



Regina Coeli Child Development Center Annual Report 2009-2010

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RCCDC Mission Statement

To provide the highest quality of services to children and families through a community team effort based on the question:

"Is it good for children?"

The program year 2009-2010 was an eventful year filled with challenges and many rewards. A constant focus for Head Start programs is to ensure that we are meeting all of the required Performance Standards. It was especially important as we prepared for the triennial Office of Head Start Monitoring Review which occurred in March, 2010. A team of nine federal reviewers spent a week scattered in all of our centers evaluating the component areas as observed through interviews and documentation to determine our compliance with Head Start Performance Standards. I am proud to report that we received a glowing review with only one item identified as a concern and which was corrected while the team was still present.

In addition we made great progress on the Early Head Start Expansion projects. The two year grant award of \$2,682,385 funded through Federal Economic Stimulus funds was received in late November 2009 and we immediately began work implementing the plans. The grant award will provide services to an additional 104 children and pregnant women at three sites, Slidell, Robert and Bogalusa. Under the direction of Ola Magee, Early Head Start Director, and the project director for construction, Judy Loyde, the three expansion sites have been planned with renovations and building beginning in the summer and fall of 2010.

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.

Susan Spring



Along with the majority of residents in the Gulf Coast area we also enjoyed supporting and celebrating the New Orleans Saints as they completed a winning season and won the ultimate goal, the NFL Super Bowl Championship. I had fun practicing a cheer with children at the Robert Head Start Center.

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Giving Children a Head Start

The Regina Coeli Child Development Center is most widely known for its successful preschools, operating fifteen Head Start programs in the six-parish area of south Louisiana including St. Tammany, Washington, Tangipahoa, St. Helena, Livingston and Ascension. In fact, the Program has been recognized as one of the best Head Start programs in the country by the Federal Head Start reviewers. **RCCDC offers three program types:**

Head Start both Center-Based and Home Based.

Center based Head Start provides comprehensive preschool services to children ages 3-5. Home Based provides parent training on how to plan and implement learning activities for their child in their home.

Early Head Start Provides services to pregnant mothers and center-based care to children between the ages of six weeks and three years.

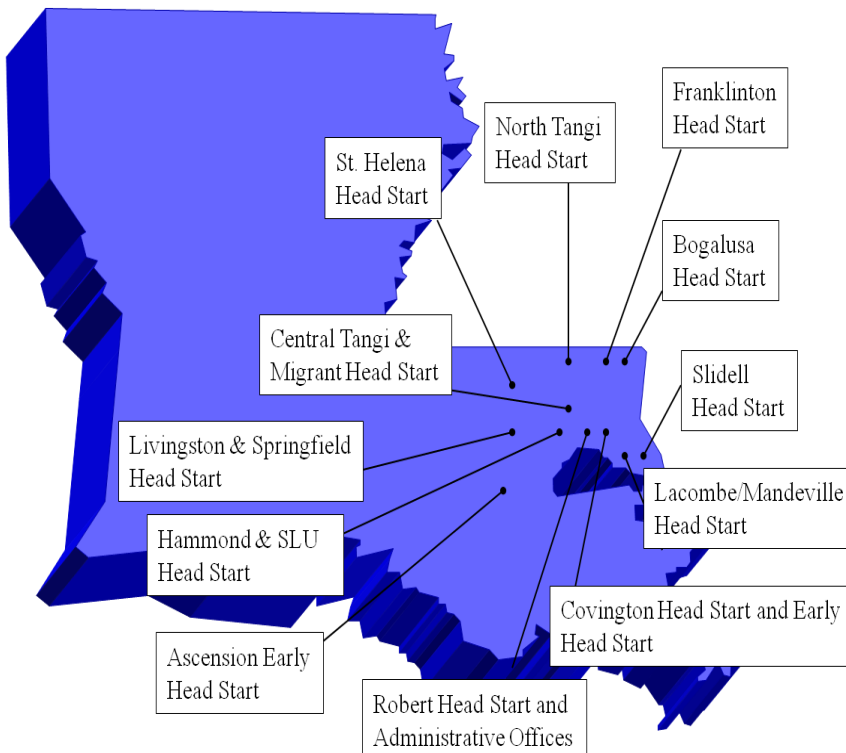
Migrant/Seasonal Head Start Provides comprehensive services for infants to school aged children whose family income is primarily from planting/harvesting agricultural crops.



“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 2009-2010 school year, Regina Coeli Child Development Center served 1,849 children in Head Start and Early Head Start and 88 children in Migrant Head Start, reaching 1,938 Families!

