

Bolivar County Community Action Agency, Inc.

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help encouragement
sharing support joining-in
attendance aid cooperation time interaction assistance
presence determination volunteer
concurrency hardwork charity



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We do not discriminate, regardless of race,
creed, color, sex, age, disability or national
origin.

Bolivar County Community Action Agency, Inc.



2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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Partnerships

Bolivar County Cooperative Extension Service

Bolivar County Health Department/Early Intervention

Bolivar County Schools Food Service

Cleveland Depot Library

Cleveland School District

Delta Health Center

Delta Mental Health Center

Delta State University Social Work Department

Early Intervention

Mississippi Department of Human Services

Mississippi State Department of Child Care Licensure

Mississippi Valley State University Social Work Department

North Bolivar Consolidated School District

West Bolivar Consolidated School District

Rapid Rehousing

Our Rapid Re-Housing Program (RRH) is designed to help families with children who are literally homeless. Our goal is to help them secure permanent housing, become economically and self-sufficient. Our agency is working to implement employment programs to help serve homeless individuals. Our RRH program adhere to the Housing First approach and serves seventy-one Mississippi counties. RRH partners with organizations and businesses to help our clients obtain available resources within their communities. We also assist clients with Case Management, Budgeting, Outreach, Transportation, Job Readiness, GED, and other Educational skills.

RRH served one hundred and four families in our 2018-2019 grant period. Throughout the counties in which we serve, participate in street outreach. During that time, we are able to identify homeless clients and their needs. RRH also establish relationships in the community by partnering with landlords that own properties.

Our RRH program also host a Homeless Delta Connect Project each year. Normally, we use Greenville, MS as a central avenue to help bring forth more potential clients. The purpose of the Delta Connect is to provide clients with a variety of resources that they may not know of. RRH generally conduct project around the POINT-IN-TIME in January of each year. We are always soliciting volunteers in each community that may want to participate in this event.



Letter from the Executive Office

**“Intelligence plus character-that is the goal of true education.”
-Martin L. King Jr.**



Bolivar County Head Start/Early Head Start (BCHS/EHS) trusts that the soul of head start lies in the comprehensive and quality services to the children and families of Bolivar County.

BCHS/EHS further believes this is accomplished through: partnering and networking with agencies, schools and organizations with existing amenities; empowering staff and families with education, skills and training to become economically self-sufficient; individualizing learning programs developed from child observations; and providing play-based, resource based, child-initiated environments in accordance with the principles of Head Start Performance Standards. We acknowledge, recognize and respect diversity and parents as decision makers and primary educators of their children.

This Annual Report highlights the mission, vision, overview and commitment the agency devotes to the children and families we serve daily. We strive hard to achieve our mission with each generation of children we serve, while remembering that “These are all of our children, we will profit or pay for whatever they become,” James Baldwin

Elnora Littleton, Executive Director

Letter from the Board of Directors Chairperson

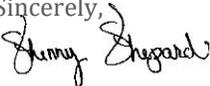


As Chairperson of Bolivar County Community Action Agency (BCCAA) and on behalf of the Board of Directors, it gives me great pleasure to share the BCCAA Annual Report. The Annual Report highlights the many programs and services the BCCAA provides and the impacts these programs have on Bolivar County. The BCCAA is committed to accomplishing its mission “to continue the war on poverty and to empower low-income citizens to become

economically self-sufficient.” We are achieving this mission, as validated in this Annual Report.

Having served in the Mississippi Delta since 1965, the BCCAA stands as a pillar of hope for the many clients we serve through a gamut of programs from early childhood through the Head Start/Early Head Start programs to Aging program. I can personally attest to the impact this agency has had on the lives of people because of the positive impact it has had on my life. The educational foundation provided to me through Head Start emboldened me to believe beyond my current circumstance and achieve bold dreams in spite of my circumstance. Consequently, I matriculated throughout the educational arena and stand proudly as Dr. Sherry Shepard. Head Start works, as do the many other programs and services provided by the BCCAA.

As such, we remain diligent in our efforts to help people and change lives by providing superior services to the entire Bolivar County Community.

Sincerely,


Sherry Shepard, Ph.D.
BCCAA Board Chair

CSBG/LIHEAP

SUCCESS STORY: EMPLOYMENT

Client initially requested assistance with agency in April 2017. Client is a thirty-two-year-old single female. Her household consist of her four children in household. Household income consists of Child Support \$292 and Snap benefits.

Worker identified Employment/In Crisis. Client has received GED and has limited work history. Client has been advised by worker that client must participate in case management for any future services from the agency. Client reported no employment barriers and agreed to actively seek employment and report changes in employment or household status to worker. Client was expressing desire to gain employment. She stated she has support system; however, they indicated that they would not be able to continue to pay her rent monthly. Client actively and aggressively sought employment to be able to provide for her family.

