



**City of Rockford**

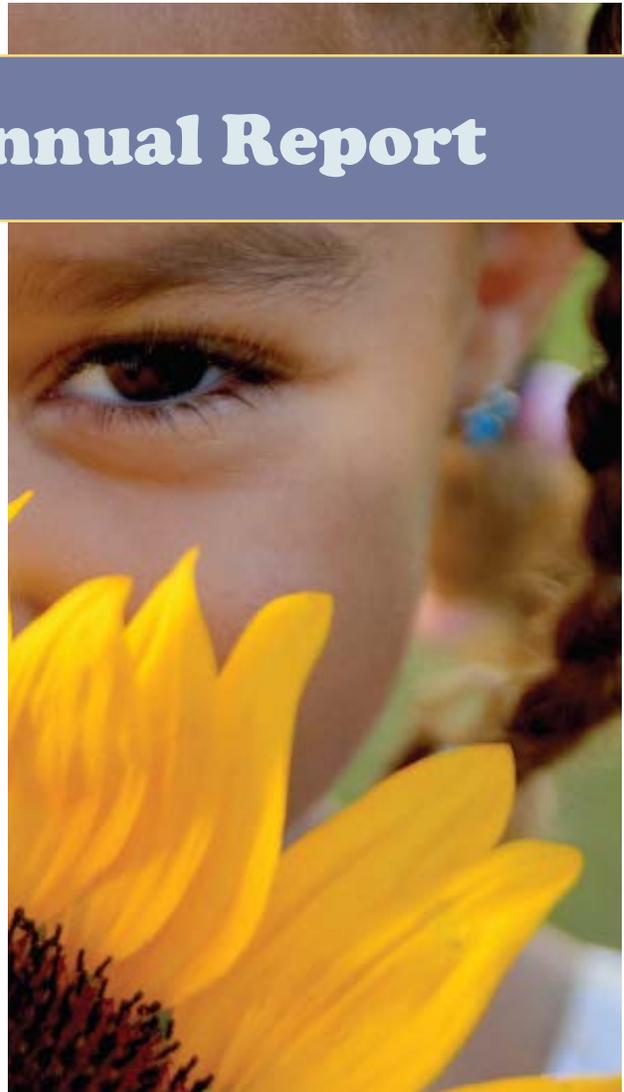


**Human Services Department  
Head Start**

612 N. Church Street | Rockford, IL 61103 | Phone 815.987.5480 | Fax 815.987.8279  
E-mail [headstart@rockfordil.gov](mailto:headstart@rockfordil.gov) - Website [www.rockfordil.gov](http://www.rockfordil.gov)

**2011 – 2012 Annual Report**

Head Start has the overall objective of breaking the cycle of poverty by preparing children to be effective learners and by assisting families to achieve greater economic, social and personal self-sufficiency in support of their children.



Lawrence J. Morrissey, Mayor

George Davis, Executive Director  
Joanne Lewis, Head Start Director

## Head Start Locations

To the Citizens of Winnebago County:

Head Start services have been provided to families in Winnebago County since 1965. In 1975, the City of Rockford received the federal award from the Department of Health and Human Services to operate Head Start in Winnebago County. Each subsequent year continuation grants have been funded to provide comprehensive education and health services to children from low-income families. Parents and caretakers are provided services, information and referrals to meet the needs and goals of the entire family.

Parents and family members are the “forever” people in a child’s life. Head Start and Early Head Start programs build relationships with families that support family well-being, strong parent-child relationships and ongoing learning and development of parents and children alike.

Head Start **employs 82** full and part-time staff, 22 are former or current parents. Head Start is funded to serve 591 children, ages 3-5 years old. Early Head Start serves 12 pregnant women and 80 children, ages birth to three years old. Grant funds are primarily spent in the community, through salaries, materials and services.

Eligibility for services is based on family income. The program strives to maximize a child’s strengths, provide a rich learning environment and prepare children for success in their home, school and community.

