Ounce of Prevention Fund Head Start & Early Head Start



Annual Report 2018

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General Information

Grantee: The Ounce of Prevention Fund

Program Number: 05-CH6100-000 Address: 33 West Monroe, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60603 Phone Number: (312) 922-3863 Fax Number: (312) 346-2981 Head Start Director Name: Claire Dunham Head Start Director Email: claired@theounce.org Agency Web Site Address: www.theounce.org Agency Type: Grantee

Agency Description:

The Ounce of Prevention Fund is a Head Start/Early Head Start grantee which provides services through directly-operated, partner, and delegate programs throughout the city of Chicago and the south suburbs.

Educare – Directly-Operated Program

The Educare Center is a program to prepare young, at-risk children for school by implementing the approaches and practices that science tells us are necessary to help young children grow up safe, healthy, and eager to learn. This unique program provides education and care for 165 children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old. Educare offers specialized supports for children and their families, including arts, intensive math and language, and many parent education opportunities. The center is the original site of a national network of Educare schools developed through a partnership between the Ounce of Prevention Fund and the Buffett Early Childhood Fund.

Healthy Parents and Babies – Directly-Operated Program

The Healthy Parents and Babies program has 79 program slots allocated to providing services for pregnant women, young parents, and children aged birth through 3 years old. The program philosophy is based on providing relationship-based, family-centered, child-focused programs for pregnant women, children, and families through home visits and doula services that begin as early as in a woman's pregnancy, if possible.

Site Location

Educare Center 5044 S. Wabash Avenue Chicago, IL 60615

Healthy Parents and Babies Hayes Center 4859 S. Wabash Ave Chicago, IL 60615

Community Areas Served: Grand Boulevard, Kenwood, Washington Park, Brighton Park, Humboldt Park, McKinley Park.

Centers for New Horizons – Partner Agency

Program Name: Dawson Early Learning Center Address: 3901 S. State Street Chicago, IL 60653 Phone Number: 773.536.2187 Fax Number: 773.538.0252 Head Start Director Name: Lakisha Moore Head Start Director Email: Lakisham@cnh.org Agency Web Site Address: www.cnh.org Agency Type: Social Service Agency / Non-Profit

Agency Description:

Centers for New Horizons exists to serve and partner with community residents in an effort to bring about positive changes. Centers envisions that through focus on community collaborations, a unified, well-organized community is built. Centers provides programs throughout the Bronzeville, Kenwood and Washington Park communities of Chicago's Southside. Centers for New Horizons *partners with the Ounce of Prevention Fund to provide comprehensive Early Head Start services to children* and build the communities in which they reside. The agency serves *48 Early Head Start*-eligible children through this funding. Currently, we serve over 4,000 community residents on an annual basis.

Site Locations:

Dawson Early Learning Center 3901 S. State Street Chicago, IL 60653

Community Areas Served: Grand Boulevard, Kenwood, Washington Park.

Children's Place Association – Partner Agency

Program Number: 05CH8456/01 Program Name: Arthur E. Jones Early Childhood Care and Learning Center and Home-Based Early Learning Program Address: 700 N. Sacramento, Suite 300, Chicago, IL 60612 Phone Number: 773-395-9193 Fax Number: 773-395-9193 Fax Number: 773-395-4486 Head Start Director Name: Susan Reyna Head Start Director Email: sreyna@childrens-place.org Agency Web Site Address: www.childrens-place.org Agency Type: Nonprofit. Center-based Head Start/Early Head Start, home-visiting Early Head Start

Agency Description:

The agency services *41 children in Head Start and 32 Early Head Start full day, full year services* at one site. Children's Place Association provides comprehensive support services to children and families affected by illness and poverty. Programs include 24-hour nursing for medically complex children, mental health counseling, case management, summer camp, foster care and adoption, emergency assistance, supportive family housing and early education services that include a Home-Based program and the Arthur E. Jones Early Childhood Care and Learning Center. The Home-Based program serves *60 children* at one site.

Site Location:

Family Center	Home Visiting Program
1800 N. Humboldt Blvd.	3543 West Chicago Ave
Chicago, IL 60647	Chicago, Il 60651

Community Areas Served: Hermosa, Humboldt Park, Logan Square and West Town.

