

EMAA Head Start Annual Report 2020

EMAA Head Start is a federally funded program designed to provide comprehensive early childhood and family development services to children ages 3-5 years old. Head Start provides services in the areas of education and early childhood development, medical, dental, nutrition, mental health and parent involvement. EMAA Head Start offers a center-based option for eligible children throughout our eight county service area. This area includes Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Iron, Madison, Perry, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve and Washington counties.

Program Funding:

The majority of funds received are awarded from the Administration for Children and Families (federal funds). We also receive funds through the State Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP) as reimbursement for cost of the food used in our program.

The chart below demonstrates our 2020 funding amounts:

Please note- Due to COVID 19 we were able to apply for “COVID 19 One Time Funding” which we were able to use in order to protect our children/staff/families with PPE (personal protection equipment), network upgrades due to virtual learning, and a summer school program for children that would be entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2020.

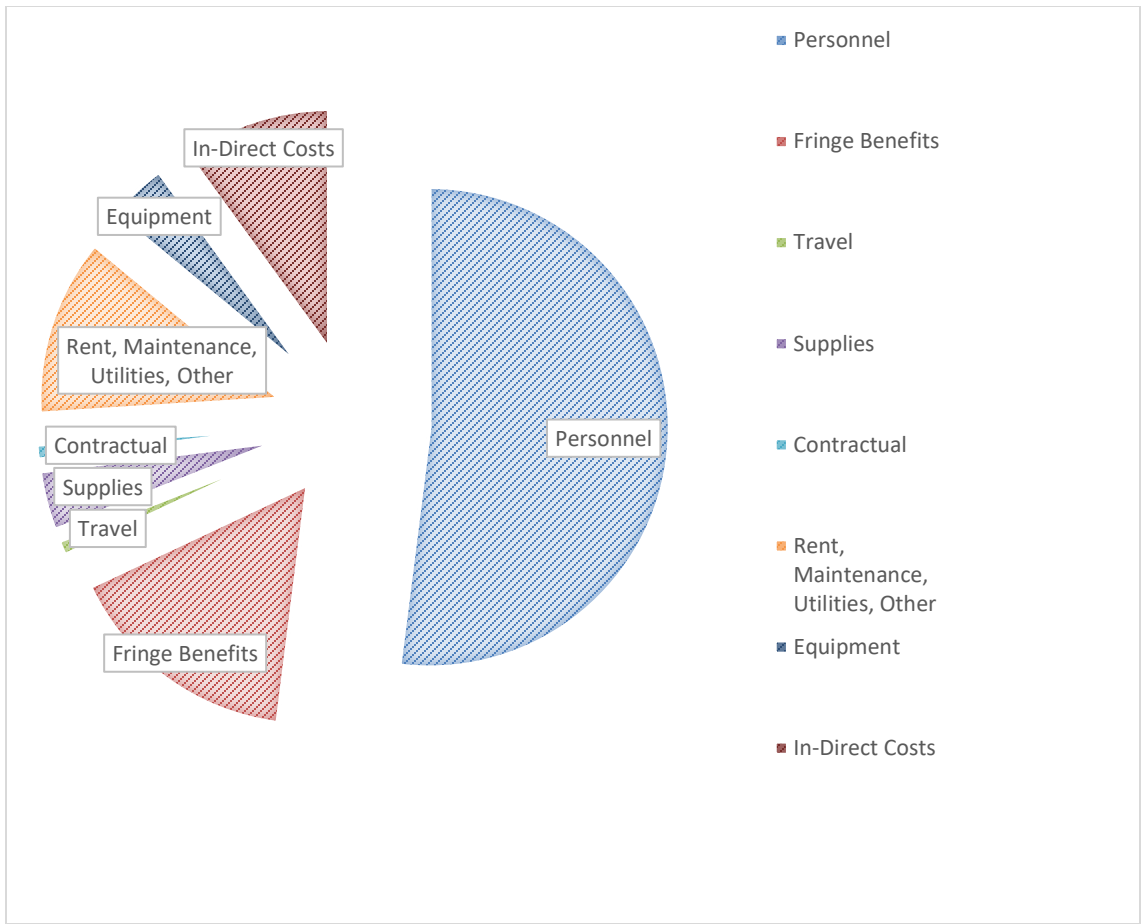
Federal Grant Funds	\$5,694,062
CACFP	\$234,208

Budget breakdown are as follows:

Personnel	52%	(2,942,985)
Fringe Benefits	16%	(930,139)
Travel	1%	(13,291)
Supplies	4%	(202,298)
Contractual	1%*	(104,544)
Rent, Maintenance, Utilities, Other	12%	(696,098)
Equipment	4%	(228,000)
In-direct Cost	10%	(576,707)

* The actual amount spent in this category was \$104,544.00 due to upgrades to our networking system as per monies received for COVID and virtual learning/networking. In a “normal year” this amount has been a consistent \$19,800.

