

SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start Program 2020-2021 Annual Report

For in every adult there dwells the child that was, and in every child there lies the adult that will be." unknown

Service Area: St. Clair County, Illinois

Population Served

- Expectant Families
- Children Six Weeks-Five Years of Age
- Children with Specialized Needs

Funded Enrollment

- Head Start: 536
- Early Head Start: 329
- Total: 865

Cumulative Enrollment

- Head Start: 468
- Early Head Start: 259
- Total: 727

Program Options

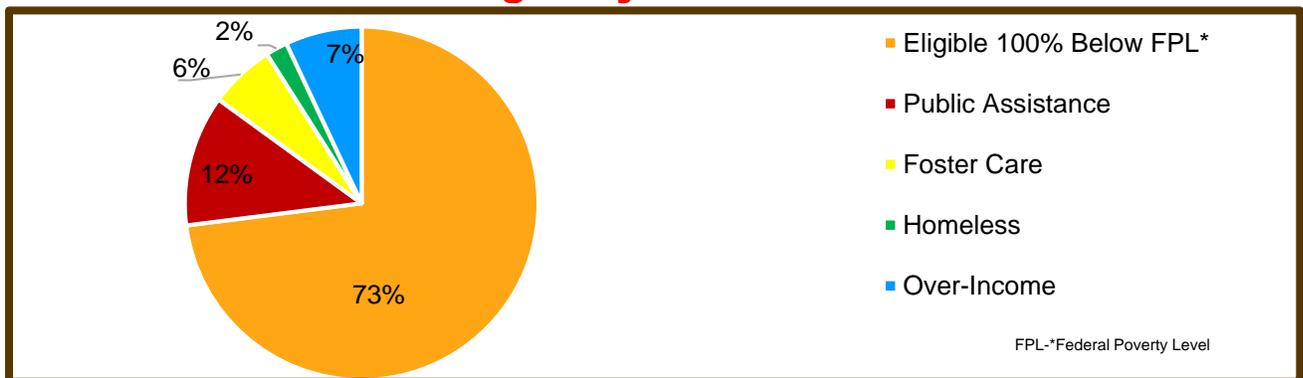
Part day (6.5 Hours), Full-day (7.0 Hours), Home-based



At a Glance

Average Monthly Attendance: 88%

2020-2021 Eligibility of Children Served



Empowering Children for Success



During a year with some obvious challenges due to the pandemic SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start provided services to more than seven hundred children and families. In order to maintain connections and communication the program provided much needed technology to staff, and families. The technology included iPads, tablets, laptops, and I-phones. SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start offered a delivery of services in a variety of ways that included remote, virtually from classroom as well as in-person as permitted based on COVID-19 indicators. Program services for 2020-2021 were adversely affected by the lingering effects of the pandemic. SIUE remained diligent in providing comprehensive services such as meals or to – go meal kits (breakfast, lunch and snack); dental treatment follow-up, and hearing and vision screenings. Families received phone communications regarding updates and discussions about the importance of follow-up medical and dental treatment. Mirroring a carryover from 2020, behavior health services were provided via tele-health services in phone or zoom calls with families. As of August 2021, 43%-of Head Start children were up-to-date on the schedule of preventative and primary health care and due to social distancing requirements, 16% received preventative dental services, however, 64% had continuous and assessable dental care. At the end of enrollment 91% were up-to-date on all immunizations for their age. As of August 2021, 25% of Early Head Start children were up-to-date on the schedule of preventive and primary health care and *48% received preventative dental services. At the end of enrollment 84% were up-to-date on all immunizations for their age. Over 95% of Head Start and Early Head Start children began the 2020-2021 program year with an on-going source of continuous, accessible health care—a medical home. *(Only children ages 2 and older are recommended to have a dental exam).

During a typical school year children receive nutritious, well-balanced meals and snacks that meet at least two-thirds of their daily nutritional requirements. In part-day and full-day sessions, children received breakfast, lunch and a healthy snack. In the home-based option, one meal and one snack is served during each group socialization experience. Due to COVID-19 the in-person classes were limited. The number of meals provided were effected as well as the opportunity for children socialization opportunities. In an effort to provide families with direct or indirect resources the program provided meals, sack lunches as well as information on community food distributions.

