



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

STATEN ISLAND HEAD START

DIVISION OF RICHMOND UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Staten Island Head Start has a long and rich history, being amongst the first Head Start programs in the City of New York.

Providing comprehensive and high quality services to the community, Staten Island Head Start is comprised of four facilities: 44 Dongan Hills Avenue, 10 Kingsley Place, 16 Osgood Avenue and 166 Lockman Avenue.

Staten Island Head Start is providing early childhood services to families within the catchment areas of Mariners Harbor, West Brighton, New Brighton, St. George, Tompkinsville, Stapleton, Rosebank, Clifton, South Beach, Midland Beach and Dongan Hills.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Staten Island Head Start is to educate pre-school children and empower parents to be advocates for themselves and their children, to be positive role models and to become productive members of society. The philosophy stems from the belief that a child's learning experience during his/her preschool years form the foundation of his/her life success.

Staten Island Head Start is committed to utilizing all available resources to educate the children and to providing a safe, nurturing literacy-rich learning environment to facilitate children's positive developmental and social growth. Staten Island Head Start believes that it must also provide every opportunity for families to fully participate in the education and development of their children. Through these efforts, Staten Island Head Start hopes to contribute to ending the cycle of poverty that has existed and restore its communities to health, happiness and prosperity.

Richmond University Medical Centers' goal is to be the provider of choice for the Head Start community by ensuring service delivery of comprehensive medical, surgical, sub-specialty and behavioral care, treatment and services to our early childhood population and their families.

Staten Island Head Start's goal is to provide comprehensive and high quality educational and wrap-around services to the community. Staten Island Head Start is providing early childhood services to families within the catchment areas of Mariners Harbor, West Brighton, New Brighton, St. George, Tompkinsville, Stapleton, Rosebank, Clifton, South Beach, Midland Beach and Dongan Hills.

Staten Island HS/EHS is currently funded to provide service to (233) Head Start children and (40) Early Head Start children. We offer center-based services from 8:30am to 3:00pm Monday through Friday at each of our four sites. We operate our programs year-round (September to August), except for holidays and days for pre-scheduled in-service training, for a total of 48 weeks each year, which will meet the needs of the children and families in the communities we serve.

FUNDING SUMMARY

Budget

Richmond University Medical Center's Staten Island Head Start Program has an operating budget total of \$6,575,635 to operate our Head Start & Early Head Start program for FY2023 (12/01/2022 -11/30/2023). Non-federal funds in the amount of \$1,193,655 will be leveraged to support the program.

Relying on five decades of experience, operating high quality Head Start programs in Staten Island, the following budget justification demonstrates that the cost of implementing the HS/EHS program are both reasonable and sufficient to achieve the goals established for participating children and families.

Funding Category	Head Start	Early Head Start
Cost for Program Operations	\$4,170,313.00	\$727,206.00
Cost for Training and Technical Assistance	\$42,207.00	\$13,440.00
Total Federal Budget	\$4,212,520.00	\$740,646.00
Non Federal Share (In-kind)	\$1,116,858.00	\$196,011.00
Child and Adult Care Food Program Fund (CACFP)	\$264,240.00	\$45,360.00
Grand Total	\$5,593,618.00	\$982,017.00

Staten Island Head Start provides services to children ages 2—5.

Our Head Start programs have been providing comprehensive early childhood services and have been very effective at preparing children for success into kindergarten since 1965. The services being provided are fully aligned with the Head Start Performance Standards including equipping English Language Learners with the language skills necessary to participate fully in learning activities with their English-speaking peers.

As such, Staten Island HS/EHS has established School Readiness Goals for the program consistent with these domains and aligned with the HS Early Learning Outcomes framework Ages Birth to Five, NYS Early Learning Guidelines, NYC Pre-K for All Program Quality Standards, NYS Prekindergarten Foundation for the Common Core, and the High Scope Learning Domains.

Our program works in partnership with the public schools and parents to support the successful transition of children and families into Kindergarten. This partnership strives to maintain open communication, cooperation and coordination of efforts to streamline the process. We support our families with our transition process as our children leave us and venture into Kindergarten. Transition is our programs focus and evolves along with our shared understanding of realistic expectations for our children and our relationships with families and our local school districts. We share our school readiness plans and goals with our families and partners throughout our communities.

Staten Island Mental Health (SIMH), a division of Richmond University Medical Center, provides enhanced services to children at all four of our Head Start locations. All of the its have a licensed room by OPWDD as Article 16 clinic locations, and by OMH as Article 31 clinic sites, and are under the auspices of SIMH's Pouch Center. Through our Article 16 license, our clinical staff provide developmental speech, PT and OT screenings,

as well as follow-up therapies to children identified as in need of these services.

