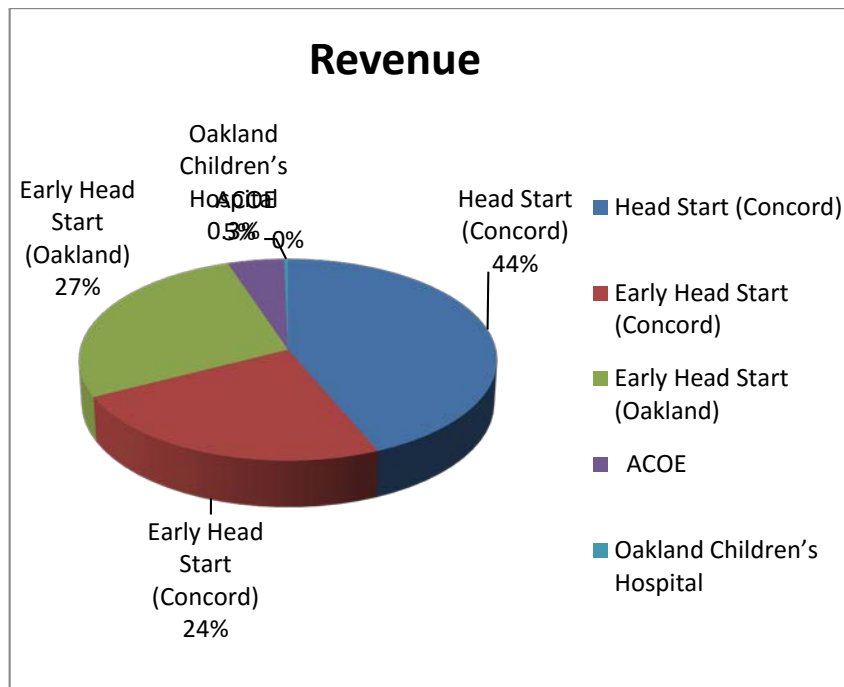




Head Start *Annual Report 2014-2015*

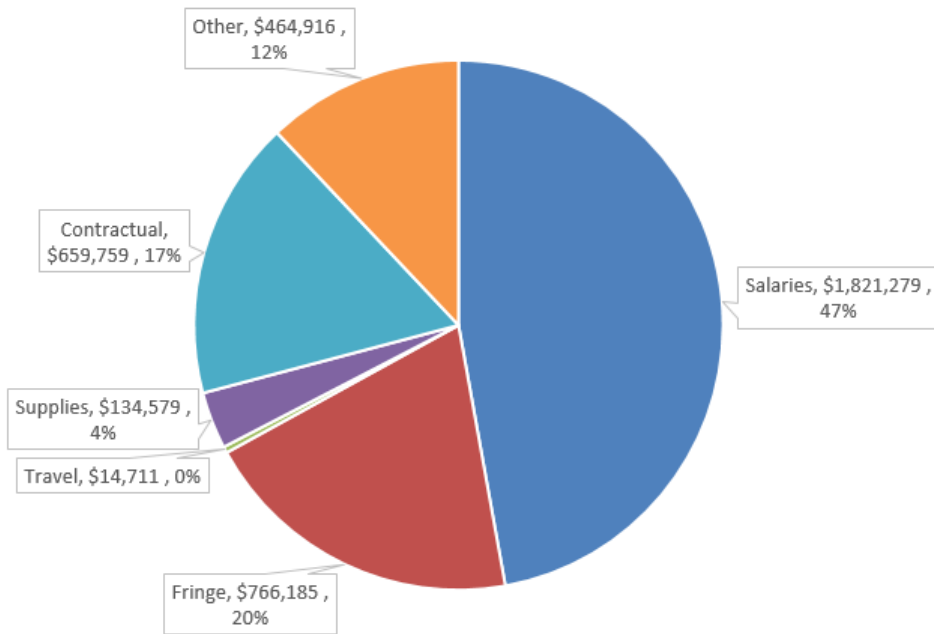
The Unity Council serves 187 Early Head Start children and 180 Head Start children throughout our Concord and Oakland grantee-operated programs. The 2014-2015 school year was the second year of operation for the Concord programs. We have two child care partners in Concord. Concord Child Care Center, a NAEYC Accredited program, serves both Early Head Start and Head Start aged children with a center-based model. Cambridge Community Center offers full-day and part-day services for Head Start children with a center-based model. We are happy to report that in December we opened Cesar Chavez Head Start Center a brand-new child care facility in the Monument Corridor. This facility has four classrooms, a large parent room, a full-sized kitchen, and serves 72 children on a daily basis.

