

Tennessee State University  
Tennessee CAREs  
Early Head Start Program

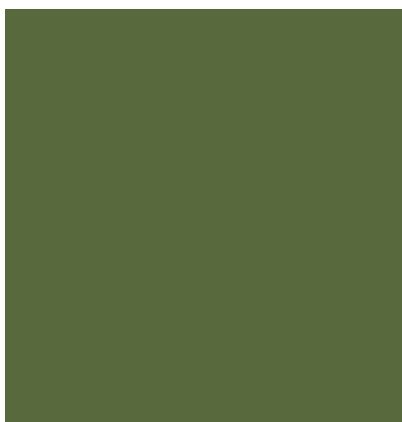
# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2018–2019



TENNESSEE  
STATE UNIVERSITY

Center of Excellence  
for Learning Sciences



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

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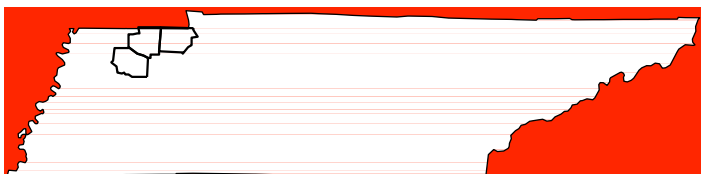
Tennessee Comprehensive Area Resource Efforts (TN-CAREs) Early Head Start is operated by the Tennessee State University Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences. The Center's mission is to design and conduct research and services that promote the educational, social, physical and psychological well-being 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

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>2018-2019 Funding Received</b>	<b>2019-2020 Projected Funding</b>
<b>Office of Head Start Grant Funds</b>	\$2,173,769	\$2,289,651
<b>Child and Adult Care Food Program (U.S. Department of Agriculture)</b>	\$161,382	\$196,894
<b>Local Match Funding</b>	\$534,442	\$572,413

### Budget

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>2018-2019 Approved Budget</b>	<b>2019-2020 Projected Budget</b>
<b>Personnel</b>	\$1,195,409	\$1,258,586
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>	\$536,635	\$580,959
<b>Travel</b>	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>Supplies</b>	\$73,649	\$91,528
<b>Contractual</b>	\$20,700	\$13,600
<b>Indirect</b>	\$179,486	\$191,488
<b>Other</b>	\$130,890	\$143,490

## Early Head Start Statistics

<b>Number of children funded</b>	112
<b>Percentage of eligible children/ pregnant women served</b>	95%
<b>Number of children/pregnant women served throughout the year</b>	198
<b>Percentage of average monthly enrollment</b>	84%
<b>Percentage of children who are up-to-date on a schedule of age appropriate preventive and primary health care</b>	99%
<b>Number of children up-to-date on immunizations or have received all immunizations possible at this time.</b>	192
<b>Number of children receiving TennCare</b>	190
<b>Number of children with private health insurance</b>	2
<b>Percentage of children served who had a disability</b>	27%
<b>Percentage of children with disability who received special services</b>	100%
<b>Number of families served</b>	164
<b>Percentage of single-parent families</b>	78%
<b>Percentage of single-parent families in which the parent is not working</b>	40%
<b>Percentage of families without a high school education</b>	8%
<b>Percentage of families participation in family goal planning</b>	97%

## Most Recent Federal Program Review

The Program's federal program review was conducted May 2018; the program had no findings.

## 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

### 2018-2019 School Readiness Improvement

School Readiness Goals	% Growth during Program Year*
Physical Development and Health	11%
Social and Emotional Development	10%
Approaches to Learning	8.2%
Language and Literacy	9%
Cognition/General Knowledge	12%

\*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.



E.



- A. Tennessee State Representative Andy Holt visited our friends at Paris Central.
- B. Read Across America Celebration at the Trenton Center
- C. Trenton Center celebrates International Day.
- D. Humboldt Center host a community breakfast during WYOC.
- E. Dresden Center celebrates Dr. Seuss's birthday with a local Police Officer reading a book and class pictures.



## **Contact Information**

### **Tennessee State University Tennessee CAREs Early Head Start**

1001 Reynolds Street

Paris, TN 38242

731-644-3470

731-644-2186 (fax)

Tamara Barnhill

EHS Program Director

**[tbarnhil@tnstate.edu](mailto:tbarnhil@tnstate.edu)**

Kimberly Smith

EHS Executive Director

& Director of the

Center of Excellence

**[ksmith81@tnstate.edu](mailto:ksmith81@tnstate.edu)**