

Community Action, Inc. of Central Texas

HEAD START

Monthly Report February 2021



School Readiness: School Readiness: preparing for Infant & Toddler CLASS observations and finishing up last remaining HS CLASS Observations that we were unable to be complete during December and January due to being in Virtual Instruction mode.

Professional Development: This month we planned and executed Child Plus On-Site training for Management staff, revamping Person-in-Charge training, and completed mid conference evaluations for all staff.



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Mental Health and Disabilities: During the month of February, the Mental Health and Disabilities Coordinator attended Parent Meetings to inform families about our partnership with Texas State University and the ASPEN Program. The Aspen Program provides training, support, and evaluation for families of children who may have a developmental delay. If you are concerned with your child's development or are currently receiving services, you may qualify to participate in the ASPEN Program. Please contact your Family Advocate or Mental Health and Disabilities Coordinator for more information about the Aspen Program.



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Health: During the month of February, the Health Coordinator attended parent meetings and shared the importance of keeping children up to date with their well exams, dental exams and immunizations. Parents were informed that based on CDC Guidelines and Office of Head Start Performance Standards, children being served in the program are required to receive a flu shot yearly. Parents have the right to refuse to vaccinate their child with the FLU shot by signing a waiver. We are currently working with our Child Plus consultant to build that waiver into our database system. The health team also continues to screen children for vision and hearing.

ERSEA & Transitions: Enrollment is staying steady at about 400 children. We ended February with 405 children and have 7 in the process of starting services within the week. Family Advocates are working continuously on new applications to fill vacant slots at their centers. Applications can be found online at: [Head Start Application.](#)

Please share with friends and family in our service area - San Marcos, Kyle/Buda, Lockhart and Luling.

Our current enrollment is 405 of 502 available slots.



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Head Start Operations & Safety: Repairs are underway at 2 Head Start locations (AW/Hemphill) that had water damage after the snowstorm. An annual water testing is scheduled for March 15th at HB/AW/LCDC to test for copper and lead. This is not a required test, but since these buildings are older and have copper pipes, we want to make sure our water is safe for the children and staff. Appraisal and environmental assessments have been scheduled for the proposed Hemphill mobile office as requested by the Office of Head Start. We are currently in the planning phase for the new William Crook CDC playground equipment and classroom furniture. Bidding is still underway for the 3 Head Start buses that we are trying to sell.



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Nutrition: Community Action gave extra meals to all enrolled families who picked up at the February 23 food and supply distribution. Most children returned to their centers February 24th but the extra food was distributed to help ensure our enrolled children had food at home. The winter storm caused a disruption in the food supply but Community Action was able to continue meal service with much effort from the nutrition team. The Program Nutritionist changed the menu so that the vegetarian meals landed on Fridays. This was done out of respect for the families and staff who observe Lent. A new spring menu will be implemented after the Easter holiday.



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Education Team: Head Start teachers have been working hard to complete the CLI Progress Monitoring assessment and Early Head Start teachers are on their last week for the DRDP assessment (Desired Results Developmental Profile). Families will receive their child's assessment information during the next parent conference. The coaching team is continuing to provide teachers with professional growth by modeling, providing guidance, and assisting where needed. Coaches are out at sites weekly and are always available for teachers.

Head Start Office Manager: We have been working closely with the Nutrition Coordinator getting supplies and milk to our sites. Spring will be here soon and we are looking forward to warmer weather!



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Family Services: During the month of March, the Family Advocate Team will be gearing up for recruiting families for next year! It has been difficult to maintain enrollment with all of the complexities of COVID-19 and the switch to online applications, but we are hoping the worst is behind us and are generating ideas to reach those families that need us most and get their children enrolled in our program.



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