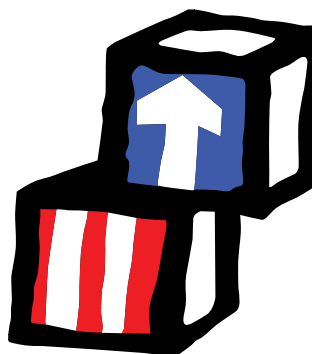
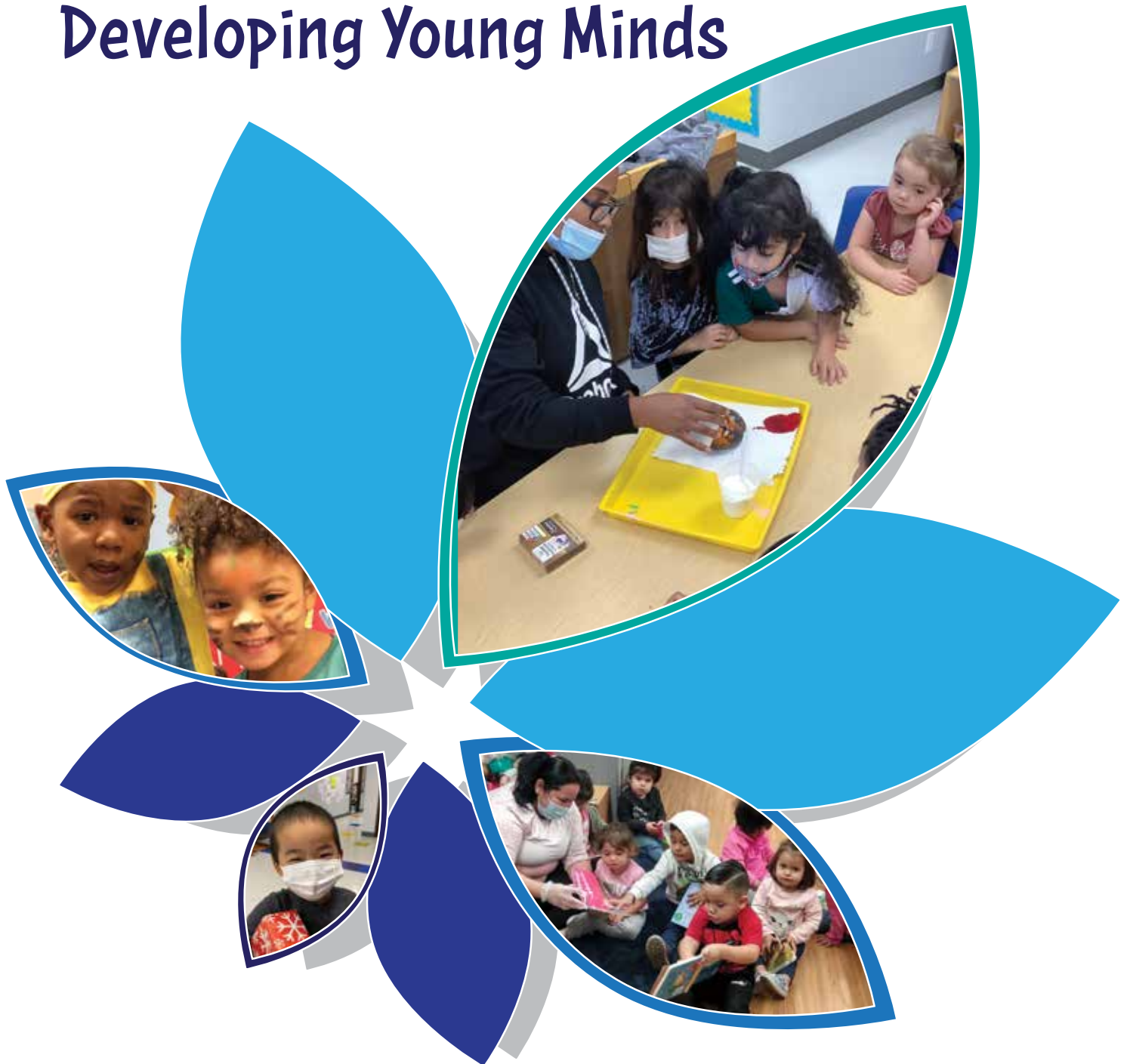


ANNUAL REPORT

2020 / 2021

Developing Young Minds



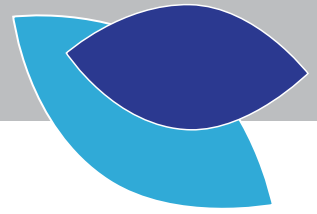
Head Start Childhood
Development Centers

512.451.7361

www.childinc.org

Serving Travis County Families Since 1972

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3	Welcome from the Executive Director
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The information contained in this report covers community partnerships, parent engagement, funding sources, budgetary expenditures, enrollment, health and wellness, school readiness, education, and nutrition services in 2020 / 2021.

