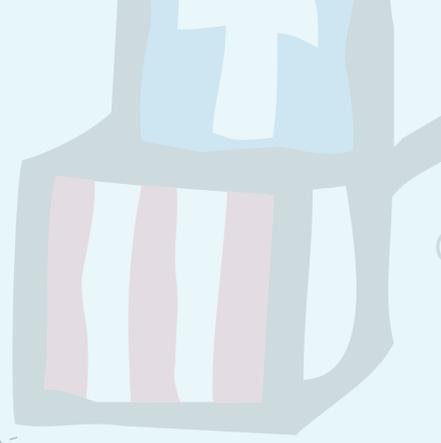


Area I Head Start ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17



Expanding Our Circle

Families • Employees • Community



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Board of Trustees and Policy Council

HCDE Board of Trustees

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Brittany Lacy | Fonwood
Vivian Jackson | Humble
Jennifer Allen | JD Walker
Lisa Chapman | La Porte
Mary Cortez | Pugh
Angelica Espitia | San Jacinto
Lawrence Simmons | Sheffield
Kimberly Countino | Tidwell

Policy Council Officers

Melissa Motta | Barrett Station
Gloria Lemus | Baytown
Angeleah Garcia | Channelview
Oni Hasan | Compton
Yessica Milhet-Victores | Coolwood
Ana Romero | Dogan
Velia Cixco | Fifth Ward
Shanice Eagen | Fonwood
Monica Oliva | Humble
Desier Williams | JD Walker
Amanda Kastl | La Porte
Yashi Moreno | Pugh
Vacant | San Jacinto
Veronica Pruitt | Sheffield
Erika Delgadillo | Tidwell



WHO WE ARE

Our Mission

To improve school readiness for children, families and the community

Our Vision

To create a learning environment of excellence dedicated to positively impacting our children, families, employees, community partners and society

Our Values

Communication, Honesty, Teamwork, Respect and Integrity

Our History

Harris County Department of Education, or HCDE, is a separate and distinct entity from county agencies of Harris County, Texas. The Department's primary service area, geographically, covers 1,788 square miles. We offer services to 25 rural, suburban and urban school districts located either entirely or partially within Harris County; to neighboring school districts and governmental agencies in surrounding counties; and to schools, education services centers and other governmental agencies statewide.



In January 1999, HCDE became a Head Start grantee. Our Head Start service area covers approximately 600 square miles of the northeast and southeast portions of Harris County. Our boundaries extend north to Humble and Huffman. The eastern boundary of HCDE service delivery includes Crosby, Baytown and La Porte. To the south, the area east of I-45 includes Clear Creek, Pasadena and Deer Park. We operate 15 centers which are strategically located to serve more than 1,600 children. Within the Early Child Care Partnership, we serve 60 additional children at seven community child care centers in our service area.



A Message from the Superintendent...



Dear Head Start Supporter:

At HCDE, we are proud to work every day with the 25 local school districts in Harris County to help students achieve. During the 2016-2017 school year, HCDE Head Start extended its impact into the communities we serve by opening

new facilities and relocating others to provide better opportunities for learning.

Altogether, HCDE served more than 1,600 students and their families through our Head Start and Early Head Start programs. These programs ensure future success for our students, both academically and socially, and provide comprehensive health, education, nutrition and financial services to the families.

HCDE remains dedicated to supporting the ever-evolving needs of our school districts and community, while maintaining our commitment to financial transparency, fiscal responsibility and high-quality services and programs.

Remember, HCDE is one source for all learners. Together with our parents, staff and community partners, we will continue to help our children develop an early foundation for learning. Thank you for your support of public education in Harris County!

Sincerely,

James Colbert, Jr.
County School Superintendent

From the Policy Council Chairperson...



Greetings,

During the 2016-2017 school year, I served as the Policy Council chairperson. As the chairperson for the council, I had several responsibilities. My responsibilities included, but were not limited to running the policy council meetings,

making decisions for voting during the meetings, and staying abreast of the issues that affect Harris County Department of Education.

