



# LONG ISLAND HEAD START

Annual Report  
2021

# Board Chair & Chief Executive Officer Message

## Greetings from Debby & Donnee,

As we end the 2020-2021 program year, we are proud to celebrate another successful year of Head Start and Early Head Start services in Suffolk County. The COVID-19 Pandemic has disrupted our lives in unimaginable ways and we continue to struggle to bring order to a very chaotic and unsettling situation. Long Island Head Start staff, children, and parents have done an amazing job of responding to the pandemic by keeping safety our top priority.

During this past program year, Long Island Head Start has emerged out of the COVID-19 pandemic as still one of the strongest Child Development and Family Support agencies on Long Island. Our parents, community and staff have all demonstrated flexibility, resiliency, and commitment in the face of overwhelming challenges. While none of us could have anticipated the circumstances with which we were forced to adjust, we are very proud of what everyone has accomplished by working together.

Despite the challenges we now face with the Coronavirus, our parents and staff have found new and innovative ways to embrace the changes that are a very real part of our daily lives. We want to commend the efforts of our parents in teaming up with staff and community partners in reaching the family goals you embarked on when you started our program... this indeed is quite an accomplishment!

We want to also thank all of our community supporters and organizations for coming together with us this year to ensure that

our families received all of the supplies, food, and donations that we needed to help them thrive... your generosity is truly a blessing for so many of the children that we serve in a very different world.

We applaud our LIHS staff for their efforts in ensuring that distance learning and family engagement were delivered seamlessly in all of our HS & EHS centers across the county. Your tireless efforts and dedication during these difficult times is no doubt a heartfelt testament to your commitment to our agency's mission.

As we enter into the September 2021 school year, we can say with confidence that we will continue to provide high quality comprehensive services to ALL families in our Head Start, Early Head Start centers, and with our Early Head Start - Child Care Partnership daycares throughout Suffolk County.

We often have little control over what happens to us in life, but we do have full control over how we choose to respond and there is no doubt that we have all learned to adapt to our new lifestyle. Thank you again LIHS parents and staff for finding innovative ways to making sure that our children's best beginning will always be a Head Start!

Be safe and stay healthy always...



*Terrence D. Goode*  
Terrence D. Goode  
Chair, Board of Directors



*Debrah A. Garcia*  
Debrah A. Garcia  
CEO/Executive Director

The mission of Long Island Head Start is to provide a comprehensive learning environment to children respectful of their cultures and to assist families in reaching self-sufficiency through the combined efforts of parents, community, and staff.

# About Us

L.I. Child and Family Development Services, Inc. dba Long Island Head Start, is a private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Long Island Head Start offers a variety of service models, depending on the needs of the family. Head Start and Early Head Start programs are based in centers. Some programs offer home-based services that assign dedicated staff who conduct weekly visits to children in their own home and work with the parent as the child's primary teacher.

Over fifty years ago Head Start began as a program for preschoolers. Early Head Start was created to serve Expectant Mothers, infants, and toddlers. Early Head Start programs are available to the family until the child turns 3 years old and is ready to transition into Head Start or another Pre-K program. Just recently, many Early Head Start programs have been funded to partner directly with existing infant and toddler child care programs, resulting in higher quality services to all children enrolled in the child care program. Head Start programs support children's growth and development in a positive learning environment through a variety of services, which include:

**Early learning:** Children's readiness for school and beyond is fostered through individualized learning experiences. Through relationships with adults, play, and planned and spontaneous instruction, children grow in many aspects of development. Children progress in social skills and emotional well-being, along with language and literacy learning, and concept development.

**Health:** Each child's perceptual, motor, and physical development is supported to permit them to fully explore and function in their environment. All children receive health and development screenings and nutritious meals. Programs connect families with medical, dental, and mental health services to ensure that children are receiving the services they need.

**Family well-being:** Parents and families are supported in achieving their own goals, such as housing stability, continued education, and financial security. Programs support and strengthen parent-child relationships and engage families around children's learning and development.

## What is Head Start?

Head Start programs prepare the most vulnerable young children to succeed in school and in life beyond school. To achieve this, Head Start programs promote the school readiness of children ages birth to 5 from at-risk families by providing services in core areas of early learning, health, and family well-being while engaging parents as partners every step of the way.

Head Start encompasses Head Start preschool programs, which serve children ages 3-5 years-old, and Early Head Start programs for infants, toddlers, and Expectant Mothers. Head Start services are delivered nationwide through 1,600 agencies which tailor the federal program to the local needs of families in their service area.