Joanne Lewis, Director

City of Rockford Head Start

### **Human Services Department**

#### **Administration Office**

612 N. Church Street, 61103

Home Base Option: 24

Early Head Start Home Base Funded Enrollment: 84

### **Fairgrounds Head Start**

902 Acorn Street, 61101

Funded Enrollment: 136

### **Henrietta Head Start**

200 N. Johnston Ave, 61101

Funded Enrollment: 224

### **Orton Keyes Head Start**

653 Ranger Street, 61109

Funded Enrollment: 136

### **Circles of Learning,**

Child Care Partner

2909 N. Main Street, 61103

Funded Enrollment: 51

Early Head Start Funded Enrollment: 8

### **Rockford Day Nursery,**

Child Care Partner

2323 S. 6th Street 61104

Funded Enrollment: 20

## Head Start Program Options

Four program options are available to families:

Part-day (3.5 hours per day, four days a week)	Home-base (Home visit 1.5 hours a week)
Full-day center based (8 hours per day, five days a week, during the school year)	Full-day, full-year (Full-day, year round services, provided through a child care partner)

## Early Head Start Program Options

Two program options are available to families:

Home-base (Home visit 1.5 hours a week)	Full-day, full-year (Full-day, year round services, provided through a child care partner)
--	---

### Head Start

**Funded Enrollment: 591**  
**3—5 years of age**

- 677 - Children Served
- 609 - Families Served
- 113 - Two Parent Families
- 496 - Single Parent Families
- 4 - Homeless Families Served
- 85% - Average Daily Attendance
- 95% - Income Eligible Children Served at or below 100% of Federal Poverty guidelines

### Early Head Start

**Funded Enrollment: 92**  
**Birth - 3 years old and pregnant women**

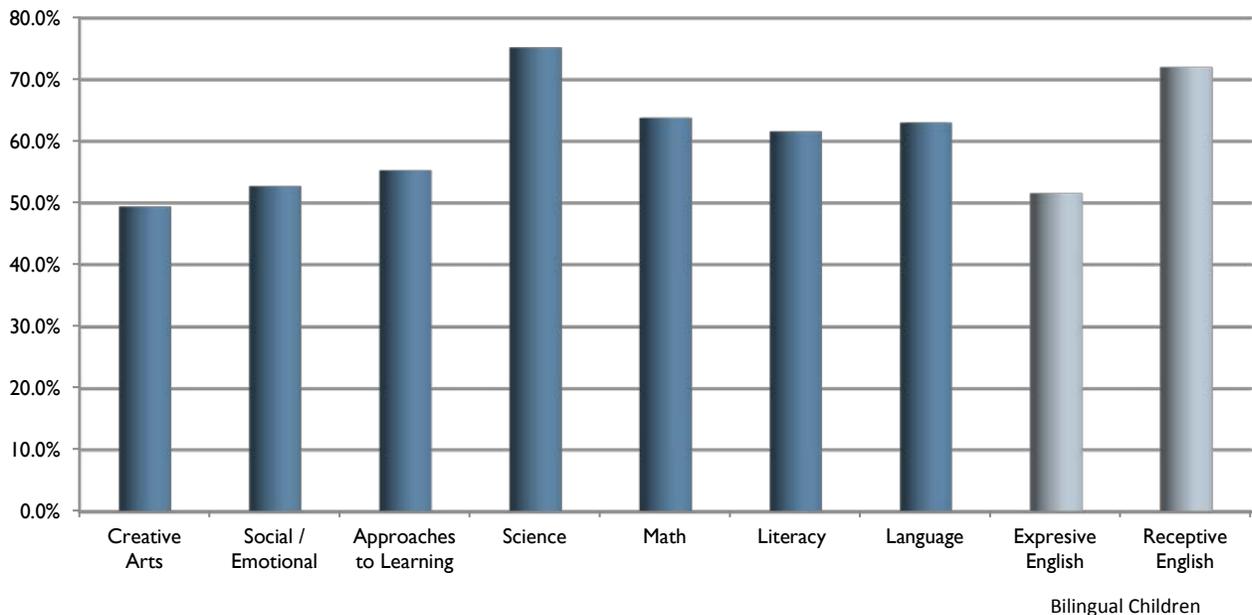
- 153 - Children Served
- 114 - Families Served
- 28 - Two Parent Families
- 86 - Single Parent Families
- 4 - Homeless Families Served
- 11 - Pregnant Women Served
- 97% - Income Eligible Children Served at or below 100% of Federal Poverty guidelines



**Head Start**—Teachers serve as educators and partners with families. They focus on a child’s individual development. Ongoing child assessments are shared with parents to review progress and set goals. A variety of experiences and materials promote children’s development in key areas.

Child Outcomes in 2011-12 demonstrate significant progress. The grid shows the gains made in specific developmental areas during the program year. Assessments are completed three times during the school year: November, February and May.