In October 2018, Client reported she had gained full time employment as correctional officer at \$12.60 hourly. Client reports that she is enjoying her job. This additional income has given her additional resources to have adequate resources to pay basic bills in household. Worker is currently working with client with income management with focus on prioritizing basic bills first. ROMA Problem of Employment is now stable. Worker will continue to work with client on income management and provide non-financial assistance and financial assistance, as permitted. As of January 2019, Client has maintained employment for 90 days and is receiving work related benefits.

Client has received a total of \$2,571.45 LIHEAP assistance with utility bills and purchase of an air conditioner. She has also received CSBG assistance of \$1,125. Client has received a total of 8 hours in case management services. The agency will continue to provided nonfinancial assistance and make referrals as needed.

CSBG/LIHEAP

ANNUAL SERVICE REPORT FISCAL Year 2019

All Clients that receive services are enrolled in case management services. Staff identifies ROMA area that includes, yet is not limited to Employment, Education, Health and Safety, Nutrition, Emergency and Income Management.

All Clients receive Income Management and energy conservation services. By prioritizing these areas, the next four important categories are as follows: Employment, Education, Health and Safety, and Housing.

I. Employment

24 Clients gained full time employment.

- 1 Client received assistance with pre-entrance exam to gain employment.

II. Education

- 4 Clients received tuition assistance to assist with educational goals.
- 4 Clients completed vocational training, or college.

III. Health and Safety

- 112 Clients received air conditioners or central unit repair or replacement.
- 1 Client received medicine assistance.

IV. Housing

- 10 Clients received Weatherization assistance and education to reduce energy costs and increase safety.
- 100 Clients received housing assistance as a preventive measure to prevent foreclosure and rental assistance as a prevent measure to prevent eviction.

During the fiscal year 2019, our agency received a total of \$589,840 LIHEAP / ECIP and \$229,477 CSBG to administrate and provide direct services to the clients. A total of 1,442 Clients benefited from these services. Atmos Energy donated \$18,684.21 to assist 67 clients with Atmos gas bills.

Letter from the Policy Council Chairperson



It is with great pride and humbleness that I serve as your 2020-2021 Bolivar County Policy Council Chairman. I know firsthand how challenging this new school year is for not only our teachers, parents and leaders but as well as our children.

As we navigate our way through the many changes we are enduring this school term. It's is with extreme certainty that I believe this program will continue to flourish and succeed.

It is my pleasure to provide the annual reports, as well as all important information that the policy council has access too. I'm looking forward to counting my role as not only a parent of a child enrolled in the Head Start program but a voice in making decisions to help the program run as smoothly as possible. I enjoy talking with teachers, learning the different views of our Central Office, policy council members and our board of trustees.

If there is anything that I can ever do to assist in anyway with our program I am always available and ready!

Thank You!

Denoshia Williams

Denoshia Williams, Policy Council Chairman

Agency Overview

**Bolivar County Community Action Agency, Inc.
(BCCAA)**

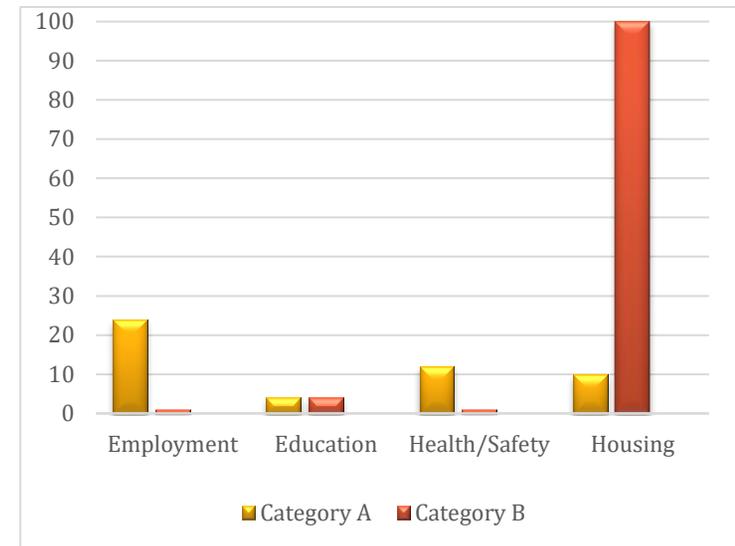
is a private, non-profit corporation, chartered in the State of Mississippi, June 16, 1965, for the purpose of providing education and work assistance to low-income children, families, and individuals in the Mississippi Delta, more specifically, those residing in Bolivar County. BCCAA is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization with a twelve (12) member Board of Directors composed of equal representation from the public, private, and poor sectors.