Head Start Meals Served

Breakfast: 8130
 Lunch: 8222
 Snack: 7678

Early Head Start Meals Served

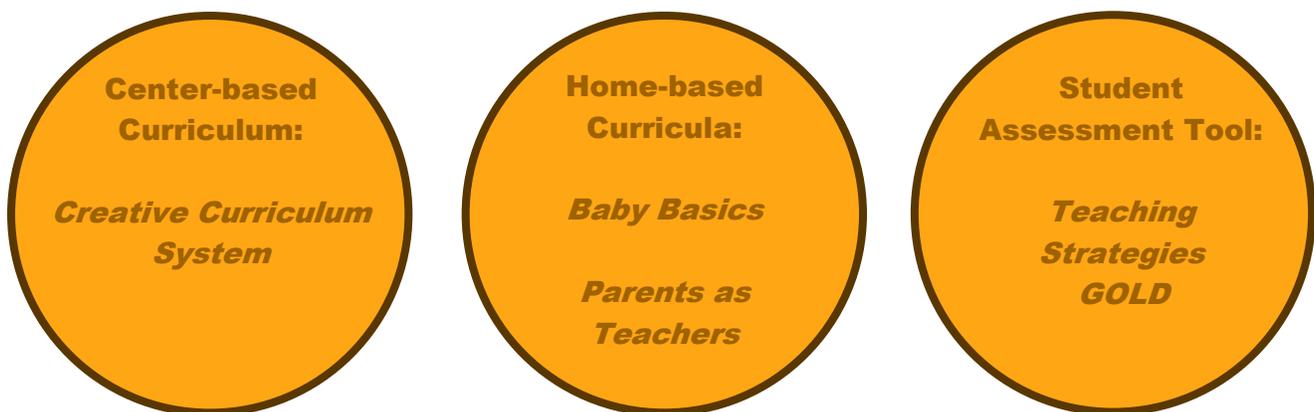
Breakfast: 2443
 Lunch: 2512
 Snack: 7611

Behavioral Health

The program recognizes the impact a child's health, including his or her behavioral health, has on a child's school readiness. Research demonstrates that behavior health provides an essential foundation of stability that supports all other aspects of human development and academic achievement. Prior to and even during COVID-19 mandates the program supported children's behavioral health and social/emotional development by building trusting relationships with children and families, and proactively addressing challenging behaviors. Interactions either in-person or tele-health provided opportunities for children to practice self-regulation, work collaboratively and address challenges/conflict. Art Enrichment and psychology graduate students promoted universal social competence through play-based activities and a licensed child mental health professional completed direct observations in order to determine targeted and individual supports.



Instructional Services



The SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start Program believes that a parent is the child's first teacher and utilized the parent-lead developmental screener *Ages and Stages Questionnaire(ASQ)*. The ASQ established the reciprocal sharing of information between the school and home. The program's School Readiness Goals were created in partnership with parents and include children's development of a positive attitude toward the learning process, discovery of the breadth of their capability (even if it is initially challenging) and demonstration of the knowledge and skills needed to experience a smooth transition into kindergarten and subsequent grades.

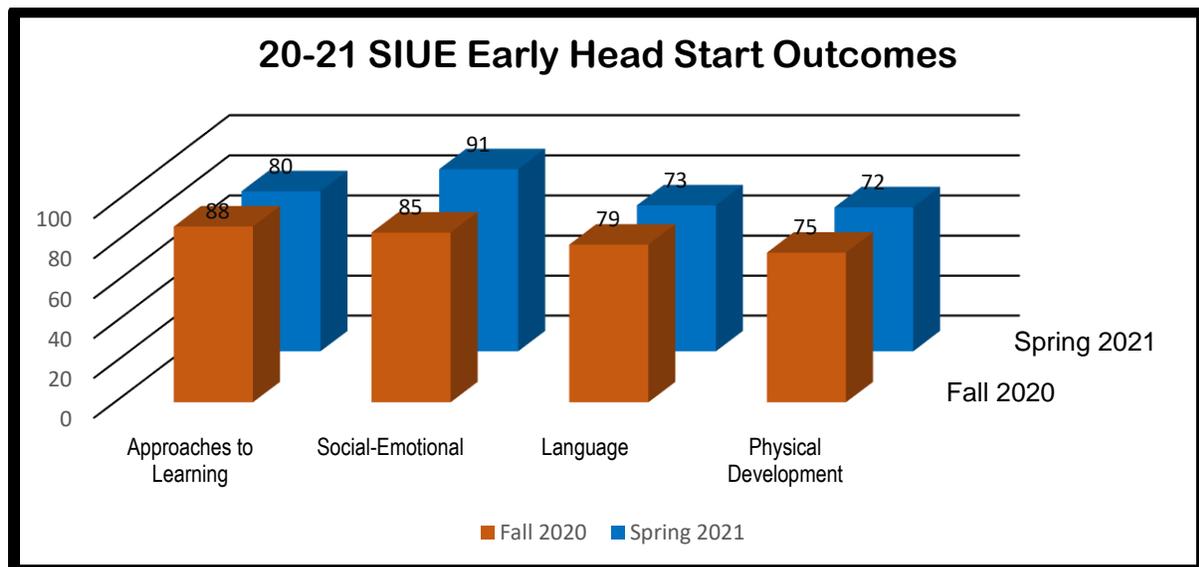
Children's progress toward school readiness was measured through the Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment tool. Teaching Strategies GOLD assesses 38 widely held, age-appropriate learning expectations in the areas of social/emotional development, physical development, language, literacy, cognitive development and mathematical skills. The 38 widely held objectives directly align with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework Central

