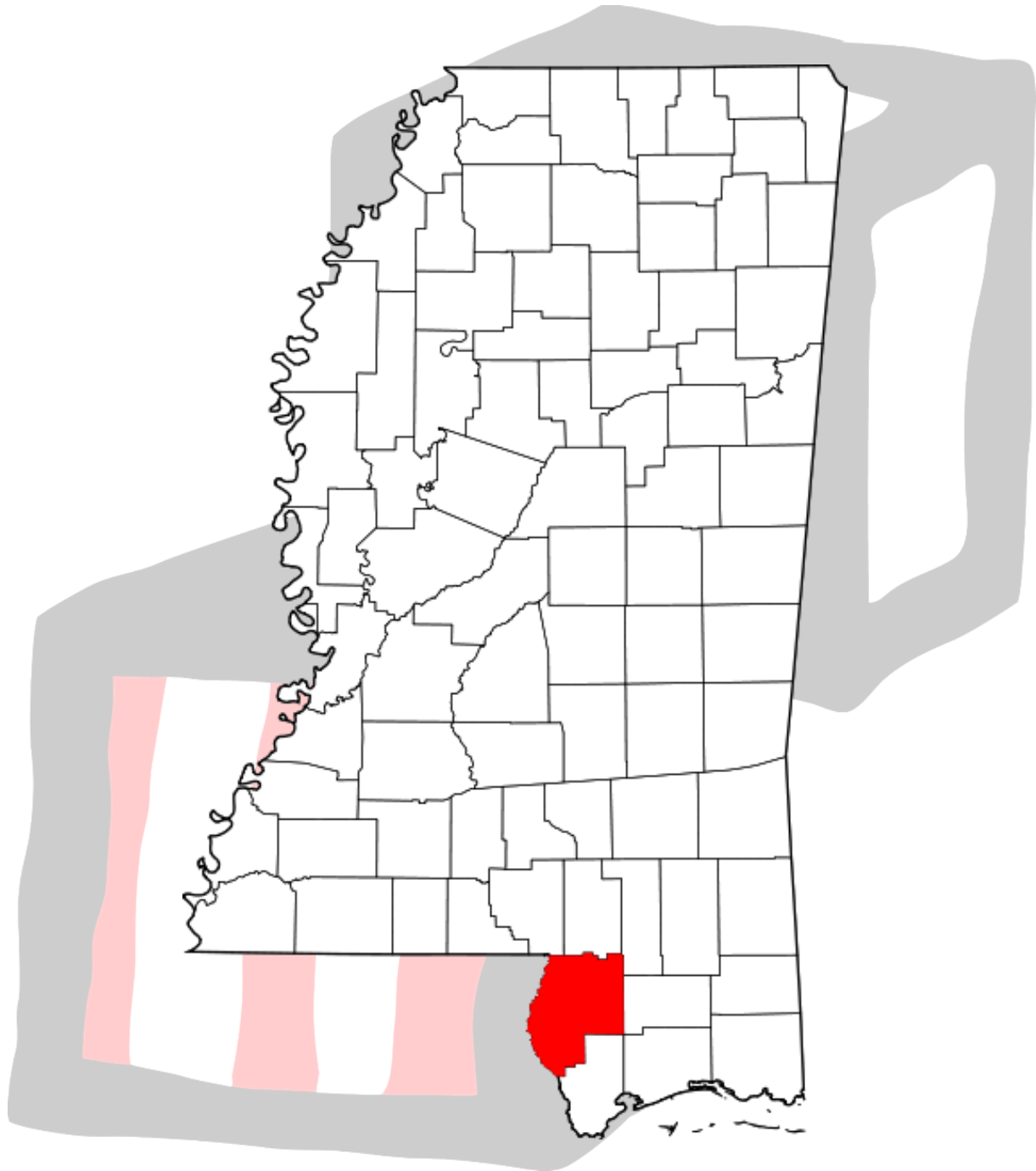


Picayune School District Early Head Start Community Assessment 2018-2023

2019 UPDATE



Whatever it takes...Our kids are worth it!

