



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Westside Head Start
Serving Children from Birth to Five



HEALTHY, EDUCATED
CHILDREN
IN SUPPORTIVE FAMILIES

ANNUAL REPORT | 2016



LETTER FROM SENIOR DIRECTOR

It's been an incredible year. In 2016-2017, we received funding as a direct grantee from Washington D.C. for the first time. It's a testimony to the high standard we've reached to serve children. This is also showcased in our 2016 Classroom Assessment Score, where teacher-child interaction rated above the regional and national levels (see chart on next page).

With more than 200 staff, Catholic Charities Westside Head Start continues to serve hundreds of children and families in western Maricopa County to prepare children for kindergarten. Let me share with you how we get this good work done.

A secret to our success is getting parents involved in their children's education. When parents understand how their involvement affects their child's success, it inspires them to achieve greater goals financially, academically and personally. Read more on page 6 about Michael Balderas' story to see how the transformation happens.

As parents get involved, children receive life-changing support. We had 975 parents volunteer 21,010 hours in classrooms. We saw hundreds of fathers take their daughters to father/daughter dances. We also test piloted the Academic Parent Teaching Team, where parents attend parent-teacher meetings to learn about their child's outcome scores. Each family knows where they need to give support to their child's learning.

All of this work feeds into our vision to help our students excel and assist their parents in reaching goals to support children. To do this, we want to expand our classroom times from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday thru Friday, to assist working parents with dependable and flexible before and after-school care. We'd like to eventually grow this into a full-year program. This will help families achieve greater economic stability and a brighter future for every child.

We hope you will join our Westside Head Start community in helping these wonderful children get a great start to their academic careers.

Sincerely,

Larry Campbell
Senior Program Director
Catholic Charities Westside Head Start

VISION

PREPARING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN
TO ACHIEVE ACADEMIC SUCCESS

MISSION

HELPING OUR COMMUNITIES MOST
VULNERABLE WITH SOLUTIONS THAT
PERMANENTLY IMPROVE LIVES

MEET OUR BOARD AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

Advisory Council Members

Dr. Honora Norton, Board of Directors Chair
Eva Anderson
Brandy M. Kalandyk
Jim LaBrie
Natasha Neal
Judy Poggi
Ron Stoll

Board of Directors

Ben Barcon
Rob Boland
Angela Ducey
Dr. Thomas Gaughan
Michael Howell
Brandee Kalandyk
Deacon Tom Klein
Scott MacDonald
Brett McClain
Art Meza
Rev. Patrick Mowrer
Jack O'Brien
Mary Permoda
Randi Ringnes
Stu Seim
Marcus Sipolt
Kathy Sischka
Dr. Fred Shulski, Jr.
Mark Weber

Policy Council Members

Natasha Neal, *Chairperson*
Tiya Bedford, *Vice Chairperson*
Leticia Peralta, *Treasurer*
Tameka Perrien, *Secretary*
Jerrica Escarsega, *Parliamentarian*

Members at Large

Eva Anderson
Ericka Berry
Jaime Blos
Blanca Cruz
Dulce Larrazola
Sonia Luna
Sandra Mendez
Patricia Roberts
Yara Vences

Community Representatives

Rosamaria Reyes Carter
Alejandra Kisebach
Judy Poggi
Rosamaria Soto

QUICK OVERVIEW

303
Early Head Start Students

+

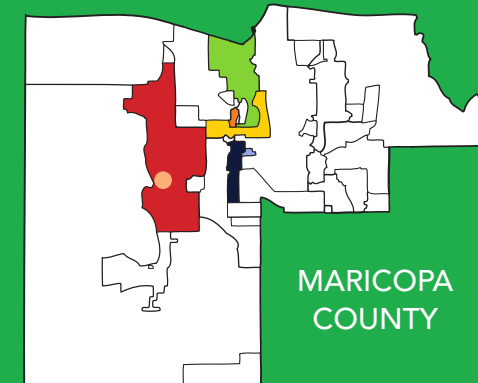
924
Head Start Students

=

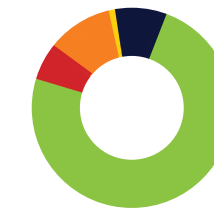
1,227
Children served

OUR TOWNS

- Avondale
- Buckeye
- El Mirage
- Glendale
- Palo Verde
- Peoria
- Tolleson

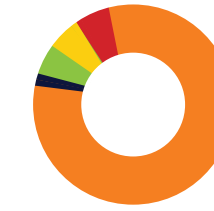


STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



EARLY HEAD START

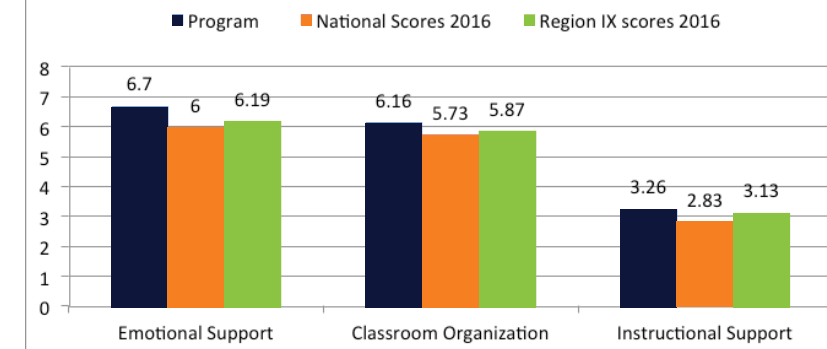
Living in poverty	75%
Homeless situation	10%
Foster children	8%
Recipients of public assistance	6%
Other qualifying criteria	1%



