAD START	EARLY HEAD START	T & TA HEAD START	T & TA EARLY HEAD START	Nonfederal	TOTAL BUDGET
<b>Award Amount 2018-2019</b>	10,642,240	3,527,016	117,392	77,550	3,591,049	17,952,247
<b>Early Head Start Expansion</b>		\$1,441,276		\$35,119	369,099	\$1,845,494
<b>TOTAL</b>						\$19,797,741

### Non-Federal Funding Match \$ 3,591,049

Regina Coeli Child Development Center receives grants from the Administration for Children and Families of 80% required to operate the program. The remaining 20% is generated through the donation of time, services, goods, and funds from the community. Ms. Jinx Vidrine is a generous donor who assists the Lacombe-Mandeville Head Start Center throughout the year and in a variety of ways.



### Budget

Operating Budget Category	Budget
Personnel	10,132,578
Fringe Benefits	1,695,273
Occupancy	1,130,373
Child Travel	131,390
Insurance-Commercial	250,097
Insurance—Worker's Comp	196,393
Supplies	440,256
Other Costs	310,532
Staff Travel	190,110
Child Services	21,550
Parent Services	39,104
Training and TA	213,835
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,361,198</b>

## Audit Opinion

The final opinion from Poslethwaite & Neterville, A Professional Accounting Corporation states that Regina Coeli Child Development Center has complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements as listed by the uniform guidance that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal program for the year ended May 31, 2018.

# New Happenings



*PARTNERSHIP- Regina Coeli teams with NTCC's Ray Smith Memorial Early Learning Center. Pictured (standing) from left are: Kristi Ginn, Helen Carter, Dean Kim Finch, George Ann Smith, Dr. Susan Spring, Dr. William Wainwright, JoEllen Carruth and Ola Magee. Pictured (kneeling) from left are teachers: Porchia Gordon, Demetria Brumfield and Candace Hughes with children Kei'ya Porter, Envisions Muse and Makayla Lewis. Tangilena Media/ Jesse Brooks.*

Early Head Start Expansion begins first in Greensburg at the Northshore Technical College—One of our successful community partnerships. Thanks to Mrs. Ray Smith we are using the Ray Smith Memorial Head Start Center.

Purchase of another bus—out with the old and in with the new. Dividends from the Louisiana Workers' Comp Company provided funds need to buy a bus with seat restraints. A new safe ride for our children and those who ride to keep them safe.



The next site for Early Head Start Expansion is the First Presbyterian Church in Ponchatoula, LA, where we will lease one building to serve 24 Early Head Start children continuing the Education legacy of the Bodker family.