



**Southeast
Nebraska
Community
Action**

2022-2023 SENCA HEAD START ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PUBLIC

*Serving Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, and
Richardson Counties of Nebraska*



SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, INC.

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SENCA MISSION

***“Investing in our neighbors through
education and partnerships to improve lives
and build strong communities in southeast
Nebraska.”***

SENCA HEAD START MISSION

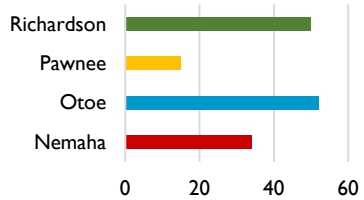
***“Empowering families with knowledge and
providing services to attain self-sufficiency in
their community and providing a
developmentally appropriate setting for their
children.”***



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PUBLIC

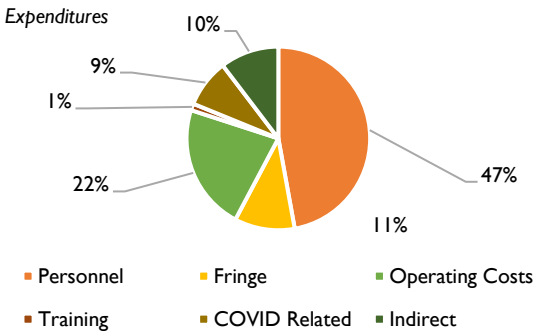
Head Start is an early childhood development program that provides comprehensive services to children age three to five and their families. Families served are primarily at or below 100% of poverty. SENCA Head Start can also serve up to 35% of families between 101% to 135% of poverty and 10% of funded enrollment can be over the guideline families. Southeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership, Inc. (SENCA) is the grantee for the Head Start program which currently serves Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, and Richardson counties in southeast Nebraska. The information contained in this report will be based upon the Head Start Fiscal Year 2022 which ran from February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023 and the Program Year 2022-2023, which took place from August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023.

SENCA has been the Head Start grantee for many years and currently serves 151 children. During program year 2022-2023, these 151 funded enrollment slots were distributed as follows:



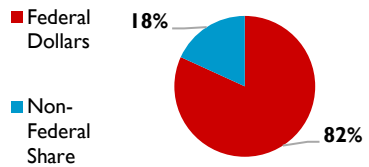
FINANCIAL REPORT

A total of \$1,576,764 in federal dollars were expended during Fiscal Year 2022. This funding included COVID-19 funding.



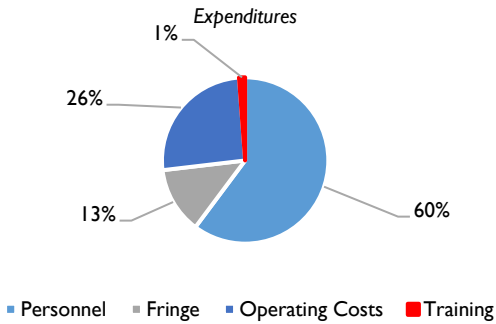
SENCA Head Start collected \$350,388 in non-federal share through volunteer services. Volunteer services provided during the 2022 fiscal year were provided by 541 individuals, with 280 of those being Head Start parents.

SENCA utilized CACFP funds for child meals at a total of \$71,408 in reimbursements.



Note:
COVID-19 funding did not require a non-federal share match.

The annual budget for the February 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024 is \$1,565,598 in federal funding, which includes a cost-of-living adjustment and quality improvement. The total non-federal to be collected is \$391,399. The federal annual funding is proposed to be utilized as outlined below.



The last audit was conducted in November 2022 and there were no findings. For additional information contact the SENCA Fiscal Officer at 402-862-2411 x114.

During the 2022-2023 program year, SENCA Head Start had a CLASS and Focus Area 2 monitoring. CLASS scores demonstrated the program was above the re-competition thresholds in all three areas and above the quality threshold in emotional support. Full scores are included elsewhere in this report. In Focus Area 2 there were four non-compliance areas. Two have already been addressed, one can't be addressed due to Nebraska state law, and one will be re-explained due to miscommunication.

ENROLLMENT

SENCA Head Start is funded to serve 151 children. During the 2022-2023 program year, a total of 154 children and 135 families received services.