The Agency's principal activities consists of carrying out Community Action Programs through grants received from the State of Mississippi Department of Human Services, the Federal Department of Health & Human Services and other government and private funding agencies.

As one of the leading programs in the State of Mississippi, BCCAA provides a variety of services ranging from preschool education, a general education diploma program, assisting the elderly and utility/rental assistance. The Agency's objective is to enhance the well-being, economic independence & growth of low-income individuals & families to become self-sufficient, and foster community empowerment and development.

CSBG/LIHEAP

**Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
Emergency Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP)
Community Service Block Grant Program (CSBG)**



- The overall goal of the program is to provide monetary, non-monetary, case management and referral services to assist households in becoming self-sufficient.



Aging Division



The Aging Division provides many programs to assist the elderly in Bolivar County.

Home Delivered Meals/Meals on Wheels

Five frozen meals are delivered to eligible homebound elderly and disabled individuals one time per week. The agency has five transporters that delivered over 22,000 meals in 2019.

Personal Care Service Providers

Trained caregivers assist with task such as hygiene essential shopping, light housekeeping, transporting clients to appointments, and light meal preparation. If the client is bedridden, the homemaker will assist with clothing and grooming the client. There are personal care service providers in the program serving four or more clients with over 2700 hours served in 2019.

Congregate Meals

Provide an opportunity for individuals 60 years and older and their spouse to eat at least one hot nutritious meals a day. Seniors meet socially and engage in daily activities such as games and knitting, arts and craft, and much more. Congregate meal sites are available in Cleveland and Rosedale, MS. Each sites serves 20-22 clients per day. An average of 10,000 meals were served in 2017. Each site has a manager who is responsible for providing leadership and maintenance of the nutrition site daily.

Programs	Clients Served	Meals/Units Served Per Year
Homemaker/TitleXX Personal Care Service Provider	10	3,669
HDM IIC/TitleXX Home Delivered	114	30,625
Medicaid Waiver	474	111,089
Congregate Meals	18	3,854

BCCAA Mission Statement

To continue the war against poverty; to serve families in the rural Mississippi Delta and to provide various services and opportunities to help low-income citizens (children & families) become economically self-sufficient.

Governing Bodies



BCCAA, Inc. Board of Directors

Sherry Shepard, Chairperson	Marshall Conico, Vice Chairperson	Chaka Smith, Secretary
Rita Marshall	Max L. Dilworth	Delores Brown
Felicia Graham	Sarita Simmons	David Kelly
Michael Lamb	Nathan Towers	Ashley Melvins



BCHP Policy Council

Denoshia Williams, Chairperson	Lucretia Johnson, Vice Chairperson	Kamilyah Butler, Secretary
Lysaundria Allen	Sharonda Hall	Shequita Brown
Anjelicia Shepard	Chanyta Garrett	Ashley Banks
Helen Jones	Leneshia Mayes	Jacqueline Smith
Stephanie Harris	Shelia Brown	Dr. Hugh Smith
Shirley Holmes	Harry Burrell	Angela Bryant

BCHP Expenditures/Total Expense for HS/EHS 9-1-2018-8-31-19

Total Expenses for Head Start & Early
Start 9/1/2018-8/31/2019



- Total Salaries
- Total Fringes
- Total Travel
- Total Contractual
- Total Equipment Rental
- Total Maint/Repairs
- Total Vehicle Expense
- Total Insurance
- Total Supplies/Materials
- Total Telephone
- Total Space Cost
- Total Child Care Assistance
- Food & Meal Cost
- In-kind
- Total Equipment
- Total Other
- Indirect Costs
- TOTAL

Total Salaries	\$4,096,750.00
Total Fringes	\$1,731,314.00
Total Travel	\$67,845.00
Total Contractual	\$1,962.00
Total Equipment Rental	\$37,174.00
Total Maint/Repairs	\$169,377.00
Total Vehicle Expense	\$117,162.00
Total Insurance	\$86,827.00
Total Supplies/Materials	\$86,827.00
Total Telephone	\$327,924.00
Total Space Cost	\$263,436.00
Total Child Care Assistance	\$562.00
Food & Meal Cost	\$2,171.00
Total Equipment	\$149,402.00
Total Other	\$285,846.00
Indirect Costs	\$543,882.00
TOTAL	\$7,956,530.00

