TO: Board of Directors and Policy Council Members



FROM: Laurie Gan Leiner, Head Start Director

DATE: November 7, 2014

RE: October Head Start Report

During the month of October:

* Head Start is working on collaboration with Renaissance Community Center and other organizations regarding the establishment of a Childcare Facility for Homeless families where the Doug Howser Center is currently located. This will be a great opportunity for the program to serve the homeless community.
* CHSP is beginning its new fiscal year. Head Start will be using funds to provide mental health and disabilities services to children as well as to develop programs for Head Start parents.
* The Parent Engagement Coordinator and Special Services Coordinator attended training to be certified to train parents through the Incredible Years. Parenting classes will begin in January.
* Parents received the first newsletter of the year.
* The Policy Council elected their officers and had a great turnout for their first meeting with new representatives.
* A Facebook page was created for the Head Start program.
* Head Start celebrated Head Start Awareness Month with a Fall Festival at Lafayette Park and received a Proclamation from the Mayor.

The Recompetition Application will be submitted by November 24, 2014.

**Special Services:**

Disabilities: At least 10% (38) of the enrollees should have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) by February 2015. At the end of October we are at 4% with 16 IEPs and 28 needing evaluations from the school system. Children entering Head Start for the first year are given a development screening using the DIAL-4 assessment tool. 391 DIAL-4 assessment have been completed. The results of this screening help the team to determine whether a referral for additional evaluations is necessary.

**Mental Health Services**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Social/Emotional Screenings completed: **371** | Community Based Services: **5** |
| Referrals to the Mental Health Consultant: **14** | Consultant Services: **11** |
| Behavior Plans: **10** |  |

**Health Services:**

Head Start requires various screenings within certain timeframes from the day a child enters the program. Following is the status of health screenings as of the end of September.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Screenings | Completed |
| 30 Day Requirement | |
| Physical Examinations | 362 |
| Immunizations | 361 |
| 45 Day Requirement | |
| Hearing | 342 |
| Vision | 355 |
| 90 Day Requirement | |
| Dental | 187 |
| Hemoglobin/Hematocrit | 206 |
| Lead | 199 |
| Growth Assessment | 363 |

Following is the number of meals served to Head Start children in September:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Breakfast | 6,712 |
| Lunch | 6,865 |
| Snack | 6,128 |

Jefferson County Head Start is involved in a special project offered by Nemours on behalf of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention for child care providers in Jefferson, Taylor and Madison Counties. This is a yearlong project that focuses on improved practices related to childhood obesity prevention.

**Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, and Attendance (ERSEA):**

Three hundred and seventy-five children were enrolled during the month of September. The average daily attendance was below 85% due to several things including the public school being closed on two days that we were open, children being sick and parents needing to update physicals and immunizations. At Murat Hills there are several parents who are in college and they often don’t bring their children when they are out of school. The Family and Community Engagement Manager is reviewing records, ChildPlus data and meeting with his staff to ensure attendance is being monitored properly. All centers in Leon County have strong waitlists. Franklin and Jefferson Counties do not.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Head Start Enrollment and Attendance | | | |
| Center | Funded | Enrollment on  10-31-14 | September Average Daily Attendance (ADA) |
| Bainbridge | 71 | 71 | 86.14% |
| Bond | 57 | 56 | 83.06% |
| Franklin | 48 | 47 | 84.10% |
| Jefferson | 38 | 35 | 90.96% |
| Royal | 66 | 64 | 86.05% |
| Murat Hills | 57 | 57 | 76.65% |
| South City | 41 | 41 | 84.57% |
|  | 378 | 371 | 84.21% |