## Long Island Head Start Child & Family Enrollment

### Funded Enrollment

1,456 Head Start Children  
1,164 Cumulative HS Enrollment  
172 Early Head Start Children  
100% EHS Enrollment

Twenty

Head Start  
Centers

Four

Early Head Start  
Centers

### Head Start

81 Head Start Classrooms  
376 Head Start Children in Half-day Sessions  
1,080 Head Start Children in Full-day Sessions  
9.68% Children with disabilities

### Early Head Start

56 Center Based Care  
64 Home Based Care  
32 Combination Program  
20 Expectant Families  
6.4% Children with disabilities

65% of children  
are from homes  
where English  
is not the first  
spoken language

# Community Assessment

There are a total of 7,861 children in Long Island Head Start's (LIHS) service area who are eligible for Head Start, Early Head Start or Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership services based on family income at or below the federal poverty level. Currently Long Island Head Start is funded to provide services to a total of 1726 children in all three programs. There are many eligible children and families who need services provided through Long Island Head Start but are unable to access them. This includes children from homeless families, working families, children in foster care, children with disabilities, infants and toddlers, and pregnant women.

| Town           | Child Poverty Rate (Birth-18) | Poverty Rate Children <5 yrs | Children <5 yrs living in Poverty |
|----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Babylon        | 10.9%                         | 11.9%                        | 1,386                             |
| Brookhaven     | 10.4%                         | 12.9%                        | 3,114                             |
| East Hampton   | 23%                           | 20.4%                        | 216                               |
| Huntington     | 6%                            | 3.8%                         | 378                               |
| Islip          | 9%                            | 10%                          | 1,934                             |
| Riverhead      | 13%                           | 14.6%                        | 232                               |
| Shelter Island | 0                             | 0                            | 0                                 |
| Smithtown      | 2.7%                          | 1%                           | 53                                |
| Southampton    | 10%                           | 13.5%                        | 420                               |
| Southold       | 16.1%                         | 23.8%                        | 128                               |
| Suffolk County | 9.1%                          | 10.2%                        | 7,880                             |
| New York       | 19.6%                         | 20.8%                        | 235,510                           |

Greatest concerns for eligible families include:

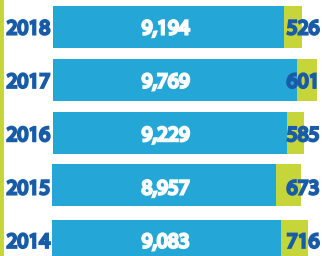
- housing
- employment
- chronic health issues (obesity and asthma)
- substance abuse
- mental health
- food insecurity
- transportation
- job training/workforce development

Cost of Living:

Cost of living concerns in Suffolk County have increased over time, leaving many families without access to affordable housing and services. Because of this high cost of living there is a significant number of ALICE (Asset-limited, income constrained employed) families in Suffolk County. The ALICE household survival budget for a family of four in Suffolk County in 2018 was \$111,900 per year to meet basic needs like housing, food, childcare, transportation, health care, etc.

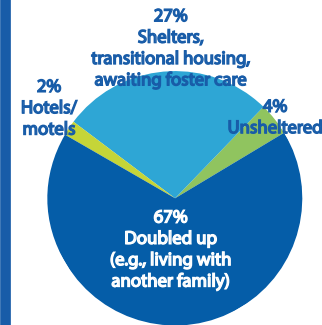
Several communities have large percentages or numbers of families who are below ALICE. Riverhead has the highest percentage at 49% with Southampton and Southold at 41%. Large numbers of below ALICE households are also in Brookhaven and Islip which have the largest overall population in the area.

## Children in Foster Care in Suffolk County



■ Number of Children in Child Protective Services Intake  
 ■ Number of Children in Foster Care

## Percentage of Homeless Children/Mouth (Pre-k-12) & night-time residence



## Number and Percentage of Below ALICE Households by Town

| Town           | Total Households | % Below ALICE Threshold |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Babylon        | 65,698           | 39%                     |
| Brookhaven     | 160,602          | 38%                     |
| East Hampton   | 9,006            | 34%                     |
| Huntington     | 68,354           | 30%                     |
| Islip          | 98,626           | 37%                     |
| Riverhead      | 13,323           | 49%                     |
| Shelter Island | 1,205            | 22%                     |
| Smithtown      | 40,114           | 27%                     |
| Southampton    | 21,491           | 41%                     |
| Southold       | 9,333            | 41%                     |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>487,752</b>   |                         |

# Community Assessment

## Surveys:

Surveys to families, staff and community partners revealed the following about program strengths and community needs:

## Families:

- high satisfaction with LIHS programs
- program schedule met their families' needs

When asked how the program schedule could better meet their needs, transportation was the top response. Parents indicated their top 5 biggest stressors are COVID-19, financial, work/life balance, employment, and housing.

## Staff:

Top supports that staff feel would be most helpful for improving their professional role:

- professional development or training
- college coursework
- coaching and/or mentoring
- supplies and materials
- technology support (e.g., assistance with remote learning, data)
- time and/or scheduling flexibility
- management/leadership development and training

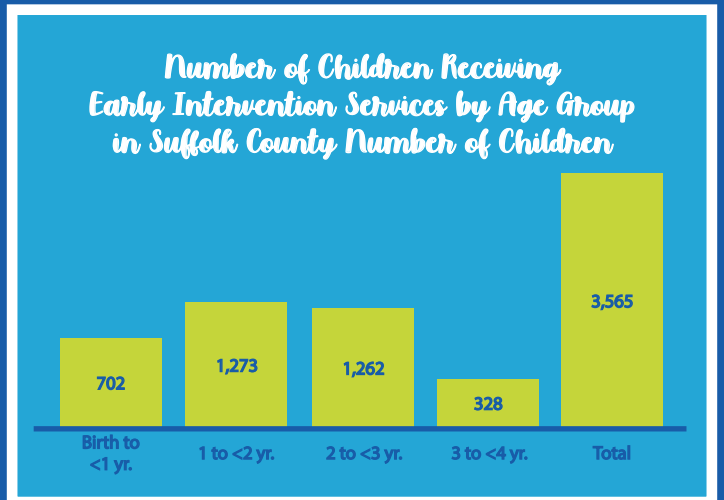
## Community providers:

Partners indicated positive experiences in their relationships with Long Island Head Start.