BEHAVIORAL SPECIALIST

~PROMOTING RESILIENCE~



Adding another level of support for the students, parents, staff, and community members, the Behavioral Specialist provides strategies and support to promote resilience among all of the stakeholders. Emphasis is placed on enhancing the mental, emotional, behavioral, and educational well-being of everyone by building relationships and providing quality services. Students are supported with individualized behavior plans and meaningful, research-based learning activities to maximize their learning and behavioral potential in school and at home. In *The Home-School Connection* newsletter/flyer, parents are provided strategies to reduce their stress, strategies to help their children develop positive behaviors, and activities to do at home to foster effective parenting and increase their children's learning. In *The Community Connection* newsletter/flyer, community members are provided strategies to reduce stress and they are provided names of valuable resources at the Bolivar County Community Action Agency and in the community/county that can assist them in different areas of their lives/different areas of need. Teachers are provided classroom support and trainings with research-based strategies to use for individual and groups of students with behavioral problems. In *The Staff Connection* newsletter/flyer, all staff members are provided strategies to reduce stress and knowledge of available mental health professionals.

Making meaningful connections with each stakeholder will help to ensure that all of our children can be successful in school and beyond. The results of these connections will give them the support they need to develop skills at a young age to be overcomers and problem solvers, to thrive educationally, to recover and adapt personally, and to develop good and positive habits and behaviors. The Behavioral Specialist will work collaboratively with parents, teachers, and other service providers to support students in school and at home.

THE DELTA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DWDA)



SELECT (Students, Education, Leadership, Employment, Citizenship Training)

SELECT (HSE) program provides services to overcome employment barriers in basic education skills, such as obtaining a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSE).

The Purpose of the BCCAA, Inc. SELECT Program is to provide eligible youth who are 16-24 years of age assistance in achieving academic and employment success:

- to provide effective and comprehensive activities, which shall include a variety of options for improving educational and skill competencies and provide effective connections to employers,
- to provide opportunities for employment training,
- to provide continued supportive services,
- to provide incentive for recognition and achievement, and
- to provide opportunities related to leadership development, decision making, citizenship, and community services.

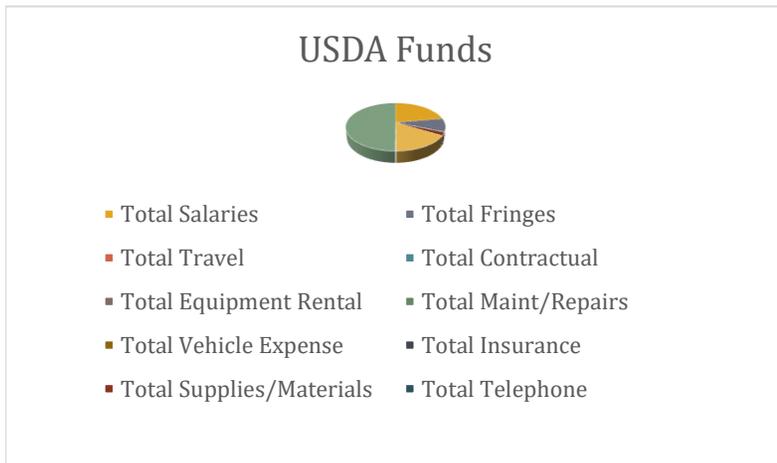
Number Served	47
Career Readiness Certificates	35
Number Employed	10
Number Attending College	10

BCHP Expenditures/Total Expense for EHS Expansion 9/1/2018-8/31/2019



Total Salaries	\$499,382.00
Total Fringes	\$196,541.00
Total Travel	\$7,528.00
Total Contractual	\$3,080.00
Total Equipment Rental	\$2,665.00
Total Maint/Repairs	\$6,020.00
Total Vehicle Expense	\$794.00
Total Insurance	\$5,682.00
Total Supplies/Materials	\$106,093.00
Total Telephone	\$2,596.00
Total Space Cost	\$28,974.00
Total Child Care Assistance	\$29.00
Food & Meal Cost	\$10.00
Total Equipment	\$339.00
Total Other	\$24,285.00
Indirect Costs	\$68,428.00
TOTAL	\$952,446.00

USDA Funds /Total Expense



Total Salaries	\$289,058
Total Fringes	\$114,629
Total Travel	\$0.00
Total Contractual	\$0.00
Total Equipment Rental	\$0.00
Total Maint/Repairs	\$5,840.00
Total Vehicle Expense	\$0.00
Total Insurance	\$0.00
Total Supplies/Materials	\$26,349.00
Total Telephone	\$0.00
Total Space Cost	\$0.00
Total Child Care Assistance	\$0.00
Food & Meal Cost	\$212,531
In-kind	\$0.00
Total Equipment	\$2,632.00
Total Other	(\$612.00)
Indirect Costs	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$650,427

Nutrition

Month	Breakfast	Lunch	Snack
September	11,317	11,351	10,836
October	13,446	13,440	12,563
November	9,259	9,219	8,809
December	8,584	8,546	7,662
January	10,040	10,066	9,687
February	7,158	12,662	11,851
March	13,397	10,579	10,397
TOTAL	73,201	73,159	69,411

- All Head Start Centers were closed April-August due to COVID-19.



