



Grace Hill Head Start Report to the Community

A Review of the 2012/2013 Program Year

Grace Hill Settlement House is a grantee of the Head Start program, serving 3-5 year old children and their families in St. Louis City. This comprehensive school readiness program is recognized as one of the most cost-effective and successful programs in the nation for children.

We believe that the parent is the child's first educator and together we guide and nurture the child. We place a special focus on academics, social and emotional development, health and family support. This Federally funded program provides education, support and leadership opportunities for many of St. Louis' most vulnerable families.

Our attendance achievements during the 2012/2013 program year include:

1,760: Total cumulative enrollment of children.

1,622: Total families received Head Start services.

99%: Percentage of slots filled each month.

91%: Children served were income eligible, living at or below the poverty guidelines.

POLICY COUNCIL

Executive Officers

Kenya Conner, Chair
Miami Barrett, Secretary
Rodney Curry, Parliamentarian

Parent Representatives

Sabrina Moorehead	Elizabeth Amezcua
Cynthia Burns	Cierra Caston
Thiera MacFee	Manuel Crossland
Meloni Jones	Angela Roebach
Gibson Kenule	Shamika Swan
Meghann Lampkin	Latasha Gaddy
Joe Thomas	
Amanda Armstrong	

Community Representatives

Kimberly Brasher
Ray Dobinsky
Rebecca Glenn
Alex Kanter
Cecelia Luecking
Dorothy Martin
Carol Walker

CLASS OBSERVATIONS

The Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 requires that all grantees conduct classroom assessments. These observations must be conducted with a valid and reliable research-based Instrument that assesses classroom quality, including an assessment of multiple dimensions of teacher-child interactions that are linked to positive child outcomes and later achievement. Grace Hill contracts with a CLASS qualified consultant to conduct observations in classrooms. The following chart shows the scores for 2012 and 2013. For all three domains, the “standard of excellence” is a 6. The minimum threshold is 4 for Emotional Support; 3 for Classroom Organization and 2 for Instructional Support. The aggregate scores for Grace Hill is above the minimum threshold in all domain areas.

Domain	National Grantees	Grace Hill	Lowest 10%
Emotional Support	5.99	6.16	5.5417
Classroom Organization	5.63	5.67	5.0556
Instructional	2.72	3.25	2.1061

HEALTHY CHILDREN

In order for children to be fully prepared to learn, children need to be physically healthy. Through referrals and resources provided by Head Start staff, 91% of children received physical exams, 86% dental exams, and 92% were up-to-date on immunizations.

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

In order to operate, the Head Start program is required annually to generate 20% of its funding from non-federal in-kind contributions. In-kind is an allowable donation of materials, space, services and/or time that a Head Start program needs to deliver the full range of Head Start services. In the 2012/2013 contract year, Grace Hill raised \$3,600,340 for in-kind.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

There are many ways for parents to be involved in the Head Start Program. We have parent meetings, classroom activities, Policy Council, field trips and activities to do at home to extend the classroom learning. In 2013, over 1,026 parents volunteered in the program logging 12,498 volunteer hours.

HEAD START FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenues	
Government Grants/Fees	\$ 11,413,173
Program Service Fees	\$ 1,291
Total Revenue	\$11,414,464
Expenses	
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 3,492,911
Program Expenses	\$ 6,702,898
Indirect Allocation	\$ 1,218,655
Total Expense	\$11,414,464
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 0





KINDERGARTEN READINESS

Early childhood professionals, parents, and stakeholders selected the following school readiness goals as part of National initiative to measure the impact of Head Start on preparing children for kindergarten. Parents were taught specific activities they can perform with their child that will support progress toward these school readiness goals.

Physical Health, Well-Being and Motor Development

- 1.) 90% of children will demonstrate the ability to manage their own personal needs, such as toileting, washing/drying hands and using eating utensils.
- 2.) 85% of children will demonstrate the ability to use a variety of writing tools and materials.

