

# Abilene ISD Early Head Start & Head Start Annual Report 2016-2017



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## Early Childhood Programs

The Abilene ISD Early Childhood Programs provide comprehensive child development services for children ages birth through four-years-old through several developmentally appropriate programs including Early Head Start, Head Start, Pre-Kindergarten, Regional Day School for the Deaf, and the Pre-School Program for Children with Disabilities. AISD began full operation of Head Start in 1965 and Early Head Start in 1998 as a delegate agency. In April of 2012 the AISD became the direct grantee for these programs when a grant award was received from the Office of Head Start. The Early Head Start program serves pregnant and parenting teens in the District by providing them with support services to facilitate their graduation with a High School diploma. Early Head Start also provides a safe and enriched environment for their children, birth to age three, in which those children can develop the essential self-regulation, social-emotional and pre-academic skills that are the building blocks for success as they begin their academic careers. Preschool age children in Head Start experience a rich learning environment that offers cognitive growth opportunities focused on the acquisition of school readiness skills, while supporting the child's overall well-being through appropriate physical, social, and emotional development. Families have access to comprehensive services including health and dental services, mental health services, parent involvement, family (social) services, disabilities services, nutrition services, speech therapy, occupational and physical therapy, perceptual motor lab, family literacy, G.E.D. classes, transition services, and before and after-school care. These support services are designed to promote children's school readiness and assist families in reaching self-sufficiency.



## **The 2016-2017 school-year was an exciting one!**

Renovations, funded by the November, 2013 AISD bond election, were completed prior to the beginning of the school year on the “old” wing of the Crockett EHS facility. The additional space provided allowed for students to be transferred from Woodson EHS to Crockett’s 11 new classrooms. Additional offices were also included in the renovation so that all staff were on the same campus. The consolidation of the two sites, created higher quality learning environments and cost savings related to the operation of one center versus two.

Renovation and new construction began at Jane Long Elementary. This new site will consolidate the Woodson, Locust and Reagan Early Childhood campuses. It is anticipated that the new Early Childhood Center will be completed in May of 2017. This new campus will include a beautiful new building for the Head Start pre-school program.

Both the Head Start and Early Head Start programs continued implementation of the Conscious Discipline program designed to teach children self-regulation skills and appropriate social interaction skills. Staff and parents also received on-going training in Conscious Discipline techniques.

The EHS and HS Programs want to thank the Abilene community for the commitment to educating the community’s youngest school-aged population.



**Long Early Learning  
Center**

**Completion date:**

**May 2017**



## **Our Early Childhood Centers in 2016-2017**



**Crockett Early Head Start, located at 3282 South 13th Street, opened in 2002. Beginning in August 2015, all of the EHS program was consolidated into the Crockett center. A total of 141 infants, toddlers and pregnant women were funded at the Crockett EHS center in 2016-2017.**



**Woodson Early Childhood Center, located at 520 North 9th Street, is the original Head Start center in Abilene and has been serving Head Start children and families since 1965. A total of 245 preschool age Head Start children were funded at the Woodson Head Start center in 2016–2017.**



**Locust Early Childhood Center, located at 625 South 8th Street, opened to Head Start children in 1992. A total of 135 preschool age Head Start children were funded at the Locust center in 2016-2017.**

## Head Start Budget 2016-2017

### Other Funding Sources that Supported Head Start:

Title 1 Funds: \$617,381

Local In-kind: \$995,087

USDA: \$372,221



Line Items	Program Year Budget	Program Year Actual
Personnel and Fringe Benefits	2,346,413	\$2,253,773
Training and Technical Assistance	\$36,359	\$23,843
Equipment (over \$5,000)	0	0
Supplies & Equipment (under \$5,000)	\$68,590	\$173,451
Contractual	\$12,000	\$2,744
Other (professional services, rentals, maintenance, food, tuition, vehicle maintenance, field trips, etc.)	\$60,525	\$70,076
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,523,887</b>	<b>\$2,523,887</b>
<b>Non Federal Share (In-kind)***</b>	<b>\$630,971</b>	<b>\$995,087</b>

\*\*\* The excess above the required 20% in-kind match for Head Start was used to match EHS funds.