- Center-based services were provided to 154 children.
- Local Public Preschool collaborations served 41 of those children.
- There were 8 preschool sites housing 16 classrooms serving children.
- Special education services were provided to 30 children which is 19.9% of funded enrollment.
- Monthly, the program was under-enrolled. Low poverty guidelines and short-staffing issues resulted in lower enrollment numbers.

Eligibility Type	Children
100% or Below	47
Public Assistance	43
Foster Care	8
Homeless	9
101% to 130%	33
Over Income	14



MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

- 92% of children established a medical home
- 55% of children established a dental home
- 86% of children received dental examinations
- 71% of children were up-to-date on all well-child care
- 88% of children were up-to-date on immunizations

The program is struggling to access dental care for many children. Many local dentists are no longer accepting Medicaid.

The program conducts daily checks of all facilities to ensure the health and safety of all children, staff, and visitors. Parents complete safety checks at least twice a year and assigned staff complete in-depth health and safety inspections three times per year.



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- 100% of families received educational services through the program
- 100% of families elected to participate in services to address identified needs including:
 - Parenting education
 - Emergency assistance
 - Mental health services
 - English as a Second Language
 - Adult education
 - Health education
- Over 34% of classroom staff are current or past Head Start Parents
- Over 80% of families participated in the family partnership process and 97% of those families met one or more of their goals
- 98% of families were satisfied/very satisfied with their experience in the program
- 98% of families surveyed indicated noticeable educational growth in their children
- 541 volunteers donated 13,313 hours of volunteer services to the program
- Numerous opportunities were made available to Head Start parents through Policy Council, Parent Meetings, Parent Committee, Parent-Child Activities, and so much more.



2022-2023 CLASS RESULTS

The Office of Head Start uses the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Pre-K Teacher-Child Observation Instrument during on-site reviews of grantees. SENCA Head Start uses the same tool as a staff development tool for classroom staff. Three domains are observed including emotional support, classroom organization, and instructional support. Each domain is scored anywhere from a 0 to 7, with 7 being the highest score.

	Emotional Support	Classroom Organization	Instructional Support
Spring 2022 SENCA Head Start Scores	6.76	6.53	5.24
Quality Improvement Score Levels	6	6	3
DRS (Re-competition) Score Levels	4.99	4.99	2.29
CLASS Monitoring Scores <i>Note: Only 87% of classrooms monitored.</i>	6.0357	5.9762	2.8333

SCHOOL READINESS

SENCA Head Start utilizes Creative Curriculum – Preschool in the program. School readiness goals established by the program include:

Approaches to Learning Goals

- Children and families will demonstrate interest, creativity, and independence in their environment.
- Children will demonstrate self-regulation.

Social and Emotional Development Goals:

- Children and families will engage in positive relationships with adults and peers.
- Children will understand emotions of self and others.
- Children and families will recognize self as unique and have a sense of belonging to family and community.

Language and Literacy Goals

- Children will show alphabet knowledge and early writing skills.
- Children will demonstrate communication skills.
- Children will understand and utilize a wide range of vocabulary.
- Children will comprehend and demonstrate early literacy skills supported by family/child engagement.

Cognition Goals

- Children will demonstrate mathematical skills and processes.
- Children will use the scientific method in their environment.

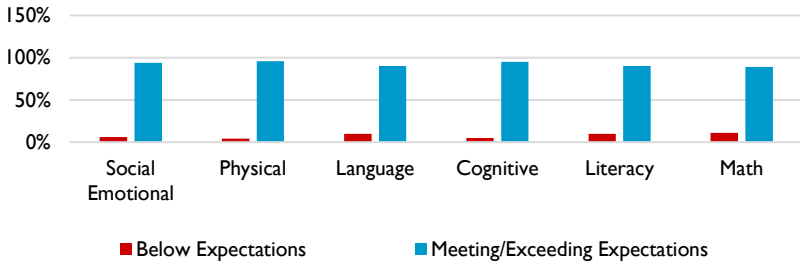
Physical Development and Health Goals

- Children will demonstrate control of gross-motor skills.
- Children will demonstrate control of fine motor skills.
- Children and families will understand and practice safe and healthy habits.



