

Champlain Valley Head Start – Annual Public Report 2015

- **Head Start:** Head Start is a national preschool program which provides educational and social opportunities to nurture the healthy development of children. Champlain Valley Head Start (CVHS) offers preschool and childcare services at various locations to over 281 children and their families throughout Franklin, Grand Isle, Chittenden and Addison Counties.
- **Early Head Start:** In December 2009, the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, awarded funding to CVHS, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, for the implementation of an Early Head Start (EHS) program. CVHS was one of nine existing Head Start grantees in New England to receive an EHS award. The new EHS program launched services in April 2010 to 30 program participants including pregnant women, infants, toddlers and their families throughout Franklin, Grand Isle, Chittenden and Addison Counties. These program options are currently as follows: 10 home based placements throughout Chittenden County; 10 home based placements throughout Franklin County; center-based programming with 5 EHS placements in collaboration with Champlain Islands Parent Child Center in South Hero and 5 EHS placements in collaboration with College Street Center in Middlebury. Objectives of the EHS program are:
 - 1) to enhance children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development;
 - 2) to promote healthy prenatal outcomes for pregnant women;
 - 3) to strengthen parents as the primary nurturers of their children; and
 - 4) to help parents move toward self-sufficiency.

In partnership with several high quality child care centers, in 2015 Champlain Valley Head Start launched new, innovative and collaborative services to better meet the needs of low-income families with infants and toddlers. With funding from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the CVHS Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships (EHS-CCP) project serves 34 infants, toddlers and their families throughout Franklin, Grand Isle, Chittenden and Addison counties in partnership with the YMCA Early Childhood Program in St. Albans, Burlington Children's Space and King Street Center in Burlington, and Addison County Parent Child Center in Middlebury. The initial, 18-month funding cycle for this program is 1/1/2015 – 6/30/2016. As this program officially launched participant services in April 2015, full program-year data is not yet available for this program, but will be provided in the Annual Public Report following the 2015-2016 school year.

- **Funding:** For FY15, CVHS received federal Head Start and Early Head Start funding from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as follows:
 - Head Start Preschool (12-month): \$2,847,862
 - Early Head Start (12-month): \$431,676
 - Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships (initial, 18-month allocation): \$1,036,560

- **Total number of children and families served:** For the 2014-2015 program year, CVHS served 382 program participants throughout northwest Vermont, including pregnant women, children ages birth through 5, and their families.
- **Enrollment:** CVHS maintained an average monthly enrollment of 332 (Head Start and Early Head Start), consistently meeting or in some cases exceeding 100% of ACF funded enrollment. Approximately 91.6% of Head Start participants served were from income-eligible families, and approximately 96.1% of Early Head Start participants served were from income-eligible families.
- **Results of most recent Federal review:** In October 2012, CVHS went through its most recent Federal review, and received tremendous accolades for operating an exemplary, high quality program for children and families. CVHS received a report from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start, indicating that CVHS is in full compliance with all applicable Head Start Federal Performance Standards, as well as all applicable laws, regulations and policy requirements.
- **Results of most recent financial audit:** The most recent financial audit for CVOEO contained no findings or non-compliances for Champlain Valley Head Start.
- **Percentage of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams:** For children enrolled during the 2014-2015 program year, approximately 93.4% of preschool children received physical exams, and 91.5% of children birth to 3 completed all medical screenings; approximately 85.2% of preschool children received dental exams, and 61.7% of children birth to 2 were up-to-date on their dental EPSDT schedule.
- **Information about parent involvement activities:** Parent involvement in CVHS occurs most commonly through home visits or as parents spend time in Head Start classrooms. Parents are also involved in activities such as: Group socializations; Local Parent Committee Meetings; Parent-Teacher conferences; Open House or classroom orientation sessions; Parent Education sessions; CVHS Health Services Advisory Committee and other program committees; Policy Council meetings; Meetings to develop and revise program plans including the School Readiness Plan and Disabilities Services Plan; IEP meetings; Volunteering as classroom helpers, attending field trips, participating in home activities, and assisting in administrative offices; CVHS interview teams to hire new staff; the CVHS Self-Assessment and Community Assessment processes; attending events such as VT Early Childhood Day at the Legislature and meetings of the VT Head Start Association; and attending conferences such as the New England Head Start Association Conference. Champlain Valley Head Start provides interpreters for families that do not speak English so that they can be involved in the program and attend various activities.
- **CVHS focus on school readiness and efforts to prepare children for kindergarten:** CVHS supports children for school readiness and lifelong success. The CVHS curriculum, *The Creative Curriculum*, is based on five fundamental principles that help to guide CVHS practice in providing services to children and families:
 - positive interactions and relationships with adults provide a critical foundation for successful learning;
 - social-emotional competence is a significant factor in school success;

- constructive, purposeful play supports essential learning;
- the physical environment affects the type and quality of learning interactions; and
- teacher-family partnerships promote development and learning.

