

*Economic Opportunity
Foundation, Inc.*

Annual Report

April 2009—September 2010

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Kansas City, Kansas 66102
913-371-7800
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Website—eofkck.org



*A Community Action Agency serving
Wyandotte County, Kansas low-income residents
For*

45 Years

Economic Opportunity Foundation, Inc.

Economic Opportunity Foundation, Inc. (EOF) is the Community Action Agency (CAA) in Wyandotte County, Kansas. It is one of approximately 1,000 CAAs nationwide and EOF is one of eight in the state of Kansas. EOF was established in 1965 as a result of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and is organized as a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation.

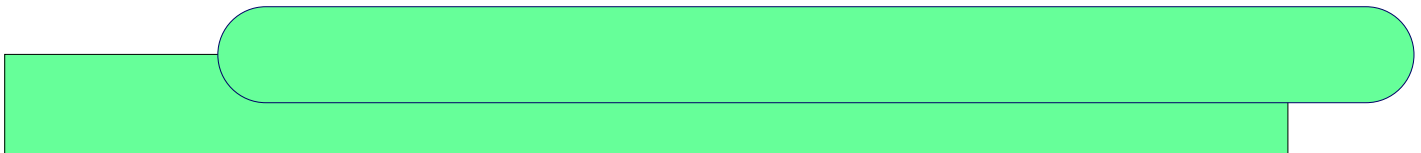
The purpose of EOF is to assist low-income persons in Wyandotte County, Kansas to become self-sufficient by mobilizing human and financial resources to combat poverty. The agency has been living up to its motto of “Helping People to Help Themselves” for the past 45 years through the Community Services programs and the Head Start program.

The Community Services component was reorganized in 1981 when the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act replaced the Economic Opportunity Act. This legislation dismantled federal programs and created block grants, including the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from which EOF receives funding. The stated purpose of CSBG is to alleviate the causes of poverty through the support of such services as employment, housing, emergency assistance, nutrition and through the encouragement and coordination of other resources in the community.

The Head Start component was launched in 1965 and is designed to provide preschool children of low-income families with a comprehensive program to meet their emotional, social, health, nutritional, and psychological needs. Head Start is dedicated to providing quality early childhood education and care services for children who otherwise might not receive a quality preschool experience and a true “head start” into school.



We Continue To Grow!



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOUNDATION, INC.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

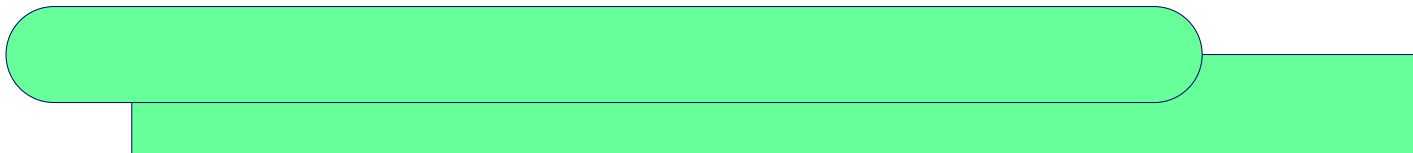
The Board of Trustees is comprised of twelve members who represent three sectors. Representatives of the low-income sector are elected from each of the agency’s target area. Representatives of the public sector are either the elected official or their designee. Representatives of the private sector are chosen by the organization. Officers are elected bi-annually by members of the Board.

There are four Standing Committees of the Board: Budget and Finance, Bylaws, Community Support and Fundraising. Committees meet regularly to discuss specific matters and make recommendations to the full Board.

The Board of Trustees of the Economic Opportunity Foundation, Inc. meets on the fourth Monday of each month except in the month of September to direct policy decisions for the agency and to discuss issues that affect programs and program operations. Meetings are publicly announced and are open to the public.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

	<p>Douglas Spangler <i>President</i> <i>Executive Chairperson</i> Low-Income Western Wyandotte</p>	
<p>John O. Yunghans Vice President UAW</p>	<p>Scott Mackey <i>Secretary</i> Public for KCK Community College</p>	<p>Winfred Manning <i>Treasurer</i> <i>Budget & Finance Chairperson</i> Private for Labor Council</p>
<p>Jacquelyn Anderson Low-Income for Northeast Area</p>	<p>George Breidenthal <i>Community Support Committee</i> <i>Chairperson</i> Public for KCK Board of Education</p>	<p>John Feedback <i>Bylaws Committee Chairperson</i> Public for Unified Government</p>
<p>Broderick Henderson Public for State Legislature</p>	<p>Clyde Townsend Private for Friends of Yates</p>	<p>Daisy Walker Low-Income for Bethel-Riverview Area</p>
<p>Judith Waller Low-Income for Total Action</p>	<p>Dana Ward Policy Council Representative</p>	<p>Regina Barger Parliamentarian</p>



Fiscal Overview

With total funding for the 2009-2010 period of \$9,847,442, the Economic Opportunity Foundation continued to fulfill its mission “to mobilize necessary resources” and provide a range of needed social services to low income persons in Wyandotte County, KS. The agency’s fiscal staff is charged with the responsibility of accounting for and reporting on those mobilized resources to ensure that they are managed in accordance with the terms, conditions, regulatory standards and wishes of the funding sources (Government Agencies, Private Individuals and Organizations) that provide the resources.

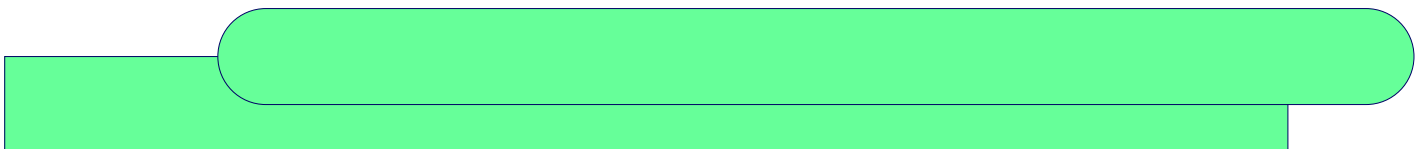
As a result of the cooperative efforts of the fiscal department staff, the agency’s Directors, Managers and Program Staff, we are pleased to report that our independent auditors, McBride, Lock & Associates of Kansas City have examined the financial and accounting records of EOF, Inc., in accordance with Government Auditing Standards for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010 and have issued an unqualified opinion and report.

