

South Coast Head Start (SCHS) is a comprehensive early childhood program that provides quality early learning and family development services to children and families in Coos, Curry, and Coastal Douglas Counties. The program is funded by both state and federal grants. All services are provided at no cost to the families.

SCHS offers a fun, researched-based curriculum; free and healthy meals; inclusive services for children with disabilities; child development, nutrition, and health screening with follow-up support for all enrolled children. The program emphasizes the parent's role as the child's first and most important teacher and builds strong relationships with the child's parents and family.

Priority for enrollment in Head Start programs is based on child age, family income, disabilities, and other factors that demonstrate a need for services.



FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM GOALS

2019-2024

Goal 1: South Coast Head Start will work to buffer the effects of toxic stress and trauma, building resilience and strengthening protective factors of staff, families, and children.

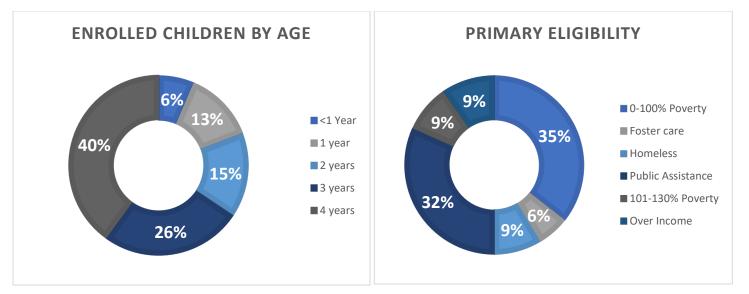
Goal 2: South Coast Head Start will provide children and families with quality early learning services, continuity and supportive transition services to support School Readiness.

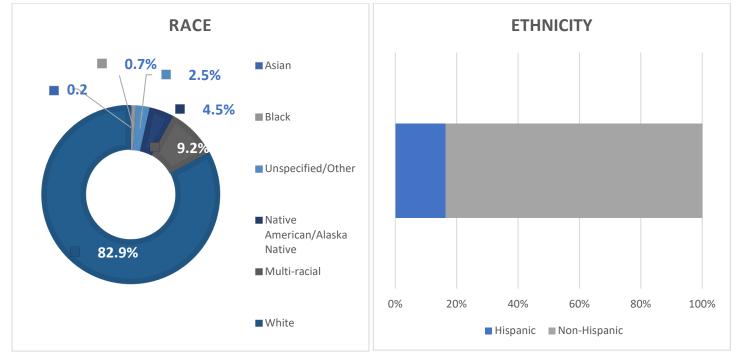
Goal 3: South Coast Head Start will support family well-being, with a focus on families who are experiencing homelessness.

ENROLLMENT

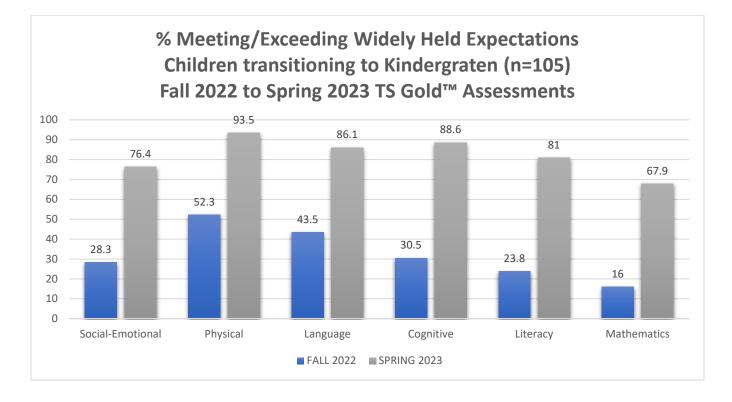
	FUNDED	SERVED
Early Head Start (0-3 & Pregnant People)	94	136
Head Start (3-5)	333	276
Baby Promise (0-3)	14	18
Preschool Promise (3-5)	18	11
School District (3-5)	4	5
TOTAL	463	428*

*18 children transitioned/were served in more than one program.





KINDERGARTEN READINESS & TRANSITIONS



Parents are the first and most important teachers of their children. South Coast Head continues to employ dual-generational support for families to meet their emergent needs, connecting families with financial, health, and social service and mental health supports.

South Coast Head Start teaching and home visiting staff utilized comprehensive curricula, individualized lesson planning and parent input to create learning environments and interactions that engaged and challenged children in our classrooms and home-based settings. Utilizing data from baseline and mid-point assessments, staff and Policy Council parents identified the areas of social-emotional development, literacy, and math as areas of focus for additional support. Activity kits for at-home learning were created for each family to extend learning in these areas to their homes.

INCLUSION

South Coast Head Start, in partnership with Coastal Center, provided **Mental Health Consultation** for children, families, and staff, through classroom observations, reflection, consultation, and training. In 2023-2024, the over **250 Mental Health consultation hours** provided 17 EHS staff and 15 HS staff with support to provide strong social-emotional group individualized supports to children.

SCHS's 2023-2024 **Playgroup Pilot Project** gave **50 children** a structured, safe place to learn and develop socialization and self-regulation skills in 8 weekly small group sessions. Groups were completed during Fall, Winter & Spring.

SCHS staff conducted **Developmental Screening** in partnership with parents to help staff and parents decide whether to refer a child for more evaluation by a qualified professional. The earlier a possible delay is identified; the earlier further evaluation and additional supports and services can be implemented.

Classroom staff individualized services for children who needed more support to help ensure effective teaching for children with disabilities and other special needs. Staff utilized children's **Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) goals** as part of their planning to help create inclusive environments to support positive outcomes.