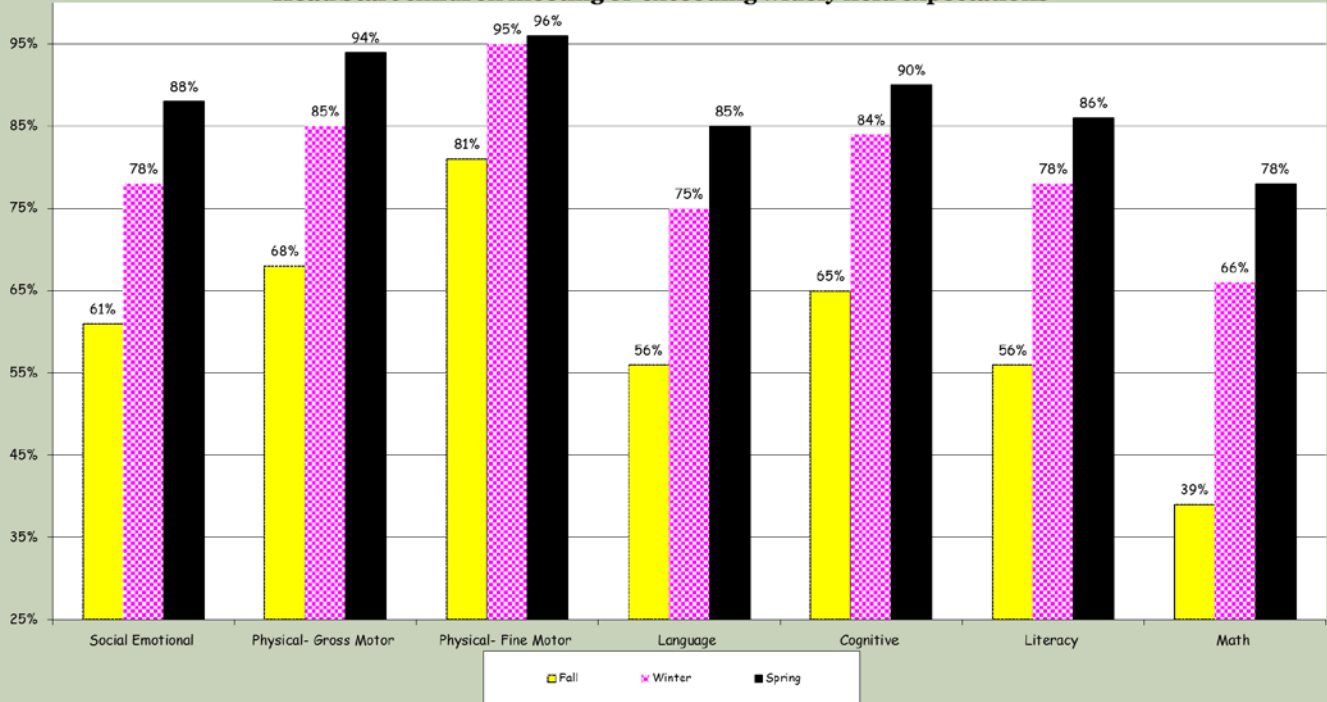
CVHS staff plan curriculum to include goals in the areas of social emotional development, approaches to learning, literacy, language development, math, science, logic and reasoning, social studies, creative arts, and physical health and development. These areas of development and learning guide staff in the provision of materials and activities offered to prepare children for kindergarten. Experiences are provided to meet each child's individual needs and stimulate learning, with strong emphasis on language/cognitive skills, early literacy skills, and the development of positive social skills. Health educational activities include daily tooth brushing and monthly nutrition activities. Staff utilize an individualized observation and planning process for each child/family. Staff assess, with the parent, the child's developmental strengths and needs. Information is obtained through informal interviews with the parent, observations of the child, developmental screenings, and the Teaching Strategies Gold online assessment. This information is then used to individualize services for children and families.

The CVHS Education Coordinator and Early Head Start Coordinator analyze data and generate individual and program-wide TS GOLD reports three times per program year (four for EHS). Child outcomes data is shared with all staff, families, Policy Council, collaborative partners and CVOEO Board outlining strengths and areas for improvement. Teachers and home visitors use individual and group profile reports to plan curriculum which offers materials, activities and experiences for learning through play in all areas. Staff and families review child specific reports to share each child's strengths and set goals together. Group profile reports are generated to help guide curriculum for specific groups, and identify areas of support/supervision. TS GOLD is used to track and measure school readiness goals. At the annual CVHS strategic planning event, a summary of trends in all component areas assist staff in determining progress towards overall school readiness goals. This information is used to help gather resources for staff and families, plan trainings, purchase materials, and guide future school readiness goals. For the CVHS School Readiness Plan, please see, <http://champlainvalleyheadstart.org/files/2011/11/CVHS-School-Readiness-Plan-2014-2015-TSG-data-6-30-15-sg.pdf>

CVHS also provides information to parents of children with special needs, such as articles describing the special education process, individualized education plans, 504 plans, and parents' rights in special education. CVHS staff, parents and collaborating agencies plan activities to support children's transition to kindergarten. Such opportunities may include Head Start children and families attending school functions or libraries, going on classroom visits, meeting with kindergarten teachers, principals and special educators, attending school-sponsored "transition fairs," utilizing school facilities, and accessing school meal programs.