Respondents believe that COVID has had the most impact on

- the average household income
- domestic and community violence
- job availability

Access to services has been most impacted by families' limited knowledge of what resources are available, fear/reluctance to access services, availability of needed services, access to internet/Wi-Fi, access to technology (devices), lack of bilingual staff at point of service, affordability of needed services, citizenship, and language.



# Operating in the COVID-19 Pandemic

In direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Long Island Head Start quickly regrouped and prepared itself to continue to operate as effectively and efficiently as possible under the circumstances. Here are some of the changes put into place in order for us to continue delivering comprehensive Head Start services:

- Staff Remote Work Policy
- Virtual services provided to children and families
- Covid-19 social distancing protocols
- Secured PPE for the entire agency
- New Staff & Visitor ID Badges
- Installed COVID-19 signage and temperature readers in every facility
- Ensured every employee had a distanced personal work space
- Installed plexi-glass separators as needed to ensure safe spaces
- Restricted use of restrooms to one person at a time
- Restricted use of elevators to one person/family at a time
- Purchased technology equipment [i.e. laptops and iPads] to ensure every employee and family had a device
- Increased technology training
- COVID-19 Safety Plan for Staff, Children and Visitors
- COVID-19 Testing & Vaccination Tracking
- Enhanced cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing at all sites





# Navigating COVID-19

The Program Operations Department consisting of Program Services and Center Operations has worked successfully as we redefined working together in a pandemic world providing collaborative support to our children and families. Having gained a lot of knowledge of how-to provide quality instruction virtually, we were able to implement what we learned during the prior program year and improve upon it to provide a comprehensive learning experience (in-person, virtual, hybrid, and on-demand services).

All of the LIHS centers remained open to assist the families. This department facilitated meetings with the center staff prior to reopening classrooms to ensure that staff were aware of the regulations around classroom set up and that staff were clear on the guidelines and recommendations outlined in our Agency Safety Plan For COVID-19 Procedures. ALL staff attended training regarding COVID-19 and each center created an Individual Center Safety Plan. As the centers gradually opened classrooms in phases, prior to bringing children on site, we had meetings to confirm the center had everything needed to ensure health and safety protocols. Staff from Program Operations were present on-site the first day of classes to provide support and technical assistance.

On-site visits continued for support and monitoring, as well as virtual meetings to gather input from the staff on what they were doing, what challenges they were having, appropriate websites and apps to use for instruction, ways to engage families virtually, school readiness goals and to provide each other resources that worked. Combining the centers for virtual meetings were a big success, the staff really enjoyed learning from each other.

COVID-19 had its effect on LIHS. This pandemic compelled our program to adapt and evolve into new ways of coping, communicating, teaching and reaching children and families. Staff attended training and webinars to enhance their knowledge as regulations, mandates and guidelines were fluid. A wealth of information was shared with the children, parents, and staff via zoom with consultants and student interns. An increased flexibility as well as a greater need to access trauma, grief, mental health and self-care services amongst staff and families was essential during this time.

Our program adapted quickly to meet the needs of children and families while increasing services to families, providing technology equipment for the children and parents, meals through our Grab n Go program as well as donations and supplies. Despite the challenges faced during this time, staff worked as a TEAM and Long Island Head Start continues to shine as a beacon of hope for the families and children we serve.

# Preparing for Kindergarten

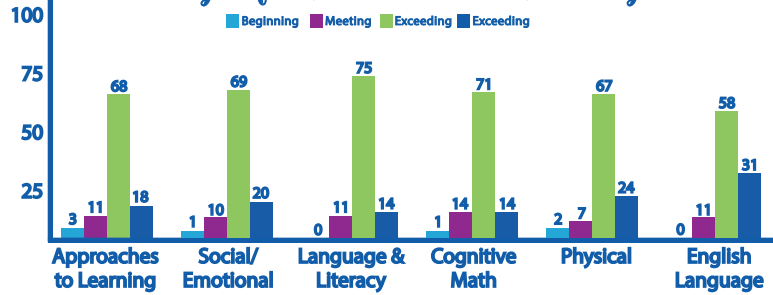
The child assessment tool was changed during this year to the DRDP – Desired Results Developmental Profile. This tool is part of the Child Plus System. This provides one data collection system for all staff. Training on the DRDP tool was provided to all Teachers and Assistant Teachers virtually. Teachers worked hard to observe the children during in-person classes, in live instruction virtual sessions, as well as having parents provide pictures of their work at home to make accurate assessment decisions.

The assessment reports cannot measure growth this year due to a variety of reasons related to the pandemic, but we can see from the spring progress report that most of the children are on target and meeting expectations. The children have developed the skills and knowledge needed. Children going on to Kindergarten have a strong foundation to be successful and the children returning in the Fall have a strong Head Start!

