**Early Head Start Report to the Public**

**Explanation of Budgetary Expenditures 2019-2020**

**Program Year: September 1st, 2019 through August 31, 2020**

**Budget Summary:**

Starpoint provides services for First Steps Early Head Start in Fremont County, Colorado, and continued refunding for the same time frame.

Per the intent to fund letter from ACF the base funds for the continuation application of the First Steps EHS program is **$799,674 and a cost of living adjustment (COLA) of 1.77% which is $14,154, for a total of $813,828**. Training and technical assistant funds available are **$18,708** for a total of **$832,536**. A supplemental one-time COVID-19 award was also received in the amount of **$65,911**.

The goal of the organization is to maintain high quality, comprehensive services to children and families and ensure their health and safety.

**Personnel: $508,630 + Fringe $143,133 = $651,763**

**Supplies: $11,000**

**Contractual: $0**

**Local Travel: $9,950**

**Other: $151,065**

**Training and Technical Assistance $18,708**

**Cost of Living Adjustment: $14,154**

**Total Ongoing Federal EHS Funds**

**Requested: $799,674 +$18,708 (T&TA) + $14,154 (COLA)= $832,536**

**Total Non-federal Share = $208,134**

**Number of Children & Pregnant Women**

**Served: 75**

**Number of Children Served: 108**

**Number of Pregnant Women Served: 15**

**Average monthly enrollment: 90%**

**Eligible children served: 35%**

When completed 2020 audit can be reviewed on the Starpoint website: [www.starpointco.com](http://www.starpointco.com)

The percentage of children that have received medical exams is: 66%

The percentage of children that have received dental exams is: 26%

COVID-19 has greatly affected health numbers for the past 6 months.

**Service Options**:

1) **Home-Based option is** for 65 children with 46 weekly home visits of 1½ hours per visit, and 24 Socialization experiences offered two times per month for 1½ -2 hours each

**2**) **Center-Based option is** for 10 children. The center is open for 11.5 hours per day, 5 days per week for 252 days per year. The weekly requirement for this center-based program is at a minimum 28 hrs./wk. for 52 weeks to meet the required 1,380 annual hours of planned class operations. Parents are able to design what services are needed to meet their family’s needs. The center-based option classrooms have two teachers and no more than eight children in

the classroom. The teachers are required to have a minimum of an Infant and Toddler Credential Development Associate. The program highly encourages and presently has staff with AA or BA degrees. Diapers and wipes are provided for children in the center-based option program as required.

**Services to Pregnant Women include**: Pre-Natal and Post-Natal RN Visits: A

registered nurse visits mothers in their home both before and after they have their babies. The Nurse is also available for follow up visits in the home if requested by Home Visitors and parents. The Parents as Teachers Curriculum

is used and has specific information for pregnant women.

All 2019-2020 funds were expended. In-kind match requirements were met. Early Head start continued quality center and home-based activities.

**Parent Involvement**:

Many parent involvement activities were planned specifically for Early Head Start

families through the EHS program. These include; group socializations, parent

educational workshops, parent committees and meetings, field trips and other opportunities as requested by the parents, for the first part of the year. Then we offered visits, groups, workshops and activities virtually on our YouTube channel.

Staff were trained on all the technological aspects of providing virtual services which were challenging for some and refreshing for others. Regularly things were either posted on our Facebook page or on our YouTube channel. COVID funding helped provide laptops, and necessary virtual platforms such as ZOOM for home visitors who needed them to offer virtual visits confidentially. Active community partnerships helped us provide food, diapers, baby formula and other items as the Fremont County family resource center and others received these much needed resources in our community.

**Effective and Intentional Approach to Teaching Practices**: The grantee used reflective supervision to guide practice, to engage staff in self-reflection, and develop a learning community. One aspect of the learning community involved home visitors receiving a minimum of one session per month for reflective supervision; twice monthly, they met as group to reflect on practice and discuss trends in families, this was offered virtually by our local IMH specialist. Center-based teacher also received reflective supervision through the Infant/Toddler Mental Health consultant (MH) . All staff, including management team, continues to engage in reflective supervision. Reflective Supervision (RS): All Starpoint Children Services have been implementing a positive practice in 2015 and wanted to share how it is going for us. Reflective Supervision means stepping back from the immediate intense experience of hands on work and taking the time to wonder what the experience really means- Reflective Supervision is not therapy-it is focused on experience, thoughts and feelings directly connected with the work we do. Staff well-being and quality of services go hand in hand. RS is focused on creating an environment where people do their best thinking! Coordinators and Managers who directly supervise individuals have been participating in bi-weekly Reflective Practice and Reflective Supervision sessions. It has been a journey that we have been taking to better ourselves as critical thinkers so we can support the staff in the work they do so they can better support children and families! “How You Are Is As Important As What You Do” Jeree Pawl