### Percentage of Gain during 2011– 12 School Year



Partnerships with community organizations enrich children’s educational experiences. Partners include Discovery Center Museum, Burpee Museum of Natural History, University of Illinois Extension, Rockford Public Library and Music Academy in Rockford.

**Services for Children with Special Needs (IEP/IFSP)**

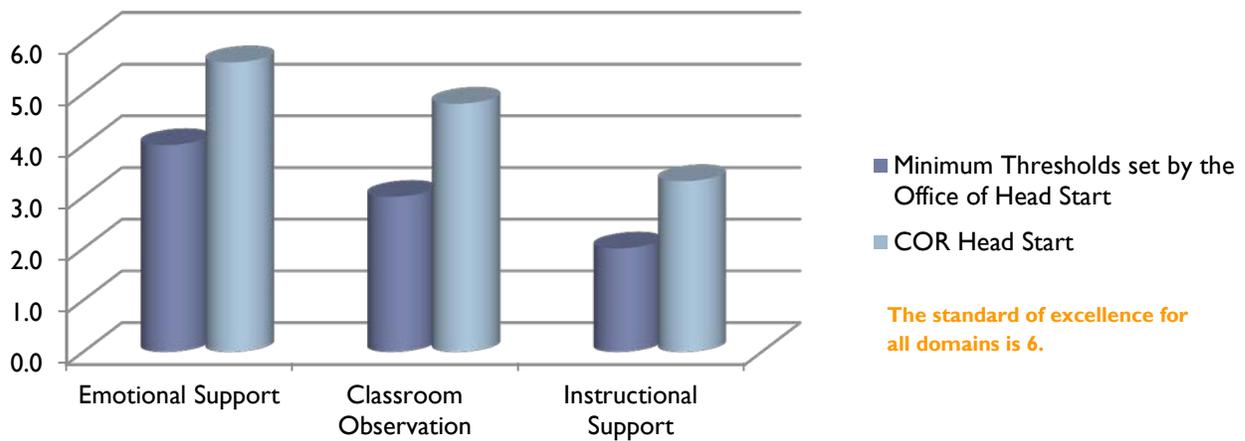
**53**

- Number of children enrolled in Head Start who had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), indicating they were determined eligible by the Lead Education Agency (LEA) to receive special education and related services

**23**

- Number of children enrolled in Early Head Start who had an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), indicating they were determined eligible for services under the individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

**CLASS** - The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is an observation instrument developed to assess quality in 3 specific domains in early childhood classrooms.



- Emotional Support**
- Positive Climate
  - Negative Climate
  - Teacher Sensitivity
  - Regard for Student Perspectives

- Classroom Organization**
- Behavior Management
  - Productivity
  - Instructional Learning Formats

- Instructional Support**
- Concept Development
  - Quality of Feedback
  - Language Modeling
  - Literacy Focus

CLASS Assessment is part of Head Start Federal Reviews. Programs can be placed in re-competition if CLASS scores are low. Programs will be re-competed if:

- The average score across all classrooms on any of the three CLASS domains are below the minimum thresholds.
- The average score in any domain is in the lowest 10% of all programs reviewed nationally in the same program year.



**PNC Foundation** - In December of

2010, PNC Foundation awarded a grant to Head Start. The grant provides \$25,000 a year for three years, totaling \$75,000, to enhance arts, science and math. In May of 2012, some of the \$25,000 allotted for the year was used to sponsor a Family Arts Festival at the historic Coronado Theatre. The arts festival featured a visual art exhibit of the children's work completed during the 2011-2012 school year. Ralph's World, a family oriented rock group from Chicago, performed. Fatally Unique, a local dance team, also performed. Close to 400 people enjoyed the exhibit and entertainment.



**Early Head Start** – Services include one classroom with a child care partner. The majority of families are served through home visits. Teachers partner with parents to support their child's optimal development.

Families have several opportunities throughout the year to attend parent-child socialization groups with their infants and toddlers. Fifty-five groups were offered to families and 248 Early Head Start parents/guardians and 258 children attended. During these groups children and their caregivers participate in literacy activities, such as songs and book sharing, art exploration, and imaginative play. Our community partners, The Literacy Council and Music Academy in Rockford, co-facilitated several groups.



Parents were also given additional opportunities to participate in education meetings related to first aid and CPR for very young children and home fire prevention tips.