Funding and Budgets



Revenue	
Head Start (Concord)	\$1,774,896
Early Head Start (Concord)	\$974,147
Early Head Start (Oakland)	\$1,112,385
ACOE	\$196,000
Oakland Children's Hospital	\$14,000
Total	\$4,071,482

Budget, 2015



Budget	
Salaries	\$1, 821,279
Fringe	\$766,185
Travel	\$14,711
Supplies	\$134,579
Contractual	\$659,759
Other	\$464,916
Total Expenditures	\$3,861,429

Enrollment

The Unity Council’s Head Start and Early Head Start program enrollment is disaggregated by program and location in the following tables:

2014-2015 Total Funded Enrollment	
Head Start (Concord)	186
Early Head Start (Concord)	90
Early Head Start (Oakland)	95
Total Funded Enrollment	371

2014-2015 Actual Enrollment	
Head Start (Concord)	219
Early Head Start (Concord)	115
Early Head Start (Oakland)	140
Total Actual Enrollment	474

Office of Head Start Monitoring Reviews

During the 2014-2015 program year, the Office of Head Start (OHS) conducted three onsite federal reviews. In February, OHS conducted the CLASS review of our Head Start centers in Concord. This included Cesar Chavez Head Start, Concord Child Care Center, and Cambridge Community Center. In March, OHS conducted an Environmental Health & Safety Review. The reviewer was on site at our grantee-operated and partner-operated centers. Lastly, in April, OHS was onsite at our Headquarters for the Fiscal/ERSEA review.

CLASS Review---Spring 2015

DOMAIN	Score	DOMAIN	Score	DOMAIN	Score
Emotional Support	6.2917	Classroom Organization	5.9444	Instructional Support	2.4444

DIMENSIONS					
Positive Climate	6.44	Behavior Management	6.11	Concept Development	2.06
Negative Climate*	1.00	Productivity	6.44	Quality of Feedback	2.44
Teacher Sensitivity	6.50	Instructional Learning Formats	5.28	Language Modeling	2.83
Regard for Student Perspectives	5.22				

Environmental Health & Safety Review---Spring 2015

Summary of Findings

Finding Type	Applicable Standards	Program Type	Grant	Timeframe	Compliance Level
<i>Safe and Clean Facilities</i>	<i>1304.53(a)(7)</i>	<i>HS</i>	<i>09CH9116</i>	<i>120 days</i>	<i>Noncompliance</i>
<i>Safe and Clean Facilities</i>	<i>1304.53(a)(10)(vii)</i>	<i>HS and EHS</i>	<i>09CH9116</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Concern</i>
<i>Healthy Learning Environments</i>	<i>1304.53(a)(10)(x)</i>	<i>HS and EHS</i>	<i>09CH9116</i>	<i>120 days</i>	<i>Noncompliance</i>

The results of the Environmental Health & Safety Review found that we were non-compliant in only two areas: safe and clean facilities and healthy living environments. We have addressed both of the stated areas of non-compliance and expect to see these concerns removed from our program in early December, pending Regional Office approval. We also had one area of concern, which has since been addressed and is pending removal soon.

Fiscal/ERSEA Review---Spring 2015

We are pleased to report that the Office of Head Start found no areas of non-compliance or deficiencies during the Fiscal /ERSEA review this year.

Parent Involvement

The Unity Council offers a variety of opportunities for parents and families to be engaged in their child's learning and educational process. At the beginning of each program year, the Parent Involvement staff conducts a survey with parents in order to gauge their individual needs and interests. The results of the survey guide the staff in workshop design so that the workshops will be of use and interest to parents. The survey results also provide insight into how we

can best support the families in in all aspects of our programs. This year, sponsored workshops for parents included: six sessions of health and nutrition by Cooking Matters, Covered California information and on-the-spot enrollment by La Clinica, birth to five developmental classes and family resource workshop by First 5 Monument, child abuse prevention and awareness by Contra Costa’s Child Abuse Prevention Council along with PHN certified Health Coordinator from John Muir Hospital, family dynamics and Proud Parenting classes in a 10 class format by STAND of Contra Costa County. Additionally, representative from Lifeline Telephone Assistance and PG&E gave presentations and registered parents in their utility assistance program.