HEAD START

Living in poverty	81%
Homeless situation	5%
Foster children	3%
Recipients of public assistance	6%
Other qualifying criteria	5%

CLASS 2016-2017 scores



HIGH SCORES

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System rates 10 dimensions of teacher-child interaction organized into three domains (Emotional Support, Classroom Organization and Instructional Support). Westside Head Start students scored higher when compared to their peers at the national and regional level.

FROM HOMELESS TO HOMEOWNERS

Gina and her newborn twins were in trouble. Her relationship with the children's father was difficult. Soon, he abandoned them. Before long, they were homeless.

Gina came to Westside Head Start's early education program. She received support from our staff as she made living arrangements with relatives and enrolled her twins in our Early Head Start home visitation program, so she could learn how to care for them and access resources.

Eventually, the twins' father came back into their lives and they married. When Gina became pregnant for a second time with Beth, we enrolled Gina again in our home visitation program. As Gina and her husband continued to participate a beautiful transformation was under way. Gina enrolled in online courses to become a medical assistant. The twins turned 1 and entered our Early Head Start program. We continued home visits and monitored the family's progress.

After Gina and her husband celebrated Beth's first birthday, they enrolled her in our Early Head Start classroom to enable Gina to attend college classes on campus. Now Gina and her husband are both working in good paying careers. The twins are in kindergarten. Beth is a happy 3-year-old enrolled in a Head Start classroom. And this year, the family became first-time homeowners.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES WESTSIDE HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START ANNUAL REPORT 2016

FAMILIES

HOMELESSNESS



78

Children with their families experienced homelessness

31

Early Head Start children

47

Head Start children

FOSTER CARE



57

Foster care children

25

Early Head Start children

32

Head Start children

MOTHERS



12

Pregnant women served by Early Head Start to prepare for motherhood

FATHERS



294

Men participated in Strong Fathers events contributing **844** hours in classrooms

CLASSROOM VOLUNTEERS



975

Parents volunteered **21,010** hours in classrooms

PARENTS



1,227

CHILDREN SERVED

Head Start: Funded for **723** students → Served **924** students
Early Head Start: Funded for **158** students → Served **303** students

MEDICAL



1,027

Children received a medical exam

186

Early Head Start children

841

Head Start children

DENTAL



973

Children received a dental screening

161

Early Head Start children

812

Head Start children

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

MONTHLY AVERAGE ENROLLMENT



859

Average enrolled monthly

150

Early Head Start children

709

Head Start children

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES



93

Children with disabilities served

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

BEHAVIORAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL



1,119

Children received behavioral and developmental evaluations

244

Early Head Start children

875

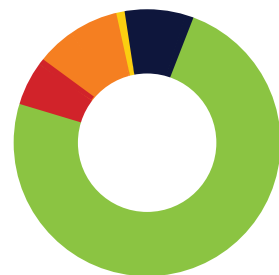
Head Start children

HOW FUNDS ARE SPENT



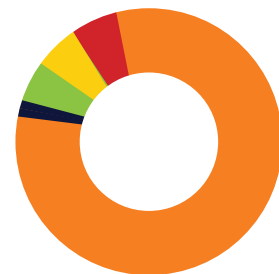
● Head Start: \$9,736,399
● Early Head Start: \$3,226,742
Total: \$12,963,141

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



EARLY HEAD START

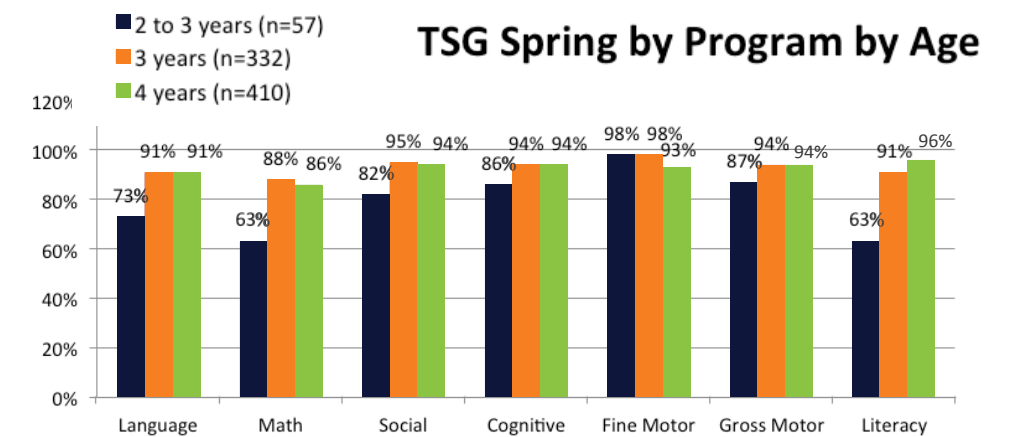
- Living in poverty 75%
- Homeless situation 10%
- Foster children 8%
- Recipients of public assistance 6%
- Other qualifying criteria 1%