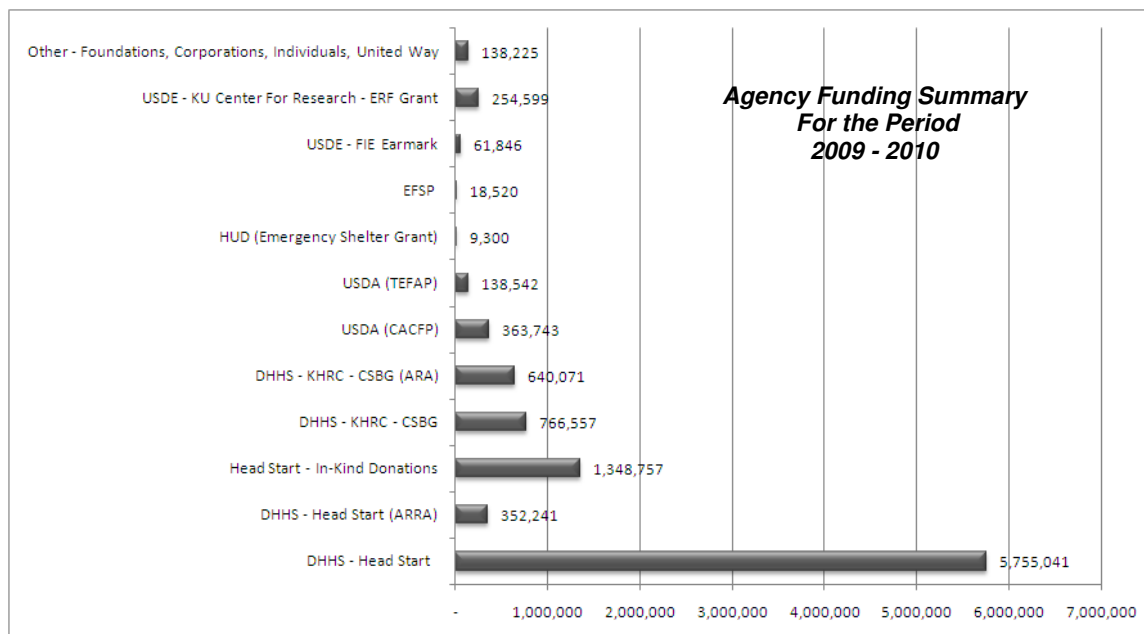
In late spring of 2009, the agency received two grants funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Kansas Housing Resources Corporation through its Community Services Block Grant Program awarded the agency a grant of \$1,240,237 for job creation, retention, community needs such as increased coverage of emergency assistance for low-income residents of Wyandotte County, and agency needs for capacity building. The agency deployed approximately 52% of the KHRC-awarded stimulus funds by the end of the fiscal year; and was on schedule to fully deploy the remaining funds by the end of September 2010.

The KHRC-awarded stimulus grant made it possible to increase the capacity of the agency’s administrative and fiscal activities through the addition of a Budget Analyst, IT Systems Administrator, Planner/Grant Writer and Administrative Assistant.

The Department of Health & Human Services, through its Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start awarded the agency’s Head Start Program a stimulus grant of \$427,259 for job creation, job retention and capacity building for period June 2009 through May 2010. By the end of the fiscal year, the EOF Head Start Program had deployed 82% of the DHHS/ACF/OHS stimulus funds; and, was on track to fully expend the award by the end of May 2010.

SUPPORT & REVENUES. The agency’s primary sources of funding are direct and pass-through federal grants and donated goods and services. The Community Services Block Grant program, funded by a Department of Health & Human Services grant passed-through the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, comprised about 9% of the agency’s primary operational funding. This enabling grant is the “Foundation” upon which the agency builds its programs to provide social services to low-income persons living in Wyandotte County through a wide variety of rent, utility, and food assistance programs.