As parents, we are our children's first teachers; therefore, we have the most impact on their learning. When I visit the Sheffield Head Start Center, whether it's volunteering in the classroom or doing my SuperMENtor duty, I notice the children modeling good behavior during meal time and displaying positive interactions with each other. I believe that those, plus the added quest for knowledge and willingness to learn, are the skills which will truly help them to transition into the world in which we live.

This school year I returned to the council as a community representative. Although I am not an officer of the council, I am still actively involved. I was one of three parents chosen to attend a parent conference in Austin, Texas. During the conference, I learned many things and interacted with other parents from all over the United States. Not only has my role with the council been a positive experience, it has also fostered many teachable moments.

I am happy to have been a part of such a positive program.

Sincerely,

Lawrence E. Simmons III
Sheffield Head Start Community Representative



From the Senior Director...



Greetings,

Welcome to our 2016-2017 Annual Head Start Report. Harris County Department of Education Head Start is ever-changing and expanding to meet the needs of our children and families. This year was no different.

For the start of the 2016-2017 school year, we relocated our Tidwell Head Start Center to a larger facility, enabling the center to serve 74 students. The facility also provides classrooms better suited for learning, has offices to work privately with families and has larger grounds for outdoor activities.

This year, we also completed the design phase of the new Baytown Head Start Center, which will bring Head Start and Early Head Start under one roof. The new building will have 12 classrooms and a training room to service approximately 170 children from Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District. The new center will support staff and parents in providing quality early childhood education and family services and allows the community to participate in early childhood training.

I am honored to work with a dedicated and talented group of professionals. It is a great pleasure to present our year to the community. Thank you to our parents, staff and community partners for continuously helping HCDE Head Start reach for excellence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Venetia L. Peacock'.

Venetia L. Peacock

How We Learn

Lessons through Songs, Stories, Activities Empower Children and Parents

Our official birth to 5 curricula called Frog Street Infant, Frog Street Toddler, and Frog Street Pre-k empowers parents as equal partners in their children's education. These comprehensive curricula boost language through songs, stories and other activities. Children learn at their own pace with Frog Street.

We have seen our children bloom and grow with the Frog Street Curriculum. Frog Street allows teaching staff to serve a range of abilities while building on concepts and skills. Emphasis is placed on social and emotional development. A robust vocabulary is supplied.



Learning Outcomes for Pre-K Children

Child Assessment Elements:

1. Frog Street Assessments
2. Observations
3. Portfolio Collection

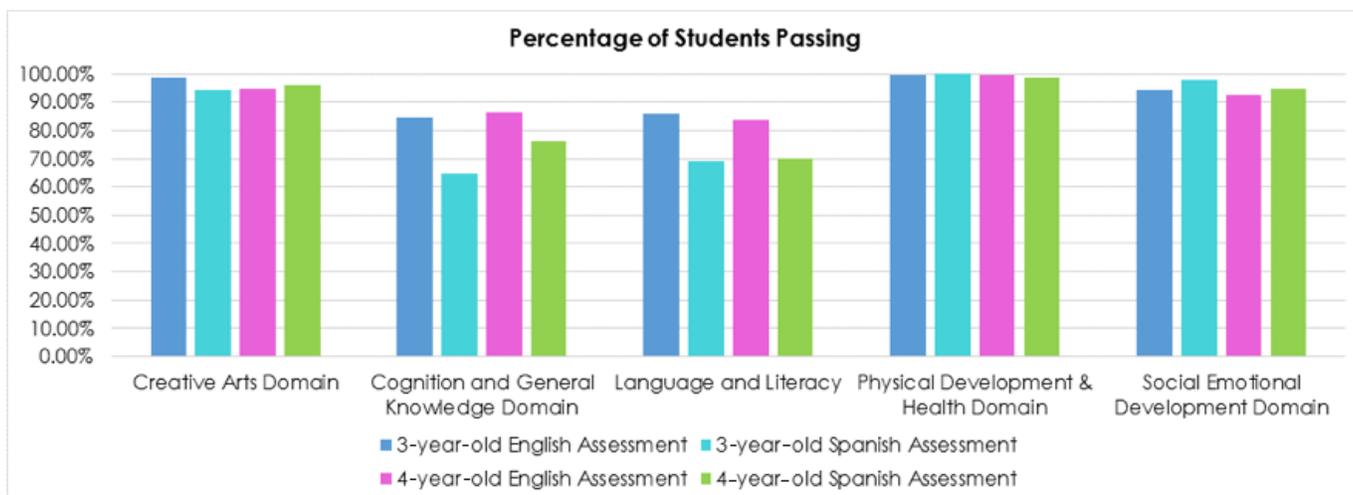
Overall Assessment of 2016-2017

Ongoing Assessment

Children are assessed at the beginning-of-year (**BOY**), middle-of-year (**MOY**), and end-of-year (**EOY**).

Here are some observations:

- End-of-year scores were greater than middle-of-year and beginning-of-year and beginning-of-year for all five domains of assessment.
- Scores for 4-year-old students were greater than 3-year-old students.
- In general, females' performance was better than males' performance.
- In general, English assessment results were better than Spanish assessment results. This illustrates that our Spanish-speaking students are increasing their English language acquisition.



Head Start Responsible Parenting Award

Ashley Henderson | Selena Elias

Not having a vehicle to get to work, shop and take children to the doctor or extracurricular activities can be a challenge for anyone. However, it didn't stop Fifth Ward Head Start mom Ashley Henderson and Baytown Head Start mom Selena Elias from trying to provide the best for their families.

Henderson and Elias were selected as the 2016 recipients of the Responsible Parenting Award for their commitment to their children's education and for supporting their families, regardless of the obstacles they faced.

Recipients of this annual award are surprised with a refurbished car and a wish list of gifts and necessities provided by community partner Bates Collision Centers. Recipients of the Responsible Parenting Award are selected based on criteria like dedication to their children's education and self-improvement.

Ashley Henderson

Ashley Henderson is a single mother of two young boys. After separating from her husband because of domestic violence, she began living with her mother and brother in a small space to make ends meet.

Before receiving the refurbished car, Henderson walked 1.5 miles each day to get Kaysin, 4, to Head Start and utilized public transportation to make it to work and special appointments. Even faced with extreme challenges, Henderson was involved in her son's education at the Head Start center and volunteered in the community when she could.



(Above) Ashley behind the wheel of her new ride.
(Above right) Selena about to be surprised.

"I wanted my children to see me volunteer at church and witness me giving back to my community," said Henderson.

After being selected for the Responsible Parenting Award, Henderson has seen some relief from being the single parent of two young boys. It is easier to get them to doctor's appointments and school, as well as participate in engaging family activities.

"I was just so happy to be picked," said Henderson. "I strive to make sure my son gets to school and get his education and that I get to work to be able to support him."





Selena Elias

Selena Elias is the energetic mother of Baytown student Camila. Before being selected for the Responsible Parenting Award, Elias worked as a cashier at Shipley's Donuts and woke up at 3 a.m. every day to ensure she had her daughter ready for school and was at work by 4 a.m.

Elias depended on her mother for transportation to get every place she needed to be. Her minimum wage job did not cover a car payment.

After receiving the refurbished vehicle and Responsible Parenting Award, Elias plans to attend college to pursue a career as a nurse or in criminal justice. She also gained more independence to take her daughter on family outings to Chuck E. Cheese and the park.

"I'm so thankful to have a car of my own," Elias said. "It's so good to get some good news."

About Bates Collision Centers:

Each year, longtime Head Start supporter Bates Collision Centers gifts two refurbished cars to deserving parents who demonstrate qualities of growth as being actively involved, responsible parents at HCDE's Head Start centers. Bates employees donate time to work on the cars and help fill them with gifts, and other community members and businesses donate gas, insurance and materials needed to rehab the cars.