## Early Head Start Budget 2016-2017

### Other Funding Sources that Supported EHS:

Child and Adult Care Food Program: \$ 159,512

Child Care Services: \$50,135

Local Funds: \$528,147

Line Items	Program Year Budget	Program Year Actual
Personnel & Fringe Benefits	\$1,969,702	\$1,969,702
Training and Technical Assistance	\$50,781	\$18,254
Equipment (over \$5,000)*	\$64,865	64,865
Supplies & Equipment (under \$5,000)	\$91,758	\$91,758
Contractual	\$2,519	\$2,520
Other (professional services, rentals, maintenance, food, tuition, vehicle maintenance, field trips, etc.)	\$56,333	\$56,333
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,203,432</b>	<b>\$2,203,432</b>
<b>Non Federal Share (In-kind)</b>	<b>\$550,858</b>	<b>\$528,147</b>

## Head Start Budget for 2017-2018

Expected USDA  
School Lunch Program Funds:  
\$335,314

Expected Local  
Funds: \$630,972

Expected Title 1  
Funds: \$344,946

Line Items	Program Year Budget
Personnel and Fringe Benefits	\$2,369,262
Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA funds and operating funds)	\$36,359
Equipment (over \$5,000)	0
Supplies & Equipment (under \$5,000)	\$47,600
Contractual	\$8,500
Other (professional services, rentals, maintenance, food, vehicle maintenance, field trips, etc.)	\$62,166
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,523,887</b>
<b>Non Federal Share (In-kind)</b>	<b>\$630,972</b>

## Early Head Start Budget for 2017-2018

(At time of Refunding Application Including Increased Duration)

Line Items	Program Year Budget
Personnel & Fringe Benefits	\$2,061,549
Training and Technical Assistance	\$50,781
Equipment (over \$5,000)	0
Supplies and Equipment (under \$5,000)	\$73,400
Contractual	\$9,500
Other (professional services, rentals, maintenance, food, tuition, vehicle maintenance, field trips, etc.)	\$45,670
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,190,119</b>
<b>Non Federal Share (In-kind)</b>	<b>\$560,2256</b>

Expected CACFP  
Funds: \$115,308

Expected Child  
Care Services  
Funds: \$50,000

Expected Local  
Funds: \$536,366

## About our Children & Families

Number of children served in Head Start:	431
Number infants & toddlers served in EHS:	212
Total number of children served in 2015-2016	643
Total number of pregnant women served:	23
Total families served in 2015-2016:	620
Children receiving medical exam:	572
Children who received oral health screening (EHS) or dental exam (HS):	557
Children who were up to date on all immunizations:	636
Children who were foster children:	27
Children with a diagnosed disability:	86
Two parent families:	240
Single parent families:	380
Children who were homeless:	37



### Enrollment:

Because the program maintains a waiting list of income eligible children, we do not enroll over income children unless they have a diagnosed disability. All vacant slots are filled within 30 days.

Average monthly enrollment for Head Start: 380 (100%)

Average Monthly enrollment for EHS: 141 (100%)

Percentage of eligible children served: 31%

Data from the August 2017 Program Information Reports

**Annual Financial Audit:** A district-wide financial audit was presented to the School Board by Davis, Kinard and Company, PC, Certified Public Accountants, on January 09, 2017 for the 2016-2017 school fiscal year ending August 31, 2016. The full audit report is located in the AISD finance office for review by interested parties. The annual audit for the recently completed 2016-2017 school year was conducted in November 2017 and a full report will be available in January, 2018.

**Federal Review:** All Head Start programs undergo regular on-site reviews to assess program compliance with the Head Start Program Performance Standards and other regulations. During the 2015-2016 school-year, the Head Start and Early Head Start programs were reviewed in the areas of Comprehensive Services and School Readiness; and Leadership, Governance and Management Systems. All areas were found to be in full compliance with federal regulations. During the 2016-2017 school year, there were no on-site reviews. Reports are posted on the program's website and paper copies are available for review by contacting Jennifer Putnam, Director of Early Childhood Programs.