Nutrition

Child Care Food Program Head Start/Early Head Start/ EHS Expansion Happy Healthy

Yearly Meals Served For 2019-2020

Bolivar County Head Start/Early Head Start/Expansion Nutrition Services assist families with meeting each child’s nutritional needs by establishing healthy eating habits that nurture the body and promote lifelong well-being. The nutritional services are provided to meet $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the USDA recommended daily dietary allowance in a healthy and sanitary manner each day. This includes a nutritious breakfast, lunch, and snack. A variety of food is served, which broadens each child’s food experience along with teaching Nutrition Education.



HEAD START

PROGRAM OPERATIONS-\$6,803,643.00
T & TA -\$80,164.00 IN-KIND-\$91,352.00

Budget Category	Program Operations	Training Technical Assistance	Non-Federal Share
Personnel	\$3,385,952	\$0	\$0
Fringe Benefits	\$1,517,642	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$650	\$56,300	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$131,607	\$0	\$1,000
Contractual	\$52,357	\$0	\$1,000
Construction	\$687,000	\$0	\$0
Other	\$501,111	\$23,864	\$89,352
Total Direct Charges	\$6,276,319	\$80,164	\$91,352
Indirect Charges	\$527,324	\$0	\$0
Total	\$6,803,643	\$80,164	\$91,352

EARLY HEAD START

PROGRAM OPERATIONS-\$1,739,983.00
T & TA -\$23,428.00 IN-KIND-\$68,404.00

Budget Category	Program Operations	Training Technical Assistance	Non-Federal Share
Personnel	\$981,787	\$0	\$0
Fringe Benefits	\$437,502	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$300	\$13,650	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$49,200	\$0	\$1,000
Contractual	\$12,375	\$0	\$1,000
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$106,462	\$9,778	\$66,404
Total Direct Charges	\$1,587,626	\$23,428	\$68,404
Indirect Charges	\$152,357	\$0	\$0
Total	\$1,739,983	\$23,428	\$68,404

EARLY HEAD START EXPANSION PROGRAM OPERATIONS-\$954,451.00
 T & TA -\$22,226.00 IN-KIND-\$29,693.00

<i>Budget Category</i>	<i>Program Operations</i>	<i>Training Technical Assistance</i>	<i>Non-Federal Share</i>
Personnel	\$540,543	\$0	\$0
Fringe Benefits	\$242,093	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$150	\$14,726	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$38,385	\$0	\$250
Contractual	\$7,000	\$0	\$250
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$58,746	\$7,500	\$29,193
Total Direct Charges	\$886,917	\$22,226	\$29,693
Indirect Charges	\$67,534	\$0	\$0
Total	\$954,451	\$22,226	\$29,693



EHS Expansion Medical Exams %

Early Head Expansion	# of Enrolled	Refusals	Pending	%
Medical Exams	48	0	0	100%
Dental Exam	48	0	0	100%
Vision Screening	48	0	0	100%
Hearing Screening	48	0	0	100%
Hematocrits	48	0	0	100%
Urinalysis	0	0	0	0%
Growth Assessment	48	0	0	100%
Immunization	48	0	0	100%
# of Enrollees	48	0	0	100%



HS/EHS Medical Exams %

Head Start	# of Enrolled	Refusals	Pending	%
Medical Exams	510	0	0	100%
Dental Exam	510	0	0	100%
Vision Screening	510	0	0	100%
Hearing Screening	510	0	0	100%
Hematocrits	510	0	0	100%
Urinalysis	0	0	0	0%
Growth Assessment	510	0	0	100%
Immunization	510	0	0	100%
# of Enrollees	510	0	0	100%



Early Head	# of Enrolled	Refusals	Pending	%
Medical Exams	104	0	0	100%
Dental Exam	104	0	0	100%
Vision Screening	104	0	0	100%
Hearing Screening	104	0	0	100%
Hematocrits	104	0	0	100%
Urinalysis	0	0	0	0%
Growth Assessment	104	0	0	100%
Immunization	104	0	0	100%
# of Enrollees	104	0	0	100%

Financial Audit

Independent Audits

In addition to regular reviews and audits of our own work, the Bolivar County Community Action Agency also annually has an independent audit firm review our procedures for compliance and to give us suggestions on how we can improve our activities. In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, an audit report was issued on January 27, 2020 for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2019. Areas of review includes Bolivar County Community Action Agency's internal control over financial reporting and tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreement and other matters and the results of these tests. An unqualified opinion was given as it relates to BCCAA's financial statements and as it relates to major program operations.