## UPK

LIHS continues to collaborate with local school districts to bring Universal Pre-kindergarten (UPK) services to our children and families. This year LIHS partnered with the Central Islip School District, the Riverhead School District and the William Floyd School District to provide UPK services. Recently, UPK Request for Proposals were submitted to the South Country School District and the West Islip School District to increase UPK opportunities.

## Spring 2021 Assessment Percentage of Children at each Rating Level



## Wellness

- 45 Mental Health Referrals were received and followed up on in the 2020-2021 program year.
- 86% of HS children received a physical exam
- 51% received a dental exam
- 99% are age appropriately immunized
- 2% of HS and EHS children need to have rescue medications on-site for chronic conditions such as asthma, severe allergies or seizures
- 100% of Expectant Women received prenatal care
- 96% of EHS children have access to medical care on a continuous basis.

## LIHS Wellness and Community Partnership Collaborations

- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County presented virtual Nutrition workshops for parents and LIHS staff in English and Spanish throughout the school year.
- Dietetic students from Stony Brook University presented a virtual Body Mass Index presentation for parents and Family Advocates/ Educators. Educational material was also created for parents and staff to help understand the importance of physical activity and BMI of the children.
- LIHS continues to work closely with WIC representatives referring families for services.
- The Child Care Council of Nassau received a grant Eat Well, Play Hard allowing a Registered Dietitian to conduct a number of workshops for the children, parents and staff at different Head Start centers.
- The Lions Club donated face shields for LIHS staff.
- Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine and Plaza College Dental Hygiene program provided virtual oral health presentations for the children and parents. Oral health supplies (toothbrushes and toothpaste) for all Head Start children were donated by Henry Schein, Colgate, and the ADA Give Kids a Smile Team.
- Fidelis and United Health Care were available to assist families with their health care needs.
- Long Island Cares and Island Harvest provided assistance with food drop off at the centers with food pantries several times a year.
- Adelphi University provided virtual services to the children, parents and staff in need. Mental Health consultant support services continued through 1:1 sessions, center meetings and training for the families as well as the LIHS staff. Topics included emotional support dealing with the fears of the COVID-19 pandemic, self-care and behavior management.
- The Health and Disabilities Advisory Services Committee consisted of various local health professionals and agencies providing guidance and assistance with health-related topics affecting the Head Start and Early Head Start communities. The committee was also instrumental in providing input and suggestions for the LIHS Safety Plan For COVID-19 Procedures.

## Staff Advancement & Professional Development

LIHS provides support for professional development through tuition stipend incentives, professional development for Family Advocates to obtain their FDC credentials, and regional and national conferences for professional development and continuing education for employees, Policy Council, and Board Members.

LIHS provides Professional Development through a variety of ways; Pre-Service and In-Service, Professional Development (PD) days, coaching program, conferences, and 1:1 training with Specialists. LIHS also provides stipend incentives for staff who are enrolled in college, CDA and FDC programs. This comprehensive approach includes a variety of learning modes to meet the needs of individual staff and their learning styles.

Although this year the pandemic put a halt to in person trainings and conferences, LIHS provided a variety of virtual training for all staff. Staff were provided the opportunity to attend virtual conferences and trainings from outside agencies as well. The staff took advantage of many free online trainings that included topics on teaching virtually, music and movement, trauma, behavior management, family engagement, curriculum, art, food service and COVID guidelines and procedures.

The Coaching Program this year provided 60 staff with on-going coaching TLC groups. Virtual Coaching sessions provided an opportunity for staff to learn from staff from other centers, hear new ideas, receive additional support and feedback from staff they do not work with on a regular basis. The staff reported that they loved being in groups of others that weren't their regular coworkers. The Coaches agreed that the mix of staff from different centers provided more opportunities for conversation around the concepts being presented. We plan on continuing to use virtual coaching in the upcoming program year. The coaching survey was provided to all coachees through an email link. The coaching outcomes were great! The coachees provided great feedback on the program and 72% stated they want to continue with coaching next year.

Additionally, the Coaches participated in a training leading to Coaching certification, CLASS GROUP COACHING (CGC). This was a three-day training. The Coaches now need to facilitate coaching groups using the CGC model, be observed and pass the certification. The course will be completed by February 2022. The purpose of this model of coaching is to help staff increase their knowledge and skills in the CLASS dimensions, leading to higher CLASS Scores.

The Agency continues to hire qualified teaching staff that have received the appropriate training and experience to meet the needs of our program and communities. LIHS has hired many college graduates that completed their student teaching in our Head Start centers; ensuring they have the right experience and strengthening our partnerships with our local colleges.

# Parent Engagement

The Parent Involvement Department implements learning opportunities for families that will enhance their knowledge about the Head Start Program and its history. The department staff planned and conducted a variety of virtual activities for children, parents, and families throughout the 2020-2021 program year. Program year activities began with virtual Center Parent Orientations which provided participants detailed information about the services being offered. The Center Parent Committee Election Process was conducted virtually due to the pandemic. This virtual process began with the recruitment of parents for the Center's Parent Committee positions. All documentation was converted to electronic format, as the formal communication with parents. The Parent Committees provided every parent of an enrolled child with the opportunity to engage in the development of activities that addressed their interests and needs that supports the educational and healthy development of their children. Engagement activities and parent trainings were offered virtually.

