




Early Head Start Annual Report

Program Year
September 1, 2019-August 31, 2020



Starpoint
Children's Services
Early Head Start Program

1339 Elm Ave.
Canon City, CO 81212
Phone: 719-275-0550

Dear Community Stakeholder:

The Starpoint Board of Directors, Policy Council, and Early Head Start program staff members are proud to present you with this copy of the Early Head Start Annual Report for 2019-2020. This report highlights some of the program accomplishments, provides information about the operating budget and expenditures, and includes a variety of the significant statistical data for the program. The Early Head Start (EHS) program is primarily funded through a federal grant and provided services to 108 children ages 0-3 years and 14 pregnant women in our community this year. The focus of EHS is to prepare children and their families for future school success. Many of the children in EHS are experiencing school readiness for the first time. Several families are experiencing extremely low income as well. The program is comprehensive in nature and works with the entire family to accomplish the goal of preparing each child for future school experiences while also engaging the family in goal development. In addition to the federal funds, each program is required to match the federal funds with 20% of local funds or in-kind match.

If you have any questions about the EHS program or would like to refer a child or family to the program, please contact Starpoint Children's Services at 719-275-0550 to reach a member of our team who will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Starpoint Early Head Start

About Early Head Start

The 2019-2020 program year marked 28 years of providing high-quality Early Head Start services for expectant mothers and young children in Fremont County.

The 2019-2020 Early Head Start program year is in year two of our five year non-competitive Office of Head Start grant. We continue to follow the Early Head Start Standards and Office of Head Start Baseline grant to remain in compliance for this non-competitive program year.

Like many other agencies in our community, in March of 2020 we experienced unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Luckily, we were able to adjust our “normal” ways of service delivery and were able to serve families throughout the pandemic without long term program closures. Our staff members were able to demonstrate their amazing skills and creativity to keep families engaged in a variety of new activities. Starpoint Early Head Start staff members are to be commended for their resilience and hard work during these changes in our world. In addition to these services, Starpoint was also able to help with many resources through community partnerships to minimize the stress due to a variety of insecurities experienced by families.



PROGRAM SHARED GOVERNANCE

The Early Head Start Program operates a formal structure of shared governance for the oversight of quality services for Early Head Start children and families; for making decisions related to program design and implementation. This structure includes a governing body and policy council. The governing body is the Starpoint Board of Directors. They each have a critical role of oversight, design, and implementation of the Early Head Start program. Members of the Governing Body, hereafter referred to as Starpoint Board of Directors have legal and fiscal responsibility for administering and overseeing the Head Start program, including the safeguarding of federal funds. The Policy Council consists of parents of children who are currently enrolled in EHS programs and community representatives. The Council is responsible for the direction of the Early Head Start program; including program design and operation; and long and short term planning goals and objectives; taking into account the annual community wide strategic planning and needs assessment and self-assessment. Parent involvement in program governance reflects the fundamental belief, present since the inception of Early Head Start, that parents must be involved in decision-making about the nature and operation of the program. This involvement is crucial for Early Head Start to be successful in bringing about substantial change.

Starpoint Board of Directors 2019-2020

Annette Nimmo Fremont County – Chairperson
Janet Trujillo – Vice Chair Fremont County
Terry Prewitt Chaffee County – Treasurer
Jacob Francis Fremont County – Secretary
Linda Bay Fremont County
Mike Dowdy Chaffee County
Danielle Frost Chaffee County
Katy Grether Chaffee County
Brenda Heckel Chaffee County
Mitch McCartney Fremont County

Early Head Start Policy Council 2019-2020

Chair: Nikesha Sartor
Vice Chair: Shalina Barlow
Secretary: Debra Ladish
Council Members/Parent Representation:
Skye Evans
Jamie Eastman
Harmonie Simiano
Community Representatives: Janet Posey

Early Head Start Budget Breakdown

The Early Head Start budget has four major categories; personnel, fringe, supplies, and other (Insurance, utilities, maintenance/repair, travel, consultants, parent services, accounting and legal services). Independent auditors reviewed the Early Head Start program as a part of the Starpoint Agency audit per the Single Audit Act. Starpoint 2019-2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Audit Report (CAFR) can be found on the Starpoint website www.starpointco.com. The 2019-2020 Financial Audit was clean with no findings.

About 80% of all federal funds are budgeted to cover personnel costs and related benefit expenses. Employee benefits include health, dental, and life insurance and short term disability benefits. The administrative costs to run the Early Head Start program cannot exceed 15% of the total budget. The administrative costs were \$74,731.75 or 7.18% of the total budget in 2019-2020. Early Head Start received 1.77% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), and \$65,911 CARES Act Funding to support programs during the pandemic. Other program funding included \$340 in Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) .

The budget for the 2020-2021 program year has been set at \$894,367.

Explanation of Budgetary Expenditures 22019-2020
Program Year: September 1st, 2019 through August 31, 2020

Federal Budget Line Items	2019-2020 Budget-Early Head Start
Personnel	\$508,630
Fringe	\$143,133
Supplies	\$11,000
Other (Insurance, utilities, maintenance/repair, travel, consultants, parent services, accounting and legal services)	\$151,065
Total-Reg	\$813,828
Training and Technical Assistance	\$18,708
Grand Total	\$832,536

The Early Head Start program is required to match every \$1 of federal funds with 20% or \$208,134 in-kind or local resources. The Non Federal Share was met for 2019-2020 program year.