SGA Youth and Family Services – Partner Agency

Program Name: SGA Youth and Family Services Address: 3152 W. 47th St., Chicago, IL 60632 Phone Number: 773-321-9232 Fax Number: 773-475-7464 Head Start Director Name: Betty Diaz Head Start Director Email: <u>Bdiaz@sga-youth.org</u> Agency Web Site Address: www.sga-youth.org Agency Type: Non-for-profit, 501c3

Agency Description:

SGA Youth and Family Services is where adversity meets opportunity. With a mission concentrated on helping children, families, and communities who are facing great challenges realize their potential, SGA continues to build on its 106 year history of serving with respect, integrity and accountability. SGA strives to achieve this mission by generating a continuum of service delivery options from cradle to career that cater to the unique circumstances and goals of the client and community. With 98% of its current clientele designated as low socioeconomic status, SGA provides cost-free services for the most vulnerable citizens in some of the most challenged communities in the city of Chicago.

Site Locations

Brighton Park 3152 West 47th Street Chicago, IL 60632

Community Areas Served: Brighton Park, McKinley Park, and New City

First Step Child Care Center – Partner Agency

Program Name: First Step Child Care Center, Inc. Address: 22025 Governors Highway Richton Park, IL 60471 Phone Number: (708) 747-3000 Fax Number: (708) 747-5000 Head Start Director Name: Laura Foster Head Start Director Email: <u>lfoster22025@att.net</u> Agency Web Site Address: firststepofrichtonpark.com Agency Type: For-Profit

Agency Description:

First Step Child Care Center is a for-profit center that provides a program which involves the development of the whole child through carefully designed experiences that tap into the child's natural curiosity and developmental readiness.

Since 1999, First Step Child Care Center in Richton Park, IL has been providing an environment that is safe and nurturing to the children in its care from ages 6 weeks right up to 6 years. At First Step Child Care Center, each child's learning experience reflects the results of rigorous research in child development as well as an awareness of what constitutes best practices in early childhood education. All children are eligible to apply if they are enrolled in the daycare center.

In April 2015, First Step added a federally-funded Head Start program for 14 preschool children; by the end of the year this program expanded to include 33 children! Head Start advances the principles that First Step holds dear and provides a framework for supporting the wellbeing of the whole family.

Community Areas Served: Crete, Park Forest, Richton Park, Riverdale, Steger, University Park The Beacon Hill area of Chicago Heights

Casa Central – Delegate Agency

Program Number: 05CH6100-007 Program Name: Casa Central – Early Learning Academy Address: 1343 North California Avenue, Chicago, IL 60622 Phone Number: 773.645.2300 Fax Number: 773.645.1432 Head Start Director Name: Mary Reynolds, LCSW, I/ECMH-C Head Start Director Email: <u>mreynolds@casacentral.org</u> Agency Web Site Address: http://www.casacentral.org Agency Type: Social Service Agency / Non–Profit (Non-CAA)

Agency Description:

Since 1954, Casa Central has been transforming lives and strengthening communities with a special focus on Hispanics. Our network of social services propels a diverse population of all ages toward self-sufficiency and a higher quality of life. The agency's Early Learning Academy provides Head Start and Early Head Start services to children, age birth to five, and their families. The program serves 181 Head Start and 72 Early Head Start children and their families in both home- and center-based settings, and specializes in preparing children for entry into kindergarten or Head Start with an emphasis on social-emotional development, literacy enhancement and math comprehension.

Center-Based Early Head Start & Head Start

The Center-Based Early Head Start and Head Start program option, which includes Child Care collaboration, provides full-day early learning services in six classroom settings for children ages two to five. Three of the six Head Start/Child Care classrooms also hold a partnership with the Chicago Public Schools Preschool for All program, which supports the program in having certified teachers (Type 04) in each of those three classrooms.

Home-Based Early Head Start & Head Start

The Home-Based Early Head Start and Head Start program serves hard-to-reach populations (including teen parents and immigrant families) within the comfort of each family's home. The Home-Based program uses the research-based Creative Curriculum Learning Games (in Head Start) and Parents as Teachers Curriculum (in Early Head Start), as well as the Teaching Strategies GOLD developmental assessment tools. In the Home-Based program option, families are assigned to a Parent Educator, each of whom has a caseload of 12 families; the program is also overseen by a Site Director and an Education Coordinator.