**Governance:** The Head Start program employs a shared governance system in which parents and the School Board share policy making decisions. A Parent Policy Council is elected annually and works with program, a parent committee and AISD staff to develop, review, and approve policies, plans, grant applications, etc. as required by federal regulations. Policy Council decisions are then forwarded to the School Board for further action. Documentation of shared governance activities are on file in the Director of Early Childhood Programs office on the Locust campus, and Policy Council minutes are posted in all centers each month.

## Early Head Start- Preparing Children for School:

The foundation of EHS is its comprehensive approach with families and their children birth to three years of age and pregnant women. AISD Early Head Start prepares children for school by focusing on their healthy development in four important areas of growth: physical, cognitive, emotional, and social growth with an emphasis on social/emotional development. Three skills are central in creating successful relationships: expressing emotion, understanding emotion and processing social information. The infant and toddler years are a watershed of development in the emotional domain. These skills lay the foundation for positive social interactions and, ultimately, academic and life success. EHS provides a social emotional relationship curriculum based on the West Ed Program for Infant and Toddler Caregivers from the California Department of Education. Additionally, EHS has introduced Conscious Discipline, a self-regulation program founded by Dr. Becky Bailey. Children's growth toward School-Readiness goals are assessed using multiple tools, including the web-based "Teaching Strategies GOLD" scale.

In 2015-16, children received child development services in two centers under the supervision of degreed/credentialed staff. The child/staff ratio in each classroom was 4:1 with no more than eight children in each classroom. Parents and staff worked together to develop school-readiness goals for each child. The Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment tool was used to measure children's growth toward school readiness goals three times during the year. The low staff to child ratio enabled teachers to have the critical time necessary to individualize the program and meet each child's unique needs. All children transitioning out of the EHS program met their school readiness goals.



## Services to Pregnant Women:

The AISD EHS program prioritizes services to pregnant and parenting teens enrolled in the District. EHS helps to ensure pregnant women have a source of ongoing, continuous medical and dental care. Women without a dental provider are referred to collaborating dentists. Monthly pre-natal visits to the doctor are tracked by the program to ensure pregnant women receive comprehensive prenatal care. EHS Family Advocates also make home visits and provide information on prenatal care. Parenting classes are provided on high school campuses for teens that are pregnant and or parenting. All new mothers are visited within two-weeks of delivery, and infants may be enrolled in the center based program as young as two-weeks of age.

## Locust and Woodson ECC kids are “School Ready!”

### Head Start– Preparing Children and Families to be School Ready:

The Head Start program prepares children for academic success by providing a rich learning environment in which critical social-emotional and academic skills can be effectively developed. The program has developed a School-Readiness Plan that is aligned with the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework and the newly revised Texas Pre-K Curriculum Guidelines. Locust and Woodson Early Childhood teachers have participated in rigorous staff development activities, including Conscious Discipline and CIRCLE training, in-classroom training/mentoring, and intensive web-based training courses. Additionally, CLASS observations and feedback are used to support classroom instruction and increase higher level of learning. These highly trained teachers use research-based instructional materials and activities with all 3-and 4-year-old children. The state approved curriculum, Frog Street Pre-K, contains intense, cognitively-based instruction and hands-on learning activities daily to develop language, literacy, and other academic skills in a developmentally appropriate way. Instruction addresses oral language, phonological awareness, vocabulary, letter knowledge, written expression, book and print awareness, motivation to read, basic math and science concepts, and social skills.

Specific school readiness skills are targeted and monitored through periodic formal assessments of children’s skills using a variety of tools, including a web-based assessment tool that provides feedback on children’s progress toward school readiness skills. Data is analyzed for the program as a whole, each classroom, and individual children. That data is then used by program administrators, teachers and parents to set school readiness goals, inform staff development plans, and individualize the curriculum for each child. Data from the 2015-16 school-year indicated that an emphasis on early literacy and self-regulation skills should continue to be a focus of the instructional program. School readiness was also enhanced through collaboration with parents and community partners. Parents were supported in achieving educational and family goals. A variety of training was provided to assist parents in preparing their children for success in elementary school.