Program Goals

Children will continue to develop social and emotional skills. Home visitation will help parents create a strong, positive, learning environment.

The EHS program will maintain innovative, high-quality early childhood learning for children and families in our community.

The EHS program will support families by seeking resources and opportunities for success.

The EHS program will support children and families to achieve healthy lifestyles.

Early Head Start Parent Quotes:

"Definitely understanding my baby better. I love the homework and activities! I always look forward to my visit because all around they are helpful and fun for my sons and I together"

"I love making a mess with my child with the activities my home visitor brings!"

"I love how my home visitor is always so encouraging to me. She always tells me about resources and opportunities to help me be a better parent."

Enrollment

Starpoint Early Head Start Service Options:

- 1) Home-Based option - This option serves 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 - This option currently serves 10 children. The center is open for 12 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 services to best meet their family's needs. The center-based option classrooms have two teachers and eight or less children in the each room. The teachers are required to have a minimum of an Infant and Toddler Credential Development Associate (CDA). The program highly encourages and presently has staff with Associates or Bachelors degrees in a relevant childhood area. Diapers and wipes are provided for children in the center-based option program.
- 3) Services to pregnant women - Pregnant mothers are offered pre-natal and post-natal RN Visits to support them throughout their pregnancy. Expectant mothers can design time and visit frequency tailored to their individual needs. When a pregnant mother is enrolled it is a requirement that our registered nurse visits the mother in their home after they have their baby. The nurse is also available for follow up visits in the home if requested by home visitors and/or parents. The Parents as Teachers Curriculum is used by home visitors and has specific information for pregnant women to learn about the growth and development of their baby. We also have a Breastfeeding Counselor (EHS Health Manager) available to provide education and support for our families and our community.

Number of children & pregnant women served for program year 2019-2020	122
Total of families served	90
Number of children in center based option	13
Number of children served	95
Number of pregnant women served	14
Average monthly enrollment	98%
Eligible children served	35%

Education

Starpoint Early Head Start continues to use The Creative Curriculum by Teaching Strategies as its research based curriculum, and also uses the MyTeachingStrategies GOLD online developmental assessment system to track children's school readiness progress. Both curriculum and developmental assessment programs align with the Head Start Early Learning and Outcomes Framework.

Even though the pandemic had an impact on our program, we continued to provide parents the tools needed to work towards their children's goals. Home visitors had to be creative and adapt to virtual visits, and outdoor social distance visits with families. Our Teaching Strategies GOLD progress reports would have shown more growth if the pandemic did not occur. We were able to continue to serve families and work towards achieving school readiness goals during a global pandemic.



Health Services

Starpoint's Early Head Start program provides hearing, vision, dental, lead, developmental, and social emotional screenings in the home during home visits. These requirements are met within 45 days of enrollment or when age appropriate.

Health Statistics

Children with access to healthcare at enrollment

108

Pregnant women with health insurance at enrollment

14

Percentage at the end of enrollment

108

Pregnant women with health insurance at the end of enrollment

14

Children Up-to-date on primary and preventative care according to EPSDT-Early and Periodical Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment

Total at enrollment

93

Total at the end of enrollment

81

Children Up-to-date on or determined to be up-to-date by a health care professional:

Total at enrollment

93

Total at the end of enrollment

83

Prenatal:

Prenatal health care	15
Postpartum health care	15
Mental health interventions and follow up	15
Substance abuse prevention	0
Prenatal education on fetal development	15
Information on the benefits of breastfeeding	15

Mental Health Services:

Number of children who were served by a mental health (MH) professional	39
Number of children for whom the MH professional consulted with a program staff about the child's behavior/mental health	15
Number of children for whom MH professional consulted with the parents /guardians about their child's mental health or behavior	12
Number of children for whom the MH professional provided an individual mental health assessment	11

Number of Children with regular access to dental services:

Percentage of total at enrollment	33
Percentage at the end of enrollment	44
Children under 12 months (dental screenings start at 12 months of age)	54

Family Engagement

Families participating in Early Head Start have ongoing opportunities to participate in many different activities throughout their enrollment. We offer socializations twice a month in a variety of engaging settings. Socializations are group connections with other EHS families where a fun, organized, age-appropriate activity and a meal or snack is shared together. We have specialized workshops for parents and offer childcare, cooking classes, fatherhood nights, and much more. After the pandemic hit, we still offered family engagement opportunities. These opportunities just became virtual and home visitors provided to every family interested with drop bags to complete virtual activities.

You can view our family engagement events on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKFVVHCMEvNLGNTNMauPRvA/videos>

Effective and Intentional Approach to Teaching Practices: - Starpoint Early Head Start used reflective supervision to guide practice, to engage staff in self-reflection, and to 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 a group to reflect on practices and discuss trends in families. This was offered virtually by our local Infant Mental Health specialist. Center-based teachers also received reflective supervision through the Infant/Toddler Mental Health consultant. All staff, including management team, continue to engage in reflective supervision and benefit from this practice.

Reflective Supervision (RS) - Starpoint Children Services has been implementing a positive practice since 2015. 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!



Early Head Start Contact Information

Starpoint Children's Services

1339 Elm Ave.
Canon City, CO 81212
719.275.0550

FamilyCenter@starpointco.com



HOME VISITATION MISSION

The mission of Home Visitation is to communicate the importance of parent and child relationships through fun learning activities in order to set a strong foundation of success for families and the community.

WE VALUE



COMMUNICATION



HELPING OTHERS



COMMUNITY



FUN!