Site Locations:

Early Learning Academy – Center-Based 1343 North California Avenue Chicago, IL 60622 Early Learning Academy – Home-Based 1335 North California Avenue Chicago, IL 60622

Community Areas Served: Hermosa, Humboldt Park, Logan Square, West Town.

Children's Home + Aid - Delegate Agency

Program Name: Children's Home + Aid Program Number: 05CH6100-006 Address: 125 S. Wacker Dr., 14th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606 Phone Number: (312) 424-0200 Fax Number: (312) 424-6884 Head Start Director Name: Dawnielle Jeffrey Head Start Director Email: Djeffrey@childrenshomeandaid.org Agency Website Address: www.childrenshomeandaid.org Agency Type: Non-Profit

Agency Description:

The early years of a child's life sets the stage for a lifetime of learning. All healthy children are born with the capacity to learn. However, beginning at about 3 years of age, children from high-risk environments (defined by poverty, young parental age, single parents, and low maternal education) begin to show significant deficits. If these deficits are not addressed, the majority of these at-risk children will face a lifetime of obstacles. At-risk children who have access to quality early childhood education are more likely to perform better in school, have higher IQs, graduate from high school, be employed, earn more, and commit fewer crimes than those who did not.

Children involved in a Head Start program have been shown to perform better on health, cognitive, and language measures when compared to their 3- to 5-year-old counterparts who do not participate in a Head Start program. Similarly, children who are enrolled in an Early Head Start program have been shown to demonstrate a higher level of social-emotional development when compared to their birth to three-year-old counterparts not involved in an Early Head Start program. Recognizing the need for quality education for young children, Children's Home + Aid became an Illinois leader in early childhood education services. The agency provides both Early Head Start and Head Start programming to a variety of high need populations in several Chicagoland locations including: the Mitzi Freidheim Center and Viva Child + Family Center. The Agency serves communities in the south/west region of Chicago in Englewood and West Englewood. As a Delegate of the Ounce of Prevention, Children's Home + Aid serves *102 children in Head Start Center Based at one site and 96 Head Start Home Based Children at* another site

Site Locations:

The Mitzi Freidheim Englewood Child + Family Center 1701 W. 63rd Street Chicago, IL 6636 Viva Child + Family Center 100 N. Western Ave., 2nd Floor Chicago, IL 6612

Community Areas Served: Englewood, West Englewood, Hermosa, Humboldt Park, Logan Square, West Town.

One Hope United - Delegate Agency

Program Number: 05-CH8456-002 Program Name: One Hope United Address: 514 W. 31st Street, Chicago, IL 60616 Phone Number: 312-949-4045 Fax Number: 312-949-1168 Head Start Director Name: Rosanne DeGregorio Head Start Director Email: rdegregorio@onehopeunited.org Agency Web Site Address: www.onehopeunited.org Agency Type: Private/Public Non-Profit

Agency Description:

One Hope United provides advocacy, support and comprehensive early childhood education services to vulnerable children and families through a diverse array of prevention, intervention, and community-based programs and services.

Program Philosophy:

OHU's early childhood program philosophy is grounded in the premise that parents, families and communities are the principal influences on the development of children. We know that parents and the family are the first and most important teachers of their children. We want to work together to help your child reach his or her fullest potential. All families need support, and our programs are specifically designed to help meet your needs.

The early childhood program is dedicated to helping families raise strong and healthy children. We believe that the best way to do this is to form partnerships with parents and the families of children. These partnerships are based on mutual trust, understanding, respect and common goals.

Research has shown that most of a child's potential for learning is established by age 6. During these early years, children need a stimulating environment that will enable them to build their own knowledge through many and varied opportunities to see, hear, smell, taste and feel. They need opportunities to explore and experiment, to question and guess, to fail and try again. Most importantly, children need a nurturing environment, where they can feel secure and can trust that they are loved and cared for. These objectives require teachers who are trained to be *edu-caring* professionals, to be competent in providing both education and loving *care*.