The Policy Council body continues to play a vital role in the decision-making component of the agency. Members committed themselves and continued to meet virtually as scheduled. Members of the Executive PC/Personnel Committee truly supported the department and the agency during the time of the pandemic and supported other families from the council as needed. A member of the committee remained active and provided support while in active duty and away from her own child.

As per Performance Standard 1301.5 the Parent Involvement Department scheduled four virtual Program Governance training sessions. The virtual sessions scheduled and conducted were Program Governance Overview, Performance Standards, Responsibilities of Governing Officers, and Effective Meetings using Robert Rules of Order. These sessions were conducted during the month of November to Center Parent Committee newly elected officers, Policy Council Representatives, Board of Director Members, Department staff and Early Head Start Child Care Partnership partners with needed information about the history of Head Start including shared governance and the responsibilities of the groups. Other virtual trainings offered during the month of December were ERSEA, Shared Governance Overview, and Shared Governance and Board Committees.

The Parent Aide Volunteer in Education Program better known as PAVE was offered twice with a total participation of thirty-seven parents. During the two sessions offered participants familiarized themselves with the Head Start Program History, Mission and Philosophy. Another virtual training afforded to parents was the Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors Parent Curriculum training. The Parent Involvement Department worked diligently on compiling all the needed information and created a google classroom that provided participants with the opportunity of accessing the materials and work online. These virtual trainings provided the parents with an opportunity of networking with other parents, provide support and empower each other as they learned to navigate their emotions during the pandemic crisis.

Despite the COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis the department continues to provide support to families in various ways. Community agencies reached out, partnered and aided the agency by supporting the families. Some of these agencies are Fidelis Care, Liga de Justicia, United Health Care, United Way Project Warmth, Axis Church, Norton Publishing, Balance Boxes and the Brentwood Bay Shore Breast Cancer Coalition. During the Holiday season an article was shared in the local paper, Newsday. As a result of this article, the agency received toy donations from individuals as well as organizations that benefited hundreds of families throughout the agency. Another meaningful resource came from former Head Start child, Lily Bonacasa, founder of Lily's Toy House. The organization was created in memory of her father who was killed in a suicide bomb attack in Afghanistan. Lily conducts a toy drive each year bringing holiday cheer to the Central Brookhaven Head Start and Early Head Start Center.

Long Island Head Start staff members, policy council representatives, parents and community partners once again came together and played an important role throughout the 2020-2021 program year and specially during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Our agency continues to deliver quality services to children and their families while engaging them as partners and providing tools to reach self-sufficiency and to become the best advocates and ambassadors for the Head Start program.

# Early Head Start

Early Head Start programs provide family-centered services for low-income families with very young children. These programs are designed to promote the development of the children, and to enable their parents to fulfill their roles as parents and to move toward self-sufficiency. Early Head Start centers provide 1,380 annual hours of classroom operations for forty-eight (48) weeks. Secure parent-child attachment is key to children's learning. EHS's mission is to support parent-child relationships through continuity of care.

The Early Head Start program provides support to expectant mothers with prenatal education to ensure they have access to all the medical and other services they need to give birth to a healthy baby. Since learning begins at birth the Early Head Start program provides critical services to babies to age three when their physical, educational and social-emotional development start. Early Head Start's comprehensive approach provides babies and expectant mothers support to thrive good health, strong families, and positive early learning experiences. The EHS program provides a Home-Based option, which a full range of Early Head Start services are provided through weekly home visits to each enrolled child and family. The home visitor provides child-focused visits that promote the parents' ability to support their child's development. Center-based services: Education and child development services are delivered primarily in classroom settings, which are located in an Early Head Start center. Staff members also visit family homes at least twice per year.

## Early Head Start Child & Family Enrollment

### Funded Enrollment

172 Infants, Toddlers, & Expectant Mothers

### Four

### Early Head Start Centers

56 Center Based Care  
64 Home Based Care  
32 Combination Program  
20 Expectant Families  
9% Children with disabilities

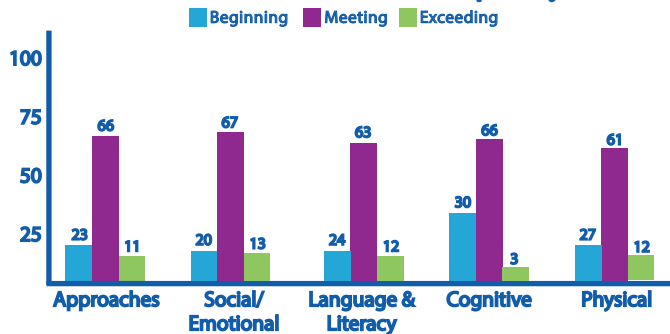
### 228 Children Served

183 - Low Income Families  
7 - Homeless  
2 - Foster Care  
39 - 130% of the family poverty line  
5 - above poverty guidelines: reserved for children with disabilities

