



Child-Parent Centers, Inc.

2024-2025

Annual Report





Appreciations from the CEO

Reflecting on program year 2024-2025, I continue to be inspired by the scope and depth of the work that occurs at Child-Parent Centers, and its lasting impact on children, families, and communities throughout southeastern Arizona. Our exceptionally dedicated and passionate

employees at CPC take pride in carrying out the comprehensive and rigorous Head Start Program Performance Standards to provide a strong, individualized foundation for every child and tailored support for every parent.

Program year 2024-2025 proved to be somewhat of a paradox: we faced significant uncertainties at the federal level while simultaneously settling into post-COVID stability as an organization. Beginning in January 2025, the national Head Start community navigated significant policy changes; loss of federal staff who support program operations and services; and threats to its very existence. Yet 2025 also represented Head Start's 60th anniversary; the federal challenges presented an opportunity for the deep-rooted Head Start community around the nation to amplify the influence of the program throughout its six decades. The groundswell of support included parents from CPC specifically, who participated in record numbers in local, state, and national advocacy efforts that highlighted the critical support that early education services, and specifically Head Start, provide.

In addition to the increase in parent engagement activities, CPC experienced many other significant achievements throughout the program year. Ranging from compliance issues like maintaining full enrollment, successfully completing a major monitoring review, and implementing updated Head Start Program Performance Standards, CPC also enjoyed a return not only to stability following the pandemic, but also to flourishing as an organization. This year brought continued successes with community collaborations such as the international Mosaic of Marks, Words, and Materials exhibition; the inaugural Fatherhood Expo; public staff recognition activities; and a visit with Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs to issue a commendation for Head Start's 60th anniversary.

The CPC community met the challenges of 2024-2025 with resilience and fortitude. Those same characteristics led us to remain focused on our mission and propelled us to notable accomplishments in service to children and families. I am grateful and confident that our collective efforts will bring even more impact in the years to come.

With gratitude,

Erin

Erin Lyons
CEO





**Dr. Dan
McDonald
President**



**Dr. Angela
Cruze
Vice-President**



**Eleanor
Droegemeier
Past President**



**Lori Ann
Schultz
Secretary**



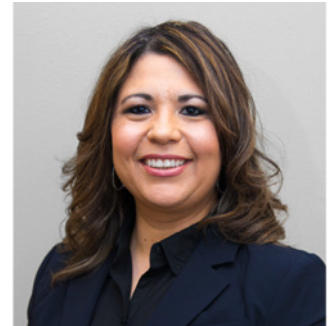
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Howlett
Treasurer**



**Dr. Robert
Clark**



**Samuel
Garrison**



**Lieutenant
Lissette
Gomez**



**Guy
Kuawu**



**Darlene
Millar
Espinosa**



**Paul
Ohm**



**Dr. Kate
Speirs**



Board of Directors



Valeria Chavez
Chairperson
La Escuelita



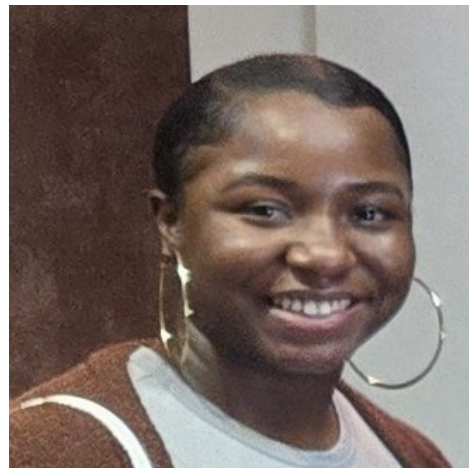
Selene Avilez
Vice-Chair
Western



Gabby Berryhill
Vice-Chair
Pima



Amy Vu
Vice-Chair
Sunnyside



Preshiousmargie
Willice
Secretary/Treasurer
Marana



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CYNTHIA FIGUEROA
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Chief Program
Officer

Dan Fry
Chief Financial
Officer

Erin Lyons
Chief Executive
Officer

Kathy Sutherland
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Officer

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Sean Cobb, Information Technology Director