Prepared by: Picayune School District Early Head Start

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INTRODUCTION

The Picayune School District (PSD) serves as the grantee for two Early Head Start (EHS) centers in Pearl River County, MS. PSD EHS centers currently promotes early childhood development and provides childcare via center-based and childcare partnership options for 202 eligible children. PSD EHS programs use evidence-based educational practices that ensure school readiness, promote health and nutrition services, provide high-quality classroom instruction by qualified teachers, and incorporates parent engagement activities. Specifically, a team approach is used to provide parent education, lending library services, and empowering parents to reach their goals, including academic assessments, tutoring, mentoring, and participation in GED or Literacy classes. EHS also provides transportation for parent meetings, GED/Literacy classes, doctor/dentist appointments, and any other social service appointments for families that do not have access to reliable transportation.

PROGRAM OPTIONS - Full day, 8 hours per day for a total of 180 student days (center-based) 217 student days (child care partnership) per year.

Table 1. PSD EHS Program Options as for 2019-2020 School Year	
EHS Center-Based	Number of Children Served
Picayune Early Head Start	80
Nicholson Early Head Start	40
Pregnant Women	10
Child Care Partners	
Annie’s Day Care	56
Pearl River Community College Child Development Lab School	16
Total Number of Children Served	
202	

Program Mission Statement

The mission of Picayune School District Early Head Start is to empower families to achieve life goals support the development of infants and toddlers, impact the community by setting a standard of high quality childcare, and community supports for the growth of very young children.

Program Philosophy

We at Picayune School District Early Head Start believe that thought parental support and collaboration, children from low economic backgrounds benefit from a safe, nurturing, developmentally appropriate early childhood development program. Working together, families and the community help children to be “ready by five.”

Purpose of the Community Assessment

The purpose of this document is to highlight PSD Early Head Start’s research on indicators of family / child well-being and school readiness pertinent to the children of Pearl River County, and to propose recommendations for delivering quality services to their population of children age birth to three. The process used in reaching the observations and recommendations for this project was approximately a nine-month effort involving a number of steps and procedures outlined below:

1. Meetings with relevant stakeholders in the Pearl River County area to establish a complete array of indicators that cut across the area of children's well-being and school readiness, including health, education, economics, population demographics, and social indicators.
2. Meetings and discussions with the local community collaborative group to discuss the process of the project, review data gathered for the area, to make recommendations for future action, and to develop a vision of improving early childhood educational services in Pearl River County, Mississippi.
3. The full collaborative group split into 4 small groups:
 - a. Child health / Well-being
 - b. Education / School Readiness
 - c. Family & Community Partnerships
 - d. Data Collection & Management
4. Each of the groups met to discuss activities, make suggestions for additional data to be collected, and to approve / offer recommendations for future action.
5. Examination of the current community context in Pearl River County to understand the backdrop against which the indicators are interpreted.
6. Development of a model plan that includes examples of goals, short-term and long-term, and strategies that will be helpful for Pearl River County as they embark on the journey of improving services to children age birth to five.

In completing these activities, the PSD Early Head Start Community Assessment Team gathered information from major written research reports about child well-being and school readiness, research on preschool programs, community discussions with prominent local citizens, and surveys with parents, management staff and community service providers in Pearl River County.

Methodology

In accordance with CFR 1305.3 "Determining Community Needs," PSD EHS implemented the following in an effort to meet or exceed compliance requirements of CFR 1305.10 to assure services to those families in greatest need, identify all eligible children and target units, select the proper program option, and make full use of the services and expertise that the community offers. The comprehensive community assessment has been completed every three years and updated annually.

Data were collected and analyzed from federal, state, and local statistical sources and from staff, provider, and parent surveys; internal computer reports; PIR analysis; Annual Self-Assessment information; expert staff conclusions; and Board of Directors, Policy Council, and Advisory Committees' input. From this analyzed data, criteria were identified to justify and meet program options and services of the PSD EHS program in the Community Assessment. Critical needs are identified. From these critical needs, strategies and conclusions are drawn and are implemented.

The Mission Statement, long- and short-term goals, program operations, and the program option(s) are reflected in the proposed strategies that will address the identified needs. Identified needs are prioritized in scope and can be reasonably accomplished by PSD/Early Head Start. The need is listed, and the strategies for accomplishing or addressing the need follow.

Population projections for the service unit will take into account transient populations, changing neighborhoods, housing development, classroom size and school projections, and the ethnic composition that can affect service delivery systems. Other sources of information will come from opinions of Head Start parents and staff whose knowledge could be critical to the Community Assessment.