Locations/Communities Served:

Bridgeport Child Development Center 3053 S. Normal Avenue Chicago, IL 60616 Bridgeport Child Development Center II 514 W. 31st Street Chicago, IL 60616

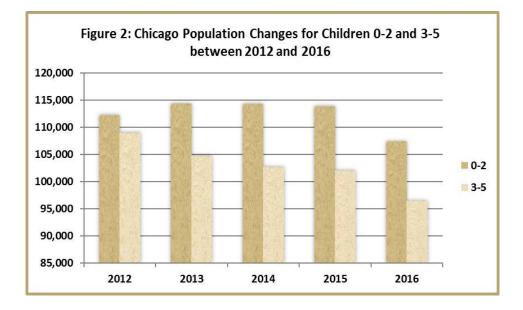
Community Areas Served: Bridgeport, and New City.

Highlights from Ounce of Prevention

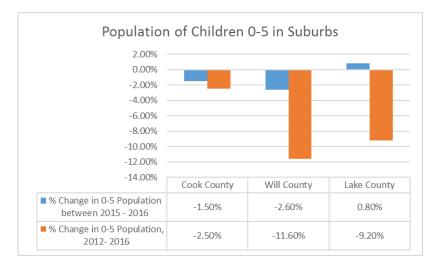
- Focus group members could identify many strengths and resources in their communities including the support and assistance received through the Early Head Start and Head Start programs in all areas:
 - o Mental health workshops and the mental health consultant
 - o Screening, navigation and support with their children with special needs
 - The education and progress of their children, assistance with their education needs and help with transition into preschool and kindergarten
 - Assistance with health care needs including finding physicians and dentists and even dental care
 - Nutrition consultant and workshops on healthy eating and nutrition
 - Referrals and information on services in the community
- Although still not plentiful, bilingual support services were greatly appreciated
- Broad insurance coverage for children
- More health resources in some communities
- Some communities have plentiful grocery stores and options for fresh food
- Some communities have a variety of social services for many different needs

Total Population and Child Population

• Chicago and Chicago community areas continue to see declines in total population and child population. The south side community areas saw the largest declines with Grand Boulevard decreasing by almost 40% between 2012 and 2016.



- In the south suburb municipalities of Cook and Will County, the child population also decreased between 2012 and 2016.
- The Lake County municipalities also saw decreases between 2012-2016, with Waukegan decreasing by 20%.



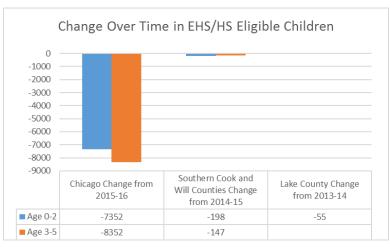
Eligible Early Head Start and Head Start Participants

Children in Poverty

- Almost all Chicago area communities saw a decrease in child poverty between 2015 and 2016. Those communities with the lowest per capita income had the highest percentages of children in poverty while those with the highest per capita income had the lowest percentages.
- Most of the municipalities in southern Cook and Will County also showed decreases in child poverty between 2015 and 2016; Richton Park increased the percent of children in poverty.
- In the Lake County municipalities, Waukegan and North Chicago saw decreases in child poverty between 2015 and 2016 and in the 5-year span between 2012 and 2016; Park City and Beach Park increased the percentage of children in poverty.

Early Head Start and Head Start Eligible Children

• As the population and child poverty decreased, so has the number of eligible infants, toddlers and preschoolers.



- Across Chicago, the eligible population of children 0-2 decreased by 7,352 infants and toddlers.
- As with Chicago, the south suburban counties also saw a decrease in the number of eligible infants and toddlers between 2014 and 2015, although the decreases were much smaller.
- The decreases in Lake County were also smaller than in Chicago, losing 55 children ages 0-2.

Language in the Communities

- Four Chicago recruitment areas ranked in the top 10 community areas with the highest percentage of households with limited English proficiency: Brighton Park (rank 4), Hermosa (rank 6), McKinley Park (rank 8) and New City (rank 9).
- Municipalities in southern Cook and Will County all had low percentages of households with limited English proficiency; Steger had the highest at 2.1%.
- In the Lake County municipalities, Waukegan had the highest percentage of households with limited English proficiency at 13% and Beach Park the lowest at 2%.