HEAD START

- Living in poverty 81%
- Homeless situation 5%
- Foster children 3%
- Recipients of public assistance 6%
- Other qualifying criteria 5%

TEACHING STRATEGIES GOLD



Teaching Strategies Gold measures children's academic performance. In 2016, an average of 92 percent of Westside Head Start students met or exceeded all benchmarks.

GETTING INSPIRED

FATHER FINDS A NEW PURPOSE AT HEAD START

At 28, Michael Balderas discovered something he didn't know about himself—he's a leader. After participating in Catholic Charities' Westside Head Start classroom programs for children and families, Michael is now a leader among Head Start fathers.

"(Head Start) impacted me a lot. **They helped me change the way I think, the way I treat my kid,** the way I treat other kids," said Michael. "Now, I'm trying to influence dads to be like...you know what? I was once a street hoodlum. I didn't graduate high school. I don't have an education, but I'm starting over again, so wherever my son goes, I'm going with him."

After one year of participating in the program, Michael made headway in uniting parents to work together. **He serves as the president/chairperson of his classrooms' parent committee meeting and attends other policy group meetings.** This year, Westside Head Start fathers chose him to attend the Fathers and Families Coalition of America conference in Los Angeles.

Michael gives his time by helping teachers in the classroom and coordinating events for fathers to connect with their children in the classroom, such as the Strong Father, Strong Families events. **"For me, I never knew the power of volunteering until I started to volunteer,"** said Michael. "I made positive relationships with teachers and saw other parents being involved, it motivated me."



"It's nice to have that collaboration with the parents. They now have an understanding of what it is we do as teachers and I think it supports the child and all of us."

Teacher Tiffany

"Now I can help my son. He enjoys doing the activities and I can see how I can help him get better with his letters"

Blanca Cruz,
Head Start parent at Tolleson

HOW FUNDS ARE USED WESTSIDE HEAD START 2016-2017 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Federal Public \$9,452,652
State \$412,577
In-Kind \$2,808,845

TOTAL FUNDING

\$12,674,074

EXPENSES

Head Start Preschool Fund \$9,736,399
Early Head Start Fund \$3,226,742

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$12,963,141

2017-2018 PROJECTED BUDGET

Head Start Preschool Fund \$6,476,995
Early Head Start Fund \$2,432,427
Local Donations \$2,227,356
State Public (CACFP) \$468,003

* Fiscal year 2017 audit results pending

WHY POLICY COUNCILS WORK

Westside Head Start Policy Councils are meetings for parents to become leaders in the Head Start community. This year 22 Westside Head Start parents received certifications from Glendale Community College to serve as teacher's assistants in the classroom, and three of the parents were from the Policy Council. Ten Head Start staff also received this certification.

"Policy Council has impacted my life both personally and professionally by helping me regain confidence in my leadership skills. Through my involvement I have redefined my purpose as a parent, advocate and leader in my community. It has given me the platform to encourage, engage, and support all parents and children in our program, and seeing results of our work is truly empowering."

Natasha Neal, Policy Council Chairperson



"I am in my second year of Policy Council. It has reminded and sharpened my leadership skills. I have embedded myself and my family into our community. I truly understand how leadership, volunteering, and mentoring can greatly influence the families of our world."

Tiya Bedford, Policy Council Vice Chairperson



SEE WHAT PARENTS SAY ABOUT US

71%
got connected
to useful resources

97%
were satisfied with
the way our program
meets their children's
individual needs

14%
could accept a job
because their child
was enrolled in
our program

47%
participated in
helpful trainings



16%
accepted a better
job because their
child was enrolled
in our program

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAM BY VISITING
CATHOLICCHARITIESAZ.ORG/HEADSTART



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Westside Head Start



Serving Children from Birth to Five

AVONDALE OFFICE
220 W. LA CANADA BLVD.
AVONDALE, AZ 85323
602-287-6199/602-568-8641

GLENDALE OFFICE
5535 N. 67TH AVE.
GLENDALE, AZ 85301
623-934-3657

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
7400 W. OLIVE AVENUE, #10
PEORIA, AZ 85345
623-486-9868

PEORIA OFFICE
11708 N. 80TH AVE.
PEORIA, AZ 85345
623-486-7211

TOLLESON OFFICE
9301 W. BADEN
TOLLESON, AZ 85353
623-932-3517