WHO WE ARE

Child Inc was first established as an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation in 1972, by a group of parents who wanted to create a parent-driven early childhood development program for children of low-income families. Child Inc can trace its origins to the mid-sixties when Project Head Start was one of the first initiatives in President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty." Today, Head Start is one of the very few anti-poverty programs that has proved its worth and continues to exist and work towards elimination of poverty through fostering educational success for low-income children. Through five decades of service, Child Inc has prepared approximately 45,000 preschool children and their parents to succeed in school and in life in our community in Center Based, Home Based and Collaborative Classrooms withing Austin, Del Valle and Manor ISD.

VISION

To create a community where all children regardless of income have an equal opportunity to become independent and self-sufficient adults.

MISSION

Provide high quality education and comprehensive support services for children and their families while supporting personal and social responsibility in the communities we serve.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

In 1972, Child Inc Head Start began providing comprehensive child development services to income eligible children and their families with a focus on assisting preschoolers to develop the social and early learning foundation for school success. Early Head Start was added in 2006, to serve infants, toddlers, and pregnant women in Travis County. The grantee finale was added in 2016 with the award of the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) program.

We are pleased to provide this public report to our community partners to share a few of the many exciting and engaging services offered to our Head Start children and families despite the pandemic. Provisions of the comprehensive services and supports shared in this report strive to prepare the children enrolled in the programs for the next stage in their formal early childhood educational development.

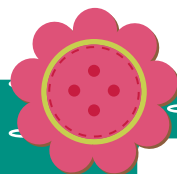
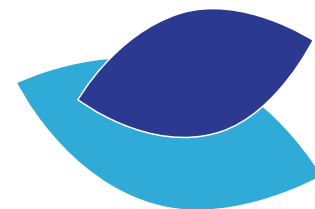
Thank you for your continued support of our Agency, Child Inc, our programs, Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships. The Board of Directors, Policy Council, and I are so grateful for the support and involvement of Austin's early childhood community and our exceptional staff; the success of our program is evident because of their hard work and dedication to the children and families of Travis County.

Saluting in Celebration,
50 Years of Head Start in Travis County
1972 - 2022

Albert L. Black,
Executive Director



SCHOOL READY CHILDREN



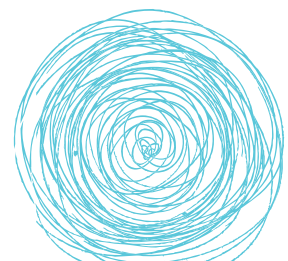
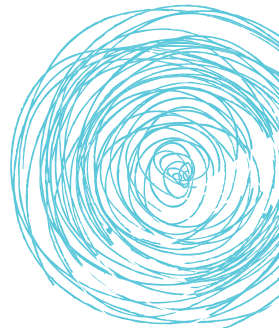
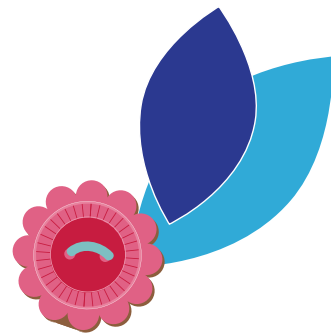
A SCHOOL READY CHILD WILL DEVELOP THE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL MATURITY TO PARTICIPATE APPROPRIATELY AND LEARN FROM CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES.

APPROACH TO SCHOOL READINESS

School readiness is viewed as children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and later in life, and the extent that children are ready for school, families are ready to support children's learning, and schools are ready for children. Our program creates stimulating learning environments, bilingual services and implements intentional teaching strategies ensuring all children are ready to succeed in school. Child Inc promotes a comprehensive approach of child and family with each child receiving individualized transition services within our area school districts. Head Start children transition into kindergarten more successfully because we help plan with our families and schools supporting the transition together.

The Office Of Head Start Framework is grounded in a comprehensive body of research about what young children should know and be able to do in order to succeed in school. It describes how children progress across key areas of learning and development and specifies learning outcomes in these areas. Approaches to learning focuses on how children learn, it refers to the skills and behaviors children use to engage in learning. Our readiness goals consist of monitoring performance, using data for continuous improvement and providing required reporting. The Approaches to Learning domain incorporates emotional, behavioral, and cognitive self-regulation under a single umbrella to guide teaching practices that support the development of these skills.

There are many transitions that take place at Head Start. From pregnant women to the transition of the infant entering the classroom for the first time, to children and families transitioning to kindergarten. Every Head Start child has a transition plan that follows them throughout their Head Start experience no matter what age/level they begin. Each year parent trainings are held in partnership with local public school systems to ensure parents get the information they need to have a successful transition in to kindergarten. In the classrooms staff prepare children by practicing using trays, listening to stories and books about going to kindergarten, and sometimes visiting a kindergarten classroom (in person or virtually). Two-hundred and twenty-six 4-year old children were eligible to transition from our program to kindergarten in the fall of 2021.

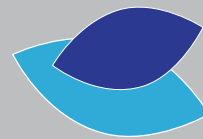


CURRICULUM

• Letter of the Week

Aa





CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT & IMPLEMENTATION FIDELITY – Curriculum used in the classrooms adhere to both the Head Start School Readiness requirements and the Texas Prekindergarten Curriculum Guidelines to ensure proper alignment to school district expectations. This alignment ensures that the children are exposed to appropriate skills which will prepare them for Kindergarten.