Teen Births

- Births to teens continue to decline; in 2016 the teen birth rate was 20.3 births per 1,000 teens and in 2015, the rate was 22.3 births.
- While teen births are lower, overall, regardless of economic or racial/ethnic status, they continue to be higher in areas with high concentrations of low-income and racial/ethnic minority populations.

Homelessness

- The Chicago Public Schools identified 18,117 homeless students in the 2016-2017 school year.
 - Almost 86% of the students were living doubled up, often in crowded conditions
 - Homeless students were 97.8% children of color, primarily Black

Needs of Children and Families

Needs Identified by Focus Groups

- Focus group members identified several needs in their communities for families and children including
 - Bilingual services in all areas mental health, disabilities, education, health, nutrition and social services
 - More services for low-income and uninsured families in all areas
 - Transportation was an issue for disabilities, school, health and nutrition
 - More education on mental health and mental illness, all areas of disabilities (rights and laws, how to cope, specific disabilities their children might have), education resources, health and nutrition and what is available in their communities
 - Continued assistance in getting information and referrals, navigating systems and advocating for themselves and their children

Perinatal Health and Child Health Indicators

- Suburban Cook, Lake and Will Counties all had low birth weight and prematurity percentages lower than Chicago and the infant mortality rates were also lower than Chicago.
- Across the county, in Illinois and in Chicago area communities, the highest rates of low birth weight and infant mortality were appearing in communities populated largely by African-Americans. On a statewide basis, the infant mortality for Non-Hispanic Black infants is 3 times that of Non-Hispanic White infants and twice as high as for Hispanic infants.
- A support system shows evidence of helping Black pregnant women in particular and is used by Healthy Parents and Babies doulas who are with the mother before birth, during birth and after birth.

Social Economic Factors

- Generally, unemployment has been decreasing across the country and in the recruitment areas that the Ounce serves; almost all the recruitment areas decreased unemployment.
- The municipalities in southern Cook and Will County also decreased unemployment, however, Beacon Hill, Richton Park and Steger saw increases
- The municipalities in Waukegan Township all decreased unemployment.

Immigrant Families

• Although tension and fear have lessened somewhat, at least in the Chicago area, uncertainty remains with the current national administration continually attempting to keep immigrants out and to force many to be deported.

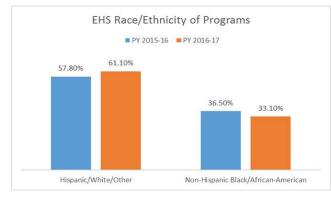
Social Service Needs

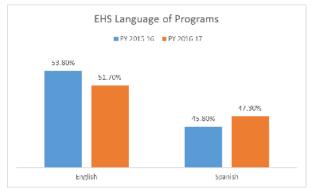
- Following perceptions and reports of increasing violence, the rate of violent crimes in almost all of the Ounce Chicago recruitment community areas increased between 2015 and 2016.
- Most Chicago communities saw increases in property crime although a few saw decreases between 2015 and 2016, and almost all areas saw decreases in property crime between 2012 and 2016.
- In the suburban municipalities, Cook and Will County saw increases in violent crime while Lake County saw a decrease. Only Cook County saw an increase in property crime; Will and Lake Counties saw decreases.
- Ounce recruitment areas had some of the highest rates of domestic violence; Fuller Park had the highest rate at 6.0% of all Chicago community areas. Englewood was also among the top five community areas of domestic violence rates and Washington Park and West Englewood also fell into the highest rate category of 4.1% to 6.0%

Children and Families in Ounce Programs

Race/Ethnicity and Language in the Programs Early Head Start

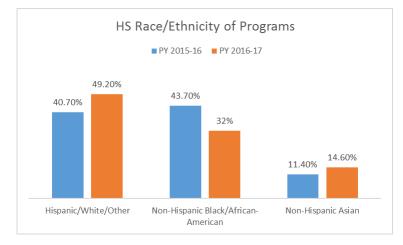
- Across all Ounce Early Head Start programs, the majority of children identified as Hispanic and racially identified as White or Other.
- The percentage of Hispanic children continued to rise with 61.1% in all Ounce Early Head Start programs for 2016-2017 compared to 57.8% in 2015-2016.
- With a higher percentage of Hispanic children in Early Head Start than last program year, the percentage of children speaking Spanish also rose and the percentage speaking English decreased.



