

# REGINA COELI CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

## *RCCDC MISSION STATEMENT*

*To provide the highest quality services to children and families through a community team effort based on the question: "Is it good for children?"*



### ***Board of Directors***

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### **A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Regina Coeli Child Development center continues to operate a quality Head Start and Early Head Start program in spite of budget limitations and difficult times in the state and our entire country. Two important decisions were made this year in an effort to focus on quality and good management of resources. Following careful evaluation of the program and changes in the local strawberry growing season the Board of Directors decided to end the delegate relationship with the Community Action Program of Central Arkansas (CAPCA). This decision returned management of the Migrant Head Start Center in Amite to CAPCA as of February 1, 2011. Regina Coeli continues to serve as a resource for the program as needed.

Another difficult decision was made after extensive evaluation of demands, resources, the results of monitoring and the 2010 U.S. Census. The Board of Directors requested that the Early Head Start slots in Ascension parish be moved to the traditional five parish service area. These slots will be divided between the Slidell Early Head Start, Robert, Bogalusa and Covington centers. The request was approved by the Office of Head Start and as of May 31, 2011 the Ascension Early Head Start Center was closed. These two decisions were not made easily, but in an effort to operate a program of highest quality and with the best use of available resources in order to do, "what's best for children."

Please take time to review the information in our Annual Report. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at [sspring@rccdc.org](mailto:sspring@rccdc.org).

*Susan Spring*

### **Early Head Start Expansion**

RCCDC received Early Head Start Expansion funding in 2009 to serve an additional 104 slots. Following renovation of two buildings and construction of two buildings services have been expanded to serve 76 infants and toddlers and 28 between Slidell, Robert, Bogalusa and Covington. The former Slidell Head start building was renovated and is always at full enrollment with a long waiting list. In addition, the Robert Head Start has been expanded to include four Early Head Start classrooms of 8 children each through renovation of the former RCCDC training rooms. New training rooms and administrative space were added to the opposite end of the building along with a separate warehouse space on the Robert property. Finally, RCCDC received one time ARRA funds and was able to purchase the Bogalusa Head Start building and property which we had been renting. These funds along with the Expansion grant allowed us to build an Early Head Start classroom building on the same property and add four EHS classrooms of eight children. RCCDC is now able to provide services to 28 pregnant women and 244 infants and toddlers.



# Giving Children a Head Start



## RCCDC offers four program types:

### Head Start

Center based Head Start provides comprehensive preschool services to children ages 3-5 in a center based classroom.

The **Home Based** option educates a parent at the family home on planning and implementing learning activities for the child through weekly home visits by a home based teacher.

### Locally Designed option

A collaboration with the Tangipahoa Parish School System offers a combination of home based parent training to families with children enrolled in a public pre-k or kindergarten class as the child transitions from Head Start. The children selected for this program are selected based on referral by the teacher for behavior management concerns.

### Early Head Start

Provides services to pregnant women and center-based care to children between the ages of six weeks and three years.

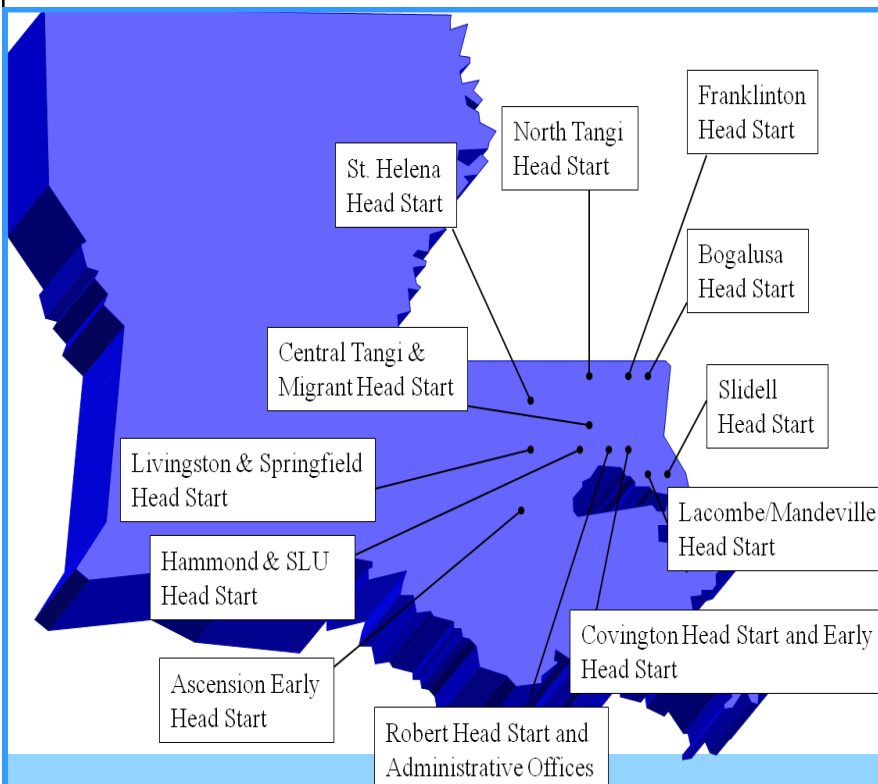
### Migrant/Seasonal Head Start

Provides comprehensive services for infants to school aged children whose family income is primarily from planting/harvesting agricultural crops.

