



2018

HEAD START

ANNUAL REPORT



AREA AGENCY ON AGING
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS
COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES
HEAD START
HEALTHY YOUTH ALLIANCE
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
WORKFORCE BOULDER COUNTY

Generating a Lifetime of Opportunities

Expanding Our Services

Boulder County Head Start is constantly adapting to ensure our services are responsive to community needs and requests. Working closely with the Boulder County Housing and Human Services Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) and the Boulder Valley School District's Colorado Preschool Program (CCP), additional funding was secured in the 2017-18 school year to extend all classrooms up to 9.5 hours per day. This funding also made it possible to hire an additional classroom assistant for each class, reducing the average teacher-child ratio from 1:9 to 1:5. The additional hours supported working families by allowing them to work full schedules, knowing their children would be well educated and cared for during the work day.

The increase in staff also ensured increased individualized attention for the children. Even when a member of the teaching staff was absent from the classroom, the children were supported by two adults who knew them well. Staff reported a significant reduction in behavioral concerns in the classroom due to their ability to give children the time and attention they needed and deserved. The program also saw a significant increase in the school readiness of children this year, which can largely be attributed to the increase in staff.

Investing in Families

Head Start is the original Two Generation model, providing education for children while also supporting families in reaching their dreams.

Like so many others, Nancy and Axel had a hard time finding an affordable place to live when they came to Boulder with their two children. After enrolling their son, also named Axel, at the Woodlands site, they began to work with their Family and Community Professional, Susi Gritton, and identified a goal to attain more affordable and stable housing. The first step on this path was enrolling the family in Boulder Housing Partner's Bringing School Home program in the spring of 2016. This program provided quality affordable housing and educational opportunities for the whole family. The family moved into a beautiful apartment in the fall of 2016 just as their daughter, Mia, started her first of two years at Boulder County Head Start, and their son Axel transitioned into a BVSD kindergarten classroom.

Today, the family is taking classes and analyzing their budget with the hope of purchasing their own home within a couple of years. Axel (the father) is now an employee at Boulder Housing Partners and has attained US citizenship. He is enrolling in HVAC training to grow his employment opportunities and ensure job security for the future. Nancy is taking English and parenting classes, volunteers in both of her children's classrooms, and is in the process of applying for US residency. As one of the Head Start classroom teachers stated, "Nancy is a very strong Mother. She is always pushing and working harder to make a better life for her family."



Parents Nancy and Axel (holding his new citizenship certificate) with their children Mia and Axel.

Our Classes, Our Kids!

Boulder County Head Start (BCHS) is a comprehensive child development program for low income families and children with disabilities. It's designed to meet the individual needs of children through a partnership between teachers and parents. The school year runs from late August through Memorial Day.

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Boulder County Head Start locations:

Woodlands Children's Center

2555 28th Street, Boulder – Serving 32 Children

BCHS at Wilderness Early Learning Center

2845 Wilderness Place, Boulder – Serving 52 Children

Lafayette Community School

1135 Cimarron Drive, Lafayette – Serving 59 Children

Who We Serve

BCHS serves a diverse array of young children and families and includes a Maintenance Transitional Bilingual Program. All native Spanish-speaking children receive instruction in both their home language and in English.

BCHS's funded enrollment for the 2017-18 school year was 134 children, with a total of 144 children served.

67% families at or below Federal Poverty Rate

85% identify as Hispanic/Latino

97% of eligible children who sought enrollment were served

69% speak a language other than English at home

99% of enrollment capacity was maintained, on average, during the year

62% speak Spanish as the primary language at home

90% average annual attendance

Our Services

Head Start programs are required to preferentially enroll children who are in their last year of preschool services before entering Kindergarten, as well as children with special needs, and children from homeless families.

144 cumulative enrollment

23 children qualified for and received disability services. These included:

51 returned for their second year

11 who were identified with a disability during the school year

68 3-4 year-olds served

11 who received speech therapy

75 4-5 year-olds served

6 who received multiple therapies, including speech, occupational, physical, and/or mental health

11 homeless families served

6 who were identified with a non-categorical cognitive disability

70 children graduated to kindergarten at the end of the school year

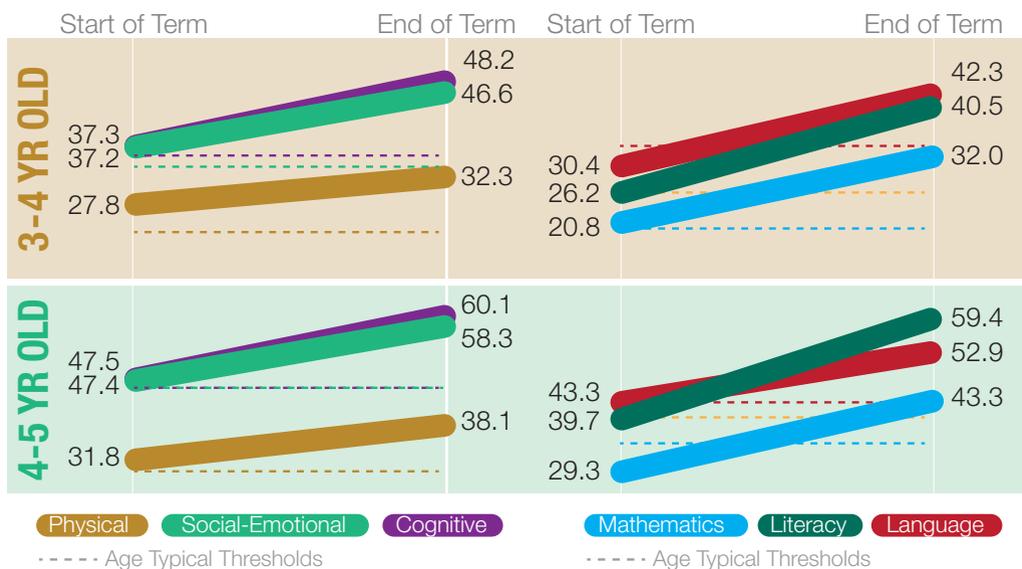
128 total number of families served

Professional Educational Services

At BCHS, we are committed to educational excellence and staff professional development. Ongoing assessments are used to assess performance of our students and teaching staff. We also excel in providing services designed to help families make a successful transition to Kindergarten.

Child Assessments

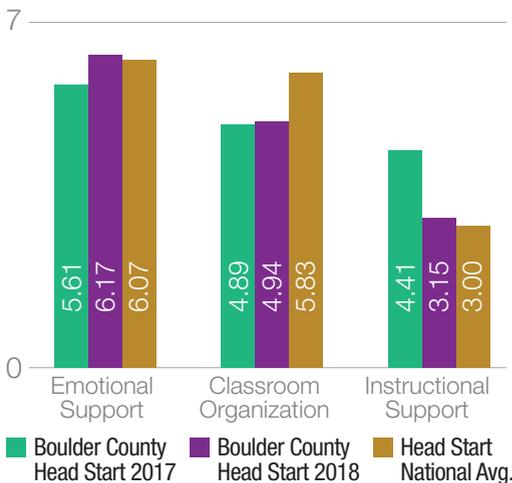
BCHS evaluates children's progress three times during the school year in six areas of development using My Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment System for Preschool. This includes social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, and mathematics assessments. Significant gains for children were observed in all areas!



Language, literacy, and mathematics saw the most improvement for age-expected school readiness scores.

Teacher Assessments

Teachers are evaluated twice a year using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) in three domains: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization and Instructional Support (scales range from 1-7).



BCHS teachers continued to perform within a standard deviation of the national average in all areas. Instructional Support had the most improvement. BCHS continues to invest in teacher development in the area of Instructional Support.

Preparing Children and Families for Kindergarten

BCHS is committed to positive outcomes for children and preparing families for a smooth transition to kindergarten. Efforts in this area include:

Home visits and parent-teacher conferences to improve school readiness and review student progress.

Kindergarten transition events to learn about kindergarten options and open enrollment processes.

Online enrollment support to ensure children are enrolled in a kindergarten program before the close of the school year.

Provision of year-end assessments to the receiving kindergarten including parents' desires for their child when entering public school.

Supportive Children and Family Services

Our families often face a variety of life challenges that require additional supports and services. We recognize that educational success means family success, and our compassionate staff strives to connect families and their children with the critical services they need to thrive.

For Our Kids

100% of BCHS students enrolled at least 30 days received hearing, vision, dental, medical, and developmental screenings within 45 days of enrollment. Our Integrated Services team works in tandem with families to ensure they get connected with appropriate community providers when a need is identified.

18 children received professional mental health services

53% of children received a dental exam from a dental home provider

81 developmental and cognitive screenings conducted for newly enrolled children and/or rescreening of children as needed

117 children received at least one dental exam and cleaning from on-site dental services in partnership with Adventure Dental

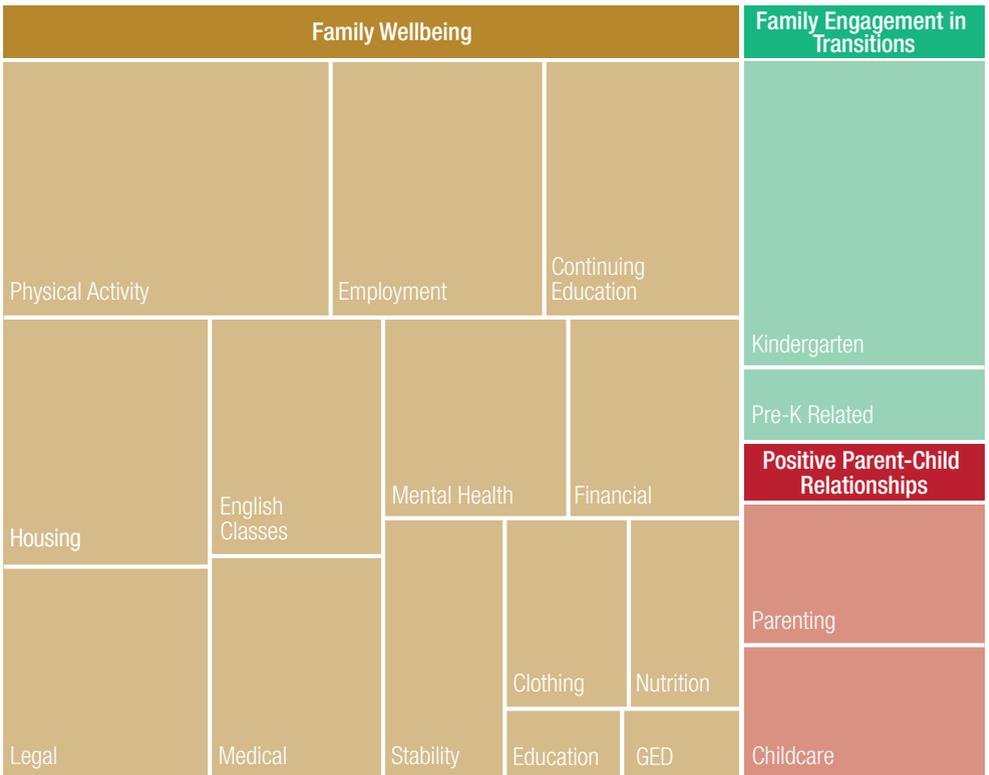
134 social-emotional screenings conducted for all enrolled children

85% of children had annual well child visits

For Our Parents

Most families chose goals within the Family Wellbeing outcome, which focuses on families being safe, healthy, having opportunities for educational advancement and economic mobility, and having access to other family support services.

73% completion rate of Family Partnership Agreements



Most families set goals within the Family Wellbeing outcome, which focuses on families being safe, healthy, having opportunities for educational advancement and economic mobility, and having access to other family support services.

About Boulder County Head Start

The Head Start program began in 1965 during the Johnson administration as a Federal summer program for children in poverty entering kindergarten. Boulder County received one of the first grants, beginning services in that inaugural year. Over the years, the program expanded to provide comprehensive early care and education for three- to five-year-old children living in poverty. The early years of Head Start provided part-day services, but as more women entered the workforce, BCHS converted half-day programs to full-day. Full-day services began in the early 1990s due to an expressed need from the community for quality care for low income families.

Our Policy Council

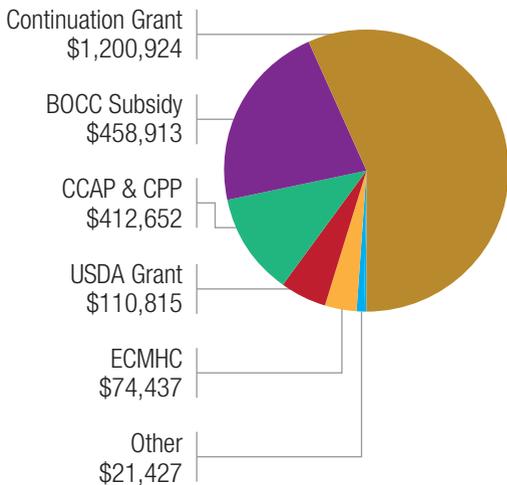
We could not be a success without the active participation of our Policy Council Members, consisting of current or past parents. We would like to acknowledge the following members for their hard work and dedication:

Emanuel Caravajal	Mercedes Espinoza	Sandra Flores
Pablo Garza	Adriana Martinez	Lidia Vargas
Elizabeth Pineda	Jasmin Ramirez	Noemi Rivera
Norma Silva	Sasha Strong	

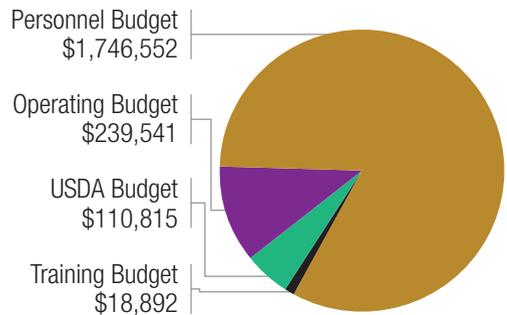
BCHS Budget Information

The majority of BCHS’s budget is supported by the Federal Head Start program, which has remained relatively flat over the years. The budget is supplemented by Boulder County, the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) and grant funding that supports Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMHC). The Boulder County Commissioners are strongly committed to ensuring the social, emotional and educational development of all children, and have provided generous subsidies to support a living wage increase for Teacher Assistants and Classroom Aides, and health care benefits for all BCHS employees. The USDA Child and Adult Food Program grant funds are used to cover the cost of three meals for all BCHS children during the school day. CPP and CCAP allow the program to operate all classrooms for 9.5 hours per day. We are grateful for the many funders who strengthen our program services and support closing the achievement gap!

Revenues and Expenses from the 2017-2018 program year



Revenue



Total \$2,115,800*

* Difference between Revenues and Expenses (\$163,368) results from a surplus in CCAP funding which will carry forward into the 2018-2019 FY.

Expense