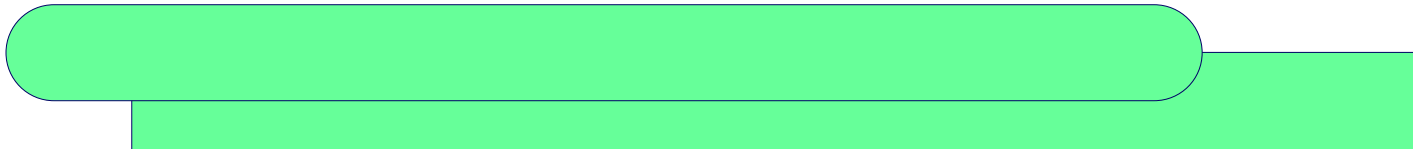


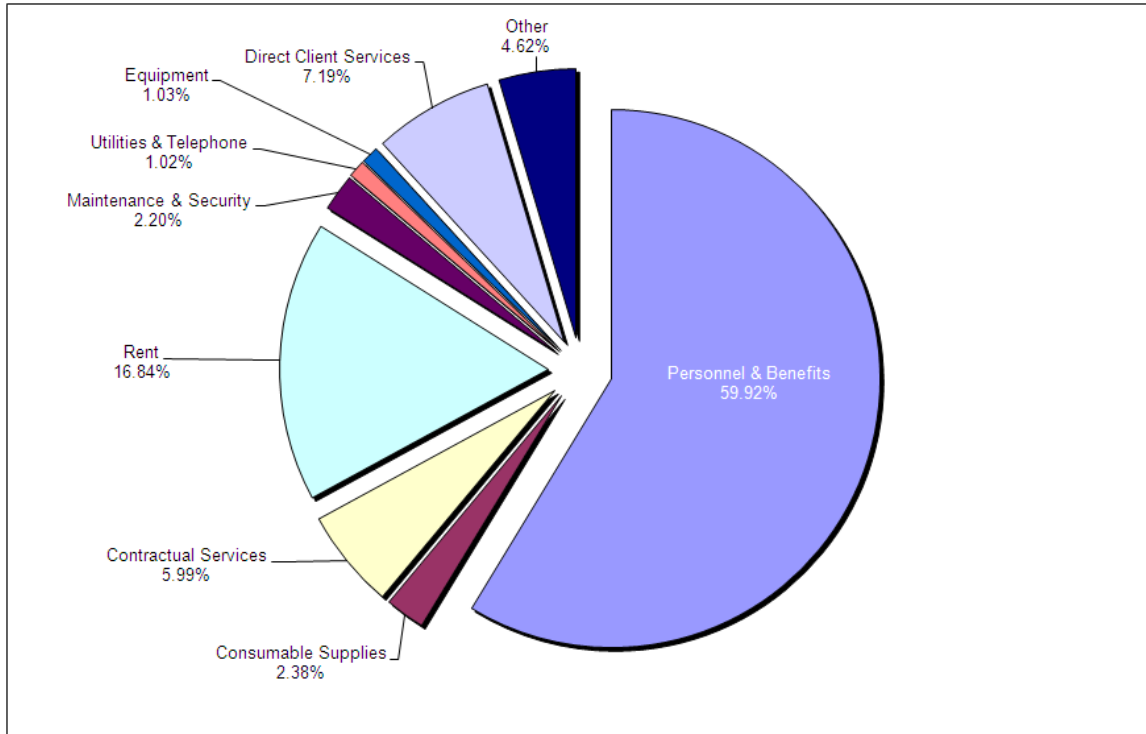


The agency's Head Start program which directly serves 810 children and their families, and indirectly serves 68 children and their families through a delegate agency program in Bonner Springs, KS continues as the agency's largest program operating unit. Along with the Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) funded by the USDA through the Kansas Department of Education, the Early Reading First program funded by the U.S. Department of Education through various departments of the University of Kansas and the Kansas City Kansas Unified School District 500, the agency's Head Start and related programs represented \$6.8M or about 80% of Total Support & Revenues.

In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010, the EOF Head Start Program developed and operated the "Computer Education 2010" program for young children through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education under an earmark enabled by Kansas Senator Pat Roberts. The \$95,000 grant funded the purchase of laptop computers used in the classrooms and paid the costs of the specially trained teachers who worked in the classrooms with the children. The agency deployed approximately 65% of the award through March 31, 2010 and was on track to fully expend the award by the end of August 2010.

OPERATING COSTS. For the 2009-2010 operating period, the agency incurred operating costs inclusive of in-kind rental and volunteer costs of approximately \$9,633,654; an increase of about 20% versus the previous year's operating period. The increased costs are a direct result of activities funded by the grants awarded under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009. The following chart highlights the distribution percentage of the agency's operating costs by functional category for the operating period. Personnel and Benefits costs comprised the largest percentage of total operating costs at 59.9% as demonstrated in the chart.



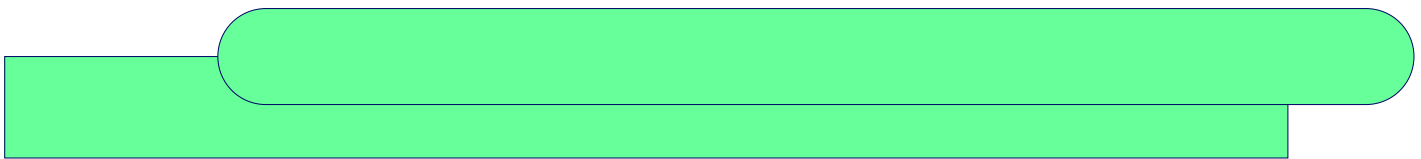


We are very pleased to report that our agency’s administrative costs of \$626,444 continued to be well contained and managed at approximately 6.5% of total expenses including contributed costs; and 7.6% of total expenses excluding contributed (In-kind goods & services) costs. This is especially noteworthy because the fiscal year was marked by increases in operating costs across many of the basic goods and services purchased by the agency, as well as by the surge in stimulus funding.

We acknowledge and thank the following dedicated fiscal staff at EOF.

- Michael Dulle, Accounting Assistant*
- Robert Grissom, Budget Analyst*
- Parker Byron, IT Systems Administrator*
- Edna Ford, Purchasing & Facility Specialist*
- Jacqueline Johnson, Senior Fiscal Analyst*

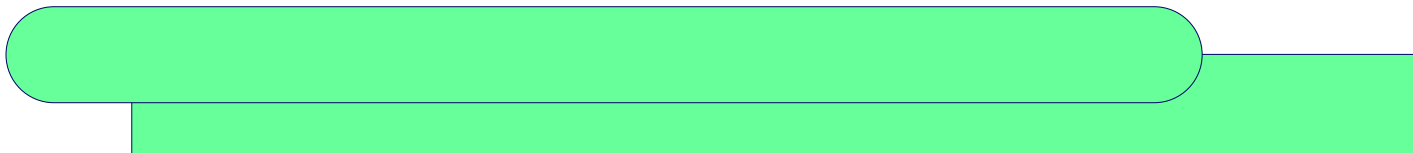
For more information, or to request a copy of the agency’s latest Form 990 and Independent Auditor’s Report, please contact Greg Bride, Fiscal Director at (913) 371-7800 Ext. 218 or email gbride@eofkck.org; or visit the agency’s web site - EOFKCK.ORG.



***Administrative &
Human Resource
Services***

With more than 160 employees, EOF has a corps of dedicated individuals that help the agency achieve its mission. Not all of them, however, directly serve clients. Many provide necessary support functions that make our programs successful. These include – payroll, financial transactions, procuring goods and services, accounting for agency property, reporting to our many generous funding sources and providing information to the public and other community organizations. Each of these individuals has a valuable role and they recognize that their professionalism is also important to help individuals and families move toward self-sufficiency.

Human Resources primarily coordinate recruitment and selection of qualified individuals to fill agency job vacancies. Additionally, Human Resources is responsible for employee benefit programs, workers' compensation, training and working with legal representatives to ensure the agency is operating under updated human resources laws. The staff has the responsibility for updating the agency's employee policy and safety manuals, job descriptions and developing staff training as identified by management. Human Resources avails itself to all employees in an effort to address individual needs and to be responsive to inquiries for services and employment matters.





The Economic Opportunity Foundation, Inc. (EOF) Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Social Services Component provides programs and services designed to address the immediate and longer term needs of low-income families and individuals in Wyandotte County. Persons who received services were 18 years of age or older and within 125% of the Federal Poverty Income Poverty Guidelines. From July 2009 through September 2010, the Income Guidelines were temporarily increased to 200% of the Federal Income Poverty Guidelines as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. ARRA, more commonly known as the Stimulus or Recovery Act was an economic stimulus package designed in part to aid the low-income and unemployed; to preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery; and to assist those most impacted by the recession. In all the Social Services Component provided two thousand and fifty-eight (2,058) services benefitting/impacting five thousand nine hundred and fifty-nine (5,959) individuals.

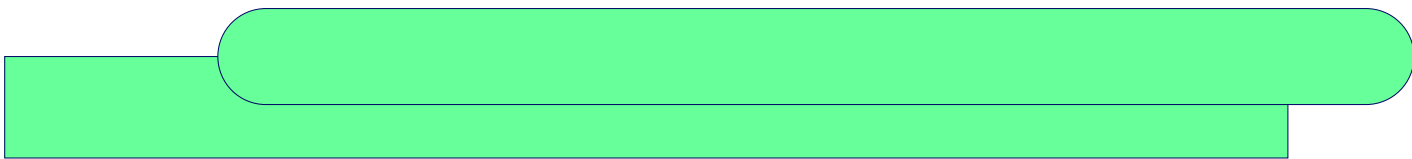
The **Social Services Component** assisted eligible families/individuals in the areas of employment/job development; housing services/assistance; self/sufficiency/case management and emergency assistance.