Nikki Fellner, Physical Resources Director

Wendy Gomez, Program Services Director

Jordan Guzman, Health & Nutrition Services Director

Leonor Lundholm, Education Service Director

Brian Mitchell, Senior Accountant

Lisa O'Meara, Executive Coordinator

Sylvia Quihuis, Human Resources Director

Christine Vega, Organization & Employee Development Director

CPC Says Goodbye to Two Leaders



In January of the 2024-2025 program year, CPC's Chief Program Officer, Maria Bonilla Mooney, retired after 20 years of service. Maria left behind an extraordinary legacy and has touched the lives of countless children and families in her career dedicated to early childhood education. Maria plans to enjoy her retirement with her family and her beloved grandson.

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Alana Mozar, Health & Nutrition Services Director, retired from CPC in October. During her time with CPC, Alana led her department through numerous growth opportunities, and she was instrumental in helping the agency navigate the COVID pandemic. Alana plans to celebrate her retirement by traveling, camping and hiking, and exploring nature with her dog Xochi.

Thank you Maria and Alana!
You will be missed!



Child-Parent Centers, Inc.

VISION

Child-Parent Centers, Inc. envisions strong communities filled with successful children and families.



MISSION

We are a non-profit agency delivering Head Start and related programs throughout southeastern Arizona for prenatal through preschool age children and their families. The focus of our work is School Readiness in:



Early Childhood Development
Health & Nutrition



Parent Engagement &
Family Development



PHILOSOPHY

At Child-Parent Centers we believe:

- Children are magical and competent; and constant, curious learners;
- Parents want the best for their children, and learning for themselves;
- Staff bring expertise with an attitude that supports teamwork; learning and development;
- Learning thrives within respectful relationships;
- Positive outcomes result from appropriate and consistent learning over time; and
- We all participate in life-long learning as both teachers and learners.

Child-Parent Centers, Inc.





Core Values

- Safe, healthy, nurturing and happy environments.
- Ethical leadership, high standards, and continuous improvement.
- Staff development and assisting one another to find our own voice.

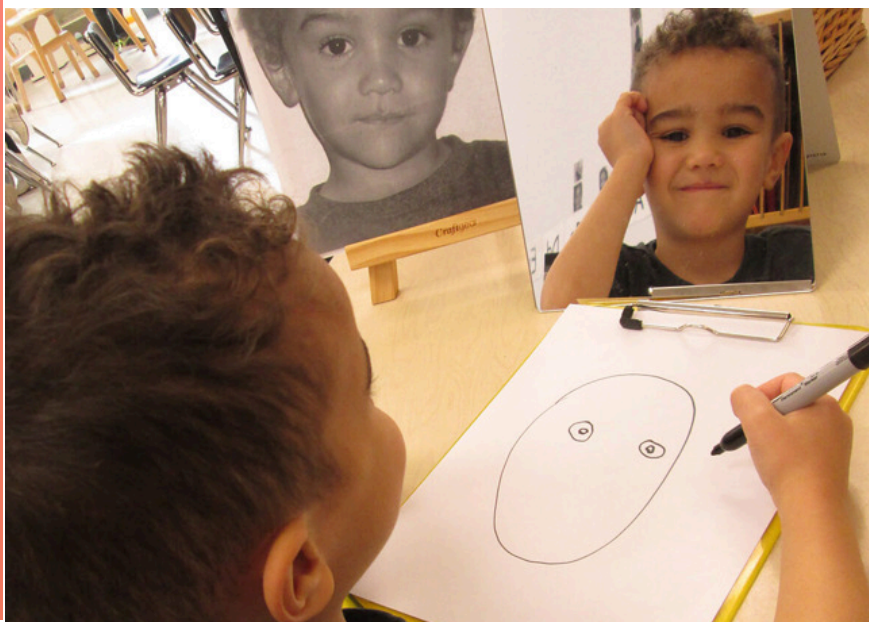


- Open, honest communication that acknowledges diverse perspectives.
- Integrity, personal responsibility, and a sense of ownership.
- Collaborative relationships, mentoring, and teamwork.