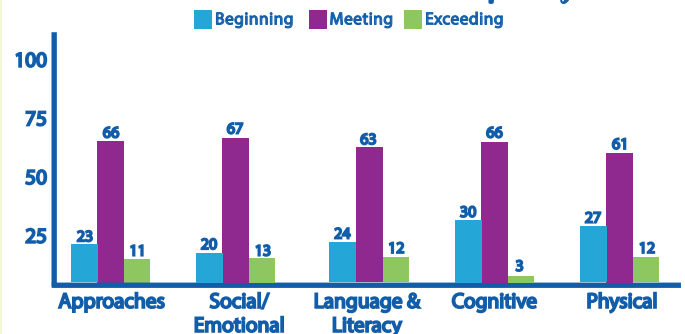
The Early Head Start program continued to provide services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Both the center base program and the home base program conducted lessons and visits virtually for 172 families. This year the toddler classes implemented the Creative Curriculum Studies for Twos. The children explored, in depth, topics such as clothes, paper, rocks, etc. In February 2021, seven (7) classes began on-site learning.

The assessment reports cannot measure growth this year due to a variety of reasons related to the pandemic, but we can see from the spring progress report below that most of the children are on target and meeting expectations.

## EHS Home-Based Outcomes Spring 2021



## EHS Center-Based Outcomes Spring 2021

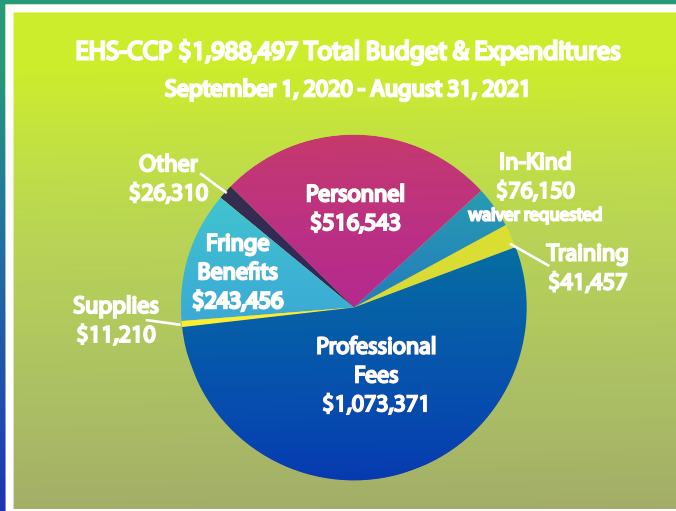


# Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships Program (EHS-CCP)

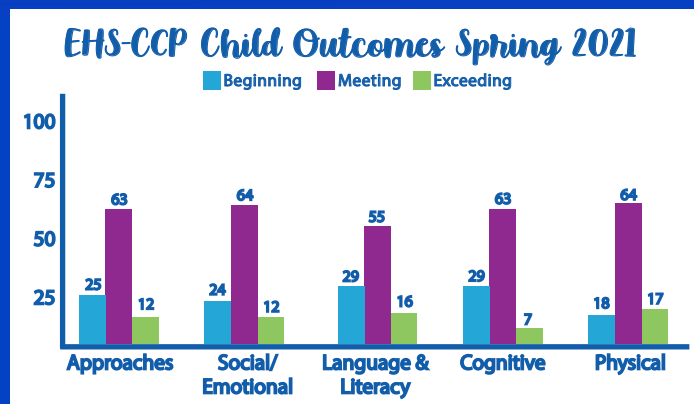
The Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships Program (EHS-CCP) is funded for 98 infants and toddlers. Our EHS-CCP Partners include two (2) Group Family Day Care programs, Alicia's Day Care located in Shirley and New Beginnings Day Care located in Brentwood. There are seventeen (17) children enrolled at these Partner Sites. The EHS-CP Program has five (5) center-based childcare centers: Alternatives for Children, located in Dix Hills, Bay Shore Day Care and Preschool, located in Bay Shore, Marks of Excellence located in Amityville, Story Book Hollow Children's Academy located in Selden and Wuneechanunk Shinnecock Preschool located on the Shinnecock Indian Reservation located in Southampton. There are fourteen (14) classrooms that serve eighty-one (81) children. Each EHS-CCP Partner Site provides a maximum of ten (10) hours of services, for a minimum of 1,380 hours per year, forty-eight (48) weeks a year, recognizing that families who are working, and/or in a job training program, require a full day of care. Parenting teens also require full-day services to graduate from high school in a timely fashion, secure internships and part time jobs and pursue higher education. "Wrap-around services" are available for early and late drop off and pick up times at all EHS-CCP Partner Sites. This was intentionally designed to enhance the quality of childcare for infants and toddlers and for a seamless full-day and full-year of comprehensive services.

In the 2020-2021 program year, the EHS-CCP program served over 161 children. Over twenty-nine (29) children transitioned into our Partner's preschool classrooms or to a Head Start Center. Our Family Service Workers facilitated and assisted over sixty-three (63) families to obtain a Suffolk County Day Care Subsidy for childcare. The EHS-CCP program provided childcare to one hundred four (104) full time working parents and to sixteen (16) parents who are either in a job training program or who are back in school.