SCHOOL READINESS PLAN – The program has a School Readiness Plan which outlines goals in all developmental domains. Data is extracted from the Teaching Strategies GOLD database which teachers use to document ongoing progress of individual children. The Plan is revisited three times per school year and updated to reflect current measures and improvements towards addressing children's needs and learning. The program has a School Readiness Plan which outlines goals in all developmental domains. Data is extracted from the Teaching Strategies GOLD database which teachers use to document ongoing progress of individual children. The Plan is revisited three times per year and updated to reflect current measures and improvements towards addressing children's needs and learning. Child Inc is a high quality birth to five early learning school with an educational goal that ensures children are ready for school, and families are ready to support their children's learning. Child Inc continues to be an early childhood trailblazer with a solid, clear, and inclusive focus on all facets of healthy development, including physical, cognitive, and social/emotional development; all the ingredients to ensure children are school ready.

Child Inc's School Readiness is accomplished and maintained with a three-pronged approach:

1. Hiring high quality and qualified Head Start Teachers that have an Associate of Art or Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education; Early Head Start Teachers with a minimum of a CDA with an Infant & Toddler Specialization
2. NAEYC Accredited Centers.
3. Child Inc has adopted Creative Curriculum for its infants, toddlers and PreK3-year-olds. Scholastic Big Day curriculum and Frog Street Press curriculum is used with our partnering PreK4 classrooms. Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculum and recently, Parents As Teachers (PAT) is used in the agency's Early Head Start Home Visitor program. All are supported by brain research development and align with the Head Start Early Learning Framework (ELOF). Child Inc's School Readiness Goals are aligned with Texas PreK, Texas Kindergarten Readiness, the Texas Infant, Toddler and the Three-Year Old Early Learning Guidelines.

Child Inc enrolled children are assessed with Teaching Strategies Gold at the beginning (BOY), middle (MOY) and at the end of the year (EOY). Please refer to the table below for the end of year scores. The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is an observation instrument that assesses the quality of the teacher-child interactions in campus based preschool classrooms. CLASS includes three domains or categories of teacher-child interactions that supports children's learning and development: emotional support, classroom organization and instructional support.

INTEGRATED SCHOOL DISTRICT MODEL – Children are dually enrolled in Head Start and Prekindergarten which affords them all the benefits from both programs. The children are usually on the same school campus where they will attend Kindergarten. They are familiar with staff, buildings, and the general environment. Parents are also more a part of the school system since they have spent the last one or two years in Head Start integrated into the school environment. Kindergarten readiness data was collected for 4-year-old children who will attend kindergarten the following year.

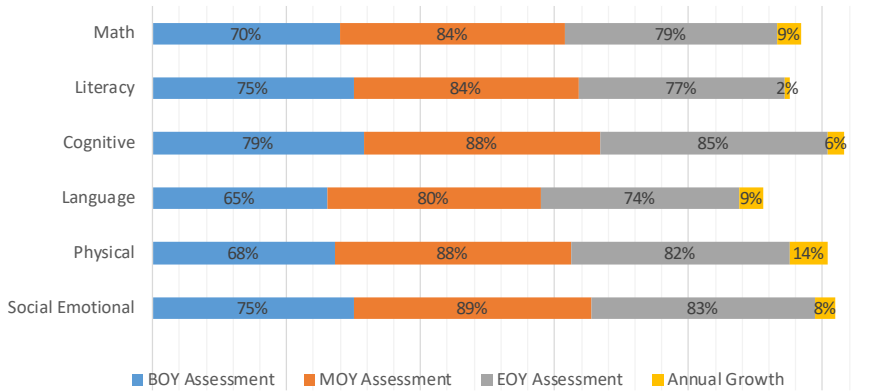
INTEGRATED CHILD CARE MODEL – Children 0-3 are dually enrolled in Early Head Start and Mainspring. This EHS-CCP collaboration brings together the strengths of childcare and Early Head Start programs within high-quality early learning environments that adhere to the research-based Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS).

Together, all children in classrooms with EHS-CCP-enrolled children benefit from low teacher-to-child ratios and class sizes, qualified teachers receiving ongoing supervision and coaching to support implementation of curriculum and responsive caregiving, and broad-scale parent engagement activities. EHS-CCP maximizes program resources which affords them all the benefits from both programs, just as the integrated school district model.