Audit Findings

The 2018-2019 agency audit indicated no deficiencies as it relates to the agency's financial reporting



Number of Children & Families Served

Head Start	Enrollment	Terminations	Total	Income Eligible	Homeless	Income Btw 100-130% Poverty Line
Children	510	16	527	436	3	75
Families	0	0	576	83%	0	14%
<u>EHS</u>						
Children	104	11	115	107	1	1
Families	0	0	121	93%	1	8%
<u>EHS Exp.</u>						
Children	48	3	51	49	0	2
Families	0	0	66	96%	0	4%

Served Average Monthly Enrollment & %

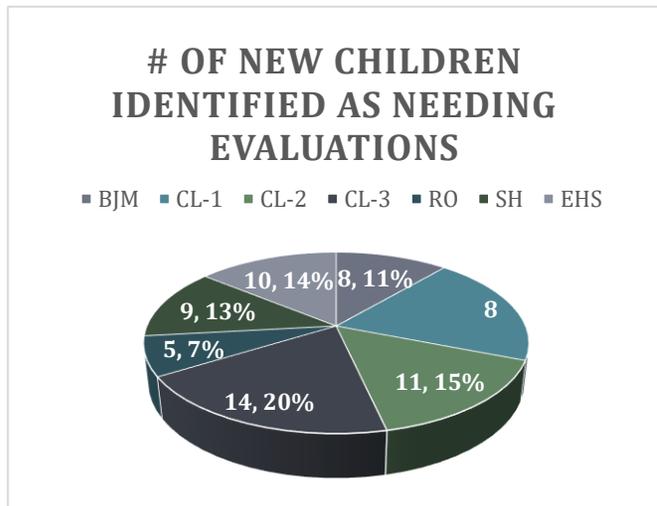
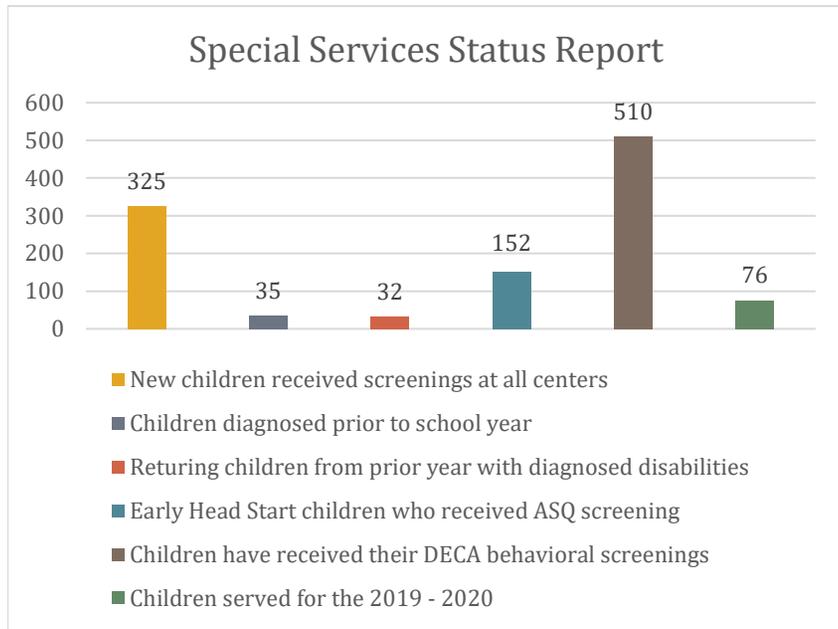
	HS	EHS	EHS Expansion
Sept	470/92%	104/100%	48/100%
Oct	482/95%	104/100%	48/100%
Nov	510/100%	104/100%	48/100%
Dec	510/100%	104/100%	48/100%
Jan	510/100%	104/100%	48/100%
Feb	510/100%	104/100%	48/100%
Mar	510/100%	104/100%	48/100%
Apr	510/100%	104/100%	48/100%
May	510/100%	104/100%	48/100%
June	510/100%	104/100%	48/100%

Disability/Mental Health

<u>DISABILITY/MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE NEEDS</u>	<u># RECEIVING SERVICES</u>
<u>Developmentally Delayed</u>	22
<u>Speech/Language Services</u>	53
<u>Autism</u>	0
<u>Emotional Disturbance</u>	0
<u>Hearing/Vision Concerns</u>	0
<u>Health Impairment</u>	1



