South Coast Head Start 2023–2024 Annual Report

South Coast Head Start (SCHS), a program of Oregon Coast Community Action, is a comprehensive early childhood program that provides quality early learning and family development services to children and families in Coos, Curry, and Coastal Douglas Counties. The program is funded by both state and federal grants, as well as local school districts. All services are provided at no cost to the families.

SCHS offers a fun, researched-based curriculum; free and healthy meals; inclusive services for children with disabilities; child development, nutrition, and health screening with follow-up support for all enrolled children. The program emphasizes the parent's role as the child's first and most important teacher and builds strong relationships with the child's parents and family. Priority for enrollment in Head Start programs is based on child age, family income, disabilities, and other factors that demonstrate a need for services.

Services for infants, toddlers, and pregnant people are available to families until the child turns 3 years old and is ready to transition into Head Start Preschool or another pre-K program. Early Head Start provides prenatal support and follow-up services to pregnant people and families. Early Head Start Home-based services are provided in a child's own home through weekly home visits that support the child's development and family's own goals. Center-based services provide extended or full day programming for children and families.

Center-based preschool services promote the school readiness of children ages 3 to 5. Children and families also receive services from teachers and family service staff who regularly make home visits to expand learning to a child's home environment, connect with families, and provide additional family support.

Mission and Program Goals

South Coast Head Start support families with young children in their guest for a brighter future.

- **Goal 1**: Buffer the effects of toxic stress and trauma, building resilience and strengthening protective factors of staff, families, and children.
- **Goal 2**: Provide children and families with quality early learning services, continuity and supportive transition services to support School Readiness.
- **Goal 3**: Support family well-being, with a focus on families who are experiencing homelessness.

Impact 2023-2024

502
Participants Served
417
Families Served

SCHS served a cumulative total of 502 children, pregnant people, and their families, with an average monthly enrollment of 97% of our funded enrollment slots. Selection criteria prioritize participants in families with incomes below 100% of the federal poverty level or receiving public assistance, and those experiencing homelessness or in resource (foster) care. The program also places priority on children with disabilities, and other factors that demonstrate a need for services. SCHS served an estimated 57% of eligible children in the service area.

Funding	Head Start	Early Head	Preschool	Baby	School
Source		Start	Promise	Promise	District
Total Enrolled*	333	145	17	15	9

^{*17} children transferred between programs

Health is the foundation of school readiness. To help children thrive, SCHS staff work with families to ensure that their children are up to date on immunizations and Well Child Exams. Children learn also learn about healthy habits in our classrooms. Promoting physical health includes taking steps to reduce the spread of infectious diseases, and using health screenings to identify any hearing, vision, or special health care needs. Tooth decay is the most common childhood disease, but it's preventable. Children with dental pain can have trouble speaking clearly, eating, and learning. SCHS works with families to ensure children receive dental exams and any needed follow-up treatment. SCHS Immunization data can be found at:

https://www.orcca.us/schs-immunizations

77%

Children completed medical exams

72%

Children received dental exams

96%

Families participated in at least one family engagement activity SCHS staff strive to build trusting and respectful relationships that support full family engagement. Family Engagement activities include program orientation, monthly family events, research-based parenting education, informational workshops, Parent Cafe's, and parent leadership opportunities, including Parent Policy Council. Families also participate in Education and Family Services focused Home Visits and Parent-Teacher Conferences.



2024 Family Survey
Respondent

"The staff at South Coast Head Start have been amazing and helpful for me. I'm going through am absolute ton of things and they've been a resource for me as well as a safe place for my son to engage with others his age"



2024 Family Survey
Respondent

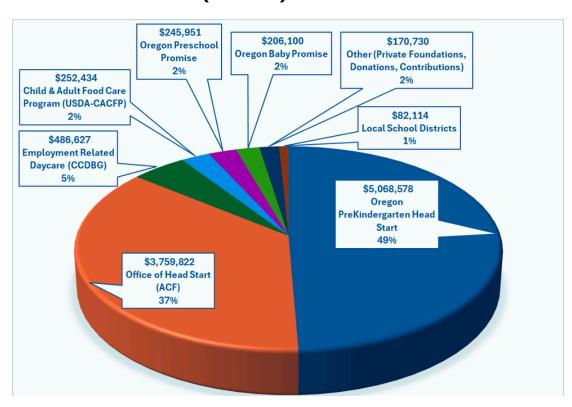
"Early Head Start and Head Start were instrumental in our family's long-term success! It gave our children the foundational building blocks and opportunities to engage in multiple learning styles through play . . . Not only is Head Start integral for our children's learning, but it also supports us parents in continuing higher education, which in turn pours back into our children's future."