The EHS-CCP program had twenty-five (25) children diagnosed with a disability. These infants and toddler were referred to Suffolk Department of Health for formal evaluations after the EHS-CCP Teachers and Infant/Toddler Service Workers screened the children using the Brigance Early Head Start Screen III screening tool and through their observations.



This year the EHS-CCP program provided comprehensive services to enrolled children and their families during COVID-19 Epidemic. These services included health/mental health support to families during quarantine. FSW's provided information on where families could obtain health services as well as help to decipher the rapidly evolving and fluid information regarding the evolving Covid-19 pandemic and pro-active steps to stay healthy and safe. FSW's reached out to their families weekly to provide support as well as to provide links for emergency programs for meals and diapers.



# Agency Funding

Long Island Head Start's primary funding is obtained from the Department of Health and Human Services. The agency also receives funds from the State of New York Department of Health, Child and Adult Care Food Program and local school districts Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program(s). As a Grantee LIHS is obligated to monitor what costs are allowable, and how the costs are to be determined and documented which are reported to the funding sources. All revenues are recorded on an accrual basis and reports are submitted quarterly, semi-annually, annually, and final. The agency was awarded two grant awards for the fiscal year ending 2021, covering the period of December 1, 2020 to July 31, 2021 and August 1, 2021 to November 30, 2021.

The agency is audited every year and the audit conducted complies with all government auditing standards and requirements under the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, Audit Requirements for Health and Human Service Awards, and Single Audit. The audit includes an examination and review of our internal controls. LIHS financial statements are open to the public upon request. Every three years the Agency is audited by the Federal Government Audit Team for compliance with all the federal regulations such as major contracts, purchase of equipment, Davis Bacon regulations, Consultants standard procedures, payroll summary, etc.

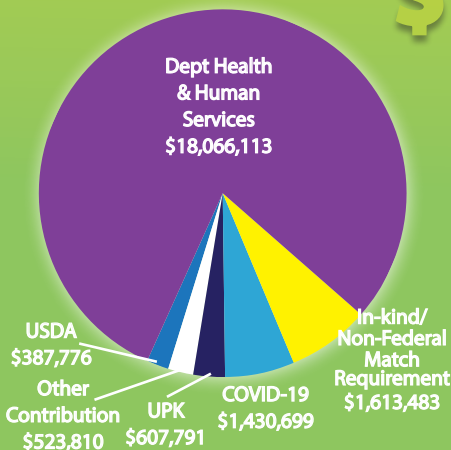
## Alternate Funding Sources

The agency continues to aggressively pursue alternate funding sources to enhance the quality of its programs. To date the agency has received grant awards from local legislators, private foundations, New York State funds for the School District integrated by the Universal Pre-K Program(s), member items and private businesses.

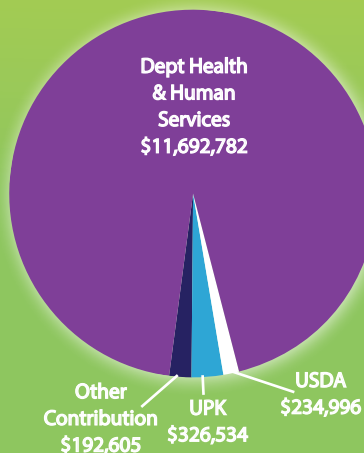
## Non-federal match In-kind Contributions

Long Island Head Start must raise 20% (4.3 million) of the annual budget in order to match federal funding each year. This 20% In-Kind raised through volunteer services, partnerships, donations and cash contribution. Due to the COVID-19 Crisis and lack of the community resources necessary, the agency may not be able to generate the required In-kind matching contribution necessary to meet the requirements for this fiscal year ending in November 2021.

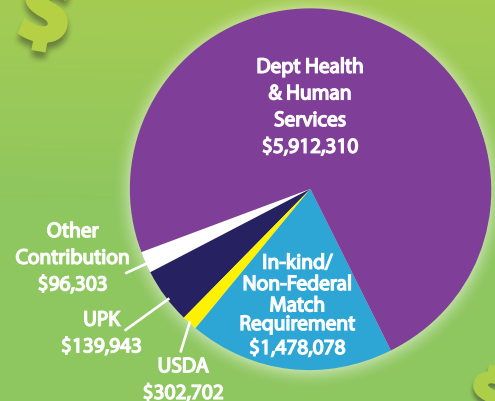
2019-2020 Head Start & Early Head Start  
Total Budget \$22,629,672



Head Start & Early Head Start  
Total Budget 12/01/20-7/31/21  
\$12,446,917



Head Start & Early Head Start  
Total Budget 8/01/21-11/30/21  
\$7,929,336



# Board of Directors & Management Staff

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Martha A. Parry, Co-Chair  
Kathleen Cafaro, Treasurer  
BrendaJoyce H. Scott, Secretary

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## Chief Executive Officer

Debrah A. Garcia, CEO/Executive Director

## Senior Management

Elsa Cruciani, Director of Finance  
Diane Eppolito, Director of Quality Assurance  
Ana Figueroa, Director of Parent & Community Engagement  
Annette Harris, Director of Program Operations  
Arlene Lacey, Director of Human Resources  
Dawn Melchiona, Director of Infant/Toddler Services