Cognitive and General Knowledge

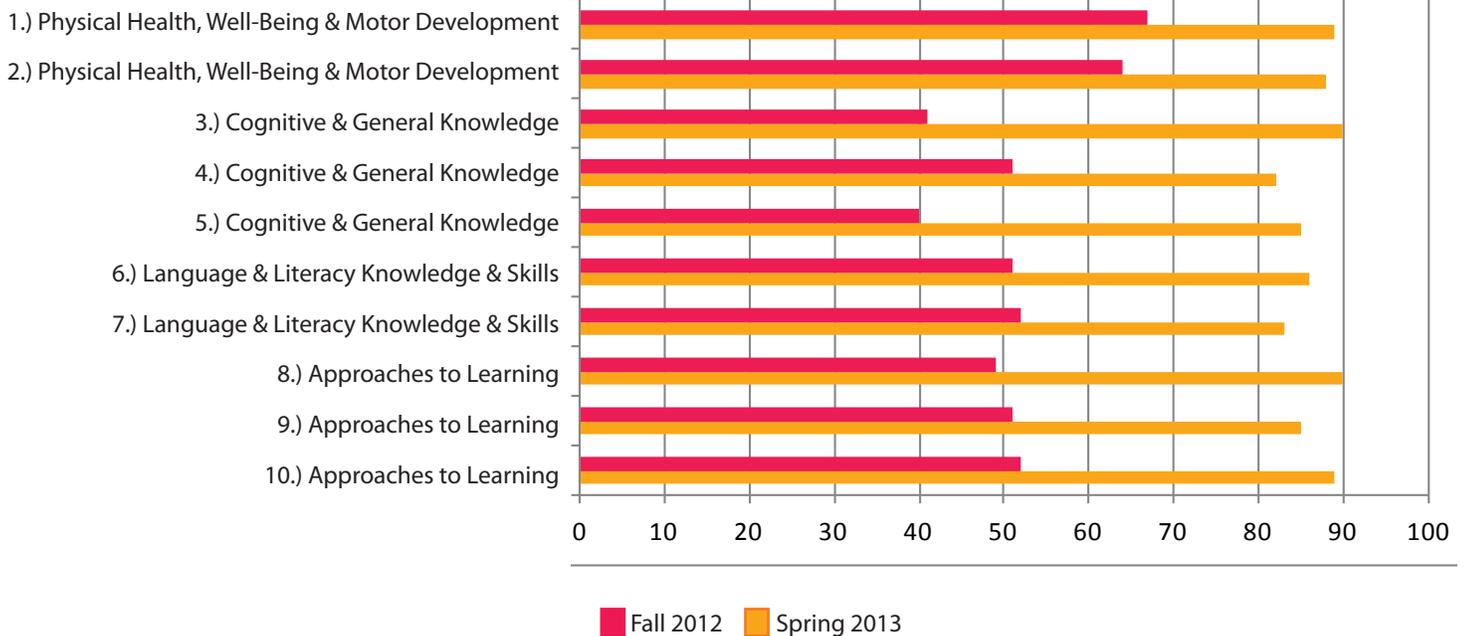
- 3.) 80% of children will demonstrate the ability to count to 10.
- 4.) 80% of children will identify and name some shapes.
- 5.) 75% of children will gather information, evaluate and experiment to problem solve.

Language and Literacy Knowledge and Skills

- 6.) 85% of children will name six or more letters.
- 7.) 85% of children will use language to pretend, participate in conversations and ask questions.

Approaches to Learning

- 8.) 90% of children will participate successfully in a group.
- Social and Emotional Development
- 9.) 90% of children will express feelings, needs, ideas appropriately through interactions, play and routines.
 - 10.) 90% of children will follow simple rules and express feelings through appropriate gestures and language.



FEDERAL MONITORING

On May 25, 2013, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a monitoring review of the Grace Hill Settlement House Head Start program. This report provides detailed information on each area where program performance did not meet applicable Head Start Program Standards, laws, regulations and policy.

Responses to cited areas of Non-Compliance

Sec. 648A. STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT [42 U.S.C 9843a]

(g) Staff Recruitment and Selection Procedures - before a Head Start agency employs an individual, such agency shall (3) obtain -- (A) a State, tribal, or Federal criminal background check covering all jurisdictions where the grantee provides Head Start services to children; FTL Solo (10/28/2012):The Grantee did not obtain Criminal Record Checks prior to employing individuals.

FTL Solo - Corrected: The grantee obtained CRCs prior to employing individuals; therefore, it was in compliance with the regulation.

Part 1304 - Program Performance Standards for Operations of Head Start Programs By Grantees and Delegate Agencies

1304.52 Human Resources Management. (i) Standards of Conduct (1) Grantee and delegate agencies must ensure that all staff, consultants, and volunteers abide by the program's standards of conduct. These standards must specify that (iv) They will use positive methods of child guidance and will not engage in corporal punishment, emotional or physical abuse, or humiliation. In addition, they will not employ methods of discipline that involve isolation, the use of food as punishment or reward, or the denial of basic needs.

Other-Offsite - 9/20/2013 - Deficiency: The grantee did not ensure all staff, consultants, and volunteers abided by the program's standards of conduct requiring them to use only positive methods of child guidance and not engage in corporal punishment.

Desk Review (12/16/2013) - Corrected: The grantee ensured all staff, consultants, and volunteers abided by the program's standards of conduct requiring them to use only positive methods of child guidance and not engage in corporal punishment.

The grantee implemented policies and procedures, trained staff, took administrative actions and increased monitoring to ensure another incident did not occur.

Part 1310 - Head Start Transportation

1310.10 General. (g) Each agency must ensure that children are only released to a parent or legal guardian, or other individual identified in writing by the parent or legal guardian. This regulation applies when children are not transported and are picked up from the classroom, as well as when they are dropped off by a vehicle. Agencies must maintain lists of the persons, including alternates in case of emergency, and up-to-date child rosters must be maintained at all times to ensure that no child is left behind, either at the classroom or on the vehicle at the end of the route.

Other-Offsite - 9/20/2013 - Deficiency: The grantee did not ensure children were released only to a parent or legal guardian or other individual identified in writing by the parent or legal guardian.

Desk Review (12/16/2013) - Corrected: The grantee ensured children were released only to a parent or legal guardian or other individual identified in writing by the parent or legal guardian. The grantee trained staff, reviewed and revised its policies and procedures for release of children, developed safeguards to ensure children were only released to a parent or legal guardian, increased monitoring efforts and met with staff individually to ensure they understand the revised policies and procedures regarding release of children.

The Grace Hill Settlement House 2012/2013 Program Year Report to the Community has been prepared in order to comply with the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. The Act states that: "Each Head Start agency shall make available to the public a report published at least once in each fiscal year that discloses the following information from the recently concluded fiscal year, except that reporting such information shall not reveal personally identifiable information about an individual child or parent: (C) The total number of children and families served, the average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment), and the percentage of eligible children served. (D) The results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit. (E) The percentage of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams. (F) Information about parent involvement activities. (G) The agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten. (H) Any other information required by the Secretary."