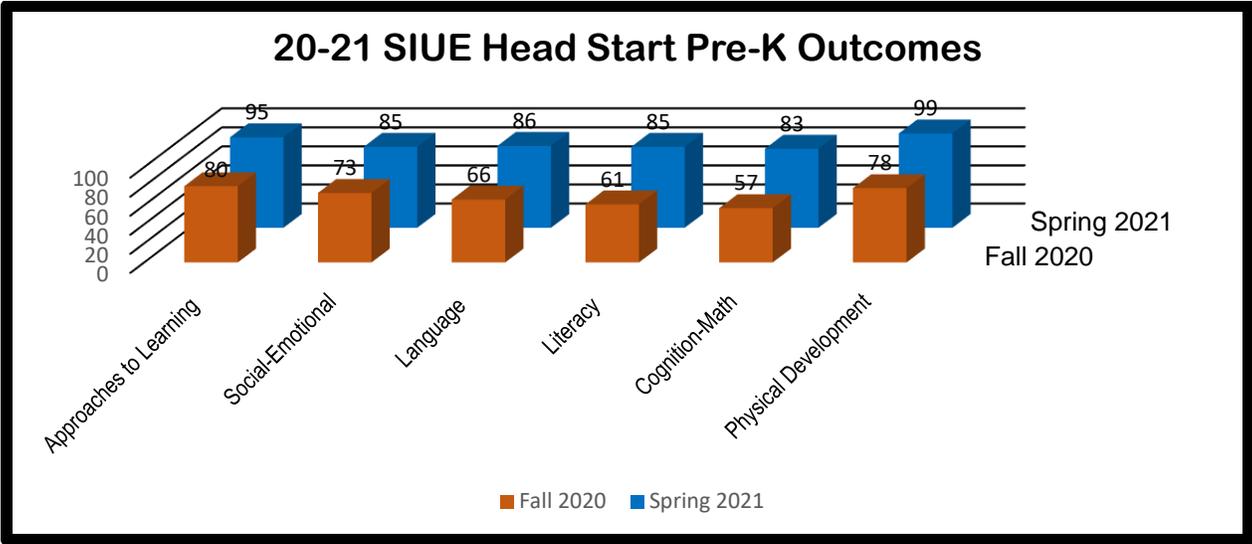
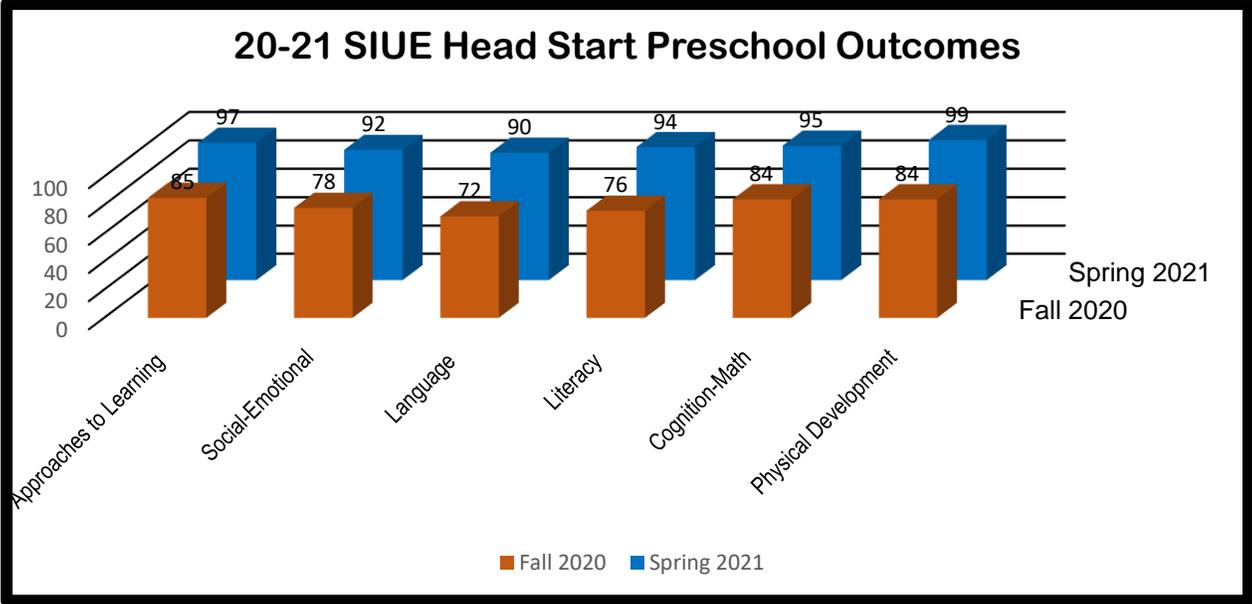
domains of Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional Development, Language and Literacy, Cognition, and Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development. The SIUE Head Start program's School Readiness Goals have been designed to utilize the Teaching Strategies Gold assessment tool to measure children's progress toward each goal within the learning domains. During 2020-2021, only 21 objectives were selected to assess children's development. The program's School Readiness Goals guided this limited selection. The limited objectives supported children, families, and staff in this unprecedented time of remote learning. Throughout the 20-21 school year, our program continued to work toward formally assessing our Head Start children three times and our Early Head Start children four times during the school year, based on the program term. Individual child assessment results were shared with families during virtual visits and conferences with families.