Disability/Mental Health

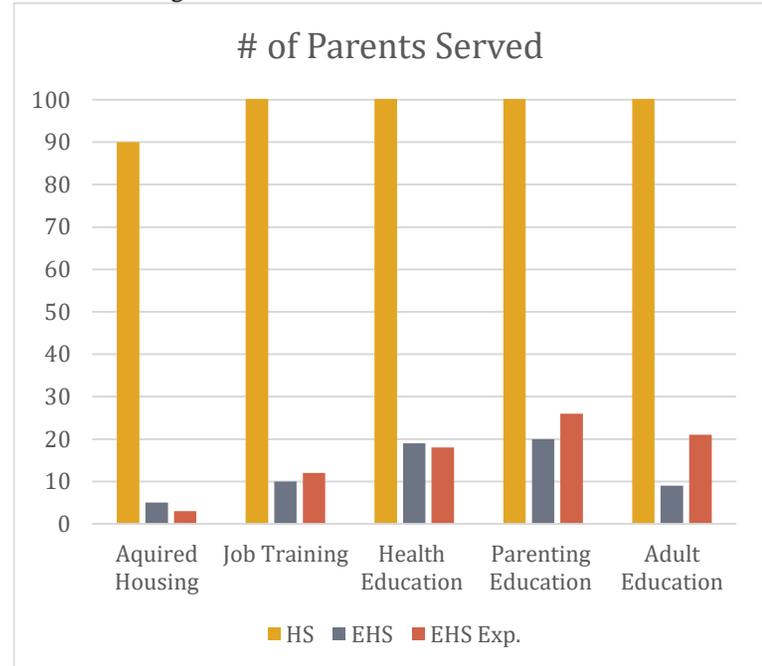


Parent Workshops & Activities

Stress Management
Money Management
Male Involvement
Communicating w/Children

Healthy Marriage
Child Development

Literacy
Parenting Skills
Healthy Marriage
Safe Home Environment



School Readiness & Child Outcomes

**“With an education, you have everything
you need to rise above all the noise and
fulfill every last one of your dreams.”-**

Michelle Obama

Bolivar County Head Start/Early Head Start defines school readiness as children acquiring the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school, in the later years and throughout life. *The Head Start Approach to School Readiness* means that children are ready for school, families are ready to support their children’s learning and schools are ready for children. Our school readiness plan articulates the Bolivar County Head Start/Early Head Start Program’s expectations for improving all aspects of healthy childhood development, all of which are essential to children getting ready for school. The newly revised Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework ages birth to five is designed to represent the continuum of learning for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. The five essential domains of the framework have five central domains that are used to establish our school readiness goals for our children. Those domains are: 1.) Approaches to Learning 2.) Social and Emotional Development 3.) Language and Literacy 4.) Cognition 5.) Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development.

A collaboration of Head Start/Early Head Start administrative staff & teachers, local school districts partners, parents, board members, policy council members, and T/TA specialist gathered together to align the curriculum, assessment, Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines and the Common Core to ensure that both the school districts and Head Start target

Transition

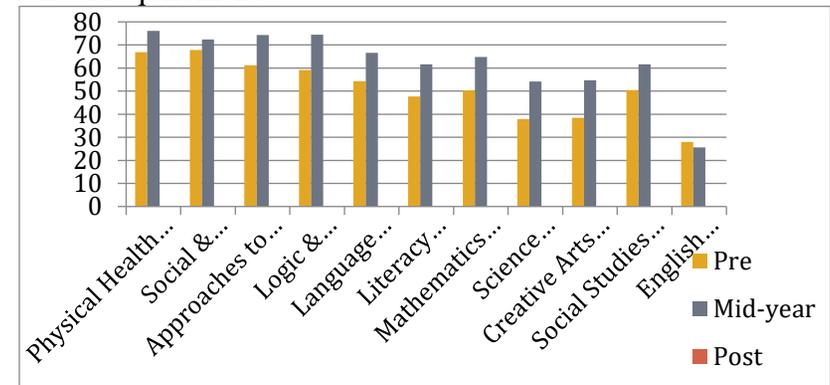
The Bolivar County Head Start/Early Head Start Program feels that the work put forth with families while in this program, to enhance their Head Start to public school experience will follow them throughout the rest of their lives as parents of preschool age children through their teenage years in a positive way. However, we plan for a smooth transition from EHS to Head Start, Head Start to Kindergarten for the parent and child. HS/EHS parent(s), are strongly encouraged to take on the roles of advocate and decision makers. We emphasize to parents the importance of demonstrating these same attributes when their child leaves HS/EHS to help make the adjustment a smooth transition. We inform parent that it is extremely important that their child have continued their support and assistance as much as they did while attending, HS/EHS. Our goal is to help parents continue to be advocates by providing educational information, and trainings and to help their child to maintain the skills they have gained and need to master. There were 224 children that transition to kindergarten. The Kindergarten Readiness Assessment was implemented to as well as each child’s six school readiness skills were measured. (Vocabulary, Identifying Letters, Visual Discrimination, Phonemic Awareness, Comprehension and Interpretation and Mathematical Knowledge). Bolivar County Head Start/Early Head Start Program will continue to strive to serve as an advocate for children, and families, provide high quality comprehensive early childhood development services for all eligible children.