Children with disabilities who may be eligible for Head Start will be recruited from the community at large, with specific input from the following childcare advocates:

1. Pearl River County Early Intervention Services
2. Early Head Start's Health Services Advisory Committee
3. Health Departments
4. Local Education Agencies (LEA's)
5. Department of Human Services

In analyzing and summarizing the collected data, careful attention will be given to the following categories:

1. Existing Child Care Programs
2. Children with Disabilities
3. Education, Health, Nutrition, & Social Services
4. Racial/Ethnic Composition & Languages of Families in Service Area
5. Community Resources

Resources used to compile the information include local colleges, community service providers, DHS, Pearl River County Statistical Abstract, census data, staff, parents, volunteers, and consultants, any current printed information pertaining to the requested analysis, the Internet, and any other objective/subjective tool deemed useful by the Early Head Start Director. Included in this data will be census information (when it accurately reflects the current population). TANF, food stamp data, free and reduced lunch data, WIC, and health statistics. After the data were compiled, Head Start staff shared a summary of the data with Advisory Committees to make recommendations on meeting the needs of the community. Advisory Committee meeting minutes reflect recommendations.

The Policy Council and the Board of Directors received the Community Assessment with their mail-outs five days before the meeting allowing time to study prior to approval. After the Policy Council and the Board of Directors granted approval, the Community Assessment was used by PSD EHS to establish and provide the services to meet the needs of the children and families served. 1304.51(a).

Head Start will keep on file current and up-to-date Community Assessments and/or current information necessary to update previous Community Assessments. PSD EHS' service units and charted data will also be kept on file to support the program option selected based on the Community Assessment. Program options will be reviewed annually, approved by the Policy Council and the Board of Directors and forwarded to the Regional Office with the grant proposal. The Community Assessment will follow the instructions outlined in CFR 1305.3. The Community Assessment and any annual updates will be maintained in the main conference room at the Central Office as advised by the PSD EHS Director in coordination with the program managers. A hard copy will be maintained for reference, and a copy will be maintained on the PSD EHS secured shared drive for ease of annual updates by managers who are part of the community assessment team. The Program Director will distribute a copy of the Community Assessment and any annual updates to each of the centers to be placed in the Parent Information Board for informational purposes for the parents, staff, and community. The Community Assessment is shared with community agencies at Advisory Meetings and upon request.





DEMOGRAPHICS

Pearl River County is a predominantly rural county located in south Mississippi on the western border of the state, near the state of Louisiana. The population was 55,049 (U.S. Census Data, 2017). The county seat of Pearl River County, MS is Poplarville; however, the largest city in the county is Picayune, which is the business and medical center of the county. The county has a total area of 818.93 square miles of which 811.33 square miles (or 99.07%) is land and 7.60 square miles (or 0.93%) is water. There are two cities in Pearl River County (Picayune and Poplarville). There are also several unincorporated communities. Picayune School District (PSD)/Early Head Start service area includes the town of Picayune and communities assigned to the two school districts within the Pearl River County which are as follows: Picayune-zip code, 39466 (Caesar, Cybur, Goodyear, Greenbrier Park, Industrial Park, Richardson, Carriere, Henleyfield, Mill Greek, an Ozona). Demographics for areas targeted in this proposal are included below.