CHILD OUTCOMES

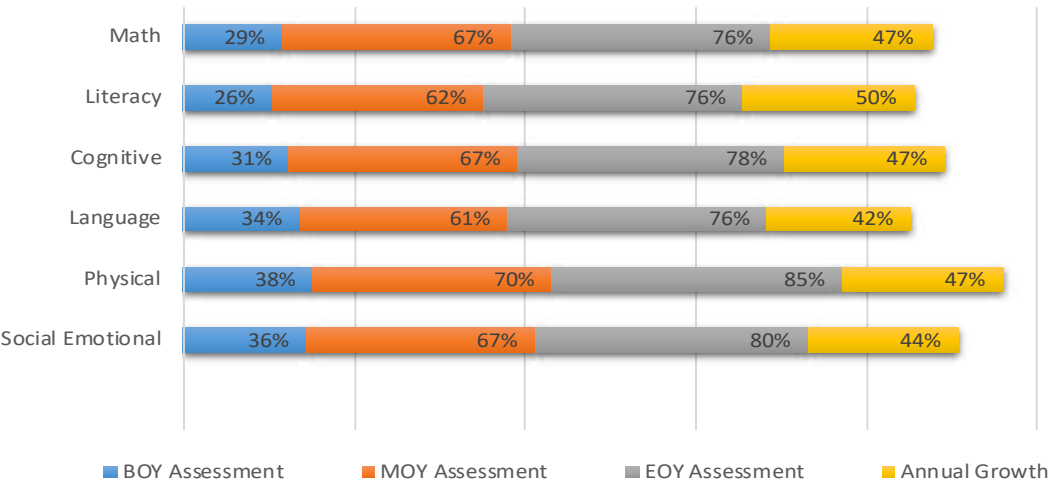
The EOY assessment indicates children regressing in growth from the MOY to EOY assessment window. The EOY assessment indicates children progressing from the BOY to EOY assessment windows. The progression indicated a 2-14% growth over the six main domains. This annual growth rate can be affected by the nature of the TSG assessment for Early Head Start. EHS children that age out of our program before the end of the year are not counted for the EOY. They are replaced with new children that have not been enrolled in the classroom at the BOY and are still counted in the EOY data. The design of the BOY assessment period also automatically categorizes a “not yet” checkpoint as ‘meeting expectations. This skews the BOY assessments as showing a large number of children meeting and/or exceeding expectations and does not provide teachers with the ability to identify children as ‘below expectations. The strongest domains were Cognitive and Social-Emotional. The weaker domains were Language, Literacy and Math.

Percentage of Early Head Start Children Meeting and/or Exceeding Expectations



The annual growth for HS children was much higher this year than in previous years. In past years the annual growth for HS children in all domains hovered at approximately 30-33%. The strongest domains were Social Emotional and Physical. The weaker domains were Language, Literacy, and Math.

Percentage of Head Start Children Meeting and/or Exceeding Expectations



HEALTH & WELLNESS SERVICES

ADVANCING SCHOOL READINESS WITH HEALTH & NUTRITION

Children need to be healthy to learn and develop, so we help families identify a medical and dental home, receive age-appropriate preventative services, and apply for benefits they qualify to receive. All children enrolled in our program receive nutrition, dental, health, vision, hearing, emotional wellness, and educational screenings, as well as appropriate follow-up and treatment when necessary. Nutrition assessment and counseling services are also offered to Child Inc families. Nutrition Services provide nutrition assessment and counseling, nutritious meals, and empower and educate parents to make healthy choices for themselves and their children.

PROMOTING EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

The mental health of children and the adults who care for them is essential for school readiness. The holistic approach of Child Inc's Mental Health team encompasses a program wide culture of wellness that promotes the mental health and social emotional well-being of children, families, and staff. Thirty-seven (37) mental health referrals were made to external mental health providers. The Office of Head Start guided recipients in implementing strategies to help families and young children cope with stress and trauma. Through partnership with the Educational Psychology doctoral students from the University of Texas at Austin, a 24/7 mental health helpline was available until the end of Summer 2021. A weekly Virtual Peer Support Group was also made available for Child Inc Employees. We continued our community partnerships with United Way for Greater Austin, Austin Child Guidance Center, and Educational Psychology doctoral students from the University of TX Austin. These two agencies provided Mental Health Consultation services to families and staff via tele-health and virtual platform during the beginning phases of the pandemic. There were thirteen (13) weekly self-care sessions available to all staff by Educational Psychology doctoral students at the University of Texas Austin. Participates found these as a great opportunity to enhance coping skills and to de-stress.

