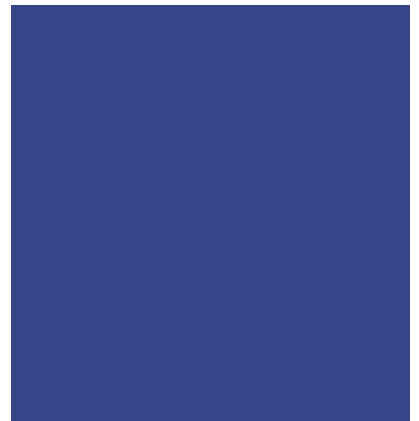
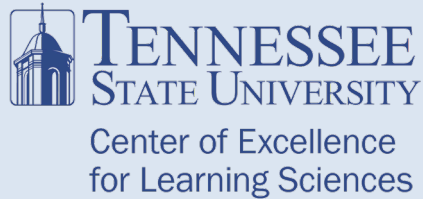




ANNUAL REPORT

2016 - 2017



Information is designed to fulfill the requirements of the Head Start Act reports to the general public.

TSU-17-0037(A)-10c-61086 - Tennessee State University is an AA/EEO employer.

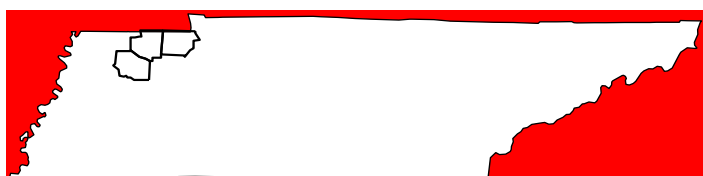
Tennessee Comprehensive Area Resource Efforts (TN-CAREs) Early Head Start is operated by the Tennessee State University Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences. The Center's mission is to design and conduct research and services that promote the educational, social, physical and psychological well-being of children and families; and interpret and disseminate research findings to improve public policies that impact educational and organizations and institutions in Tennessee and across the nation.

Tennessee State University Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences has a strong history and commitment to families and the community. The goals of Tennessee State University-Tennessee CAREs Early Head Start (TSU-TN CAREs EHS) Program are consistent with the mission and vision of the Center of Excellence. In addition, TSU-TN CAREs EHS is backed and supported by the expertise and commitment of the entire University. The following projects are examples of successful outreach and community partnerships that enhance the early childhood community along with the Early Head Start Program.

The TSU-TN CAREs EHS is a program focusing on prevention and early intervention with low-income families. Since 1995, this unique project has provided coordinated comprehensive, intensive, and continuous support services to enable families to attain self-sufficiency, while recognizing the integrity and unique needs of these families and children. Prior to becoming an Early Head Start program, TSU-TN CAREs EHS operated a Comprehensive Child Development Program (CCDP) in partnership with the local Head Start program. In which valuable research data was obtained and used to inform policy in the creation of Early Head Start.

The TSU-TN CAREs EHS Project is funded by the Office of Head Start under the direction of the Administration for Children and Families of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The program's goals encompass successful health, economic and educational outcomes and long-term academic success for children. The goals of the program are consistent with the mission and vision of the Center by supporting the needs of children and their families.

TSU-TN CAREs EHS services Gibson, Henry and Weakley counties in Northwest Tennessee and is federally funded to serve an enrollment of 112 children. The service delivery options available to families are prenatal, and center-based.



The program consists of six center-based child care centers. The program is administratively located on the campus of TSU in Nashville, TN (Davidson County) within

the Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences. The EHS Program Director, Assistant Director, Fiscal Analyst, and Education Manager have offices at the Nashville location while the program's operations office is located in the Paris Housing Authority in Paris, TN. The Paris Operations Office houses the local management staff which includes the Administrative Assistant, ERSEA/Family and Community Partnership, Mental Health/Disabilities, and Health/Nutrition content area managers.

Funding

Funding Sources	2016-2017 Funding Received	2017-2018 Projected Funding
Office of Head Start Grant Funds	\$2,136,242	\$2,173,769
Child and Adult Care Food Program (U.S. Department of Agriculture)	\$122,245	\$161,382
Local Match Funding	\$534,061	\$534,442

Budget

Budget Category	2016-2017 Approved Budget	2017-2018 Projected Budget
Personnel	\$1,127,018	\$1,195,409
Fringe Benefits	\$531,189	\$536,635
Travel	\$12,500	\$10,000
Supplies	\$141,608	\$73,649
Contractual	\$21,100	\$20,700
Indirect	\$176,387	\$179,486
Other	\$126,240	\$130,890

Early Head Start Statistics

Number of children funded	112
Percentage of eligible children/ pregnant women served	93%
Number of children/pregnant women served throughout the year	203
Percentage of average monthly enrollment	83%
Percentage of children who are up-to-date on a schedule of age appropriate preventive and primary health care	91%
Number of children up-to-date on immunizations or have received all immunizations possible at this time.	197
Number of children receiving TennCare	193
Number of children with private health insurance	4
Percentage of children served who had a disability	18%
Percentage of children with disability who received special services	100%
Number of families served	176
Percentage of single-parent families	76%
Percentage of single-parent families in which the parent is not working	54%
Percentage of families without a high school education	9%
Percentage of families participation in family goal planning	84%