The progress on achieving Head Start educational goals for 2019-2020:

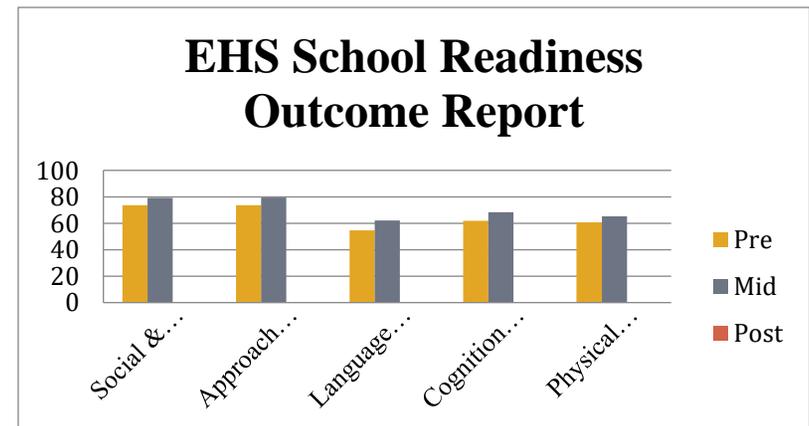
- The STAR Assessment was implemented once to all the 4-year-old graduates.
- Provided CLASS refresher training to all Head Start teaching staff. 98% of the Head Start Teachers are CLASS reliable. We were in the process of planning a CLASS training for the other teachers and some of the teacher assistants but due to COVID-19 pandemic and program closing early, we were not able to have the CLASS training.
- Maintain National Accreditation Education of Young Children (NAEYC) for all 6 Head Start centers.
- Provided assistances for 90% of our caregivers to receive their Child Development Associate (CDA) certification in year 4. By year 5 we will provide training for 100% of our caregivers to receive certification in Child Development Associate (CDA) for infants and toddlers.
- Maintained National Accreditation Education of Young Children (NAEYC) for all Head Start and Early Head Start Centers.



the same skills and goals for our children to ensure they are school ready. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and program closing early, we were unable to get a post average for our preschool children of whether they met or exceeded the school requirement, but with the conjunction of our school readiness goals and assessments, it has been proven, at an average, by mid-year that over 66% our preschool children met or exceeded the school requirements.



Head Start's LAP-D Assessment Results



Head Start's Five Essential Domains of Child Development and Early Learning from the E-LAP Assessment

The table above summarizes the progress during year one for the preschool children enrolled in achieving School Readiness Goals based on the seven (7) Domains. The data represents the average number of milestones achieved expressed as a percentage of the total number of milestones correlated to each domain. Gains and/or losses are based on the difference between the average percentage scores at each checkpoint. Usually, the assessments are administered three times per year, but due to the pandemic the assessment were administered twice and are presented in the two data sets. Based on the data in the mid data sets, progress was made in each data set when comparing the pre-assessment data to the post-assessment data. Bolivar County Head Start/Early Head Start Program has been influenced by its school readiness goals for next year by gaining knowledge from the assessments which can be useful to teachers and administrators. Even though we were not able to administer the post assessment, it still helps us to improve teaching and evaluating the program's effectiveness using data from assessments which must be aggregated and presented to parents. This provides an indication of what their children have achieved over a short term and long-term period. Informing parents of results is an important aspect of assessment for two reasons; first, parents need solid information about their child's learning progress in order to determine whether or not their child's needs are being met; secondly, communicating assessment information to parents also provides opportunity to help build support for our program. By engaging community and community partners in our assessment process, school readiness is being implemented to help us improve and maintain our goals.



CLASS

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is an observation instrument that assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions in center-based preschool classrooms. CLASS is the monitoring tool that is used in Head Start. CLASS includes three domains or categories of teacher-child interactions that support children's learning and development: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. Within each domain are dimensions that capture more specific details about teachers' interactions with children. The CLASS dimensions are based on developmental theory and research suggesting that interactions between children and adults are the primary way of supporting children's development and learning, and that effective, engaging interactions and environments form the foundation for all learning in early childhood classrooms.