Community Support

Community Support

Hogg Foundation for Mental Health

\$13,559



Hogg Foundation *for* Mental Health

ADVANCING RECOVERY AND WELLNESS IN TEXAS

Bank of Texas

\$7,020 *(supporting REAL SuperMENTors Read)*

Legacy Health Centers

\$500 *(support for Healthy Minds Healthy Families project)*

United HealthCare

\$500 *(support for Healthy Minds Healthy Families project)*

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTORS

- Assistance League of Houston
- Bates Collision Centers
- Connect CareKids
- Houston Children’s Charity
- Houston CPA Society
- Read for Houston
- Young Learners School

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Total Number of Volunteers: 2,613



Alumni Success Story: Bryan McKinney

Student Bryan McKinney Finds Confidence through Head Start Program

Humble ISD junior Bryan McKinney is a confident, dedicated student who skillfully balances academics, extracurricular activities and his love for music. Mother Desiree Gautier attributes her son's motivation in part to the skills and confidence he gained while in the Head Start program.



Gautier noticed her son thrive after he was enrolled at the JD Walker Head Start Center in 2003. In addition to McKinney's new-found independence at a young age, Gautier remembers he entered kindergarten more advanced than his peers and immediately started in the gifted-and-talented program.

"The Head Start program is not a daycare," said Gautier. "It's an educational program that prepares young children for their future and helps build their self-confidence and self-motivation."

In addition to providing children with academic and socialization skills they need before entering elementary school, Head Start also works with families to provide additional financial, health, nutritional and parenting resources, which was valuable to Gautier.

While McKinney attended Head Start, Gautier was encouraged to get involved in the Policy Council. While her son was gaining confidence in the classroom, Gautier found her confidence as a parent volunteer and leader. She led the group as president, honed her public speaking skills and received three job promotions after her experience on the council.

"The support I received from Head Start when I was having a difficult time helped form the foundation for the hard-working, dedicated student that Bryan is today," said Gautier.

McKinney currently fulfills his passion for music through the Humble High School Band, Symphony, and Jazz Band, and is part of the Category 5 and Caliente ensembles outside of school. The well-rounded 16-year-old also excels academically and is involved in AVID club, Key Club and is a Top Teen of America member.

While Gautier is proud of her son's academic and musical accomplishments, she is most proud of the hard-working role model he has become for others.

"He is passionate, kind and is a good friend to his peers," said Gautier. "He also sets an example for his younger brother and encourages everyone in the house to do their part as a family."

McKinney hopes to attend college in the future to study business and minor in music. Although he knows there will be challenges ahead, the dedicated student enjoys working hard to secure his future.



Parent Success Story: Lawrence Simmons

Head Start Father, Volunteer Encourages Parental Involvement

As a father of five children ranging from elementary to high school and a dedicated school volunteer, Lawrence Simmons has seen the power of parental involvement firsthand.



There are many studies that highlight the positive impact parents play in their child's education and HCDE Head Start emphasizes the parents' role in education from pre-k forward.

"It's important to stay involved in your children's education, even after they leave elementary school," said Simmons. "As parents, we are our children's first teachers, therefore, we have the most impact on their learning."

Simmons understands the importance of parent volunteers and creating a partnership between Head Start centers and families. Together with parents, staff and community volunteers, HCDE Head Start centers can continue to create healthy, effective school environments for all children.

His youngest daughter, 6-year-old Miosotis, most recently attended Sheffield Head Start Center, where he volunteered often. Even though his children have now left the Head Start program, Simmons continues to volunteer at their schools and take an active role in the Head Start program to impact other students.

"I volunteer because it benefits not only my children, but all of the children who attend Head Start," said Simmons. "They know there is another adult on their side and it gives them a feeling of community."

When he volunteers at the Sheffield center, Simmons helps with everything from office and clerical work, to monitoring the front doors and helping teachers with classroom activities. Additionally, he has served as Head Start Policy Council Chairperson for two years and is currently a community representative on the Policy Council. He attends meetings regularly and is part of a group of parents and guardians that act as the parents' voice in making decisions for the program.