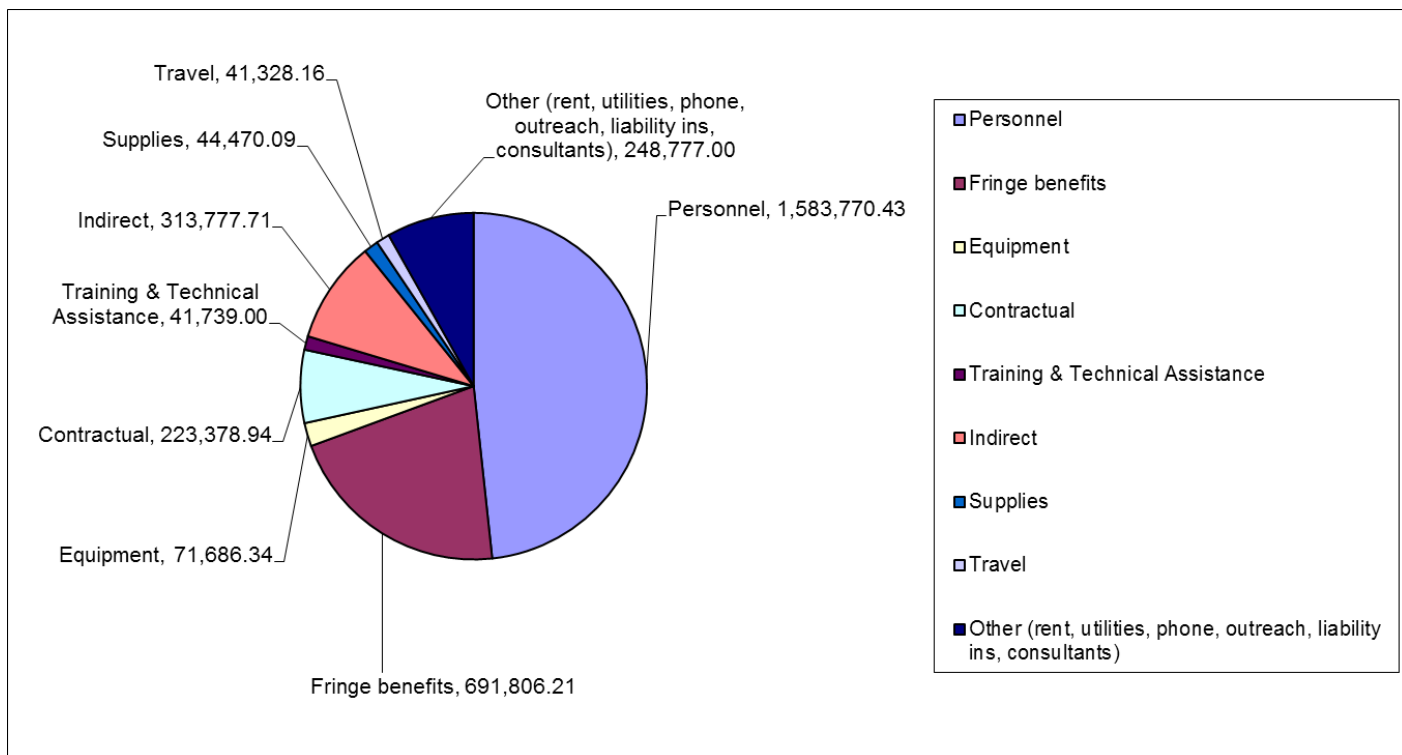
CVHS - Child Outcomes and School Readiness 2014- 2015

Head Start children meeting or exceeding widely held expectations



• **Budgetary expenditures FY15:**

Budgetary expenditures FY15 Actual	Total	Head Start	Early Head Start
Personnel	1,583,770.43	1,363,484.15	220,286.28
Fringe benefits	691,806.21	606,481.55	85,324.66
Equipment	71,686.34	64,611.99	7,074.35
Contractual	223,378.94	199,523.67	23,855.27
Training & Technical Assistance	41,739.00	31,749.00	9,990.00
Indirect	313,777.71	270,045.38	43,732.33
Supplies	44,470.09	38,298.26	6,171.83
Travel	41,328.16	29,560.00	11,768.16
Other (rent, utilities, phone, outreach, liability ins, consultants)	267,581.11	244,107.99	23,473.12
Total	3,279,538	2,847,862	431,676



• **Proposed budget FY16:**

Budgetary expenditures FY16 Proposed	Total	Head Start	Early Head Start
Personnel	1,604,075.00	1,383,257.00	220,818.00
Fringe benefits	787,912.00	690,821.00	97,091.00
Equipment	27,600.00	25,000.00	2,600.00
Contractual	134,683.00	118,443.00	16,240.00
Training & Technical Assistance	41,739.00	31,749.00	9,990.00
Indirect	365,729.00	315,382.00	50,347.00
Supplies	51,548.00	49,548.00	2,000.00
Travel	30,942.00	28,345.00	2,597.00
Other (rent, utilities, phone, outreach, liability ins, consultants)	235,310.00	205,317.00	29,993.00
Total	3,279,538.00	2,847,862.00	431,676.00