The Unity Council also strongly encourages parent leadership, not only at school but also in the community. The Family Engagement staff supported parents taking leadership roles in their child’s center as well as agency-wide through the Policy Council. Parents were also heavily engaged in the education of their children by establishing and pursuing school readiness goals for children and their families.

Medical and Dental Care for Children

The Unity Council partners with various providers to ensure children have medical and dental homes. In Concord and in Oakland, La Clinica De La Raza, Native American Health Center, and the Willow Pass Health Center are the primary provider for our families. La Clinica Dental and the Native American Health Center provide families with a dental home.

Service	Program	Number of Children	Percentage
Medical Home	Head Start (Concord)	203	93%
	Early Head Start (Concord)	96	77%
	Early Head Start (Oakland)	128	91%

Dental Home	Head Start (Concord)	189	86%
	Early Head Start (Concord)	98	71%
	Early Head Start (Oakland)	127	90%

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

The Unity Council’s Head Start staff work to ensure that all children are ready for school. With this in mind, and with the help of parents and teachers, we developed school readiness goals that are tailored to each program. Each school readiness goal was created using information from parents, from teachers and from data collected through assessment and observation tools.

The Unity Council supports children’s school readiness by promoting:

- *Language and Literacy Development*
- *Cognition and General Knowledge*
- *Physical Growth and Health*
- *Social and Emotional Development*
- *Approaches to Learning*

Children School Readiness Goals state how we expect children to progress across the five domains of development. After creating Children School Readiness Goals, we create a plan detailing how we will support children in the classroom, how to involve parents and how to support teacher’s professional development.

The Unity Council acknowledges that parents are the child’s first teacher and their primary teacher. Furthermore, research shows that the development of a positive parent-child relationship during the first three years of life significantly improves children’s long-term development. For these reasons, we created School Readiness Goals for Parents and an associated monitoring plan for our work with families. In addition, all of our School Readiness Goals and curriculum alignment ideas are shared with, supported by, informed by parents. Every effort is made to include parents in the curriculum planning process for home visits, classroom activities and socialization events. Teachers who are also home visitors place a great deal of emphasis on strengthening the parent-child relationship and include parents in both the social services and education components of the program.

Teachers also meet individually with parents four times a year to discuss their child’s development and to design specific goals and strategies that will support the child’s ongoing development at home and in school. Teachers create a classroom/socialization environment that incorporates aspects of their home environment (e.g. family pictures, books in their home language, dress up clothes from different cultures, special items from home) in order to strengthen the home-school connection. Teachers regularly share observations with parents and ask for parents if they have concerns or observations of their children they would like to share. Teachers support the parent-child relationship by talking with the children about their family, supporting the children and parents during drop-off and pick-up time, and meeting with parents when specific concerns arise.

School Readiness Goals are shared with the Policy Council, and staff request that council members offer input, suggestions, and questions. Workshops on School Readiness are provided as a forum for parents to think more deeply about School Readiness and offer more input.

*****For a detailed and complete explanation of our school readiness goals, please see our School Readiness Goals 2014-2015 document. *****

CLASS Results

CLASS Statistics, 2014-2015						
National Distribution of Grantee-Level Scores by Domain						
Domain	Lowest 10%	Median (50%)	Highest 10%	Concord Average Fall 2014	CLASS Review 2015	Concord Average Spring 2015
Emotional Support	5.7167	6.08	6.50	6.18	6.2917	6.30
Classroom Organization	5.3646	5.83	6.35	5.55	5.9444	5.65
Instructional Support	2.2027	2.83	3.65	3.25	2.4444	2.58

Mission Statement

The mission of The Unity Council is to help families and individuals build wealth and assets through comprehensive programs of sustainable economic, social, neighborhood development.

The Head Start Program provides a safe, stimulating, and nurturing environment that respects and celebrates each person’s culture, strength, and uniqueness.

Combined, our grantee- and delegate-operated programs currently serve 872 pregnant women and children from birth to 5 years old.

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