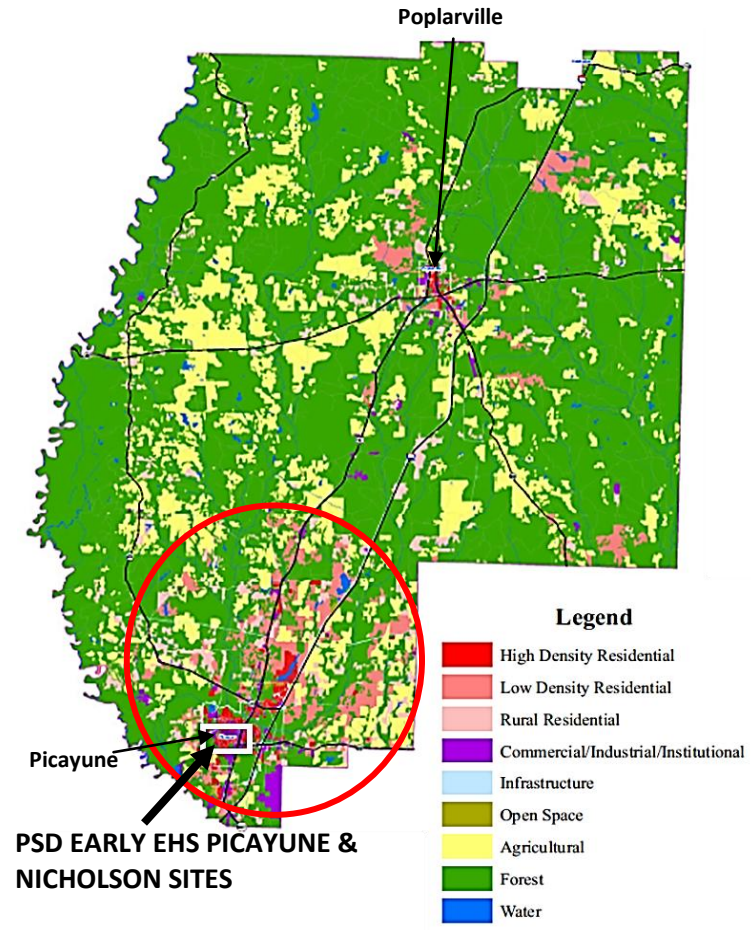


Table 2. Demographics for Targeted Service Area in Pearl River County, MS

City / Area	Pop. Estimate	% age 0-5	Race / Ethnicity	
Pearl River County	55,049	5.7%	White: 81.7% Hispanic: 3.2% Other: 0.7%	Black: 12.5% Multi-Racial: 1.9%
Picayune (town)	10,528	5.8%	White: 55.2% Hispanic: 3.6% Other: 0.6%	Black: 39.0% Multi-Racial: 1.6%
Poplarville (town)	2,942	5.3%	White: 65.0% Hispanic: 2.0%	Black: 29.0% Multi-Racial: 4.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Head Start resources will be directed to the geographic area(s) of greatest need. In reviewing indicators for student readiness and school readiness in Pearl River County, the need for establishing at-risk criteria for children in need of services became apparent. According to the 2018 Early Head Start Community Assessment, Pearl River County is an area of high poverty and high need. Community assessment data showed that over 17.9 % of individuals live below the poverty line (about 1.5 times the rate in U.S.) with a median family income of \$47,757 and an individual per capita income (3-year estimate) of \$22,136 (which is 1/3 less than of the amount in the United States average). Additionally, only 10.6% of the population has a Bachelor’s degree or higher, which is about half the rate in the U.S. According to County Health Rankings provided the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation , 2018 trends indicate that Pearl River County has: high child poverty (32.9% compared to 20% nationally); an increasingly high infant mortality rate (8 deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to 5.8 nationally, 4 among top U.S. performers); high teen pregnancy rates (42 per 1,000 females aged 15-19 compared to 18.8 for the U.S. and 15 for top U.S. performers); a high prevalence of babies born of low birth weight (10% compared to 8.28% for the U.S. and 6% for top U.S. performers); and 13.9 % of all new mothers were without a high school diploma (Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, National Center for Health Statistics, and Mississippi State Department of Health). Also, according to the Mississippi Department of Education, about 81% of students in Pearl River County are eligible to receive a free lunch or family at or below 130% poverty level), so all children, Pre-K through grade 12 in Picayune and Poplarville School Districts and children K through grade 6 in the Pearl River County School District were deemed community eligible to receive free meals through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Further, the high need has facilitated Picayune School District to also provide free meals during evening hours (4:30 – 6:00 pm) so that students (particularly those in poverty) have access to three healthy meals each day. Eligibility criteria included percentage of families receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), as well as homeless, runaway, Head Start, and migrant youth.

Table 3: Children Under Age 5 Living Below the Federal Poverty Level (BFPL) in Pearl River County compared to US (▲ Higher than National Average; ▼ Lower than National Average)

County	Number of Children under age 5	Number of children under age 5 living below FPL	Percent of Children age 5 living BFPL	Total Eligible Children	U.S.
Pearl River	3,093	1,019	32.9% ▲	1,019	20%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder, Population Estimates 2017; Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2018 American Community Survey

Table 4: Number and Percent of Individuals / Families in Poverty in Pearl River County compared to U.S.

	Total in Poverty PRC	Percent below BFPL - PRC	U.S. - BFPL
Individuals	9,556	17.9% ▲	11.8%
Families with children under 5	1,196	30.9% ▲	20%
Married	811	17.9% ▲	7%
Female Household, no husband	288	64.2% ▲	31%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2018 American Community Survey.