The **Employment Services Program** provided drug screenings, pre-employment skills training, job placement and monitoring, and limited transportation (including gas cards and bus passes).

The **Housing Services Program** provides rent/mortgage payments to prevent eviction/foreclosure, housing counseling which includes landlord/ tenant rights and responsibilities, mortgage default (foreclosure options), rent/mortgage mediation and advocacy.

The **Self-Sufficiency/Case Management Programs** provided intensive and holistic services to families designed to enable them to become more economically independent/move towards self-sufficiency.

Emergency Services –gas/electric bill payments to prevent termination of/or to restore services and emergency food assistance (food vouchers/food pantry). Non-emergency food assistance (commodity distribution) was also provided.



SERVICES PROVIDED STATISTICS:



Employment Services Program:

Three hundred and sixty-five (365) individuals enrolled in the Employment Services Program. One hundred and four (104) individuals were placed on jobs.

Housing Services Program:

Three hundred and ninety-two (392) households (families/individuals) received assistance with their delinquent rent or mortgage payment.

Self-Sufficiency/Case Management:

Twenty-four (24) families enrolled in the Self-Sufficiency/Case Management Program received the tools and supports necessary to become more economically stable.

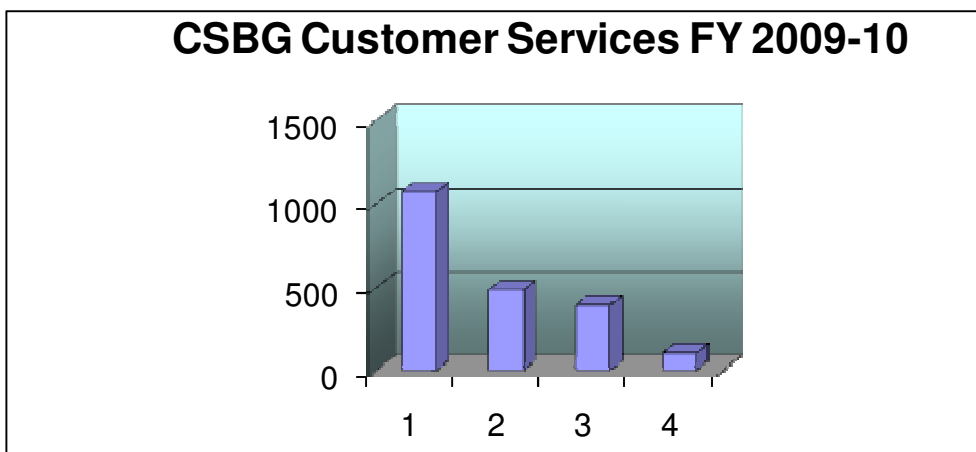
Emergency Services:

Approximately one thousand and seventy-six (1,076) households (families/individuals) received assistance with their energy bill in order to keep their services from being disconnected and/or to restore services.

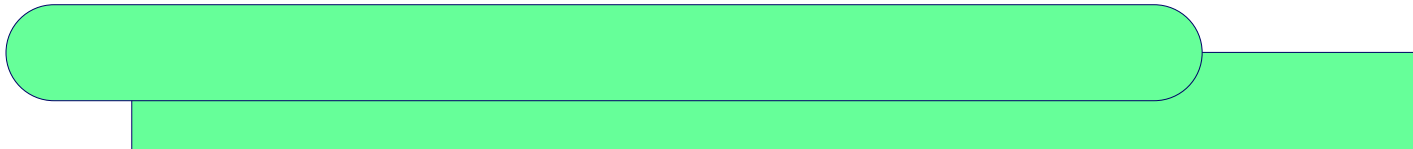
More than four-hundred and eighty-six (486) households (families/individuals) received food assistance (food vouchers, canned and staple goods, commodities).

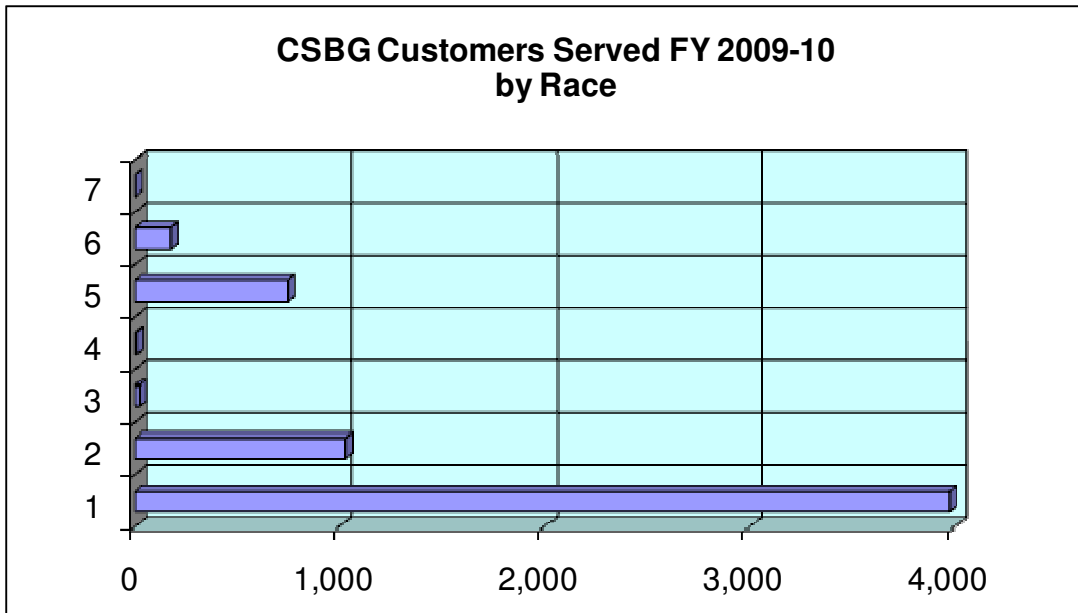
ARRA:

ARRA funds were used to create jobs, enhance existing programs and services and to operate a Self-Sufficiency Program.