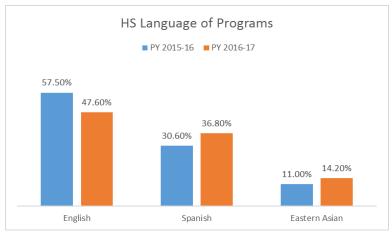


Head Start

- In program year 2015-2016 for Head Start, the highest percentage of children identified as Non-Hispanic Black followed closely by Hispanic with racial identification in Other.
- In program year 2016-2017, the highest percentage of children identified as Hispanic (with racial identities of White and Other).
- The Asian population, both racially and linguistically, continued to be a significant percentage through the programs in Bridgeport with One Hope United, which serves only Head Start.



- With the increase in Hispanic children in Head Start as well, the percent of Spanish speaking children also increased and the percentage of English speakers decreased.
- Despite the decreases in English for all programs, English remains the language with the highest percentage.
- As noted, Eastern Asian is spoken in the One Hope United programs in Bridgeport.



Work, School and Training of Parents

- The percentage of parents who are employed in Early Head Start programs has steadily increased for most programs and for all Early Head Start programs over the five year period from program year 2012-2013 to program year 2016-2017
- Head Start has also seen a steady increase in employment over the five programs years from 2012 to 2017.

- In Early Head Start, across all programs, the highest percentage of parents had a high school degree followed by having some college or an AA degree. About a quarter of all Early Head Start programs, had parents with less than a high school degree.
- In the Head Start programs, across all programs, a high school degree had the most parents, followed by less than a high school degree, then some college or AA degree.
- In Early Head Start, 24% of parents were in school; Head Start had 15% of at least one parent in school or training.
- In Early Head Start, 26 parents completed a level of schooling toward completion of the high school degree and 36 parents graduated from high school or received the GED.
- In Head Start, fewer parents completed schooling than in Early Head Start but 31 parents completed a grade level, high school or GED, an AA or BA degree or job training.

Homeless Families and Foster Care

- Head Start programs served 13 homeless families and 13 homeless children in 2016-2017; 2 families were able to find permanent housing.
- Early Head Start programs served 16 homeless families and 15 homeless children in 2016-2017; 2 families were able to find permanent housing
- In PY 2016-17, in Ounce Early Head Start programs, 14 enrolled children were in foster care; in Head Start another 14 were in foster care.

Health of Pregnant Women and Children in the Programs

- Over five years from 2012-2017:
 - Healthy Parents and Babies have ensured that all or almost all pregnant women participants have health insurance and have increased the number of women enrolled during the second trimester and decreased enrollment in the third trimester.
 - Early Head Start programs in Chicago and South Suburbs ensured children had health insurance and had a medical home; improved on immunizations, up to date physicals and having a dental home.
 - Head Start programs ensured that almost all children had health insurance, had a medical and dental home and immunizations steadily improved.
- In 2016-2017, Ounce Early Head Start programs (including Waukegan) had better health indicators than Illinois and were close to national percentages
- In Head Start, the Ounce has been consistently higher than both the Illinois and national average in serving children with asthma. For the last two years, Ounce Head Start programs were twice the average of Illinois; Ounce Early Head Start programs have been the same as the Illinois and national averages.

Dental Health

• Ounce Early Head Start programs had higher percentages of children receiving up to date oral health exams than Illinois and higher than national programs for dental exams in Head Start.

Social-Emotional Health

- In 2016-2017, at Ounce programs, 25 children were discussed with the mental health consultant in Early Head Start and 30 were discussed in Head Start.
- Thirty-five families needed mental health services and 35 families received mental health services.

Nutrition

- 12% of the Ounce's Head Start children were overweight and 13.7% were obese, a reduction from 2015-2016 with 13.3% overweight and 15.3% were obese
- Most programs decreased the obesity percentage over program year 2015-2016
- Ounce programs had fewer underweight, healthier weight children and fewer overweight and obese children than either Illinois or national.