If indicated, we can complete CPSE evaluations and/or a full array psychological testing services. Our professional social workers provide ongoing counseling to children, including trauma focused services when needed. Our developmental services receive supplemental support from the Robin Hood Foundation, and from NYC DOHMH Thrive for early childhood mental health and consultation services. Our social workers have been trained in evidence based treatments and practices such as CPP (Child Parent Psychotherapy), Triple P Parenting, Trauma Focused CBT and the Georgetown Model of Early Childhood Consultation for preschools. Under the Georgetown model, staff work directly with teachers in the classrooms to develop strategies that promote positive learning/behavioral environments. This model also encourages teacher and parent participation for children who would benefit from 1-1 consultation. By offering these enhanced services we have seen positive social/emotional as well as developmental outcomes.

The SIHS/EHS program has implemented a Child Health Program to support parents in the development of a comprehensive system of health management for their family. SIHS/EHS has partnered with established networks of local health care agencies to provide health screenings and medical services for participating children and their families. A number of existing partnerships will be used to provide health screenings and services for HS and EHS children and families, including partners that serve on the Health Services Advisory Council.

All children enrolled in the SIHS/EHS will have to meet the health requirements of the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and the NYS Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment Program (EPDST), Medicaid's comprehensive and preventive child health program. The family advocate will maintain comprehensive health records for all participants.

These will include the following documents: physical exam, dental exam, immunization record, Child Health Booklet (individualized health plan), speech and language consent, home language survey, proof of medical coverage, health care providers, child health assessment form, asthma or food allergy action plan (if applicable), parent medical reminder letters, screening results, a copy of their IEP (if applicable), and parent notes.

All enrolled HS and EHS children will have an individualized health plan developed at intake with the parent and an assigned family advocate. The family advocate will maintain all files related to children's health record, review and track children's health requirements on a monthly basis, and work with and support the parent on all health-related matters.

In addition, the SIHS/EHS administers medication to

participating children when authorized by a health care provider and parent. All medications must comply with the NYS medication administration regulations, including the requirement to submit the completed medication administration form every six months along with doctor and parent authorization signatures and dates. All teachers and family advocates will be certified in CPR and First Aid, and a staff person certified in medication administration will be present during all hours of operations.

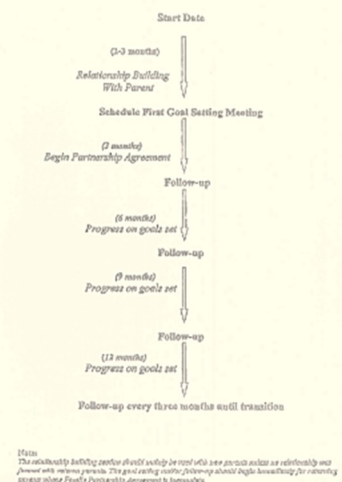
At the core of the trust building conversations is to encourage parents to see Head Start staff as a source of information, support and a resource. The intent of Staten Island Head Start Family Services is to support families. The program's approach is to treat parents with dignity and respect, and to develop a sense of self-direction and self-esteem. Therefore, service delivery is based on an understanding of child and family development, multicultural sensitivity, effective communication and a partnership with parents. This is accomplished by providing information about community resources and how to obtain them and including parents in the decision-making process.

The Family Worker is always respectful of the goals, aspirations, strengths and needs of the parent. All parents are recognized and respected as their child's primary educator, so efforts to involve parents in the education and development of the child will begin at intake and continue throughout the year. The program provides a variety of opportunities for staff and parents to establish mutual trust and a respectful collaborative relationship. Parents,

including fathers, grandparents, and extended family members who are active in the child's life, will be encouraged to participate in the early childhood program. The HS and EHS program will adhere strongly to an open-door policy, and parents will be welcomed and encouraged to visit and participate in classroom activities whenever they have an opportunity. To promote this policy, November is the program's Parent-Child Observation Month, when parents are invited to spend time in the classroom, and observe and participate in the activities for the day. There will also be a number of classroom activities offered to encourage fathers (or other male caregivers) to join their child in reading books, cooking, and playing games. Parents will also share in the child's learning experiences by chaperoning on trips and working in the classroom as both volunteer and paid staff (e.g., teaching assistants). Special events, such as the annual Family Day Outing, will also be planned to encourage the family to see the early childhood program as a respectful, safe, and welcoming extension of the community. In addition, parents will be

encouraged to play an active role in decision-making regarding the education and development of their own children. Examples include Parent Committee meetings, in which parents provide input on classroom-based activities and learn ideas and techniques for supporting their child's learning at home, and the HS and EHS Advisory Council activities, in which participating parents are given training in and opportunities for providing input on program activities and operations including fiscal management. The Family workers in collaboration with the parents develop a plan to address goals and the needs of the family.

Family Partnership Agreement Timeline



Each of our Head Start centers is located in different communities. Recruitment is a year round process with special intensive drives in the late spring to ensure full enrollment during the summer and in the early fall. Staten Island HS/EHS recruits children from a pre-determined catchment area. Selection of the target area is based on the Community Needs Assessment and covers an area in the approximate vicinity of the program site. Families who reside outside of our catchment area will be considered for placement if there is no Head Start where they live and space is available in our program. Our program must have a minimum of 90% eligible children.



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