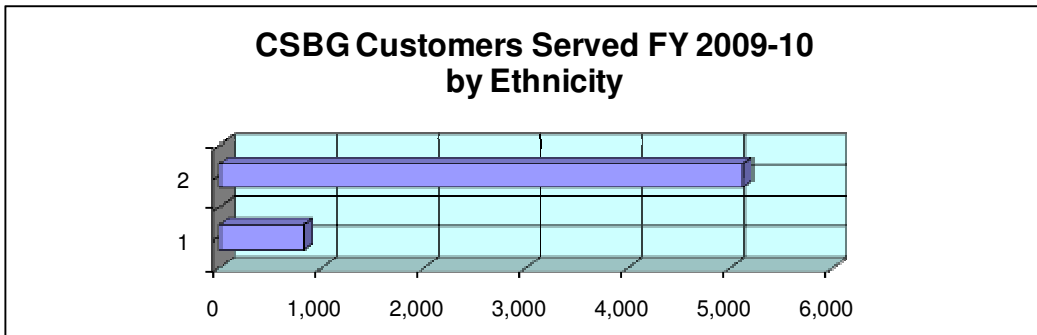


1	Energy Assistance	1076	52.29%
2	Nutrition Assistance	486	23.61%
3	Rent/Mortgage Payments	392	19.03%
4	Employment Assistance	104	5.07%
TOTAL		2058	100.00%

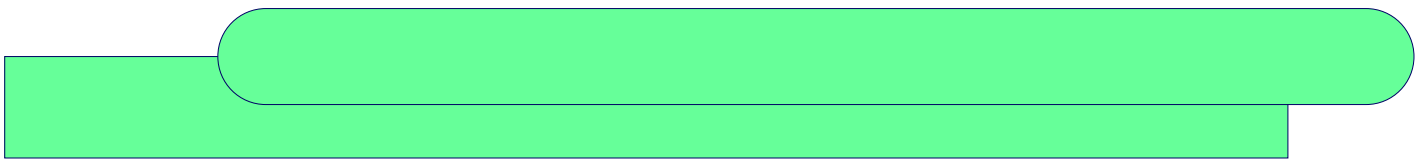


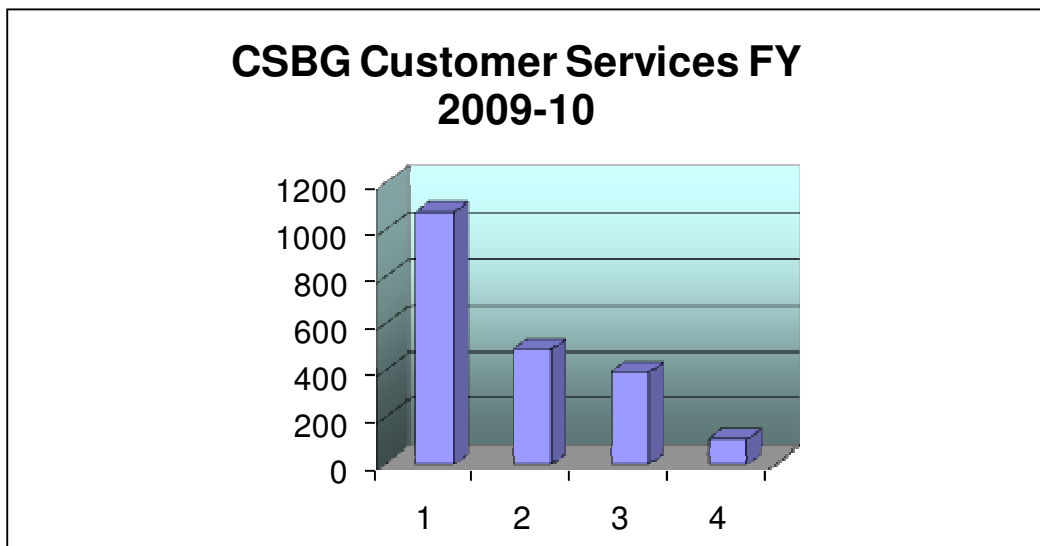


1	Black	3,974	66.69%
2	White	1,032	17.32%
3	Asian	23	0.38%
4	Native American	7	0.12%
5	Other (single race)	748	12.55%
6	Multi-Racial (2 or more)	174	2.92%
7	Native Hawaiian	1	0.02%
		5,959	100.00%