**Nutrition:**

**Go, Slow & Whoa**—This was year two of the Go, Slow, Whoa grant. The grant ended in February 2012. We were able to provide the staff and families with information and activities. The activities included an "I am Moving I am Learning" (IMIL) training at Pre-Service for all staff and a family

fun night at the YMCA.

During the "Y" Night, families had access to the entire YMCA facility; they were given information on healthy lifestyles and Y memberships. The families were all entered into a drawing for an opportunity to win door prizes that included various family baskets and an Xbox 360. Head Start classrooms were provided with CD's to use in the classrooms to promote movement and exercise. All staff and families received a Nutrition calendar from the Iowa State University Cooperative Extension. Children enrolled in HS and EHS received a summer activity packet that included a playground ball and packet of information about nutrition and active play.



.....

**Health Services**—Children must be healthy to grow and learn. Head Start works with each family to provide medical and dental services, immunizations and other health assessments.

During the 2011-12 school year:

- In Head Start:**
- 100% of enrolled children had an ongoing source of continuous and accessible, routine, preventive and acute medical care.
  - 94% of children were determined by a health professional to be up-to-date on all immunizations appropriate for their age.
  - 100% of children had an ongoing source of continuous and accessible, routine, preventive and acute dental care.
  - 98% of children completed a professional dental exam during the operating period or within the last 12 months.

- In Early Head Start:**
- 100% of enrolled children had an ongoing source of continuous and accessible, routine, preventive and acute medical care.
  - 92% of children were determined by a health professional to be up-to-date on all immunizations appropriate for their age.
  - 79% of children had an ongoing source of continuous and accessible, routine, preventive and acute dental care.
  - 99% of children were up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary oral health care.

.....

**Transportation**- Head Start provides door-to-door transportation for the majority of children attending part day, center based classes. All children are securely seated in safety vests.

**450** Children transported in 2011-2012  
**11** Bus Drivers employed by Head Start

**34** Routes run each day Monday - Thursday  
**18** Buses owned by Head Start

.....

## Parent Involvement

Head Start parents:

- Participate in their child’s education and development
- Make decisions and offer suggestions that will contribute to program quality
- Volunteer in the classroom and on field trips
- Develop their skills as their child’s first and most important teacher and advocate

Additional opportunities are available to all parents:

**Policy Council** is an elected body of parents and community representatives who participate in all important decisions affecting the program. Parent participants are elected at the site or program options and make up the majority of the membership.

**Parent Committees** are organized at the site level, the committee keeps parents informed about activities and makes recommendations for program plans.

**Family Partnerships** identify and support the interests, goals, needs and strengths of the family.

**Parent education and training** is provided at the site level and through community resources. Topics include family literacy, health, child development and self-sufficiency. 25 parent education events were held during the program year and 252 parents participated.



**Family Fun Nights** are held regularly at the site level.

Family-centered events are fun and informative. All members of the family are welcome to participate. 16 Family Fun Nights were held in 2011-12 and 2601 children and families participated in the events.