EMAA Head Start is responsible for generating 20% non-federal share through volunteers, donations of cash, supplies, equipment or space. The amount of non-federal share generated for this year is \$1,172,412.



Our proposed budget for next year is \$5,217,748.

Enrollment Information:

Funded Enrollment	542
Actual Enrollment	614 (includes dropped children)

Enrollment by months:

Month	Enrollment	Percentage
January	542	100%
February	542	100%
March	542*	100%
April	542*	100%
May	542*	100%
June	Not in Session	Not in Session
July	Not in Session	Not in Session
August	Not in Session	Not in Session
September	162**	30%
October	187**	35%
November	187**	35%
December	169**	31%

* Continued serving children virtually due to COVID

** Due to COVID

Of the actual enrolled children 614, 547 were income eligible.

Of the total enrolled children 614, 588 received medical exams and 543 received dental exams.

Of the total enrolled children 614, we served 6 homeless families.

Meals Served:

From January 1 to December 31, 2020 our CACFP served **65,311 meals**.

Financial Audit:

The independent audit report completed by Boyer and Associates, PC for the year ended September 30, 2019 revealed no audit findings.

Aligned Monitoring System:

The OHS (Office of Head Start) began a new comprehensive monitoring process that will span over our five year grant award. This is our first year of our new five (5) year cycle. During the week of October 21-25, 2019 we received a focus Area I Review. We had no findings or non-compliant issues.

Parent involvement activities include the following:

- * Monthly parent meetings
- * Home visits
- * Parent Based Curriculum
- * Participation in Policy Council
- * Participation in Health Service Advisory meetings
- * Volunteering in classrooms
- * Father/Father figure activities

We also offer before and after care for our working parent or parents in job training or furthering their education.

Preparing children for Kindergarten:

EMAA Head Start strives all year to better prepare our children for Kindergarten using the scientifically research-based Creative Curriculum. This curriculum promotes school readiness in the areas of language and cognitive development, literacy and math skills, social and emotional development, physical development and logic and reasoning skills.

We use the Dial-4 screening assessment tool along with Head Start Early Learning Framework and Teaching Strategies Gold Objectives and Dimensions. In addition, teachers conduct on-going observations and develop a portfolio for each child. Progress reports are shared with families quarterly.

Education staff:

Ninety-five percent of our teachers have a four year degree in Early Childhood or a related field. We have 54 Assistant Teachers of which twenty-two (22) have at least a CDA and six (6) have an AA or greater and many are currently enrolled to obtain their CDA.

We have thirteen (13) Family Advocates of which nine (9) have a Family Service Credential, two (2) have an AA, and two (2) have a BA degree.

To help successfully transition children from Head Start to Kindergarten we invite public school teachers to be a guest speaker at a parent meeting. They discuss the requirement of Kindergarten and parents have the opportunity to ask questions regarding class policies. A field trip is planned to the public school in which the Head Start child visits the Kindergarten classroom and tours the building. A lot of times, the children even eat in the cafeteria.

Community Needs Assessment Summary:

An abbreviated Community Needs Assessment was conducted in 2019. In developing our community assessment, surveys were given to parents, governing body and policy council members that outlines some of our needs. Focus groups were conducted and all three of the above identified groups served on these groups to develop needs and strategies to meet the needs. The Head Start Strategic Plan was then developed using the identified needs, with input from the above named groups. Our program goals are outlined in this plan and were approved by both the governing body and policy council.

East Missouri Action Agency – Head Start

Angela Mehrtens – Policy Council Chairperson

Denis Moore - Chairman, EMAA Board of Directors

Keri McCrorey – Executive Director, EMAA

Renee Killian – Head Start Director

Jan Cooley – Head Start Deputy Director