Most Recent Federal Program Review

Based on the 2014 Federal review of the program there were a total of 5 findings. 1 finding was a deficiency in Staff Recruitment and Selection Procedures. 4 findings were non-compliances. 1 in Financial and Program management, 1 in Child Health and Developmental Service, 1 in Child Mental Health, and 1 in Center-Based Staff Credentials. The items have since been compiled in the response to the Regional Office. The area of deficiency and 4 areas of non-compliance have been determined to be corrected.

Annual Audit

Tennessee State University-Tennessee CAREs Early Head Start had no audit findings in the last audit. To view more details go to:

<http://www.comptroller1.state.tn.us/repository/SA/cu10065.pdf>

Developmentally Appropriate Practice that Lead to School Readiness

TSU-TN CAREs EHS focuses on prevention and early intervention with families. The goals encompass comprehensive health, economic and educational outcomes, and long-term academic success for children and families. Starting with the expectant family in the prenatal phase and ending when the child is three years of age, Tennessee CAREs ensures appropriate continuity of care, and continuous support for school success. Current research affirms that the first three years of life has a direct correlation to school readiness, although Early Head Start children do not transition directly into Kindergarten, we recognize that preparing children for success in school remains our overall goal whether we are serving infants, toddlers or pregnant mothers.

In order to establish school readiness goals for this age group that are inclusive of the domains of language and literacy, cognition and general knowledge, physical well-being and motor development, social and emotional development, and approaches toward learning we have relied on a variety of sources. Partners for a Healthy Baby is the curriculum used for expectant families, the prenatal depression screen is conducted every 2 months during pregnancy. In addition, a postpartum screen is conducted once within six weeks after the baby is born. The Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers and Twos is used in center-based and home-based options. The Ages and Stages Questionnaire – 3 (ASQ-3) is a researched based, valid and reliable tool used for developmental screenings of the infants and toddlers. Assessment is the formal and informal, on-going process to determine the strengths and needs of each child. The Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment Tool is used for all children in the program.

Tennessee CAREs Early Head Start School Readiness Goals

Goals are aligned with The Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework, The Creative Curriculum, and the Tennessee Early Learning Developmental Standards. Goals are tracked utilizing Teaching Strategies Gold Online Assessment System.

1. Approaches to Learning

- a) The children will regulate own emotions and behaviors
- b) The children will demonstrate positive approaches to learning

2. Social & Emotional Development

- a) The children will establish and sustain positive relationships
- b) The children will participate cooperatively and constructively in group situations

3. Language & Communication

- a) The children will listen to and understand increasingly complex language
- b) The children will use language to express thoughts and needs

4. Cognition

- a) The children will use classification skills
- b) The children will use symbols and images to represent something not present

5. Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

- a) The children will demonstrate gross-motor manipulative skills
- b) The children will demonstrate fine-motor strength and coordination

2016-2017 School Readiness Improvement

School Readiness Goals	% Growth during Program Year*
Physical Development and Health	11.2%
Social and Emotional Development	6.5%
Approaches to Learning	8.2%
Language and Literacy	7.5%
Cognition/General Knowledge	7.6%

*Percentage of growth demonstrated by children based on data from three documented assessments conducted during the 2016-2017 program year.

Parent and Community Engagement Activities

Families are an integral part of the program in an ongoing way. TSU-TN CAREs EHS believes that parents are the first and most important teacher of the child. Some examples of parent engagement activities are: Open house, parent meetings, classroom volunteering, Week of the Young Child celebrations, home visits, daily experience sheets, group socialization periods, and fatherhood activities.

Community involvement is evident in the Policy Council, and Health and Education Advisory Committee meetings. All parents are encouraged to sign up and participate in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library early literacy project.

During the Week of the Young Child, our program hosts several events and activities. During this week many community leaders and partners visit and share their time with the children at our centers. This year, we had several visitors from the communities we serve to share their time with our children.



A



B



C



D.



- A. Mayor Greer of Henty County, TN visited our friends at the Paris Centers.
- B. Career Day-The Paris Board of Public Utilities stopped by and shared hard hats and goodies with the children.
- C. Music Day-Kindermusik shared music story time with our friends at the Paris Housing Center.
- D. Career Day-Our friends at the received a personal tour of the cafeteria at Dresden Elementary School and learned how their food is prepared.
- E. Super Hero Day- the fire department, ambulance, and police dept. came and spoke with children about their jobs, and then they got to go explore in their vehicles.
- F. Animal Day- Tara Dowdy from Us Fish and Wildlife came and brought her snake-(Cheyanne), and animal pelts. These pelts are from animals found in Northwest TN.

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