The following graphs provide an overview by age group in each of the five learning domains. They depict the progress of the SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start children's achievement as assessed utilizing Teaching Strategies GOLD from the Fall assessment period to the last assessment, during the 2020-2021 school year. Each year our program strives to enhance each child's development to 80% of the widely held threshold. It is important to note that although there is a typical progression toward each school readiness domain, mastery of progression is not rigid. This can specifically be found with development of children under three years of age, development and learning is often varying, overlapping and interrelated.



2020-2021 SIUE Early Head Start Program Child Outcomes





20-21 Kindergarten Readiness Camp

During the summer of our 20-21 program year, the SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start program provided a Kindergarten Readiness Camp. The purpose of the camp was to support a smooth, successful transition for children entering kindergarten. Much of what is valuable in the Head Start classroom could not be replicated through remote supports, such as social interaction and hands-on learning the kindergarten readiness camp provided in-person learning and allowed students this opportunity. The camp provided both parents and children with needed support to enter kindergarten. Camp team members supported parents with kindergarten enrollment, health requirements, and increased understanding of school district expectations. Information was shared with families to support learning what their child would learn in kindergarten and how they could continue to support their child's healthy growth and development at home.



Empowering Families for Success



During the 2020-2021 more than ever parents continued to play a more hands on and crucial role in their child’s developmental growth and academic achievement. This program year parents really gave new meaning to being their child’s first teacher.

The SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start Program Family Engagement and Support Services staff virtually or via telephone calls met with families and collaboratively determined individualized family goals. Goals focused on enhancing family well-being, supporting school readiness with-in the home, promoting life-long learning, entering the

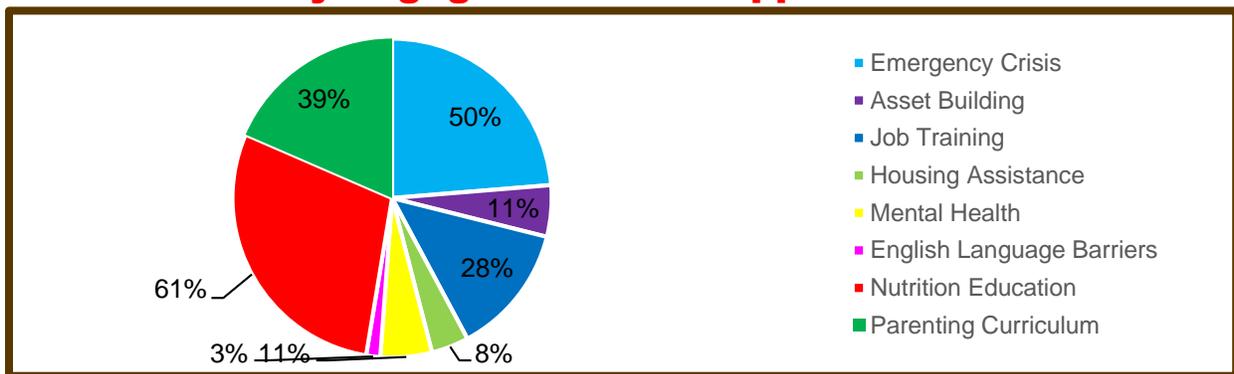
work force and advocating for their local community. Parents volunteered by participating via zoom meetings. Parents actively participated in the program’s shared governance through virtually engaging in center-based and Policy Council meetings.