15 Head Starts in 6 Parishes



Funded Enrollment by Center	
Ascension EHS	36
Bogalusa HS/EHS	108
Central Tangi HS	126
Covington HS/EHS	145
Franklinton HS	151
Hammond HS	126
Lacombe/Mandeville	114
Livingston HS	164
North Tangi HS	111
Robert HS	52
Slidell/Pearl River	132
SLU HS/EHS	149
St. Helena HS/EHS	91
Springfield HS	132

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 2009-10 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



PROJECTED BUDGET CATEGORY Head Start/Early Head Start 2010-2011

PERSONNEL	\$ 7,910,649
FRINGE BENEFITS	\$ 1,685,769
OCCUPANCY COSTS	\$ 1,211,971
SUPPLIES	\$ 377,891
CHILD TRAVEL	\$ 187,280
STAFF TRAVEL	\$ 101,788
OTHER COSTS	\$ 186,273
STAFF TRAINING	\$ 160,621
CHILD SERVICES	\$ 67,536
PARENT SERVICES	<u>\$ 41,230</u>
TOTAL	\$ 11,931,008

COLA Funds Received

During the program year we also received additional funds from the Department of Health and Human Services for a COLA of 4.9% and 3.04%. This was the first COLA provided to Head Start employees since 2006 and the employees were obviously relieved to see the results in their paychecks. Quality Improvement one time funds of over \$200,000 provided one new bus and video camera systems in all classrooms and on our outdoor learning areas. The technology will provide protection for both our children, employees and volunteers at the Centers.

Annual Audit:

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.

Personnel



RCCDC has over 500 employees with an annual payroll of over \$8 million dollars. These jobs provide a significant financial impact to southeast Louisiana.

"I like working for this organization because it helps people from all walks of life, rich or poor, black or white. Everyone has a fighting chance to make a life for themselves."

Education & Special Needs Services

The educational program has 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 determine goals to best prepare the individual child for what he/she is ready to learn and for the next school setting.

	Head Start	Early Head Start	Migrant
Children with disabilities diagnosed prior to enrollment	131	28	2
Children identified at risk through screenings	424	14	15
Children referred for evaluation	300	14	5
Children diagnosed after Enrollment	146	6	1
Total number with diagnosed disabilities	263	34	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 over weight 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.

HS & EHS

Parents who participated in at least one Head Start provided activity: 847

Male/Male Figure Activities = 321

Homeless Families Served= 47

Migrant HS

Parents who participated in at least one Head Start provided activity = 28



Annual Work Sampling Report

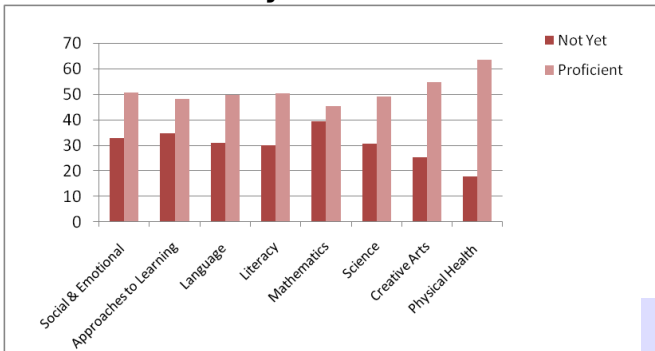
2009-2010 Work Sampling Report is an evaluation of the 3 and 4 year old children enrolled during this program year.

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.

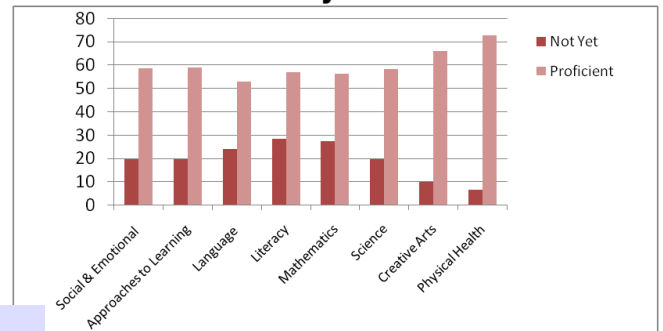


At the end of each reporting period, teachers were required to complete an Outcome Analysis of their classroom. The information was used to gain a better perspective on how to meet the needs of the children in his/her classroom. This information was shared with the child's family during home visits and parent-teacher conferences. The graph clearly shows the children's level of performance at the beginning of the school year and their growth at the end of the year.