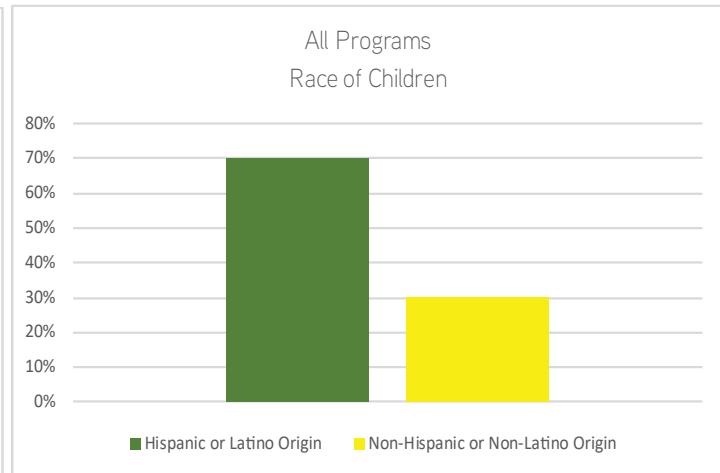
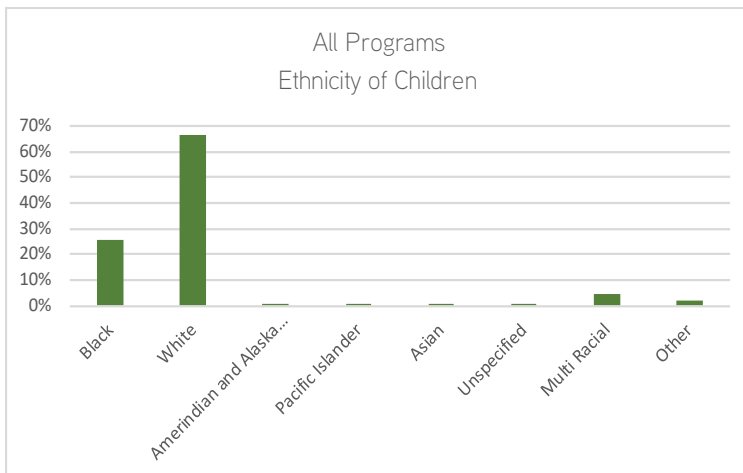
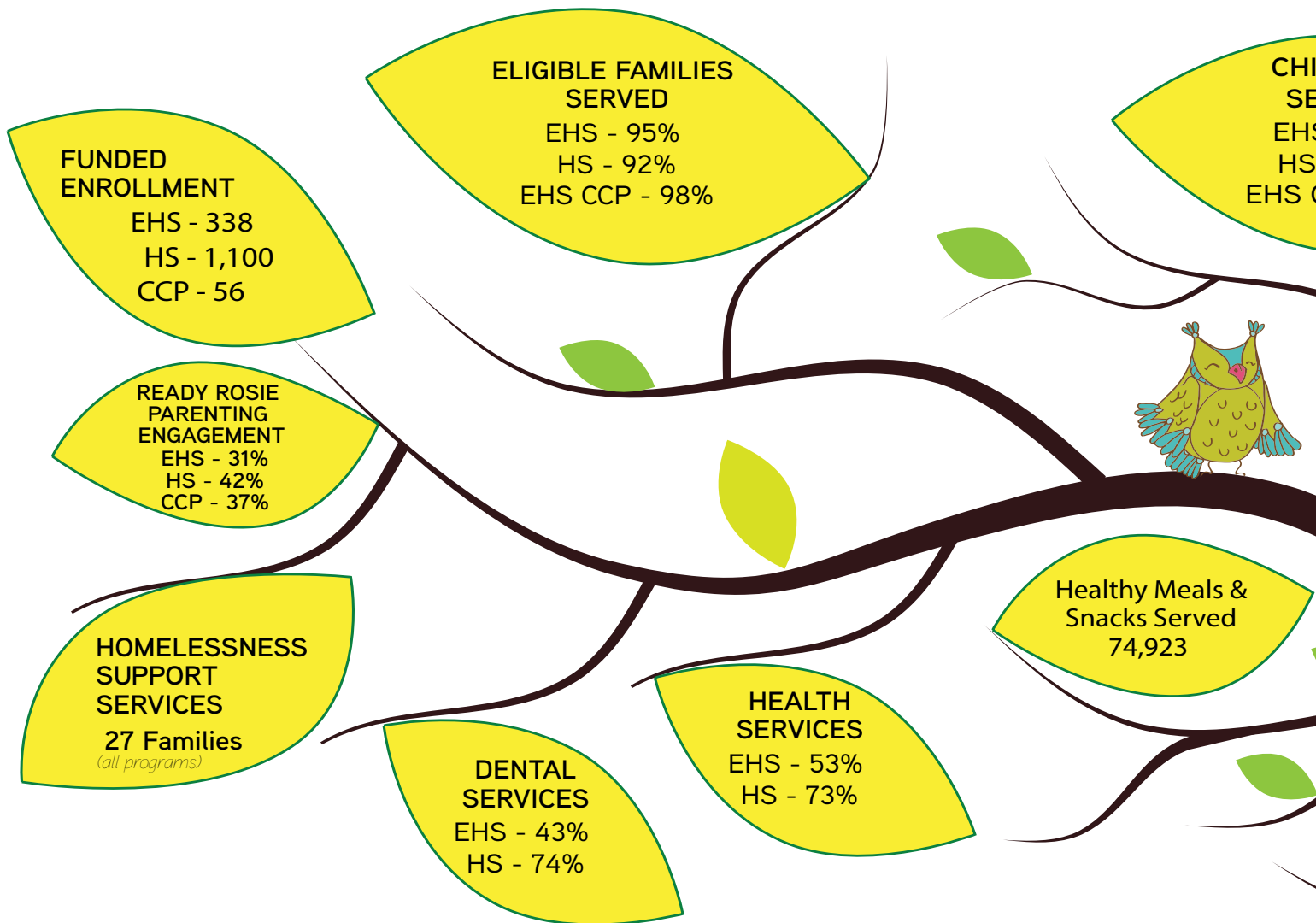
SCHOOL READINESS - ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

