

Early Head Start 2019-2020 Annual Report

MEET JOY



Joy needed help for her son Ayomide. “When it was just me and my son at home, there was no one else his age for him to talk to or play with. He was not talking enough, so I thought he would open up and start speaking more if he could be around other kids.”

Through a friend, she was connected to the Early Head Start program and applied for Ayomide to attend West Haven Child Development Center. Within three months of starting school, he began talking and socializing more. Even during COVID-19, when he was not able to go to school, the teachers called and still provided ways for him to learn at home. The engagement, even virtually, made a difference.

But Ayomide wasn't the only one to grow. While her son was in class, Joy was able to use the time to go back to school. She is now starting her last year of nursing school at Gateway Community College and is looking forward to building a better life for her and her son.

United Way is focused on helping families like Joy's get on a path to financial stability by making sure they have the resources and help they need to get ahead, from childcare to financial coaching and tax services.

“My biggest hope for my son is for him to be great. This program can help him do that.”

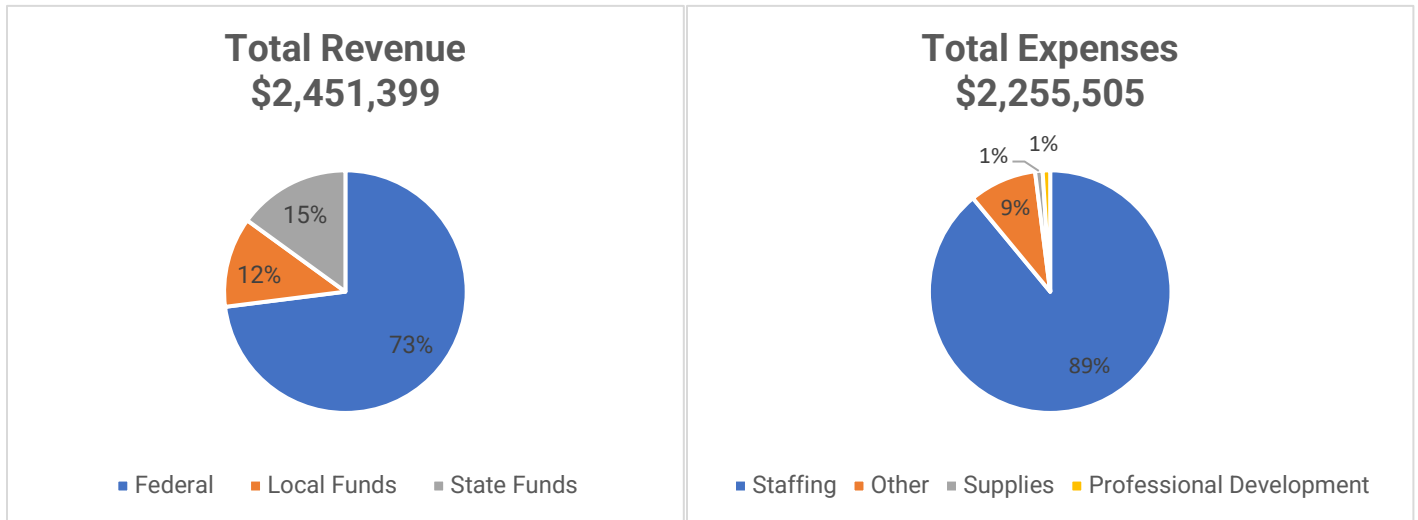
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- Our program served 126 children this year, which is 3.6% of the eligible children in our community.
- 100% of children enrolled in our program received medical exams and 43% received a dental exam by the end of the program year.
- Families enrolled in our program were invited to participate in a variety of activities, including but not limited to; family goal setting, Parent Committees, Health Services Advisory, Policy Council, and a variety of workshops and events in person and/or virtually during the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Our Early Head Start (EHS) program promotes school readiness for infants, toddlers, and their families. We know early experiences play a critical role in solidifying a child’s ability to grow up happy, healthy, and ready to learn.

All our EHS partners; All Our Kin, Elizabeth Celotto Child Care Center, Morning Glory Infant Toddler Center, and West Haven Child Development Center, developed School Readiness goals for the program year. In accordance with Head Start Program Performance Standards, our program assesses children three times per year using Teaching Strategies Gold, a seamless assessment tool based on 38 research-based objectives that include predictors of school success. During the first two checkpoints, ongoing child observations were used to evaluate the child’s developmental level and progress. Due to the pandemic, the data from the third checkpoints was obtained through virtual learning experiences and parent input. All outcomes are aligned with the Head Start Early Learning Child Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five.

- For the results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit please click below <https://uwgnh.org/education/early-head-start>

Funding Details



The program had unused federal dollars that were carried over into the next grant year.