## HSIEHS Center Managers

Kimberly Armstrong, Brentwood HS Center  
Kelly Cerney, Central Brookhaven EHS Center  
Kristina Foster, Riverhead HS Center  
Karen Gibson, Bridgehampton HS Center & Bridgehampton @ CMEE  
Diane Guzman, Wyandanch HS Center & Wyandanch @AFC  
Cindy Henderson, Central Brookhaven HS Center, Central Brookhaven @DDI  
Lina Ortiz, Southampton HS Center  
Maria Ortiz (Acting), Bay Shore HS Center  
LaNea Overton, Islip EHS Center  
Kenya Pair-Woods, Huntington Center, DDI Center, E. Northport HS Centers  
Stephanie Reidy (Acting), Patchogue HS Center  
Nicklande Regis, Patchogue EHS Center  
Carol Smith, Bay Area HS Center  
Pauline Smith, North Fork HS Center  
Tanika Steele, Bellport HS Center  
Christina Vittorato, Central Islip & Bay Shore HS Centers  
Belinda Whitehead, Amityville HS Center & Amityville @MOE



Debrah A. Garcia, Chief Executive Officer

Central Administration: 98 Austin Street, Patchogue, New York 11772

[www.liheadstart.org](http://www.liheadstart.org) / [info@liheadstart.org](mailto:info@liheadstart.org) / (631) 758-5200



## Head Start & Early Head Start Centers

Amityville HS Center  
48 Cedar Road  
Amityville, NY 11701  
Phone (631) 842-8484

Amityville HS Center @ MOE  
455 Albany Avenue  
Amityville, NY 11701  
Phone (631) 842-8484

Bay Area HS Center  
161 Margin Drive  
Shirley, NY 11967  
Phone (631) 395-4853

Bay Shore HS Center  
107 E. Main Street  
Bay Shore, NY 11706  
Phone (631) 666-4985

Bellport HS Center  
189 North Dunton Avenue  
East Patchogue, NY 11772  
Phone (631) 286-0579

Brentwood HS Center  
177 Wicks Road  
Brentwood, NY 11717  
Phone (631) 951-3043

Bridgehampton HS Center  
551 Sag Harbor Turnpike  
PO BOX 1851  
Bridgehampton, NY 11932  
Phone (631) 537-2514

Bridgehampton HS Center @  
CMEE  
376 Sag Harbor Turnpike  
PO BOX 316  
Bridgehampton, NY 11932  
Phone (631) 468-8421

Central Brookhaven HS Center  
2884 Route 112  
Medford, NY 11763  
Phone (631) 732-7100

Central Brookhaven HS Center  
@DDI  
1 Scouting Blvd  
Medford, NY 11763  
Phone (631) 732-7100

Central Islip HS Center  
44 Toomey Road  
West Islip, NY 11795  
Phone (631) 348-1816

East Northport HS Center  
203 Cedar Road  
East Northport, NY 11731  
Phone (631) 486-6819

Huntington HS Freedom Center  
159 Railroad Street  
Huntington Station, NY 11746  
Phone (631) 421-5058

Huntington HS Center @ DDI  
25 Little Plains Road  
Huntington, NY 11743  
Phone (631) 266-4428

North Fork HS Center  
1850 Main Bayview Road  
Southold, NY 11971  
Phone (631) 765-5684

Patchogue HS Center  
20 Church Street  
Patchogue, NY 11772  
Phone (631) 654-5010

Riverhead HS Center  
536A St. John's Place  
Riverhead, NY 11901  
Phone (631) 953-6945

Southampton HS Center  
271 Flanders Road  
Riverhead, NY 11901  
Phone (631) 369-7730

Wyandanch HS Center  
28 Washington Avenue  
Wyandanch, NY 11798  
Phone (631) 643-5453

Wyandanch HS Center @ AFC  
600 South Service Road  
Dix Hills, NY 11746  
Phone (631) 643-5453

Central Brookhaven EHS Center  
2884 Route 112  
Medford, NY 11763  
Phone (631) 345-2442

Huntington EHS Center  
159 Railroad Street  
Huntington Station, NY 11746  
Phone (631) 421-5058

Islip EHS Center  
177 Wicks Road  
Brentwood, NY 11717  
Phone (631) 968-1960

Patchogue EHS Center  
10 Church Street  
Patchogue, NY 11772  
Phone (631) 207-5712

## Early Head Start - Child Care Partnership Centers

Alicia's Day Care  
386 Rowlinson Drive  
Shirley, NY 11967  
(631) 772-2880

Alternatives for Children  
600 South Service Road  
Dix Hills, NY 11746  
(631) 271-0777

Bay Shore Day Care  
107 East Main Street  
Bay Shore NY 11706  
(631) 647-4326

Marks of Excellence  
455 Albany Avenue  
Amityville, NY 11701  
(631) 789-0800

New Beginnings Day Care  
132 Hilltop Drive  
Brentwood, NY 11717  
(631) 305-9337

Story Book Hollow  
38 Adirondack Drive  
Selden, NY 11784  
(631) 698-5900

Wuneechanunk Shinnecock  
Preschool  
PO Box 5006  
100 Church Street  
Southampton, NY 11969  
(631) 318-4853



Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships