

Lakes and Pines C.A.C., Inc.
Head Start Annual Report
Program Year 2014-2015

The Lakes and Pines' Head Start Program is a family and child development program covering 6,100 square miles throughout seven counties in Minnesota (Aitkin, Carlton, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine). The Program serves children ages 3-5 and their families with the use of federal funds and children ages 0-5 and their families with the use of state funds. Services are available in home and in licensed child care settings.

FUNDING

The following grants were received in 2014-2015 to operate the Head Start Program:

Federal Head Start Grant from the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families totaling \$2,531,011.

- Personnel Salary (Management, Direct Service Staff, Clerical) and Supportive Services Salary and Benefits – \$1,247,593
- Fringe Benefits (FICA, Workers Compensation, Unemployment Compensation, Health/Dental/Life Insurance Benefits, TSA (Retirement) – \$523,989
- Travel (Staff Out-Of-Town Mileage Reimbursement) – \$17,900
- Supplies (Office, Child and Family, and Food Service supplies; copy costs, postage, cost share) – \$37,550
- Contractual (Audit, Mental Health Consultants, Dietician, Child Care Partnerships, Screenings) – \$136,920
- Training and Technical Assistance – \$33,156
- Other (Space Costs and Rental, Insurances, Professional memberships, Beneficiary Food for children and staff, parent activity/travel, staff mileage reimbursement (local), equipment maintenance) – \$567,059

State Head Start Grant from the Minnesota Department of Education totaling \$534,880

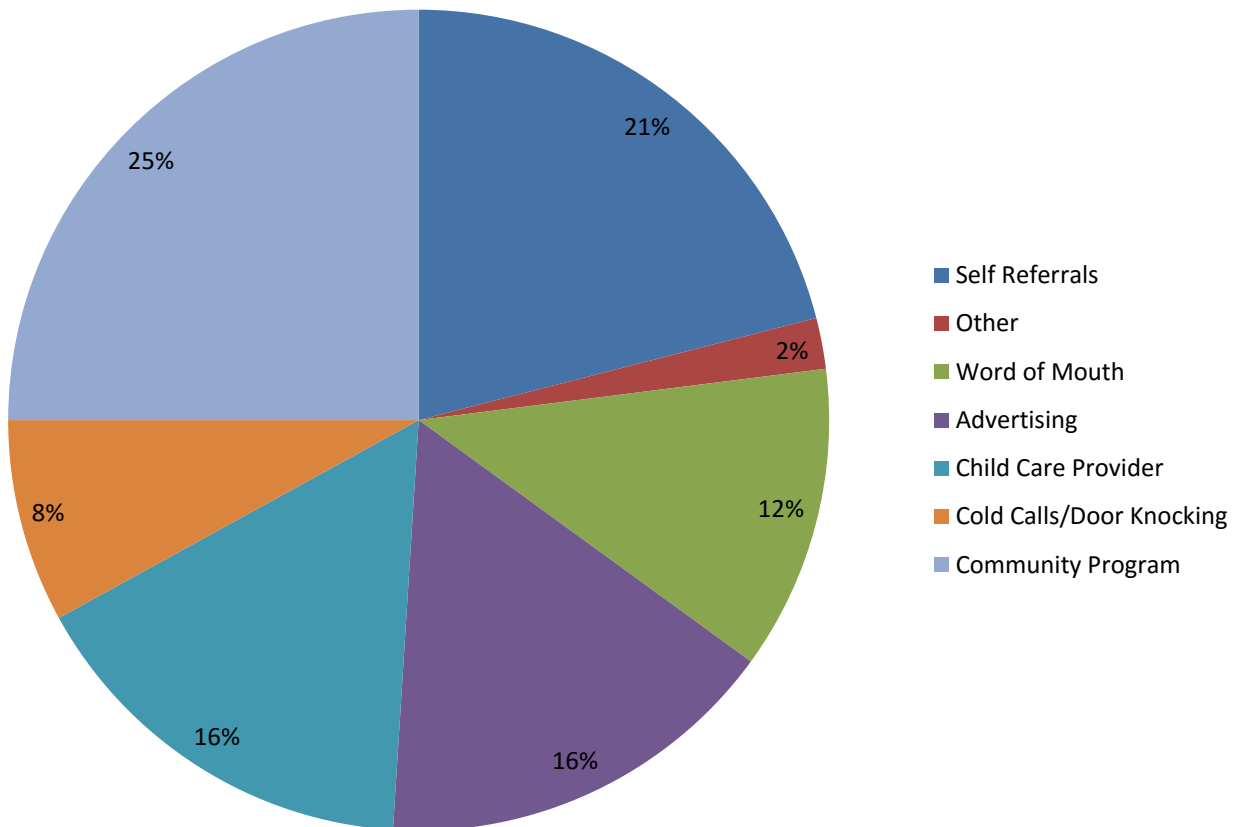
- Salary and Fringe (Management, Direct Service Staff, Clerical) (FICA, Workers Compensation, Unemployment Compensation, Health/Dental/Life Insurance Benefits, TSA (Retirement) – \$383,814
- Consultant/Contracted Services (Audit Mental Health Consultants, Dietician, Screenings) – \$1,600
- Training (Staff Development) – \$1,500
- Travel (Local Staff Mileage Reimbursement) – \$39,910
- Office Expenses (Supplies, Rent, professional memberships, Agency Administration/Fiscal/Accounting/Computer services, Insurance) – \$96,903
- Program Expenses (Consumable supplies, screenings, Children/Volunteers/Staff food & Parent Activities at socializations) – \$11,153

Total Amount of Grants: \$3,065,891

RECRUITMENT / ENROLLMENT

How families heard about Head Start

In 2014-2015, 21% of the families who completed applications were self-referrals. 25% of families became aware of Head Start through other community programs (i.e. Public Health, WIC, County Social Services, Hospitals/Clinics, Public Schools, etc). 12% of the families heard about Head Start from word of mouth. 16% of families became aware of Head Start through some advertising in the community (ad, media, internet, brochure, community event, flyer, or poster). 8% heard about Head Start from staff door knocking or from staff cold calling families. 16% of families learned about Head Start from their child care provider. 2% were unknown or other means.



The total number of children served by Lakes and Pines' Head Start was 511 (Federal and State).

Aitkin: 59 Isanti: 96 Mille Lacs:
Carlton: 80 Kanabec: 53 Pine: 108
Chisago: 52

75

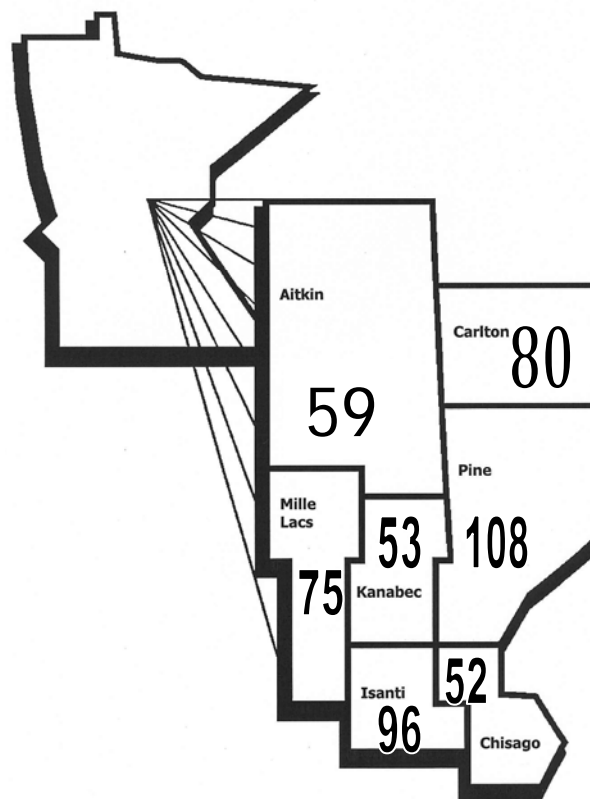
The total number of families served by Lakes and Pines' Head Start was 459 (Federal and State).

Average monthly enrollment (Federal Only):

Sept. 2014-May 2015 = 355 (all options in operation)

Aug. 2014 and June-July 2015 = 60 (only Center-Based and Family Child Care in operation)

The Program maintained full enrollment throughout the Program Year. The percentage of eligible children served was 90%. At the end of the Program Year, 59 income-eligible children and 74 over-income children remained on the waiting list and were not able to be served that year (Federal and State). (Head Start is allowed to serve a certain number of over-income children (10% of enrollment).