SIUE Head Start Belleville Center parent, Ms. Courtney Parker, continued to serve as Illinois Head Start Association Parent Ambassador. Parent Ambassadors advocate the importance of early childhood education at the community and state levels and participate in the development of policy proposals. SIUE Head Start is excited to once again announce that Ms. Parker was selected as IHSA 2021 Parent of the Year!



Although efforts were affected and limited by the pandemic, the program promoted healthy, engaged, self-sufficient families and provided the family support services reflected in the chart below during the 2020-2021 program year.

2020-2021 SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start Program: Family Engagement and Support Services



Empowering Staff for Success

The SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start Program is committed to ensuring children and families are engaged with highly qualified staff who have the heart, spirit, and knowledge base to support the achievement of children and families. Tuition waivers were available to staff members and professional development opportunities included an individualized mentoring program, Practiced-based Coaching (PBC), and participation in local, state and national conferences.

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is a nationally recognized professional development tool, based on developmental theory and research that suggests a child’s development and learning outcomes are the direct result of teacher-child interactions. CLASS assesses teacher-child interactions and classroom quality in three broad domains—emotional support, classroom organization, and instructional support. CLASS scores range from zero to seven, with the score of seven representing an exceptionally effective teacher. The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start has established nationally targeted thresholds for the three broad domains, and SIUE Head Start teaching staff exceeded during the 2020-2021 program year.

*Due to COVID-19 the program was able to conduct one round, of CLASS observations, which also exceeded established thresholds. Observation scores are reflected below.

Emotional Support Quality Threshold: 6.0 Competitive Threshold: 5.0 *SIUE Head Start: 6.6	Classroom Organization Quality Threshold: 6.0 Competitive Threshold: 5.0 *SIUE Head Start: 6.1	Instructional Support Quality Threshold: 3.0 Competitive Threshold: 2.3 *SIUE Head Start: 4.9
--	---	--

The Program Year in Pictures!



The Program Year in Pictures!



The Program Year in Pictures!



The Program Year in Pictures!



2020-2021 Fiscal Operations

During the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year (FY), the SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start Program expended federal grant dollars from the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families and Office of Head Start in the total dollar amount of \$10,770,548.00. The program expended an average of 79.8% of program operations and professional development funding.

FY 2020-2021: SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start Programs

	Budget	Expenditures
Salaries	\$ 6,049,648	\$ 4,963,955
Travel	\$ 31,882	\$ 0
Equipment	\$ 0	\$ 0
Supplies	\$ 703,573	\$ 636,006
Contractual	\$ 2,256,041	\$ 1,744,073
Fringe Benefits	\$ 3,439,897	\$ 2,614,567
Indirect Charges	\$1,016,552	\$ 811,946
	\$ 13,497,593	\$ 10,770,548

The United States Department of Agriculture, Child and Adult Care Food Program provided additional federal funding as reimbursement payments for Head Start/Early Head Start children’s meals in the amount of \$61,008. During FY 2020-2021, the value of non-federal share efforts, or matching, included \$160,368 through public sector space and services and \$48,463 through volunteer hours and services from the private sector.

Results of the annual external financial audit are available for review at <http://www.auditor.illinois/Audit-Reports/SOUTHERN-ILLINOIS-UNIVERSITY.Asp>

From January 13, 2021 to January 19, 2021 the Office of Head Start (OHS) conducted a follow-up monitoring review of the SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start program. In February 22, 2021 OHS issued a report of compliance in each service area reviewed.

We would like to thank you our partners, supporters and communities for your commitment to assist in providing quality comprehensive services to the children and families of St. Clair County, IL. As you review our annual report we are confident that you will find evidence of very encouraging child and family outcomes that is only possible with your continued support.

With much gratitude,

Carolyn L. Jason, Interim Program Director



Contact Information

SIUE Head Start/Early Head Start Administrative Office
601 James R. Thompson Boulevard
Building C, Suite 103
East St. Louis, IL 62201

Interim Program Director: Ms. Carolyn Jason

E-mail: cjason@siue.edu

Phone: 618-482-6955

Fax: 618-482-6942

Please stay connected, like us at:



[www.facebook/Head Start 2 Success](https://www.facebook.com/HeadStart2Success)