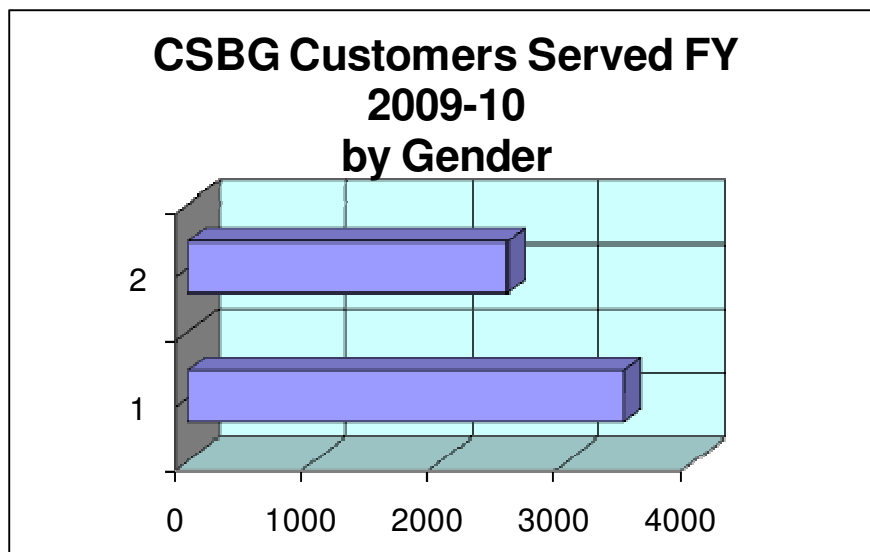


1	Hispanic or Latino	832	13.96%
2	Non-Hispanic or Latino	5,127	86.04%
	TOTAL	5,959	100.00%

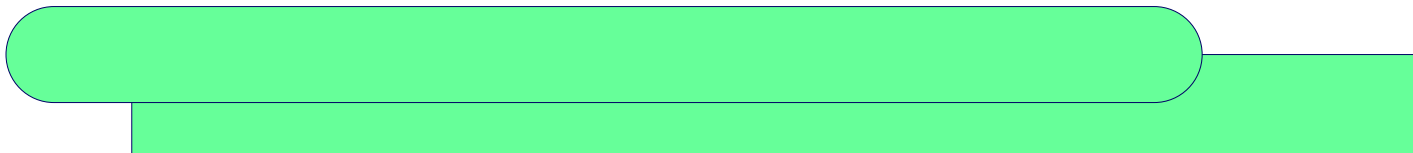


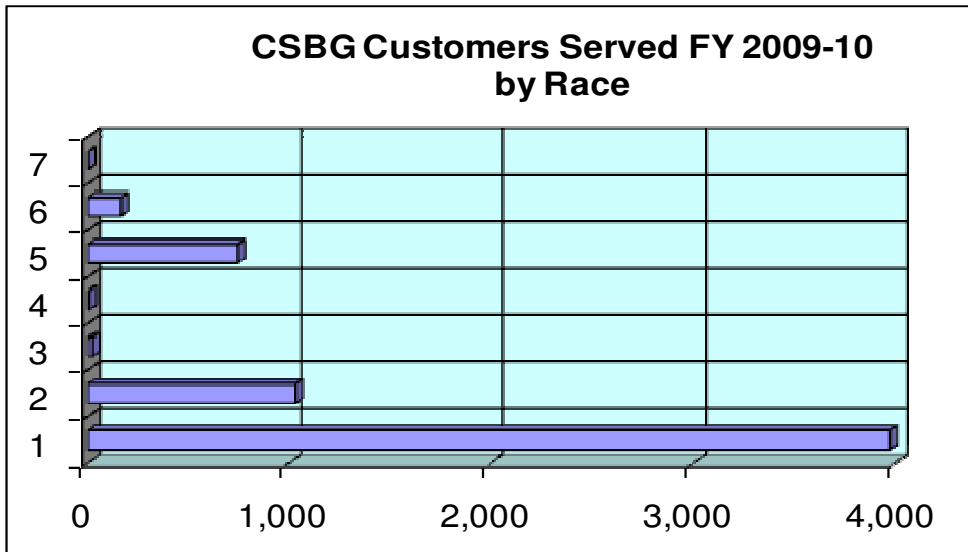


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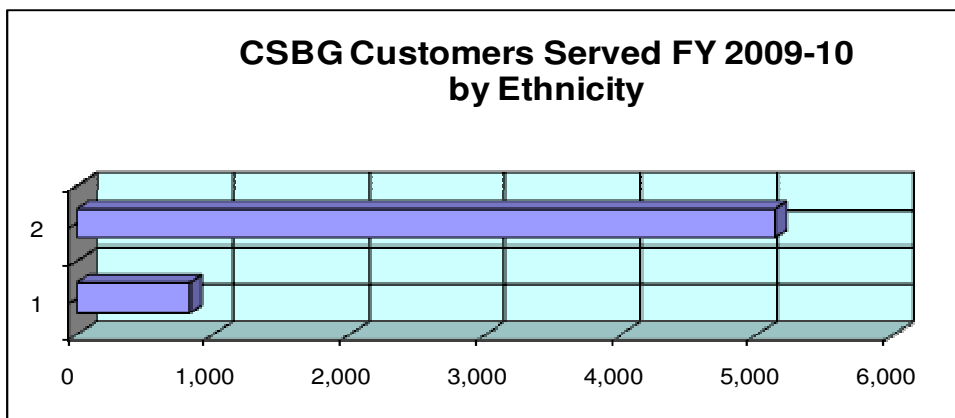


1	Female	3439	57.71%
2	Male	2,520	42.29%
	TOTAL	5959	100.00%

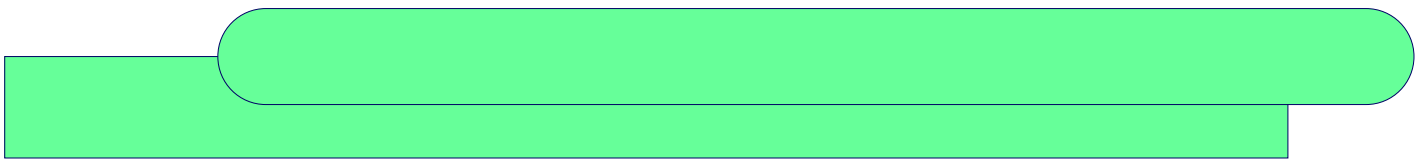




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EOF Head Start began the 2010-2011 school year on August 23, 2010. Our goals for this year are working towards all teaching staff meeting the 2013 deadline of having a degree and that all Management and Family Service staff holds a degree or a credential. Another goal is for staff to recruit more 4 year-olds, and increase the skill level of each child to be ready for kindergarten. We started the year with funded enrollment of 878 children including the 68 children from our delegate program, Bonner Springs.

Training

This year we received a \$1 million dollar grant from the Robert Woods-Johnson Foundation through Crittenton Center to continue to train staff in the area of children with trauma. Through this grant, staff will continue to receive training through the mentor program and new staff will receive the initial trauma training. The grant also allowed them to hire additional staff to be able to support teachers in the classroom.

Although the requirements for childcare licensing remain the same, Head Start now requires 15 clock hours per year per staff working in the classroom. Every effort has been made to assure that staff receives those training hours during pre-service and within the first two months of the school year. The program also provides two full days of training, one during the month of October and the other in February. Monthly trainings are also provided per component area.

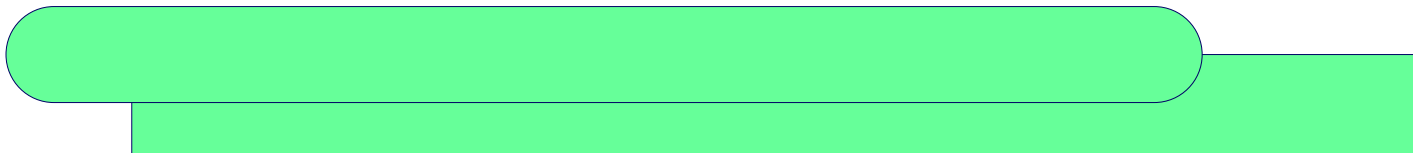
Parents are provided training during the monthly center parent meeting. EOF Head Start staff provides training in the areas of health, safety, pedestrian safety, budgeting and other areas of interest as requested by parents. Parents are always welcome to attend any training offered by EOF Head Start. EOF Head Start had three parents this year complete the childcare substitution program at Kansas City, Kansas Community College.

Partnerships

Our partnerships with our four collaborative sites, St. Benedicts, Salvation Army, Uncle Sam's and El Centro continue to strive on a positive manner. We have engaged in a new partnership with Project Eagle through the Children's Campus. We provide 34 children in a shared four-classroom setting that creates an environment of 2 ½ to 4 year olds in a classroom to create a new model. The idea is to enhance the learning of the 2 ½ year olds by having 4 year olds as the role model.