The Program uses a variety of methods to inform families and the communities about the services offered such as:

- Posters, brochures, and flyers at area businesses and organizations
- Speaking with staff at community organizations
- School census list
- Presentations at job clubs
- Cold calling families
- Door knocking at homes and apartment buildings
- Participating in parades and handing out children's activity books
- Mass mailings to area churches, foster parents, other community organizations
- Interviews on the radio
- Participate in community early childhood events
- Public Service Announcements
- Staff actively participating in various community committee groups (i.e. IEIC's, Child Protection Teams, Early Childhood Coalitions, etc)
- Food Shelf participation
- Health Clinics and Dental Days
- Hosting booths at local merchants and community events
- Early Childhood Screening teams
- Advertising in Community Education brochures
- Outreach at local jails

MONITORING REPORTS

Financial Audit

The Lakes and Pines' Financial Audit can be accessed through the Lakes and Pines' website (www.lakesandpines.org). It is also available to the public by calling Lakes and Pines at (320) 679-1800 or via the US Postal Service at 1700 Maple Avenue East, Mora, MN 55051.

Federal or State Head Start Monitoring

Lakes and Pines had a site visit from its Program Specialist and no issue's were indicated. There was not a State review during this period.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

In 2014-2015, Lakes and Pines' Head Start Medical and Dental statistics were as follows:

Completed Medical Exams:

3-5yrs – 389 children = 86%

0-3yrs – 39 children = 71% (Current by age)

Completed Dental Exams or State Recommended Oral Health

3-5yrs – 409 children = 90%

0-3yrs – 42 children = 76%

Additional Medical & Health

- 429 Children were current on immunizations
- 500 toothbrushes were given as part of Oral Health education
- 8 Dental Clinics with Children's Dental Service Mobile Clinics
- 188 newly enrolled children received Developmental, Sensory, and Social Emotional Screening
- 260 Children were identified for further evaluations and/or Early Intervention Services

PREPARING CHILDREN FOR KINDERGARTEN

Lakes and Pines' Head Start uses the Teaching Strategies Gold Online Assessment System for goal setting for each child and for tracking progress in development and school readiness.

The final outcomes (spring 2015) for children ages 3 to 5 years who met developmental expectations for their age and are on track for Kindergarten readiness are as follows:

- Social Emotional meets expectations – 82%
- Physical Gross Motor Development meets expectations – 91%
- Physical Fine Motor Development meets expectations – 96%
- Cognitive Development meets expectations – 85%
- Language Development meets expectations – 82%
- Literacy Development meets expectations – 83%
- Math Development meets expectations – 80%

According to the Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment, 87% of the children were at or above school readiness skill expectations for their chronological age.

Progress and growth percentages from Fall 2014 to Spring 2015 for children ages 3 to 5 who met developmental milestones for their age level:

- Social Emotional gains – 21%
- Physical Gross Motor Development gains – 7%
- Physical Fine Motor Development – 7%
- Cognitive Development gains – 16%
- Language Development gains – 12%
- Literacy gains – 16%
- Math gains – 34%

Additional (information) child/parent activities for providing services to promote children's school readiness skills:

- 6,876 Home Visits (10,314 hours) for 3-5 Home Based option
- 3,108 hours of Socialization experiences for Home Based option
- 354 hours of Parent Group Education
- 1,155 books given to Head Start children through RIF/First Books programs
- Staff "teamed" with the local school's School Readiness staff so as to be able to provide the families with information about their school's kindergarten entry expectations. Staff also participated in the local school's special family school readiness events.
- There were 4 Head Start and local School Readiness Program Collaborations that provided "joint" socialization experiences.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

There are many opportunities for parents and families to be involved in the Head Start Program. Their decision to enroll their child in Head Start is the first step in being involved in their child's formal schooling experience. Parent involvement greatly contributes to the success of the Lakes and Pines' Head Start Program.

- Policy Council
- Volunteer in the classroom/socializations
- "Homework assignments" at home with children
- Helping out teachers or home visitors with classroom prep (i.e. cutting out projects)
- Sharing a skill or hobby with the children in class
- Reading stories in the classroom
- Leading parent meetings
- Apply to participate in the Minnesota Head Start Association Parent Training Conference
- Share information within parent groups from Policy Council or trainings attended
- Participate in IEP meetings for their children
- Participation on the Marketing Committee
- Submit ideas and participate in "Week of the Young Child"
- Planning home visits, socializations, field trips, and family nights/parent child nights
- Setting goals for their children and working on them weekly
- Acting as primary educator of their child throughout their Head Start experience

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions, comments, or to enroll your child in Head Start, please contact the Program using one of the following methods:

Mail

Lakes and Pines C.A.C., Inc. Head Start
1700 Maple Avenue East
Mora, MN 55051

Phone

(320) 679-1800 or toll-free (800) 832-6082

E-mail:

lap@lakesandpines.org

Visit the website for more information www.lakesandpines.org