C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation is in its 57th year of providing Head Start services to the counties of Christian, Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Montgomery, Moultrie and Shelby counties. Head Start is a federal program funded through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). It provides comprehensive education and health services to children from predominantly low-income families. The program operates under and is evaluated based on 2016 Performance Standards and administrative requirements (Section 644 of the Head Start Act 42 U.S.C. 9839). The most recent reauthorization “Improving Head Start School Readiness Act of 2007” requires programs to present an annual report to the public. The C.E.F.S. Head Start 0-5 Program is pleased to provide this snapshot of its comprehensive programming for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and pregnant women.

**Head Start Center-Based Locations**

Altamont, Effingham, Litchfield, Louisville, Pana, Shelbyville, Taylorville, Sullivan & Vandalia

**Early Head Start Home-Based Locations**

Christian, Clay, Effingham, Montgomery, Fayette & Shelby Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head Start Funded Enrollment</th>
<th>Number of Head Start Enrollees Served</th>
<th>Number of Head Start Families Served</th>
<th>Early Head Start Funded Enrollment</th>
<th>Number of Early Head Start Enrollees Served</th>
<th>Number of Early Head Start Families Served</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>273</td>
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<td>259</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>159</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Head Start Average Monthly Enrollment.........................................97%

Head Start Income Eligible Children Served in Service Area*..............................45%

Head Start Age Eligible Children Served in Service Area*............................7.3%

Early Head Start Average Monthly Enrollment ..................................98%

Early Head Start Income Eligible Children Served in Service Area..................13%

Early Head Start Age Eligible Children Served in Service Area*....................2.1%

*Figures based on projected number of age eligible children based on county birth rates and poverty rates for children by county

The largest category of racial composition of age eligible children in the C.E.F.S. Head Start are white (94.8%) with a small percentage of Hispanic families (1.5%) moving into the service area. English is the language spoken by most families. Other languages represented include Spanish and East Asian.

The C.E.F.S. Head Start 0-5 Program, state preschool providers, and private preschools that serve children aged three to five within the seven-county service area have the total capacity to serve 3,420 children. This would care for a total of 98% of the age eligible preschool population. There are 11 birth-to-three education providers including C.E.F.S. Head Start 0-5 Program’s Early Head Start which have the capacity to serve 693 children and women which could care for a total of 15.7% of this age population.

Health, nutrition, and social service needs of eligible children and their families include limited dental providers that accept Medicaid, accessible/affordable dental care, accessible/affordable optometrist services, picky eaters, snack and meal planning, limited food budget to purchase food items, health eating education, how to deal with emotions, child behavior management, budgeting/financing assistance, inability to get child support, finding time to attend college/obtain GED, affordable/dependable childcare, affordable college tuition, and budgeting education. There are numerous resources within the service area to address the needs of eligible children and their families.

Rates of substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect were as high as 23.3% within the service area, contributed by poverty, parental substance abuse, mental health problems, stress due to economic crisis, or other violence. Child homeless numbers are as high as 468 for children under age 5. Available numbers of children with disabilities within the service area total 163. The types of disabilities include delays in speech, unspecified developmental delays, orthopedic impairments, multiple disabilities, autism, and other health impairments. There are several agencies that provide services to children with disabilities in the service area.
### Child Health Age 3-5
- Children up-to-date on age-appropriate health care: 270
- Children completing a medical exam: 275 (99%)
- Children needing dental follow-up treatment: 181 (65%)
- Children completed and/or received dental follow-up treatment: 47 (16.9%)

### Child Health Age 0-3
- Children up-to-date on age-appropriate health care: 130
- Children completing a medical exam: 180 (83.3%)
- Children completing a dental exam: 93 (43.1%)
- Children needing dental follow-up treatment: 11 (5.1%)
- Children completed and/or received dental follow-up treatment: 3 (27%)

### Parent Involvement
During the 2020-21 school year, 117 HS/EHS parent meetings/activities were held with a total of 791 parents/guardians attending. Events were held via family night drive-throughs and Zoom meetings. Meeting topics included fire safety, budgeting, literacy, SIDS, water safety, self-regulation, mindfulness, C.E.F.S. Outreach services, car seat safety, financial literacy, child development and temperament, energy assistance, bonding with your child, parenting style, brain connections, parenting – setting limits, power of encouragement, self-care.