Family Services Received from Programs

- Healthy Parents & Babies provided prenatal health to all the pregnant women they served and substance abuse prevention, fetal development, and benefits of breastfeeding to 84% and over to the pregnant women; 80% were provided postpartum health care.
- Overall, for all Early Head Start totals, parenting education followed by health education were the most frequently provided service. All other services were provided at 14% or less and reflect the myriad of services parents need.
- Head Start programs provided parenting education services at the highest rate with health education as the second highest followed by emergency/crisis services.

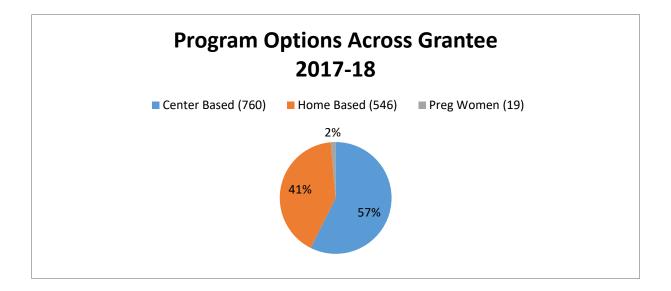
The data from these highlights was pulled from the Ounce's Grantee-Wide Community Assessment Report, July 2018 and the Ounce's One Hope United Waukegan Community Assessment Report, July 2018. See the full report for sources.

Overall Grantee Budget 2018

2018 Budget and Actual Expenditures

Children and Families Served 2018

Head Start funded Enrollment	Head Start Number of Children Served	Early Head Start funded Enrollment	Early Head Start Number of Children
			Served
776	963	479	575



Program Information Report

PIR Item	Head Start	Early Head Start
Complete & Up to date physical exam	79%	71%
Receive medical treatment	100%	100%
EHS up to date oral health	N/A	77%
Medical Home at the end of enrollment	99%	98%
Children receiving IEP/IFSP services	96%	97%
Families received service/referral	98%	97%

Parental involvement in Directly Operated, Delegate and Partner Agencies -

Health

- Health Education training infant/toddler immunization
- Oral Health
- Health Advisory Committee meetings
- Pedestrian Safety
- Emergency Preparedness Training
- Picky Eaters and Childhood Obesity
- Child Health, Choking and Basic First Aid
- Why Dental Treatment is Important
- Keeping snacks fun, healthy and economical

Mental Health

- Individual Mental Health Sessions
- ASQ and ASQ-SE developmental Screening
- Child Abuse and Neglect Training
- Socialization Observation
- Child Trauma
- Meet the Mental Health Consultant

Education and Literacy

- Parent as Teachers
- Socializations
- Language, Literacy and Your Child
- Family Literacy Night
- Reading Day
- Curriculum Night/Open House

Male Involvement

- The Special men in my life
- Numbers all around us
- Work Together/Play Together

Other Community-related Education

- Community Partnership Brunch
- Health Services Advisory Committee Meetings
- Back to School Education and Health Fairs

Parent Committee Meetings

- Monthly Parent Committee Meetings took place at each center
- Parents reviewed menus, discussed child outcomes, reviewed self-assessment results and Quality improvement plan, provided input for program activities and participated in workshops to enhance their parenting skills and understanding of child development.

Other special gatherings or activities

- Fall Harvest
- Day of the Young Child
- Spring Festival
- End of the Year Celebration

Special Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten

In 2018, the grantee revised the School Readiness Goals to align with the new Head Start application process, as well as being more focused for the purposes of tracking and reporting progress. The committee met to review the current goals and suggest updates to reflect one goal per domain. There was a real effort to make sure that the updated goals incorporated the major ideas and focus of the previous goals. The Education Manager reviewed the updated goals to ensure that they were aligned with the HSELOF, Illinois Early Learning Guidelines and Standards, Common Core, Teaching Strategies GOLD and Parents as Teachers curriculum.

All goals are culturally sensitive and address the varying developmental needs of children. The grantee will continue to aggregate child assessment data three times a year, analyze the data, and share the information from the data with parents and community members. The grantee will continue to track and analyze progress towards meeting these goals.

Summary of Annual Review Findings

There was no Annual Federal Review for the Ounce of Prevention Fund's Early/Head Start program during 2018.

Summary of Audit Findings

Summary of Information Required by the Secretary

The Ounce Board of Directors and Policy Council were given brief summaries and links to all Program Instructions and Information Memorandums.