At least 10% of Head Start's enrollment opportunities are for children with suspected or confirmed disabilities. Child Inc referred children to several Local Education Agencies (LEA) to receive formal evaluation to assess eligibility for services under IDEA. Through the Head Start referral process, thirty (30) Head Start children qualified to receive services through an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Thirty-four (34) Early Head Start infants & toddlers and their families received services through an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). This population included nine (9) Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership enrollees. Children who did not qualify for Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) often receive speech therapy, physical therapy and/or occupational therapy through a medical model. Child Inc collaborates with local school districts and service providers to connect children and families to services. Local Education Agencies (LEA) and Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) programs include Austin ISD, Del Valle ISD, Manor ISD, Any Baby Can and Easter Seals. Eighty-one (81) children receive services through medical model providers. In center services are provided by: SOAL Pediatric Therapy Group, Care Options for Kids, Sonrais Therapies Pediatric Home and Healthcare Services, LLC, just to name a few.

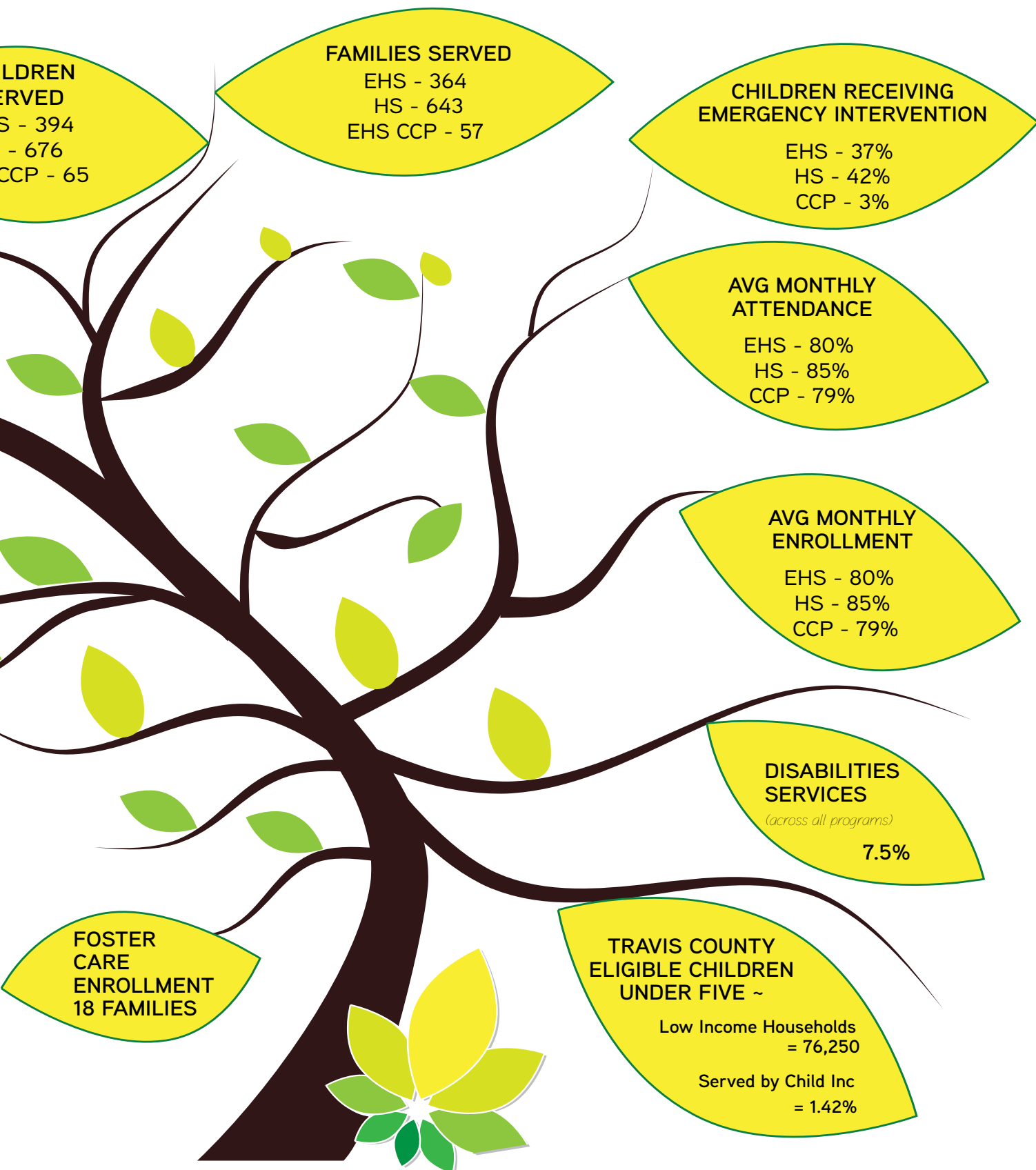
SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM & AFTER CARE

The Summer Learning Program provides both care and educational enrichment to help eliminate the educational fade-out that affects children who are out of school for long periods of time and ensures young children are ready for kindergarten at the start of the new school year - a particularly crucial problem for low-income children. Serving 250 children. Extended care is offered program wide with 500 families participating.