### Pre-K Memorandums of Agreement
C.E.F.S. Head Start has written pre-k memorandums of agreement with the following Pre-Ks in the seven (7) county service area during 2020-2021: Clay City CUSD, Vandalia CUSD, Shelbyville CUSD, Litchfield CUSD, Hillsboro CUSD, Morrisonville CUSD, Pana CUSD, Taylorville CUSD, EIASE, Nokomis CUSD, Panhandle CUSD, and Flora CUSD.

### AGENCY AUDIT
Sikich, LLP conducted the annual financial audit for the year ending August 31, 2021. C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation is in compliance with the requirements described in the Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

### OFFICE OF HEAD START FEDERAL REVIEW
During the 2019-2020 school year, the Administration for Children and Families conducted a Focus Area One (FA1) monitoring review of the C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation’s Head Start and Early Start programs which reflected no areas of non-compliance.
The C.E.F.S. Head Start 0-5 Program utilizes the assessment tool Teaching Strategies GOLD when assessing children in the Head Start program which is based on 36 age-appropriate learning objectives that reflect what GOLD defines as age-appropriate “widely held expectations.” Children are assessed on an ongoing basis in three assessment cycles through the school year (beginning, mid and end-of-year). Outcome data is aggregated and analyzed at the end of each cycle. The Office of Head Start defines school readiness as children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success throughout their academic careers. Promoting school readiness is a primary goal of the C.E.F.S. Head Start 0-5 Program. Children found to be functioning within or above GOLD “widely held expectations” are considered to be meeting program expectations. The graphs below reflect the percentage of children who were performing the developmental skills at or above his/her average age level during the 2020-2021 program year.

### 3-Year-Old Children (Non-Kindergarten Bound)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning</td>
<td>90.6</td>
<td>86.6</td>
<td>80.2</td>
<td>73.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid</td>
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<td>85.4</td>
<td>80.7</td>
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<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOY</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td>95.2</td>
<td>91.4</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>89.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4-Year-Old Children (Kindergarten Bound)

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning</td>
<td>84.6</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>69.1</td>
<td>57.9</td>
<td>86.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid</td>
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<td>79</td>
<td>74.8</td>
<td>89.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOY</td>
<td>95.2</td>
<td>93.1</td>
<td>96.1</td>
<td>87.3</td>
<td>81.5</td>
<td>94.3</td>
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</table>
The C.E.F.S. Head Start 0-5 Program utilizes the assessment tool E-Lap for children enrolled in Early Head Start which assesses children in the five developmental domains of social and emotional development, approaches to learning, language and literacy, cognitive development, and physical/motor development. The graph below reflects the percentage of children who were performing the developmental skills at or above his/her average age level during the 2020-2021 program year.

Children Age Birth to 36 Months

C.E.F.S. Head Start 0-5 Program School Readiness Goals

Approaches to Learning (Early Head Start & Head Start)
Children will demonstrate skills and behaviors necessary to engage in learning.

Social/Emotional Development (Early Head Start & Head Start)
Children will demonstrate an understanding of their own and others’ feelings, regulate and express their emotions appropriately, build relationships with others, and interact in groups.

Language and Literacy

- Language and Communication (Early Head Start & Head Start)
  Children will develop emerging abilities in listening and understanding (receptive language) and using language (expressive language).

- Literacy (Head Start)
  Children will demonstrate emergent reading and writing skills.

Cognition

- General Knowledge (Early Head Start)
  Children will use all their senses to investigate their environment to discover what objects and people do, how things work, and how they can make things happen.

- Mathematics Development (Head Start)
  Children will demonstrate an understanding of the operations and processes of mathematics.

- Scientific Reasoning (Head Start)
  Children will demonstrate scientific knowledge about living things, the physical properties of materials and objects and the Earth’s environment.

Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development (Early Head Start & Head Start)
Children will demonstrate an awareness of their bodies in relation to their surroundings and the ability to use gross motor and fine motor skills to explore their environment.