Staff Spotlight: Wanda Vinson

Fifth Ward Center Manager Wanda Vinson Reaches Families through Head Start



With close to 35 years of education experience, Fifth Ward Head Start Center Manager Wanda Vinson has seen many students and their families benefit from the Head Start program.

Although her role as a center manager involves dealing with logistics, compliance and safety standards, what Vinson finds most rewarding is developing relationships with Head Start families to help each child grow.

The North Carolina native credits the teachers throughout her own childhood for her zeal for education. They gave her confidence to learn and explore, something she has passed on to her Head Start students for more than 30 years.

“The Head Start program promotes confidence, self-esteem and resiliency,” said Vinson. “If students develop confidence and good social skills at an early age, it can take them far.”

As an experienced center manager, Vinson is a liaison between students, staff and families. She ensures students and teachers have a safe learning environment and that families understand their role in their child’s learning. A large part of a center manager’s job is establishing partnerships with the families and helping them understand they are advocates for their child.

“We want parents to understand that Head Start is a school readiness program, not just a daycare,” said Vinson. “All kids can learn and if you give them the right setting. They can engage and be successful, even in their early years.”

A piece of that partnership is exposing families to different opportunities. Learning is everywhere for children, so Vinson and her team help families engage their children in meaningful activities outside of the classroom. From free events in the community, to providing books for children to take home, Head Start provides a variety of options for engaging activities.

HCDE Head Start centers also work with families on setting and reaching goals. Whether a parent’s goal is to go back to school or earn a certain job, staff keep track of each family’s goals and help parents reach them. The program also provides additional health, nutrition and financial support.

Vinson plans to retire at the end of the year, but she fondly remembers her time as a center manager and the impact Head Start has made on families.

“We are life changers for our families,” said Vinson. “We don’t only focus on the child, we focus on the whole family.”



Demographics

HEAD START/EHS CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIPS STAFF	
Position	Number
Head Start Employees	314*
Preschool Teachers	55
Teacher Qualifications	
Associate Degree	23
Bachelor Degree	30
Graduate Degree	1
Assistant Teacher Qualifications	
Associate Degree	7
Bachelor Degree	3
Master Degree	0
CDA	57

*284 Head Start, 30 Early Head Start CCP

EARLY HEAD START/CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIPS DEMOGRAPHICS	
Ages of Children Served	Number
Less than 1 year old	42
1 year old	66
2 years old	34
Total Children	142
Language	
English	119
Spanish	23
Income Eligibility	
Income Below Federal Poverty Line	128
TANF/SSI/Public Assistance Recipient	3
Foster Child	9
Homeless	2
Over Income	0
Race	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0
Asian	1
Black or African American	64
White	70
Biracial/Multi-racial	7
Other	0
Total	142

HEAD START DEMOGRAPHICS	
Ages of Children Served	Number
3 years old	808
4 years old	700
Total Children	1,508
Language	
English	1,004
Spanish	501
Middle Eastern	2
East Asian	1
Income Eligibility	
Income Below Federal Poverty Line	1,361
TANF/SSI/Public Assistance Recipient	97
Foster Child	37
Homeless	5
Over Income	8
Ethnicity	
Hispanic	847
Non-Hispanic	661
Race	
American Indian or Alaska Native	5
Asian	5
Black or African American	611
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	4
White	847
Biracial/Multi-racial	36
Other	0
Total	1,508

CHILD HEALTH OUTCOME RESULTS		
Medical Service	Head Start	Early Head Start
Health Insurance	96%	95%
Medical Home	94%	95%
Up-to-Date on Well Child Care	92%	61%
Immunization	92%	100%
Dental Home	94%	85%
Completed Dental Exam	93%	-----