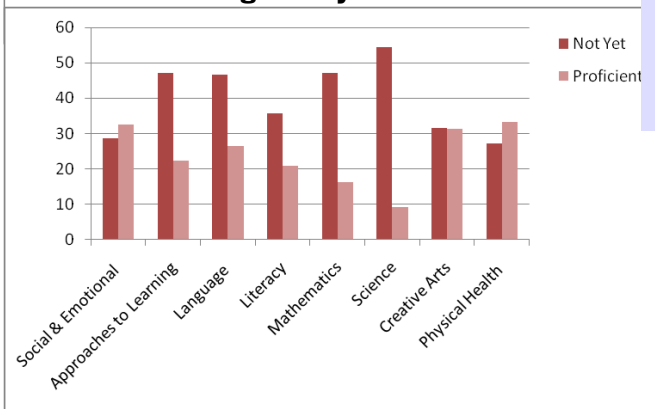
HS 3-year-old



HS 4-year-old

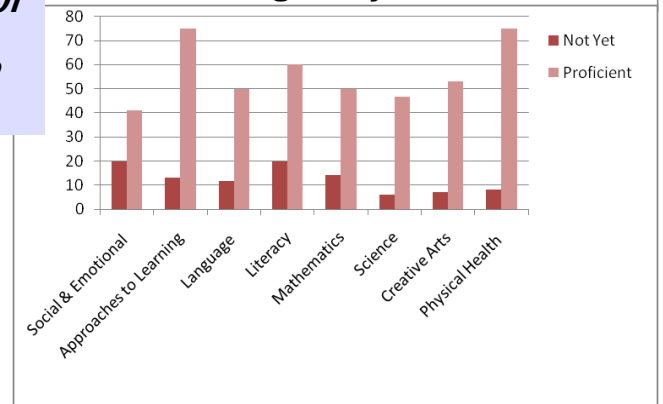


Migrant 3-year-old



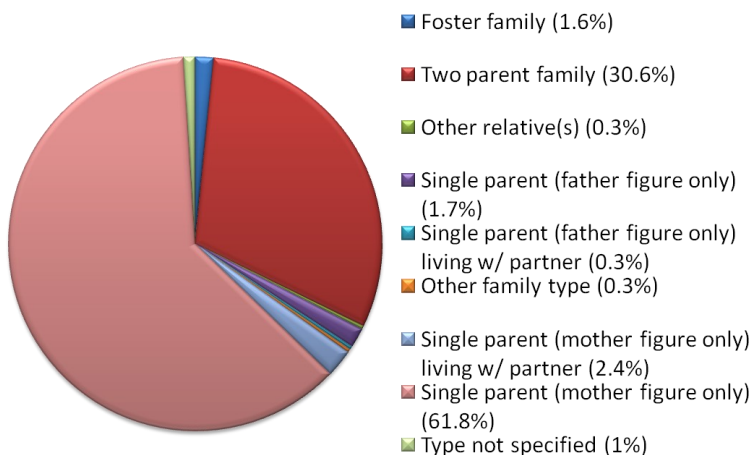
Is it good for children?

Migrant 4-year-old

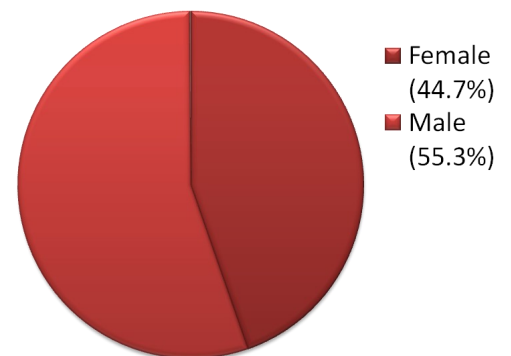


Head Start Demographics

FAMILY TYPES 2009-2010



GENDER DEMOGRAPHICS 2009-2010





Collaborations & Community Resources

From the Parents

"I am just so proud to have Head Start in my life. They stood by me through an adoption process, health issues for my child, and they became my family. I have never been as involved as I have been with Head Start. I also commend them for their effort to complete screenings for speech and then help my child receive services. They kept me at ease with my child's severe food allergies and I also served a year on the Nutrition and Health Advisory Committee to better understand the process."

"I was a young mother when I first came into RCCDC and had several children go through the center, and thanks to that I was able to graduate college, I am working on my masters and continuing to substitute and support RCCDC. I was active in our parent committees, an extremely active volunteer and I continue to express my thanks to RCCDC many times."

"One of the main benefits I have received from Head Start was the chance to finish my senior year of high school without worrying about paying childcare or the quality of childcare my children would receive. The program has also helped in times of need with items such as groceries or clothing."

"Head Start has never judged me for being a single parent of three and that always meant a lot to me. This school has made it easier to go to work every day knowing my children were in the best hands."



RCCDC could not serve families and children without the help from community members. In the 2009-2010 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,

In-Kind

Head Start is required to match every five dollars received from the federal government with one dollar of locally raised in-kind services or cash (20% match). We can value the time that family and community members volunteer to help the children and teachers at the centers or at fundraising events to help match the grant. During the 2009-2010 fiscal year, we were required to raise \$2,097,265, but through generous volunteers, services and fundraisers we were able to generate \$3,001,011.

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.goodforchildren.org or speak with any RCCDC representative.