**Social/emotional skills, technology and strong academics give children a strong “Head Stat” toward school readiness success.**



## Parent Involvement:

Parents are recognized as their children's first and best teachers and are encouraged to participate actively in their child's education and all school activities. Parent volunteers are invaluable to the program and parents are encouraged to volunteer as often as possible. Parent training sessions are offered at least twice a month on a wide variety of topics, as are family literacy, G.E.D./E.S.L. classes, fatherhood activities, Conscious Discipline and other family building activities. Many family friendly activities are planned through the year to offer families opportunities for fun and growth. The program also participates in a resource fair every year to connect families to services in our community.



Community Resource Fair



Bingo for Books



Make It Take It



Fall Festival



EHS Spirit Day



EHS Christmas Party



Parents Day



Treasure Hunt at the  
Abilene Public Library



Strong Fathers/Strong Families

## Community Capacity Building and Engagement:

The Head Start and Early Head Start Programs collaborated with many community agencies to better serve children and families. Written agreements are maintained with many of these agencies to assure high quality services are provided to our children and families. Our collaborators during the 2014-2015 school-year included:



	<b>Abilene ISD</b>	
<b>Alliance for Women and Children</b>	<b>Day Nursery of Abilene</b>	<b>Childcare Services</b>
<b>Day Nursery School Readiness Integration-AISD</b>	<b>Minda Street Child Development Center</b>	<b>Christian Ministries of Abilene</b>
<b>Christian Service Center</b>	<b>St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store</b>	<b>Salvation Army</b>
<b>Food Bank of West Central Texas-Social Services Outreach</b>	<b>Love &amp; Care Ministries</b>	<b>Big Brothers/Big Sisters</b>
<b>Food Bank of West Central Texas-Back Pack for Kids</b>	<b>Abilene Christian University Education Department</b>	<b>Foster Grandparent Program</b>
<b>Abilene Christian University Marriage and Family Institute</b>	<b>Hardin-Simmons University Family Psychology Center</b>	<b>Pastoral Care &amp; Counseling</b>
<b>Turning Point Counseling</b>	<b>Presbyterian Children's Home and Services</b>	<b>Abilene Regional Council on Alcohol &amp; Drug Abuse</b>
<b>Methodist Children's Home Family Outreach</b>	<b>Marka Riddle, RD</b>	<b>Hendrick Regional Laboratory</b>
<b>Dr. Jane Estes Tindol, DDS</b>	<b>Dr. Bayless, DDS</b>	<b>Abilene Pediatric Dental Association</b>
<b>Professional Association for Pediatrics</b>	<b>BCFS Health and Human Services</b>	<b>Big Country Area Health Education Center (AHEC)</b>
<b>AISD Adult Education</b>	<b>AISD Vocational Adjustment Class</b>	<b>AISD Homeless Program</b>
<b>Christian Women's Job Corp</b>	<b>Cisco College</b>	<b>Call for Help 211</b>
<b>Faithworks</b>	<b>Abilene Public Library</b>	<b>Dr. Poorman, DDS</b>
<b>Housing Authority of the City of Abilene</b>	<b>National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature (NCCIL)</b>	<b>Grace Museum</b>
<b>Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Extension</b>	<b>New Horizons Family Services Program</b>	<b>Dr. Marka Riddle, RD</b>
<b>Habitat for Humanity</b>	<b>May Farm</b>	<b>HHSC Office of Community Collaboration</b>
<b>Noah Project</b>	<b>Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas</b>	<b>Abilene Taylor County Public Health Department</b>
<b>Adams Pediatric</b>	<b>Abilene Children's Medical Association</b>	<b>Dr. Hector Garcia-Marerro, MD</b>
<b>Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program</b>	<b>Abilene Christian University School of Social Work</b>	<b>Dr. Susan Zeff, RD</b>

Dr. Russell Dressen, OD

Dr. David Izbrand, M.D.

Texas Midwest Optical

AISD Department of Special  
Education

Early Childhood Intervention\_LEA Transition

Hendrick Pulmonary  
Rehabilitation

West Texas Rehabilitation  
Center

United Supermarkets

Hendrick Prenatal Clinic

Hardin Simmons Education  
Department

Life Renovations

**WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR OUR WONDERFUL COMMUNITY PARTNERS & THE SERVICES THAT THEY PROVIDE FOR OUR STAFF, FAMILIES, AND CHILDREN!**