**"As a parent, the reason leaving Head Start is so hard is because everyone is so good to the them and they truly care about the children"**  
-Head Start Parent

**During the 2010-2011 program year, Regina Coeli Child Development Center served 2,035 children in Head Start and Early Head Start and 93 children in Migrant Head Start, for a total of 2,128 Families!**

## 15 Centers in 6 Parishes



### Funded Enrollment by Center

Ascension EHS	36
Bogalusa HS	108
Central Tangi HS	126
Covington HS/EHS	148
Franklinton HS/EHS	151
Hammond HS	126
Lacombe/Mandeville	120
Livingston HS	164
North Tangi	114
Robert HS	52
Slidell/Pearl River	132
SLU HS/EHS	149
St. Helena HS/EHS	91
Springfield HS	132
Local Option	24
Migrant HS	93

# Funded by Grants & Generosity

As a private, non-profit corporation, Regina Coeli Child Development Center is 80% funded through a Federal grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services. The remaining 20% must be generated locally, through cash donations, in-kind services and donated materials from generous individuals, corporations and community service organizations.

Funding for 2010-11 included:

- Head Start/ Early Head Start: \$11,730,030
- CACFP: \$1,151,785
- Migrant Head Start: \$927,213
- United Way (Washington, Tangipahoa, and St. Helena Parishes) \$15,250
- Other financial assistance: \$110,849 (contributions and other income)

The above financial information was obtained from our most recent audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2010. RCCDC received an unqualified audit report; and there were no findings, or questioned costs, and no management letter. A complete set of our audited financial statements is available to the public at our central office in Robert on Hwy 190.

## PROJECTED BUDGET CATEGORY Head Start/Early Head Start 2011-2012

<b>PERSONNEL</b>	\$ 8,838,106
<b>FRINGE BENEFITS</b>	\$ 869,168
<b>OCCUPANCY COSTS</b>	\$ 997,858
<b>SUPPLIES</b>	\$ 377,891
<b>CHILD TRAVEL</b>	\$ 133,825
<b>STAFF TRAVEL</b>	\$ 94,146
<b>OTHER COSTS</b>	\$ 128,304
<b>STAFF TRAINING</b>	\$ 146,781
<b>CHILD SERVICES</b>	\$ 67,536
<b>PARENT SERVICES</b>	\$ 41,230
<b>INSURANCE</b>	\$ 1,156,380
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 12,851,245



Community leaders volunteer at Central Tangipahoa Head Start to read in classrooms in celebration of Head Start Awareness Month and Read for America activities.

## PERSONNEL

RCCDC employed over 500 people in five parishes with a payroll of over \$8 million. These jobs provide a significant financial impact to southeast Louisiana. The employees range in age from 20 to 72, some of whom have worked for RCCDC for almost 40 years. The diverse ethnic backgrounds provide role models for children of people working together.

Employment opportunities include positions in the classroom, offices, kitchen, custodial, maintenance, and bus driver. All employees have cleared a criminal background check as required by law.



## Non-federal Match and In-Kind Donations

RCCDC regularly receives donations from individuals, agencies, and businesses in the form of money, goods and services. In addition, volunteers including both parents and community organizations provide many hours of in-kind to support the services provided to children and families. Parents volunteer in classrooms and learn to support their child as they prepare for kindergarten.

# Education & Special Needs Services

Head Start requires that 10% of the funded slots be available to children with diagnosed disabilities. Of the total number of children served by Regina Coeli Child Development Center over 18% of the children had some type of diagnosed disability. The disabilities include types such as delays with speech, vision, hearing, Down's syndrome, cerebral palsy, Autism, and attention deficit disorder. Head Start collaborates with therapists from the school systems, Early Steps, and physicians to meet the needs of each individual child.

Children with diagnosed Disabilities	Head Start	Early Head Start	Migrant
Children with disabilities diagnosed prior to enrollment	185	52	2
Children diagnosed after Enrollment	95	5	1
Total number with diagnosed disabilities	280	57	3

## Health Services

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

RCCDC centers are participating in the I'm Moving, I'm Learning project which seeks to add physical movement to the child's day at school, and improve healthy food choices at school and for life.