CELL Grant

This is our third year cycle of the CELL grant with School District 500. The CELL grant provides many opportunities in staff development for our staff to learn new ideas and techniques on developing children's literacy skills. The CELL grant provides materials, supplies and equipment as needed to reinforce the concept of the grant. The Trinity location is the only site that the CELL grant is offered. The children participating in the CELL grant in past years have shown significant gains in the area of literacy. The recent test results for children at mid-year this cycle has also shown moderate gains.



Facilities Management

This year has been a very challenging year for our facilities. The Bryant Center has required several major repairs. A new roof, a new 20 foot plumbing line beneath the second floor, replacement of four boiler units, new exit and basement doors, two new classroom floors, the driveway and stairs to the front of the building and loading dock gates. Plans are being made to install new blinds throughout the Bryant building and to caulk all of the windows to secure the heat on the inside.

Several playgrounds received surface upgrading this year: Trinity, St. Margaret's and K 1-6. The new upgrade was done with the rubberized material to create a softer surface and to create better water absorption. Grandview renovated the two restrooms downstairs to accommodate the children and two new air conditioners were installed at the Grandview site. The Grace Lutheran Center received new bathroom windows, a new toilet seat and new tile around the bottom of the toilet.

Transportation

We have reduced our transportation fleet from 17 to currently 12 buses; we sold five of our oldest buses, which created additional funds to be placed back into the budget. We anticipate of the sale of four additional buses, which will reduce the fleet to eight. Bus repairs and gas are still a major concern with our buses getting older and our gas prices increasing. To ease the stress of the transportation department two centers, Bryant and Parkwood offer no transportation and children are now transported by their parents.

Head Start Parent Communications

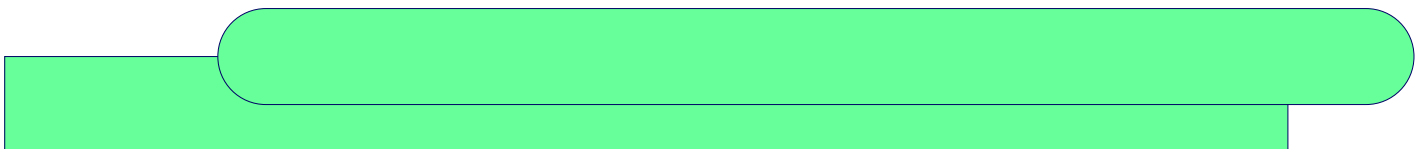
Head Start Parent Committees and the Policy Council each met once a month throughout the school year. The Parent Committees kept our families informed of activities, policy changes, and participation opportunities held by the Head Start program and other community partners. The Policy Council body is a decision-making body that votes on various issues regarding the Head Start program.

Head Start parent Newsletters are distributed on a monthly basis so that parents can be updated on center activities, parenting issues, nutrition, and family activities that will enhance their child's learning experiences.

Highlighted Activities

During the month of October, several centers took the children on fieldtrips to various pumpkin patches throughout the city, Carolyn Country Cousins, KC Pumpkin Patch, Westin Red Barn and the Kirby Pumpkin patch in Bonner Springs. All full day sites attended the circus on Friday, November 12, 2010 with tickets donated from Ararat Shrine Council. As a tradition, 250 children from the Head Start program attended "A Winter Festival" at Shawnee Mission South High School. This event was held on Thursday, December 9, 2010 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. This was an exciting time for the children as well as the students from SMS on blending the communities. Other activities in the month included a visit from Biker Santa and a distribution from Toys for Tots for the children. Each year the Head Start program receives a large donation from our vendor the Constructive Playthings Co. This vendor provides a quality toy for each of our Head Start children to take home during their winter break.

The annual program Self Assessment was conducted in April. The findings were identified and all corrective actions have been taken. The annual parent survey was distributed, collected and tallied with the results showing positive feedback from the parents about the program.



The annual work plan was reviewed by the Policy council and community members and updated to reflect the needs for this program year.

The end of the year center picnics were held by each individual center at a location of their choice. These picnics were well attended by our parents and family members.

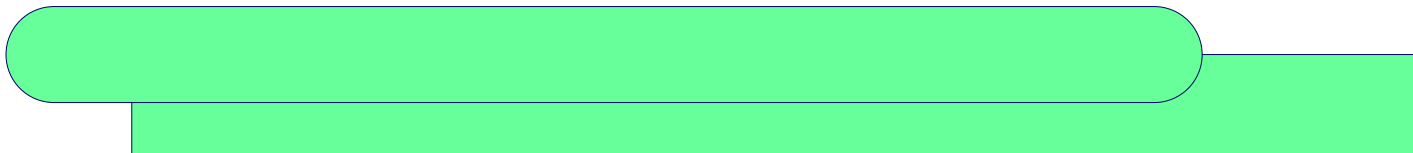
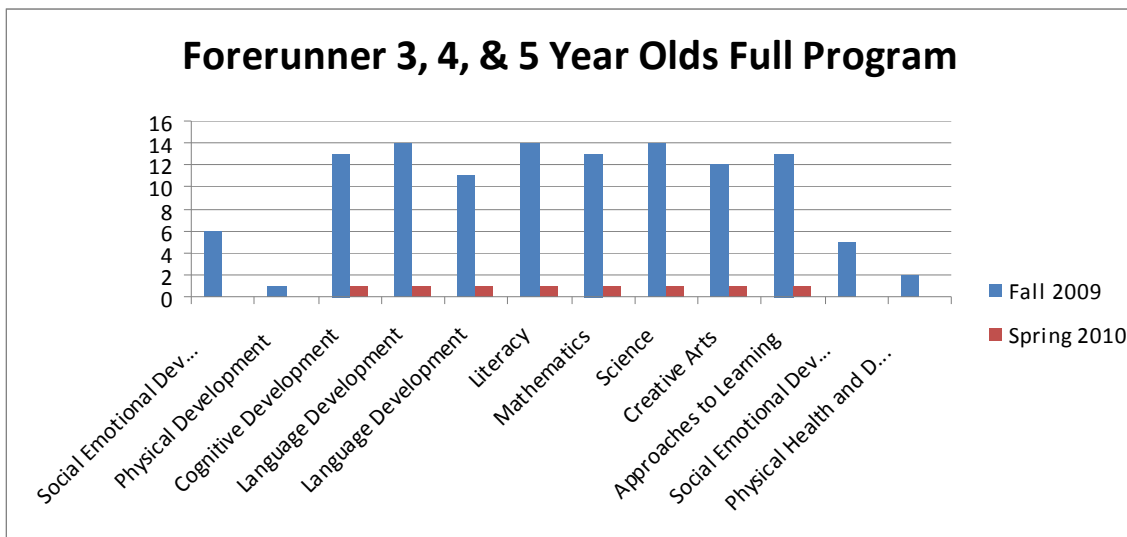
Assessment Summary:

The EOF Head Start program uses the Creative Curriculum for Preschoolers, Fourth Edition from Teaching Strategies. The teachers use the CC Port software and the Creative Curriculum Continuum to assess children’s growth in the four areas of development: Social/Emotional, Physical development, Cognitive and language.