- The unique role of parents as their child's first and most important teacher, as a decision maker, and as a partner in teaching and learning.
- The unique contributions made by people of diverse backgrounds and perspectives.
- Accountability and the efficient use of public funds to ensure positive outcomes for children, families, and the community.



At a Glance



40

CENTERS

5

COUNTIES



639

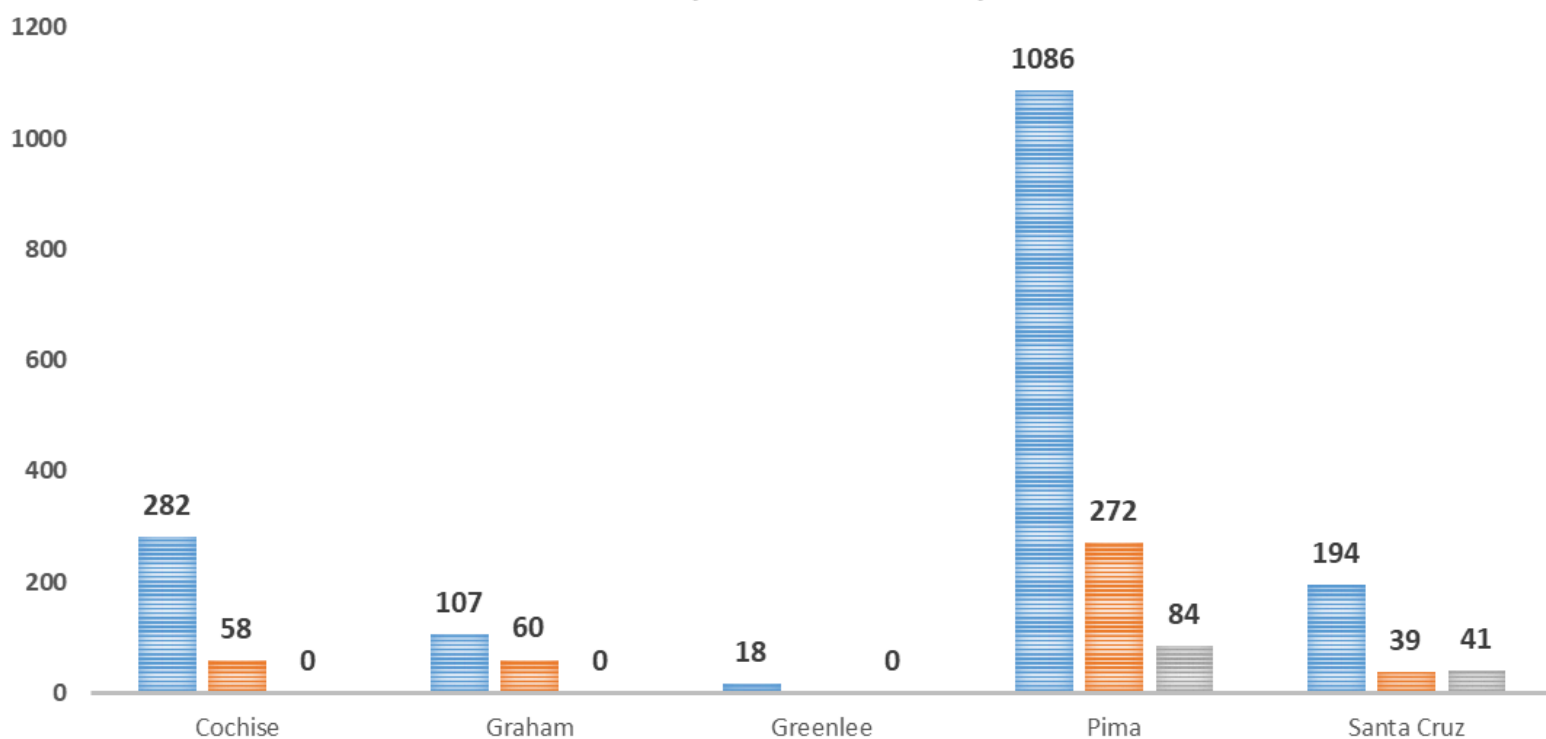
EMPLOYEES

23

PARTNER SITES

FUNDED ENROLLMENT BY COUNTY

■ Head Start ■ Early Head Start ■ Early Head Start - CCP



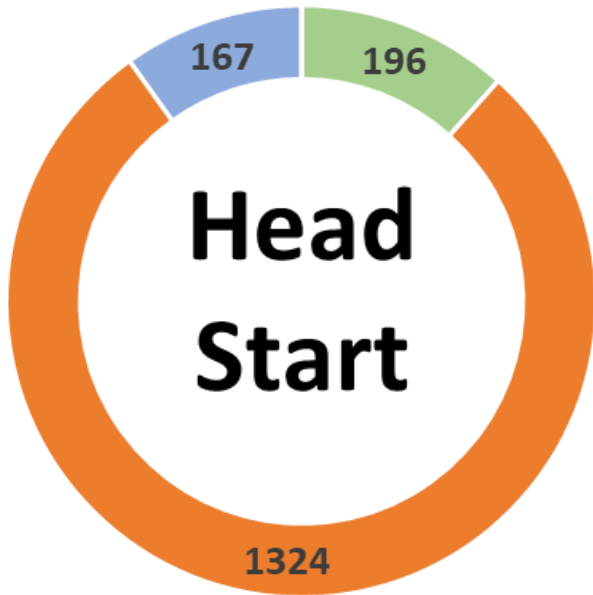
Funded Enrollment by Program Option

Extended
Day

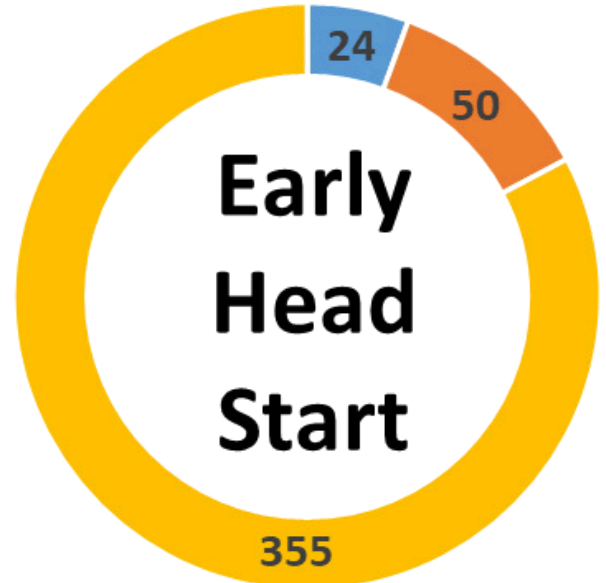
Part Day
Part Year

Full Day
Full Year

Home
Based



Head Start



Early Head Start



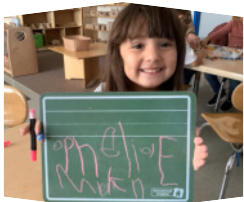
Extended Day

This model provides a minimum of 1,020 hours in Head Start classrooms and 1,380 in Early Head Start. These numbers are based on Head Start Performance Standards and are intended to provide increased duration of high-quality services in center-based settings.



Part-Day, Part Year

In this model, children attend class for four days per week, four hours per day. At a limited number of sites, transportation is available for enrolled children. This is the historical model for Head Start classrooms.



Full-Day, Full Year

This model is designed to meet the needs of working families by providing pre-school age children with Head Start services, as well as quality child care. The program operates year round, 5 days a week, Monday - Friday with a focus on kindergarten readiness.



Home Based

In this program, families participate in weekly visits with a Family Educator. Bi-weekly group experiences provide socialization time for both children and families.



Center-based

Family
Child Care

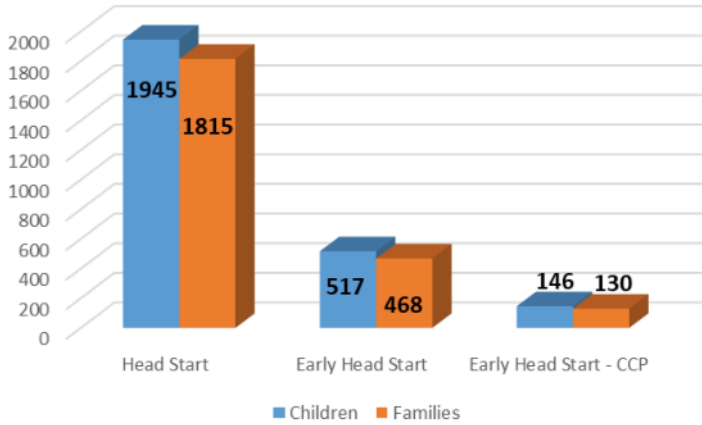


Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships & Family Child Care

The Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) model began in 2015. This program operates under a separate grant from the Office of Head Start and seeks to enhance quality services for infants and toddlers receiving care in existing childcare settings. EHS-CCP serves 125 children through partnerships with EasterSeals Blake Foundation as well as 20 family childcare providers.



Number of Children & Families Served



Average monthly enrollment as a percentage of funded enrollment

EHS Child Care Partnership

Head Start

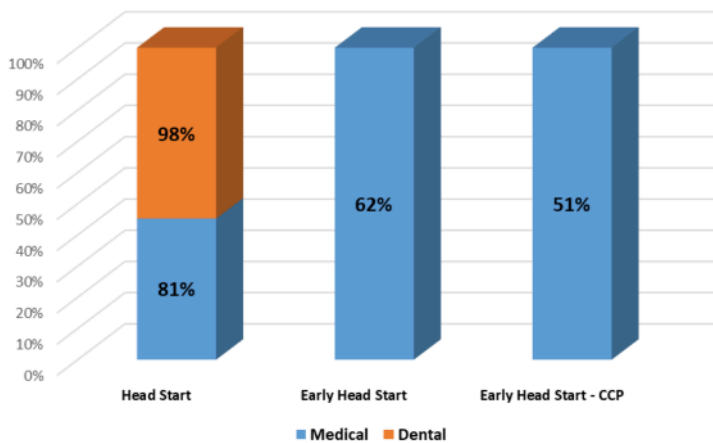
98%

Early Head Start

99%

97%

Children Receiving Medical and Dental Exams

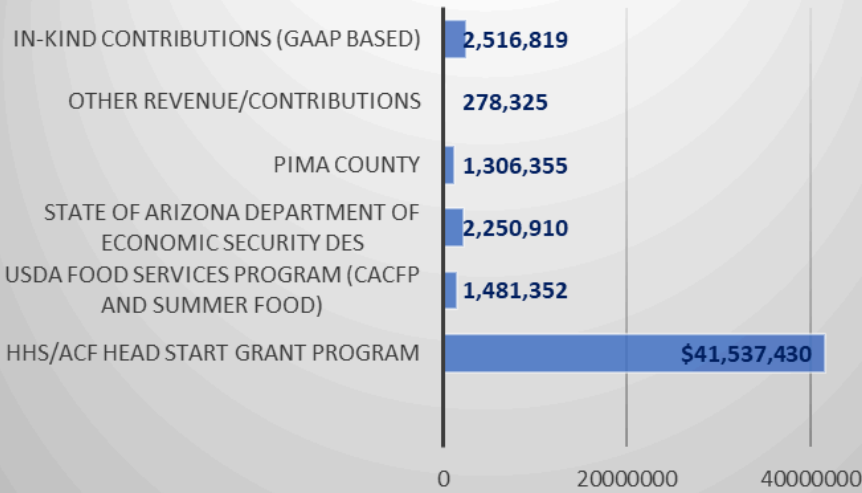


Results of Most Recent Review by the Secretary



During the 2024-2025 program year, Child-Parent Centers participated in one scheduled monitoring review with the Office of Head Start. This review, Focus Area 1 (FA1), occurred in January 2025 and all areas were in compliance.

08/31/2024 Public & Private Funds



FYE 8/31/24
Unmodified Opinion issued by
Beach Fleischman PLLC



08/31/2024 Budgetary Expenditures



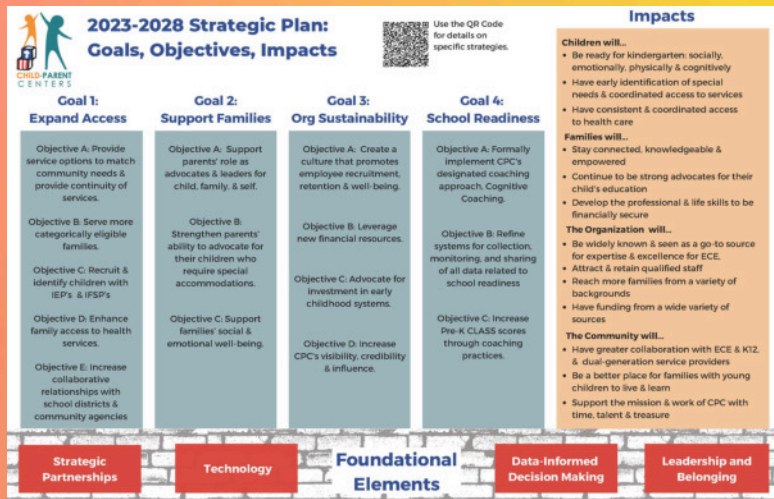
09/01/2025 to 08/31/2026 OHS Approved Budget including Program Improvement Funds & Carry Over Balance from Prior Years

	HS/EHS	EHS-CCP	TOTAL
Personnel	\$ 24,079,316	\$ 1,433,801	\$ 25,513,117
Fringe Benefits	5,268,346	309,829	5,578,175
Travel	79,056	14,700	93,756
Equipment	242,050	-	242,050
Supplies	1,582,438	126,049	1,708,487
Contractual	2,616,861	1,229,333	3,846,194
Other	4,426,632	102,407	4,529,039
TOTAL	\$ 38,294,699	\$ 3,216,119	\$ 41,510,818

Strategic Plan

Highlights

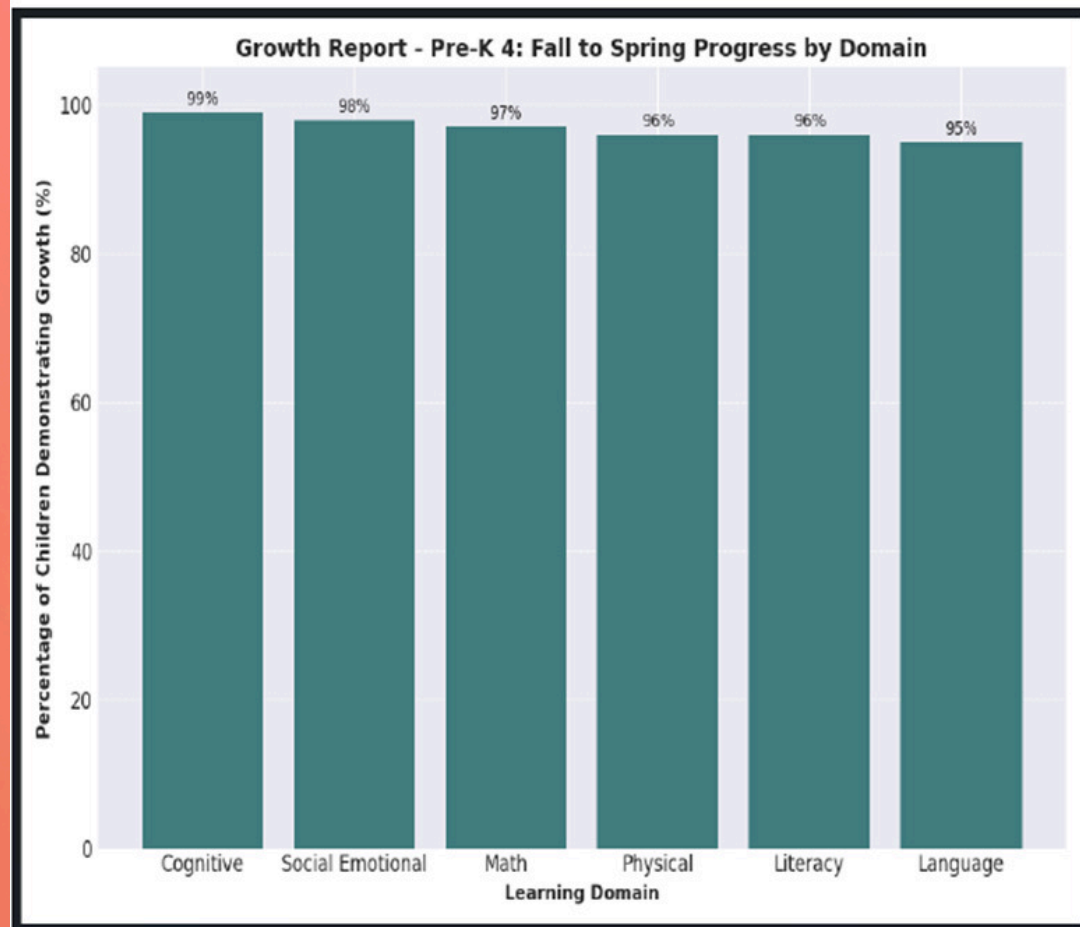
Program year 2024-2025
marked the second year of
CPC's five-year plan.



- CPC increased the percentage of children in extended or full day options from 74% in the 2023-24 year to 88% in the 2024-25 program year to meet the needs of families..
- CPC opened a new Early Head Start classroom at our Coronado location, addressing the need for center-based settings for toddlers.
- Due to CPC's collaboration with the Arizona Department of Economic Security, enrollment of children receiving public assistance increased to 45% from 35% the previous year.
- CPC partnered with the Garden Kitchen at the University of Arizona to implement two Culinary Skills cohorts for enrolled CPC parents. A total of 33 parents gained employment and culinary skills and certifications and one member from the Fall cohort became a CPC employee.
- CPC parents participated in numerous advocacy activities including: Early Childhood Education Day at the Arizona Capitol, Strolling Thunder in Washington DC, and the Governor's Roundtable.
- All Policy Council parents participated in the Parent Villages series gaining valuable insights related to issues that affect families with young children throughout the country, as well as group facilitation skills and relationship-building activities.
- More than 65 fathers participated in the agency's inaugural Fatherhood Expo in December 2024.
- Vacant positions decreased from 55 in April 2024 to 36 in May 2025 and the completion time for the hiring process was down from 22 days in 2024 to 12.5 days in February 2025.
- CPC co-hosted an international exhibit, Mosaic of Marks, Words, and Materials, that saw 570 attendees over a three-week period and provided hands-on professional development experiences as community members learned more about the impacts of high-quality early education.
- A deeper level of implementation of the Cognitive Coaching model into daily classroom practice resulted in enhanced levels of teacher-child interactions as well as deepened pedagogical knowledge and reflective capacity.

Early Head Start /Head Start Grant

Preparing Children for Kindergarten



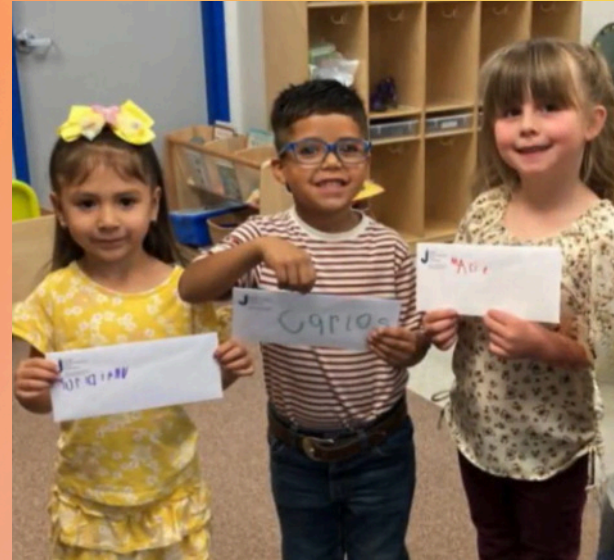
In 2024-2025, the vast majority of children of all ages in CPC's various service options experienced growth in all developmental domains by the end of the program year. These results reflect a commitment to providing early learning environments that are nurturing, individualized, and support the development of all children. In addition, children enrolled at CPC experienced greater developmental gains than the expected growth percentages set by the standardized assessment tool, Smart Teach.

Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Grant

TeachingStrategies®	% of children who made growth from Fall 2024-Spring 2025 according to the <u>SmartTeach</u> algorithm			
	Birth-1 4 children	1-2 24 children	2-3 21 children	PK3 19 children
Social Emotional	100%	96%	71%	95%
Physical	100%	92%	86%	81%
Language	100%	92%	90%	95%
Cognitive	100%	100%	86%	100%
Literacy	100%	100%	90%	95%
Mathematics	75%	86%	90%	100%

Summary of Community Assessment

This year's community assessment update provided a detailed statistical overview of CPC service areas for 2024–2025, emphasizing the need for sustained and expanded early childhood services in Southeastern Arizona. Unlike recent updates that focused on pandemic impacts, this year's assessment highlighted current demographic trends, labor force dynamics, housing and poverty issues, enrollment, and absenteeism in early childhood education. The following list provides a highlight of key findings that are relevant to CPC's planning for future services and operations:



- **Population:**

While the U.S. population is increasing, the number of children ages 0–4 in Arizona has decreased by nearly 13% over the past decade.

- **Poverty and Food Security:**

CPC centers are located in areas with high poverty. A substantial number of households rely on public benefits like SNAP and WIC (nutrition assistance programs) and many grandparents are the primary caregivers, reflecting deep-rooted economic challenges. High food insecurity rates among families further compound these issues.

- **Housing and Homelessness:**

Housing challenges are significant—rising rent prices (forecasted to increase by 4.9%), a widening gap between incomes and housing costs, and increasing homelessness (with a notable 33% jump in homeless children reported in Tucson). These factors contribute to broader financial instability for families.

- **Labor Force & Employment:**

Over 50% of Head Start families are employed, yet many work in sectors with modest wages. The most common job sectors in CPC's service area include manufacturing, construction, healthcare, and retail, indicating a need for childcare support among working families.

- **Funding for Childcare & Program Enrollment:**

Despite slight increases in per-child spending, when adjusted for inflation overall childcare funding has declined over the past 15 years. Federal COVID relief funds, which significantly bolstered programs during the pandemic, ceased in September 2024, putting additional strain on services. Enrollment for preschool programs surged with federal support but now faces challenges due to funding cuts and a growing waitlist for Arizona's DES childcare subsidy program. Preschool enrollment remains critically low: nationally, only 7% of four-year-olds and 11% of three-year-olds attend state-funded preschools; in Arizona, these numbers are even lower.

- **Absenteeism Concerns:**

Chronic absenteeism, defined as children who miss more than 10% of school days, is rising both locally and nationally. As part of the agency self-assessment process, CPC focused on chronic absences to understand barriers and impacts to a child's learning and development.

Child-Parent Centers, Inc. Service Locations

Administration Offices
602 E. 22nd St. Tucson, AZ 85713
520-882-0100
www.childparentcenters.org

COCHISE COUNTY CENTERS

EBF Sierra Vista, Bonita, Carmichael,
Cobre del Sol, La Escuelita,
Pueblo del Sol, Willcox



GRAHAM COUNTY CENTERS

EBF Palomita, Pima,
Sierra Bonita



GREENLEE COUNTY CENTER

Duncan



PIMA COUNTY CENTERS

Ajo, Amphi, Children's
Achievement Center (EBF), Cavett,
Coronado, Desert Vista, Desert
Winds, Elvira, Erickson, Homer
Davis, Jacinto Park, Keeling,
Laguna, Liberty,
Los Ninos Sunnyside, Marana,
Mission Manor, Morning Star,
Northwest, Prince, Roberts,
Santa Clara, Santa Rosa,
Southside, Summit View,
Sunnyside,
Walter Douglas, Wright



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CENTERS

Challenger
Nogales Neighborhood,
Rio Rico
Western



EARLY HEAD START CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP

20 family childcare partners
in Pima and Santa Cruz
counties