## Mental Health

An area of critical need among many families in south Louisiana continues to be that of mental health support. Experiences related to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Gustav coupled with a poor economy and exposure to drugs have placed strains on children which they are not prepared to manage. When a child or parent is identified who might benefit from the services of a mental health counselor, access is provided for either the child or parent, or both depending on the situation.

RCCDC provided over 800 counseling sessions to 99 children and parents. The sessions are provided at the Head Start Center by a licensed Mental Health Professional.

## Screenings

Physicals	Dental
•HS: 1,491	•HS: 1,425
•EHS: 198	•EHS: 198
•Migrant: 82	•Migrant: 84

## 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 their BMI is calculated. Fourteen percent of the children in Louisiana under the age of 5 are identified as overweight. From all Head Start children 237 were identified as being over the 95th percentile, 101 were under the 5th percentile. At the end of the year, 43 of the children identified as overweight had returned to a normal weight range which is 18% improvement, while 26 of the children identified as under weight reached a normal weight range, which is 25% improvement..

## 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. Staff members meet with families to address needs including vocational education, counseling and parenting skills. Parents and other family members volunteer thousands of hours and are active in the centers, selecting and approving new staff, establishing policies and developing the curriculum.

## Educational Assessments

2010-11 Work Sampling Report is an evaluation of the 3 and 4 year old children enrolled during this program year. Teachers assess each child through observing children's behaviors, recording observations, and making checklist ratings. Teachers are required to individually assess the children three times per program year. At the end of each reporting period, teachers were required to complete an Outcome Analysis of their classroom. The information was used to gain a better perspective on meeting the needs of the children in his/her classroom. This information was shared with the child's family during home visits and parent-teacher conferences. The educational program is a developmentally appropriate curriculum designed to improve emergent literacy, numeracy, language, general cognitive and motor skills in a positive learning environment. RCCDC works closely with local school systems. Children are prepared for kindergarten through classroom activities, field trips to the kindergarten, parent meetings with school representatives, and periodic assessments to determine goals to best prepare the individual child for what he/she is ready to learn for the next school setting.



## DEMOGRAPHICS

### FAMILY TYPES

Early Head Start		Head Start	
Biological Family	286	Biological Family	1526
Foster family	8	Foster family	25
Other family type	2	Other family type	3
Other relative(s)	1	Other relative(s)	6
Type Not Specified	2	Type Not Specified	19
<b>Total Single-Parent Families</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>Total Single-Parent Families</b>	<b>1103</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>1577</b>

### CHILD RACE

<u>Head Start</u>		<u>Early Head Start</u>	
Asian	0.1%	Bi-racial	4.1%
Bi-racial/Multi-racial	4.9%	African American	62.7%
African American	51.4%	Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.3%
White	43.6%	White	32.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

***IS IT GOOD  
FOR  
CHILDREN?***

## Collaborations & Community Resources

RCCDC could not serve families and children without the help from community members. In the 2010-2011 program year, RCCDC collaborated with many resources in order to provide the highest quality services to the children. Examples of partners involved in our collaborations include Tangipahoa Parish Schools, Washington Parish Schools, Livingston Parish Schools, St. Helena, and St. Tammany Parish Schools. These partners provide professional services to children with disabilities, special needs, and health concerns.

In addition students from the public schools, Sullivan Technical School, Southeastern Louisiana University, provide volunteer services in the classrooms and around the centers. In addition, RCCDC works closely with the Department of Children and Family Services, LSU Agriculture Extension Program, local Health Units, and numerous community service organizations such as the Junior League, Kiwanis, Lions Clubs, and Rotary Clubs. We also sponsor opportunities for Foster Grandparents to work but who provide many donated hours of in-kind to the classrooms. The support they offer to the children and the teachers is invaluable.



### From the Parents

Head Start has offered both my child and me opportunities to learn in a loving and supportive environment. I have learned about helping my child to be ready to learn in kindergarten. The teachers and family advocates provide resources for both my family and my child.

**As a member of the Policy Council I have participated in making decisions about the finances and policies for the entire Regina Coeli organization. Participating in this group has also taught me to ask questions, read financial statements and how to use Robert's Rules of Order when presiding over a meeting.**



### How to Help

**You may help Regina Coeli Child Development Head Start Centers by donating money, time, services, supplies, and your support.**

**For more information please visit [www.RCCDC.org](http://www.RCCDC.org) or speak with any RCCDC representative.**

**Phone: 985-318-8800**

**Address: 22476 Hwy 190  
Robert, La 70455**