42%

SCHS Staff are current or past parents SCHS employs approximately 160 full and part-time staff through Coos, Curry and Coastal Douglas Counties.
Current and past parents are encouraged to apply, with SCHS providing professional development tracks for various careers in Early Childhood Education and Family Services.

Financials

Public and Private Funds Received (23-24 FY)



Program Expenditures (23-24 FY)

Category	Budget	Expenditures	
Salaries	5,996,372	5,788,407	
Fringe	1,898,039	1,996,607	
Indirect	805,526	900,817	
Space Costs	567,197	604,238	
Child & Family Services	427,505	436,392	
Supplies	255,450	281,832	
Program Operations	155,840	151,139	
Professional Development	78,500	79,710	
Travel	72,500	72,520	
Equipment	29,413	29,413	
Total	10,286,342	10,341,075	

School Readiness

SOUTH COAST HEAD START SCHOOL READINESS GOALS

feelings & emotions ~ self-regulation ~ belonging ~ confidence ~ language & communication ~ literacy ~ math

Children will . . .



Manage feelings and emotions with the support of familiar adults, with increasing independence, and the ability to control impulses.



Express confidence in own skills and positive feelings about self and having a sense of belonging.



Use language (non-verbal & verbal) to express thoughts and needs.



Build pre-reading skills by increasing their knowledge of letter-sound correspondences.

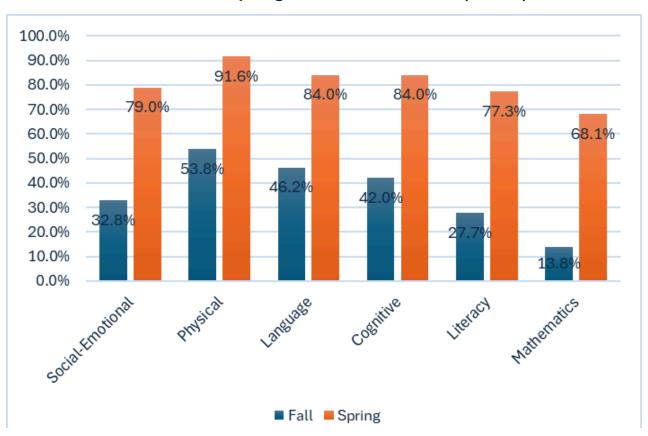


Develop a sense of numbers and quantity and have an understanding of number names and order of numerals, and knowledge of patterns.

As the primary educators of their children, parents share information about their child's interests, strengths, and needs. Working in partnership with parents, staff utilize the results of screenings and ongoing assessment information to identify areas of progress and areas of concern as their children grow and learn, completing referrals for further evaluation, if appropriate. Parents are provided with opportunities to share input on curriculum, activities, materials, and ongoing progress on school readiness goals during parent meetings, Policy Council meetings, and as participants on Education Advisory Committee.

South Coast Head Start teaching and home visiting staff utilized comprehensive curricula, individualized lesson planning and parent input to create learning environments and interactions that engaged and challenged children in our classrooms and home-based settings. Utilizing data from baseline and midpoint assessments, staff and Policy Council parents identified the areas of social-emotional development, literacy, and math as areas of focus for additional support. Activity kits for at-home learning were created for each family to extend learning in these areas to their homes.

Children Meeting/Exceeding Widely Held Expectations: 4-year-olds Fall 2023 to Spring 2024 Assessments (n=119)



Contact Us

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For further information, please reach out to us at schs@orcca.us

The most recent audit for Oregon Coast Community Action can be accessed at:

ORCCA Audited Financials

South Coast Head Start Federal Program Review information can be found at:

Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center