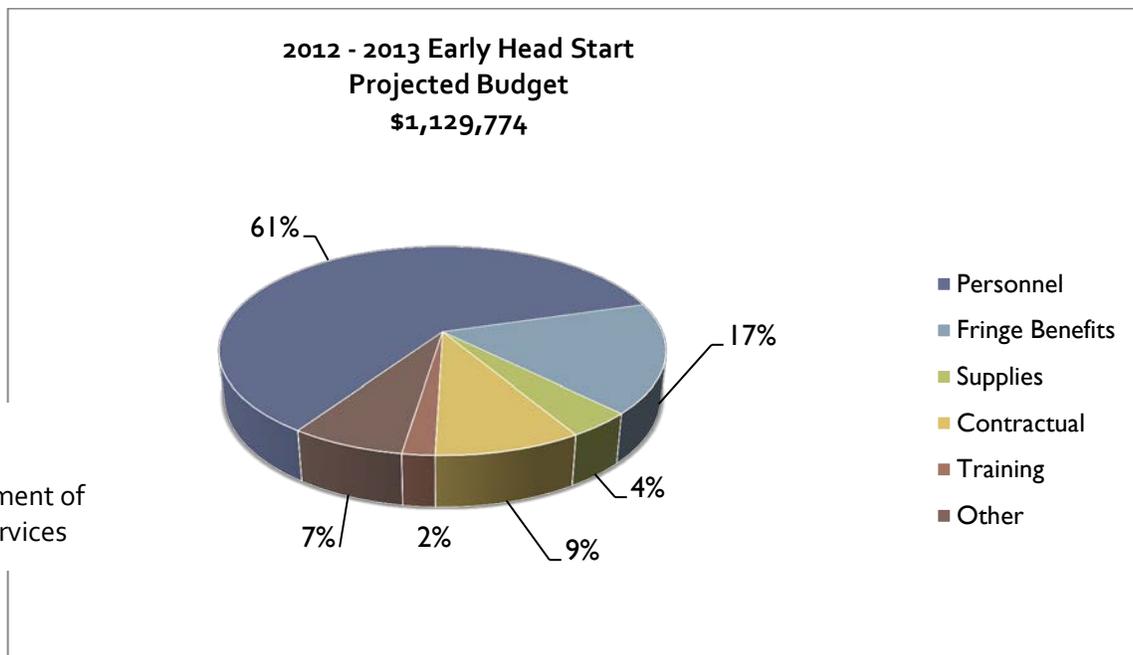
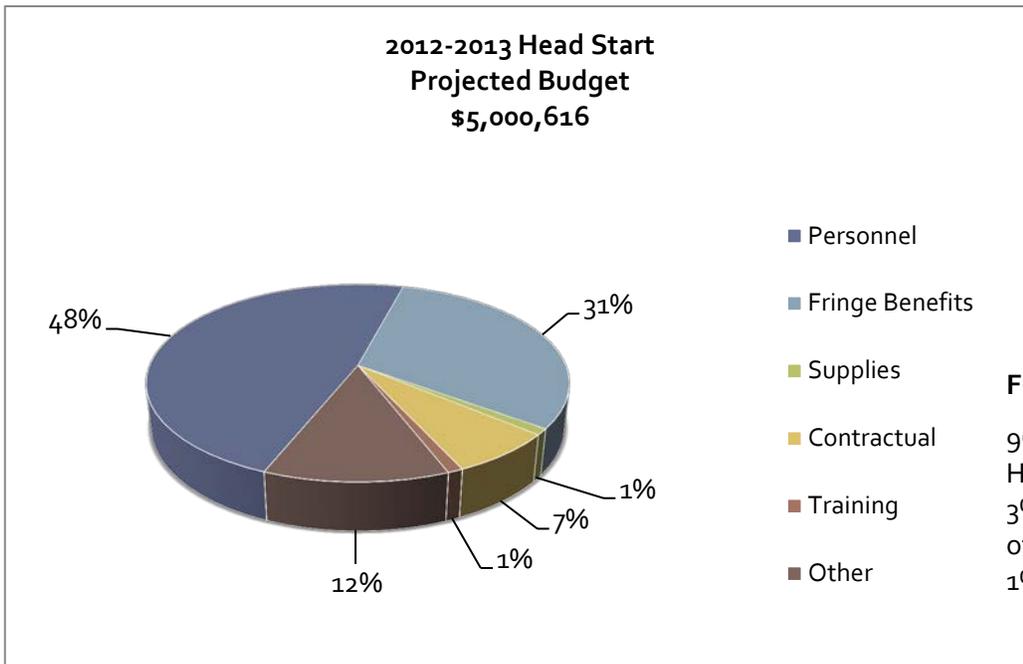
**Family Jamboree** – is a yearly event held at the Discovery Center. 580 children and families attended.

**Social Services**—Family Resource Workers and Home Visitor Teachers support families’ goals and needs. Families make decisions, including the resources they choose to utilize and options they choose to exercise. In some cases, support is provided to families in crisis.

Services Provided:

	Head Start	Early Head Start		Head Start	Early Head Start
Emergency/crisis intervention (addressing immediate need for food, clothing or shelter):	64	11	Adult education (GED programs, college selection, etc)	42	13
Mental health services	31	10	Domestic violence services	5	1
Housing assistance (subsidies, utilities, repair, etc)	25	6	Child support assistance	13	1
English as a Second Language (ESL) training	15	2	Health education	52	12
Child Abuse and Neglect services	13	5	Assistance to families of incarcerated individuals	1	1
Job training	10	0	Parenting education	9	78
Substance abuse prevention or treatments	1	0			





**Audit**—Lauterbach & Amen conducted the annual financial audit for the year ending December 31, 2011. City of Rockford is in compliance with the requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management Budget (OMB) Circular A-133. There were no findings specific to the Head Start program.