144 newly enrolled children received development screening

SCHS referrals led to 19 children becoming eligible for South Coast ESD services during the program year





SCHS served 54 children in HS and 15 children in EHS with Individual Family Service Plans (IFSP) for disabilities

HEALTH SERVICES



84% enrolled children received medical exams



85% enrolled children received dental exams



71% of families participated in medical/oral health education activities



66,188 meals were provided during class times



PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



PARENTING EDUCATION

27 Families attended Active Parenting Workshops21 Families attended one or more Parent Café Events9 Families attended Circle of Security Workshops



FAMILY CONNECTIONS

48 Families attended one or more EHS Family Group Socialization Event
268 Families participated in one or more Family Service Home Visit
250 Family Partnership Agreements to establish and achieve family goals
327 Families participated in one or more Home Visits with Teaching staff



PARENT LEADERSHIP

21 Parents volunteered as Policy Council Representatives

179 Families attended at least one site parent meeting event



FAMILY SUPPORTS

250 referrals were facilitated by staff in the areas of Food, Clothing, Behavioral Health, Housing/Energy, Legal, Childcare, and other Family Supports.

MONITORING & PLANNING

FEDERAL PROGRAM REVIEWS:

South Coast Head Start Federal Program Review information can be found in the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center's Agency Service Profiles at: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/federalmonitoring/report/agency-service-profile.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY:

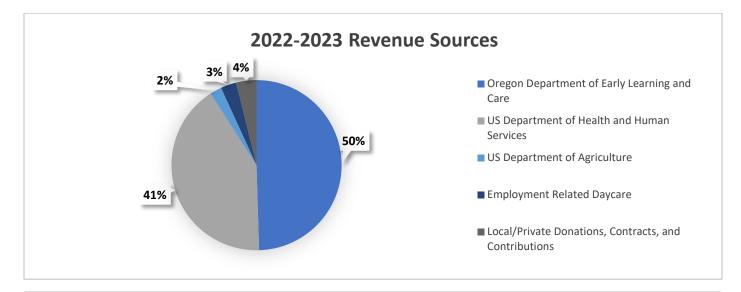
All federally funded Head Start programs are required to complete a community strength and needs assessment every five years with annual updates. SCHS staff gathered demographic data, survey information from enrolled families and community partners in Spring 2022 and updated information in December 2022. Analysis of this information by SCHS Staff, Policy Council, ORCCA (Oregon Coast Community Action) Board of Directors, and other stakeholders guides annual participant selection priorities, program planning and service delivery, and quality improvement initiatives.

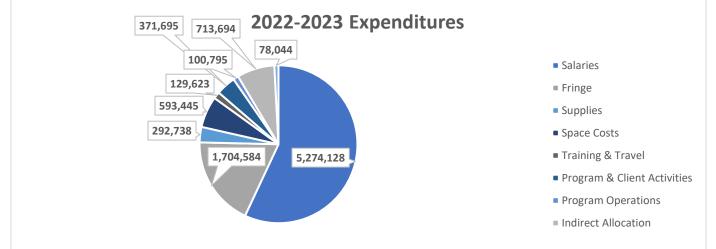
In The SCHS 2023 Community Survey, 45% of respondents identified parks and recreation as the area's greatest strength. Other respondents noted library services (44%), and public schools (37%) as community strengths. When asked about the challenges faced in the past year, of 83 respondents, 60% identified housing and homelessness as a top challenge. This was followed by a lack of childcare (31%). Economic concerns, including low wages and high costs of goods and services were noted by 29% of respondents. Many noted this concern as contributing to lack of access to food, childcare, housing, and guality healthcare, including mental healthcare. 13% of respondents noted concerns related to a lack of community/social support and networks.

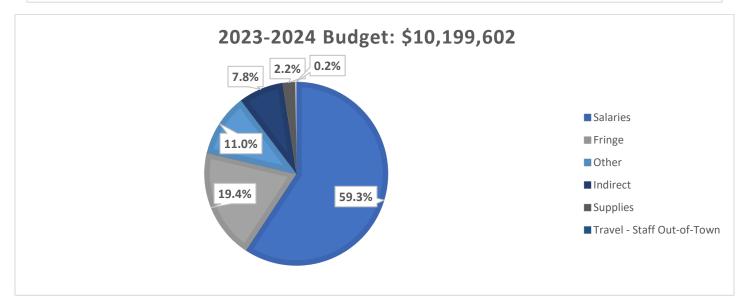
Respondents noted several positive changes in the community over the past year, including increased family resources and community growth (32%), improvements in employment and financial stability (26%) and reduced COVID restrictions (13%). Many respondents also noted positive changes in their own family relationships. Continued coordination of regional early learning programming and expansion strategies will be key to ensuring further intentional development of relevant early learning services for children and families. As the region responds to and recovers from pandemic conditions, continued positive relationships with community partners, including school districts, the South Coast Regional Early Learning (SCREL) Hub, Childcare Resource and Referral, CCO's, social services, and business partners will support data-sharing and meaningful support in planning and program development.

Based on the review of collected data, there is a continued need to focus on equitable access to comprehensive early learning and family development services. This is especially important for the most vulnerable children and families on the South Coast, who have been hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. SCHS will continue to work to address community-wide needs such as safe, affordable childcare, health and wellness, and family connections and support in a coordinated effort to increase opportunities, provide high quality services, and help our region grow and thrive.

BUDGET & EXPENDITURES







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"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

For more information about SOUTH COAST HEAD START

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