The process involves teachers observing children during regular daily activities as they assess them on 50 objectives three times a year. The process includes the “Forerunner” level which is the beginning step and moves to the next level which are steps one (1), two (2) and three (3). This particular report will focus primarily on the forerunner and steps two and three.

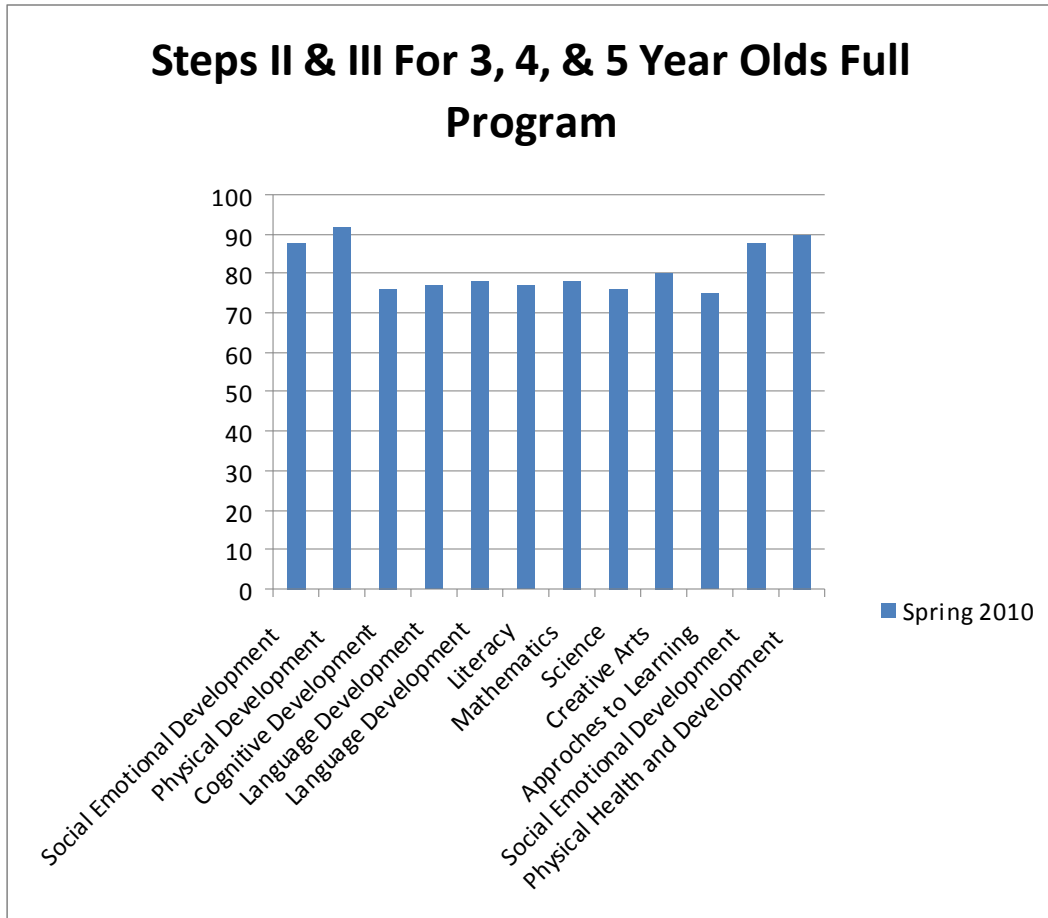
Forerunner three, four and five year olds full program

The graph shows that in the fall children ages 3, 4 and 5 years were 2% - 14% in the forerunner for social/emotional including all areas down to physical health and development. In the spring, the graph indicated no child was in the forerunner stage in the areas of social/emotional and physical development but it indicated 1% was in all of the remaining areas.



Full Program Report for three, four and five year olds for step two and three

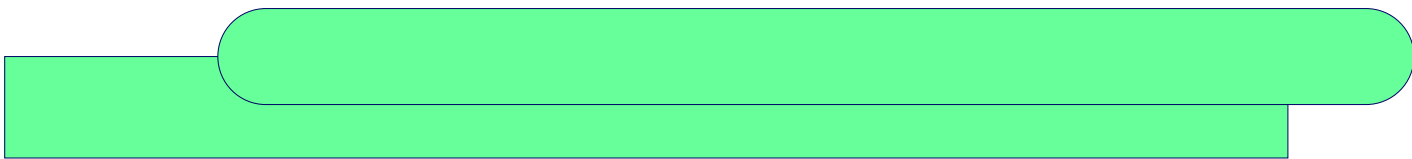
The highest gain of 80%-92% for the program was in the areas of social/emotional, physical development and creative arts. The lowest 75% was in the domain area approach to learning. Under the indicator section the highest was 84% in uses an increasingly complex and varied spoken vocabulary.



Conclusion

Progress was shown in every developmental area and each domain. The information indicated that activities provided by the teacher were appropriate, challenging and allowed children to be successful as they show progress made throughout the year.

The information also indicated that in the areas where children had low scoring, that teachers will have to make changes on existing plans or re-evaluate the way the activity is presented to accommodate the individual need of each child. The information collected helps programs in planning training for staff during the next program year. Materials and supplies or other items that may be a factor in determining support and progress in a child's work.





WE ACCEPT DONATIONS!!!!!!

We've accomplished a great deal. But so much more must be done. To continue our work, we need help—from people who care about the quality of life—people, we hope, like you who are willing to support us in our effort to assist the low-income residents of Wyandotte County move towards Self-Sufficiency. We ask you to think about it. Then think about taking your checkbook or credit card and writing us the largest check you can.

Please make checks payable to Economic Opportunity Foundation, Inc. or you may use our Website at eofkck.org. You may indicate which program you would like to support.

Thanking you in advance for your support.



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Donation \$25.00 _____ \$150.00 _____

 \$50.00 _____ \$200.00 _____

 \$75.00 _____ \$250.00 _____

Other _____