CUMULATIVE ENROLLMENT	
Head Start	1,508
Early Head Start	142

Reports

MAJOR FUNDS - SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS						
	GENERAL	HEADSTART PROGRAM	FEDERAL AFTER-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP	PFC CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS	NON MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
REVENUES						
Local Sources	\$42,034,954	\$3,412	\$300,000	\$30,951	\$5,052,209	\$47,421,526
State Program Revenues	\$3,031,412	-	-	-	\$1,519,576	\$4,550,988
Federal Program Revenues	\$1,373,612	\$11,602,536	\$1,419,592	-	\$8,967,486	\$23,363,226
Total Revenues	\$46,439,978	\$11,605,948	\$1,719,592	\$30,951	\$15,539,271	\$75,335,740

FY 2016-2017 REVENUE SOURCES		
LOCAL SOURCES	FY 2015-16	FY 2015-16
Charges for Services	\$20,044,178	\$19,213,400
Property Taxes, Levied for General Purposes	\$21,751,923	\$21,141,146
Local Grants	\$5,454,945	\$5,086,589
Miscellaneous	\$170,480	\$164,439
Total Local Sources:	\$47,421,526	\$45,605,574
STATE SOURCES		
Grants-Restricted to Specific Program	\$2,260,853	\$2,810,044
TRS On-Behalf Payments	\$2,290,135	\$2,215,370
Total State Sources:	\$4,550,988	\$5,025,414
FEDERAL SOURCES		
Grants-Restricted to Specific Program	\$23,363,226	\$22,622,562
Total Governmental Revenues:	\$75,335,740	\$73,253,550



About HCDE

HCDE Programs and Services

Harris County Department of Education is one source for all learners, serving students of all ages throughout Harris County. HCDE also provides operational support for school districts with a tax rate of one half of one penny – about \$10 a year for the average homeowner. The Department helps the 25 school districts in Harris County meet the needs of uniquely challenged learners, directly serving students on their campuses, as well as in HCDE's specialized school settings.

Adult Education: HCDE offers adult learners the opportunity to learn English, earn their GEDs and train for the workforce. Our classes are located in schools, churches, businesses and community centers across Harris County. Call 713-692-6216.

Business Services: The School Finance Council serves school district business managers and CFOs by providing training and pertinent information relative to school finance and business operations. Call 713-696-8249.

Center for Afterschool, Summer and Enrichment for Kids (CASE for Kids): CASE for Kids provides quality support for out-of-school time programs (before and after school, weekends and summer) including grant funding, training and materials. Call 713-696-1331.

Center for Grants Development: Supports the 25 Harris County area school districts with grant resources and collaboration. Call 713-696-8293.

Center for Safe and Secure Schools: Partners with federal, state and local entities for increased safety-and-security strategies, standards and best practices in K-12 school environments. Call 713-696-3142.

Educator Certification and Professional Advancement: Trains and supports degreed professionals to become teachers or principals. We're a TEA accredited educator preparation program with an excellent support staff and test pass rate. Call 713-696-0775.

Head Start/Early Head Start Area I: Supports and prepares infants, toddlers and preschool children and their families with school readiness skills. Low-income families and families of children with special needs benefit from services administered locally by HCDE. Call 713-672-9343.

Records Management: Provides low-cost, high-tech solutions to store records for governmental entities. Develops records control schedules and provides training, consulting, electronic imaging, microfilming and commercial record center services. Call 713-649-9022.

Research and Evaluation: Provides quality, scientific-based evaluation services that meet the needs of HCDE, school districts and other community groups. Call 713-696-8291.

Specialized Schools: Districts contract with us to provide specialized environments and a low student-to-teacher ratio to educate students with unique needs. Teachers at our Academic and Behavior schools serve students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our Highpoint school offers a safe and highly structured learning environment to adjudicated or expelled youth in grades 6-12. Call 713-696-8218.

Teaching and Learning Center: Provides professional development and instructional support to administrators, teachers, support personnel, students, parents and the community. Call 713-696-8200.

School-Based Therapy Services: Area school districts benefit from occupational, physical and music therapy services supplied through our professionals. Services include assessment, intervention, consultation, training and direct service to children with disabilities and their families. Call 713-696-8232.



AREA I HEAD START

6300 Irvington Blvd. Houston, TX 77022

www.hcde-texas.org/headstart

713.672.9343