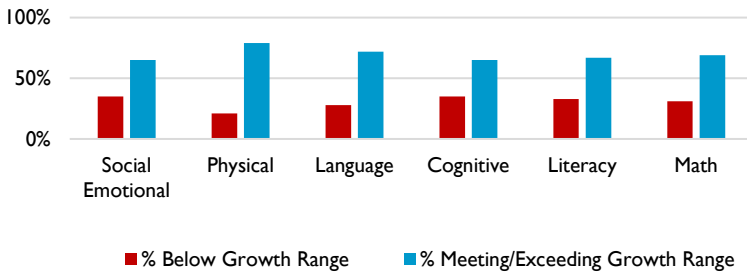
2022-2023 Child Outcomes

Agency Wide Outcomes - Spring 2023

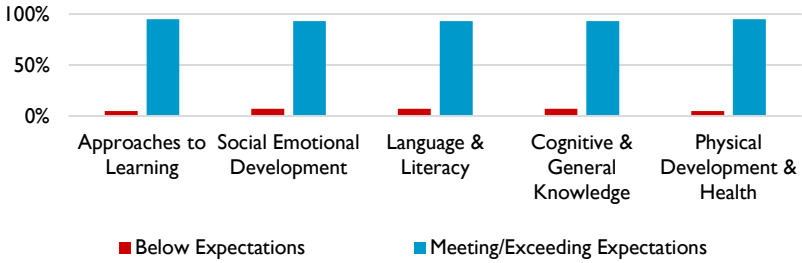


Head Start children made great strides this year. Full in-person services, improved child attendance, and consistent staffing resulted in higher outcomes compared to the previous two year.

2022-2023 Agency Growth Outcomes



Agency School Readiness Progress - Spring 2023



SENCA HEAD START COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

The following contains a few selected characteristics from the 2022 Community Assessment update. To view the full report visit www.senca.org.

Demographics and Identified Needs

County	Population 0-4	Child Poverty Rate	Estimated Children 0 to 4 in Poverty
Nemaha	452	11.1%	50
Otoe	1,035	10.0%	104
Pawnee	163	19.5%	32
Richardson	427	13.6%	58

Selected Statistics	Nemaha	Otoe	Pawnee	Richardson
Children in Poverty	12%	11%	19%	15%
Teen Births per 1,000	9	20	NA	20
Low Birth Weights	6%	6%	5%	7%
Child Food Insecurity	12%	14%	16%	15%
SNAP Participation (child)	13%	17%	10%	16%
Federal Nutrition Assistance (eligible children)	88%	63%	100%	72%
Child Care Slots Available	276	378	51	249
Preschool Slots Available	177	202	75	134

During the 2022-2023 school year, SENCA Head Start served a total of 154 children from 135 families. There was a total of 71 one parent families and 64 two parent families. Ninety-three percent (93%) of the families have at least one parent employed and need child care or preschool services. At application parents are surveyed about their child care needs. The vast majority indicated needing care five days a week. Of those needing child care, an average of 69% were in need of full day services. Forty-eight percent (48%) indicated a need for 0 to 3 preschool services. When surveyed as a part of the 2022 Community Assessment, 11% of SENCA clients and 16% of partners indicated a continued need for 3 to 5 preschool services mirroring the school year. The highest three needs indicated by clients included 0 to 3 care, 3 to 5 care, and quality care.

Child Care Needs Identified	Clients	Partners	Head Start Parents
Preschool Ages 0 to 3	10%	19%	48%
Preschool Ages 3 to 5	11%	16%	87%
Quality Child Care	8%	53%	NA
Infant Care	1%	19%	16%
Evening/Night/Weekend Care	7%	41%	22%
Part-time/Changing Hours	6%	7%	23%
Sick Child Care	4%	31%	NA
After School Care	7%	50%	23%
Summer/Holiday Care	9%	44%	NA

SENCA Head Start utilizes the data collected for the Community Assessment, as well as other pertinent data available, in order to plan for both current and future program operations. As the program moves forward efforts continue to be made to expand the program classrooms to full day programs. The program will also continue to analyze the data and needs identified in order to potentially add an Early Head Start program which would serve children 0 to 3 years of age.



SENCA Head Start

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Head Start Centers Located in Auburn, Falls City, Nebraska City, and Table Rock

Collaboration Sites Located in Auburn, Falls City, and Humboldt

For more information, please call 402-862-2411.