FAMILIES AT A GLANCE



Metrics reflect operating under COVID 19 Pandemic decreased enrollment & increased absenteeism. Includes Summer Learning.
LEGEND: HB = Home Based Services, EHS = Early Head Start, HS = Head Start, CCP = Childcare Partnership



PARENT FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Parent and Family Engagement is about building relationships with families to support family wellbeing, strong relationships between parents and their children, and ongoing learning and development for both parents and children.

FAMILY ADVOCACY

Socialization and connecting is crucial for the Head Start and family relationship. Discovering child and family needs, working with families, providing opportunities for families to be meaningfully engaged in the design of services and committing to serving families of diverse cultures and lifestyles is at the core of our family advocacy. Services continued during the pandemic following local health department guidelines of social distancing and masking. Families were encouraged to attend outdoor open houses at their Centers, drive through backpacks filled with dental kits, books, PPE, school supplies and diapers were provided to enrolled families at the beginning of each term. Family Advocates continued to meet with parents in person or virtually to complete surveys, generated family plans to establish self sufficiency goals, and act as a liaison for referrals, in addition to encouraging family members to become advocates for their children and promote parent participation in center-based activities. In addition, to encouraging family members to become advocates for their children and achieve parent participation in center based activities. Our efforts to promote family engagement continued with great success.

KIDSFEST

The 5th Annual KidsFest was held in March 2021. The event hosted 400+ families for a COVID safe and socially distanced drive thru providing food, resources and entertainment. Through the generosity of our community partners, we distributed over 1600 food boxes, snacks, PPE, school supplies, 1500 books, Head Start early learning activity kits, medical and health information, 1000 St. David's Foundation dental kits, diapers and formula, opportunities for PreK enrollment, as well as branded materials. It was our goal to provide the family friendly atmosphere of past festivals with a socially distanced petting zoo, balloons, live music, DJ, Austin Spurs DaBull mascot and the very animated and popular clown, Bonzo Crunch. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to reunite providing the community with resources supporting a cradle to college model of education with the local school district. Child Inc also collaborated with our health partners providing a mobile COVID vaccination clinic administering the Pfizer vaccine to 250 individuals in our under-served community.



SPECIAL THANKS TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Enterprise Foundation
Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Austin
HEB
ST. David's Foundation
Dell Children's Health Plan
Qualcomm Austin & Foundation
BookSpring ATX
Visit Austin





FATHERHOOD INITIATIVES

Fathers contribute to their child's development when they are actively and positively involved in their lives. Our fatherhood initiatives are designed to provide families, with a concerted emphasis on fathers, with the tools to become caring, committed and responsible parents. The goals are achieved in a myriad of ways, including participation in the formally structured Dad Show (radio program) and various workshops. Once the needs of fathers and families were assessed, Child Inc Family Advocates connected them to available community resources. The programs are open to all men who are interested in developing fathering skills.

HIGHLIGHTS

Engagement strategies are activities used to help build positive relationships with the families in our program. Child Inc strives to provide parents with events to share information with speakers as well as with other parents.

Child Inc PFCE hosted a fathers socialization event providing a space for fellowship to watch an NBA Championship series basketball game. The father and child event provided an opportunity for fathers to share their experiences and meet other Child Inc parents. Interestingly enough, all of the dads who attended the event brought their children and they came prepared to have fun and play games. Suffice to say, that did not include watching the NBA Championship Game as we had planned.

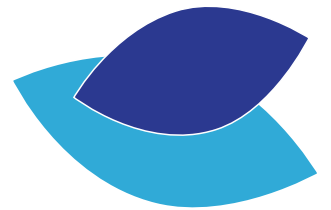


THE DAD SHOW IS A LIVE, WEEKLY RADIO SHOW AIRING EVERY TUESDAY AT 6PM ON KAZI RADIO 88.7 FM. GUESTS INCLUDE: FATHERS AND PARENTS WHO HAVE CHILDREN ENROLLED AT CHILD INC, COMMUNITY LEADERS, CHILD INC STAFF AS WELL AS EXPERTS DISCUSSING TRENDING TOPICS RELATED TO HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, FINANCIAL LITERACY AND EDUCATION.

PROGRAM SERVICE SITES

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS - TRAVIS COUNTY

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 American Youth Works CDC** | 15 Cook Elementary - Austin ISD |
| 2 Brodie CDC* | 16 Galindo Elementary - Austin ISD |
| 3 Cedar Bend CDC* | 17 Graham Elementary - Austin ISD |
| 4 Dawson CDC* | 18 Harris Elementary - Austin ISD |
| 5 Dove Springs CDC | 19 Ortega Elementary* - Austin ISD |
| 6 Forbes CDC* | 20 Palm School - Austin ISD |
| 7 Fountain Plaza CDC* | 21 Pecan Springs Elementary - Austin ISD |
| 8 Child Inc Main Office | 22 Sims Elementary - Austin ISD |
| 9 Grant CDC* | 23 Uphaus Elementary - Austin ISD |
| 10 Mainsprings CDC** | 24 Walnut Creek Elementary - Austin ISD |
| 11 Palomita CDC** | 25 Del Valle Elementary* - Del Valle ISD |
| 12 Rosewood Zaragosa CDC* | 26 Manor Elementary - Manor ISD |
| 13 South Austin CDC* | * <i>NAEYC Accredited</i> |
| 14 St. James Episcopal CDC* ** | ** <i>Early Childcare Partnership Grant</i> |



FINANCIAL REPORTING

EARLY HEAD START | HEAD START | CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP GRANT

MAY 1, 2020- APRIL 30, 2021

ACTUAL

BUDGET

FEDERAL REVENUE

Revenue - Public - HHS HS & EHS	\$	16,249,667	\$	17,507,224
Revenue - Public - USDA CACFP	\$	121,835	\$	988,048
Revenue - Public - CDBG pass-through	\$	60,429	\$	78,398
Total Federal	\$	16,431,931	\$	17,968,437

LOCAL REVENUE

Revenue - Travis County	\$	215,754	\$	208,780
Revenue - COA/After School & Summer Programs	\$	316,648	\$	490,968
Total Local	\$	532,402	\$	699,748

Total Grant Revenue

\$	16,964,333	\$	19,367,933
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Other Income	\$	680,273		-
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In-Kind contributions	\$	3,719,217	\$	4,007,882
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Total Support & Revenue

\$	21,363,823	\$	23,375,815
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FEDERAL MONITORING

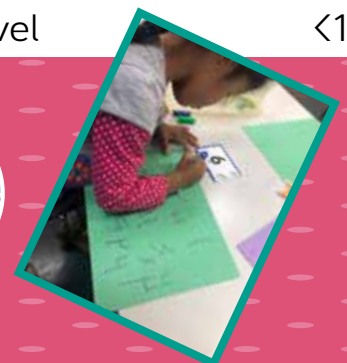
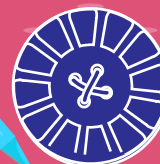
Fully audited financial statements prepared by abip, CPAs | Advisors, for fiscal year ended April 30 2021. From April 6, 2020 to April 10, 2020, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a Focus Area One (FA1) monitoring review of the Child Inc. Head Start and Early Head Start programs. This report contains information about Child Inc's performance and compliance with the requirements of the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) or Public Law 110- 134, Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007. The report includes the performance measures used to understand Child Inc's progress towards program goals and progress toward implementing program services that promote quality outcomes for children and families. A copy of this report is available upon request.

EXPENDITURES

Actual

\$20,773,930

Salaries	64%
Contract	6%
Equipment	1%
Supplies	4%
Other	25%
Travel	<1%



GOVERNANCE

BOARD GOVERNANCE

Board and Policy Council meetings, usually held in-person, have been held via GoToMeeting since the pandemic began. During these meetings, policy council and board members receive programmatic updates and reports and participate in developing program goals and initiatives. Members are also notified of changes or updates regarding COVID-19, and discussions are held on how these changes affect children and the program as well as establishing priorities, developing and evaluating to determine appropriate policies.

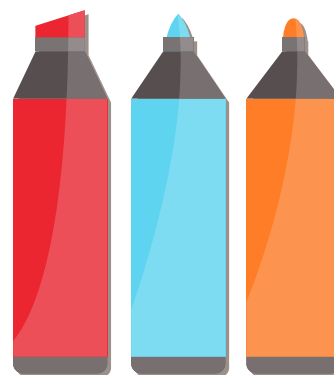


POLICY COUNCIL 2020/2021

Policy Council Chairperson, Jocelyn Amador
Council Vice Chair, Karla Santamaria
Representative, Alicia Rodriguez
Representative, Kiara Escobar
Representative, Leanaden Cotton
Representative, Yolanda De La Cruz
Representative, Kasca Lee
Representative, Maria Ruiz
Representative, Jessica Antonio
Representative, Vanessa Rials
Alternate, Sheila Lee
Representative, Ignacia Salvador
Representative, Cindy Mireles
Representative, Jennifer Martinez
Representative, Jasmine Rocha
Representative, Wanda Smith
Representative, Darriyan Loera
Representative, Ashley Gums
Representative, Jillian Solinger
Representative, Karla Santamaria
Representative, Jocelyn Amador
Representative, Yasmin Campos

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020/2021

Cheryl Bradley, Chair
Robert Langford, Treasurer
Gwen Chance, Secretary,
Naomi Gonzalez, Board Member
Lino Mendiola, Vice Chair
Melvin White, Board Member
Joya Hayes, Board Member
Jocelyn Amador, PC Chair
Karla Santamaria, PC Vice Chair
Ashley Gums, PC Secretary



Child Inc.

818 East 53rd Street | Austin, TX 78751

512.451.7361 | www.childinc.org | info@childinc.org | [@childinctraviscounty](https://twitter.com/childinctraviscounty)

This report was prepared in compliance with the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007, Administrative Requirements and Standards Sec 644{42 U.S.C 0839 (a)(2)}.

Fully-audited financial statements prepared by abip, CPAs and Advisors for fiscal year ended April 30, 2021 is available at www.childinc.org
Child Inc Head Start, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exempt Texas corporation.