Table 5: Jobless / Unemployment Rates in Pearl River County compared to U.S.		
	PRC	U.S.
Unemployment Rate	4.7% ▲	4%
Children Under age 6 with no parent in workforce	13.5% ▲	8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2017 American Community Survey

Table 6: Median Household Income in Pearl River County compared to U.S.		
	PRC	U.S.
Per Capita Income	\$22,136 ▼	\$31,177
Median Household Income	\$47,757 ▼	\$57,652

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Table 7: Community Health Factors in Pearl River County compared to Top U.S. Performers		
	PRC	Top U.S. Performers
Children Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch	81% ▲	33%
Uninsured Adults	21% ▲	7%
Uninsured Children	5% ▲	3%
Ratio of Primary Care Physicians	3,940:1 ▲	1,030:1
Ratio of Dentists	5,030:1 ▲	1,280:1
Ratio of Mental Health Providers	2,400:1 ▲	330:1
High School Grads	75% ▼	95%
Teen Birth Rate (per 1000 females 15-19)	42 ▲	15
Food Insecurity	16% ▲	10%
Severe Housing Problems	15% ▲	9%
Long Commute to Work	48% ▲	15%

Source: Mississippi County Health Rankings, 2018





OTHER CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

Picayune School District Early Head Start is the service area’s primary provider of comprehensive early childhood services for 202 infants, toddlers, and pregnant women. Further, as the grantee for the EHS Child Care Partnership in the service area, we are able to ensure that additional families in the community who need extended hour and extended day services have access to quality childcare at no-cost via our child care partners. The analysis of access to other early childhood education programs and services, and estimated number of EHS eligible children who are receiving child care subsidy indicates that in 2017, about 9,700 families and 17,000 children in Mississippi received subsidy funds per month. About 25% (4,250) of these children were preschoolers aged 3-5 (ACF-801 data for FY 2017; February 2019). However, there are currently only 103 preschoolers are currently receiving child care subsidies in Pearl River County, MS (MDHS DECCD Public Records Request, Oct 2019). There are currently 22 licensed child care providers in Pearl River County MS, with the capacity to provide services for over 1000 preschoolers; however, less than half 10 of 22 (45%) of child care providers are enrolled in the state subsidy program. Further, with only 103 preschool-aged children in the county being approved for subsidy slots, many of these children at highest risk for difficulties are not being served. Further, according to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (2013-2017), there are still approximately 61% of preschoolers (ages 3-5) in the county living in poverty who do not have access to low or no-cost early childhood services due to lack of availability of Head Start and/or subsidized child care slots, 50 of whom are currently on our waiting list for state pre-k services. Given the widespread poverty in the area and the scarcity to which state child care subsidies are available in Pearl River County, MS, families would not be able to afford to pay the high costs of child care, thereby making it increasingly likely that the bulk of these children are being cared for by extended families, friends, and neighbors.

Table 8. Current Licensed Child Care Centers in Pearl River County, MS				
CHILD CARE NAME	AGES	CAPACITY	SUBSIDY	FULL DAY
1ST BAPTIST CARRIERE	3-5	30	NO	NO
ANNIE'S KINDERGARTEN & DAYCARE	0-5	59	YES	YES
PRCC CHILD DEV. LAB SCHOOL	0-5	50	YES	YES
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH EARLY ED	2-5	150	NO	NO
FIRST BAPTIST PLAYSCHOOL	3-5	50	NO	NO
KIDS CLUBHOUSE	5-12	64	NO	YES
KIDS KINGDOM	0-5	95	YES	YES
KIDS KORNER LEARNING CENTER	0-5	150	YES	YES
KIDS' KAMPUS, POPLAVILLE	0-5	80	YES	YES
KREATIVE KINGDOM CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTER	0-5	95	YES	YES
LEANNE'S LEARNING CENTER	0-9	49	YES	YES
LINDA'S FAMILY CHILD CARE	0-5	17	YES	YES

MCCARTY LEARNING CENTER	0-12	125	YES	YES
PICAYUNE HEAD START COMPLEX	3-5	201	NO	YES
PICAYUNE SCHOOL DISTRICT EHS EARLY HEAD START - ROSA	0-3	90	NO	YES
PICAYUNE SCHOOL DISTRICT EARLY HEAD START - NICHOLSON	0-3	90	NO	YES
POPLARVILLE HEAD START	1-5	65	NO	YES
RENEE'S AFTERSCHOOL	5-12	22	NO	NO
ST CHARLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL	2	8	NO	YES
THE PLAID APPLE PRESCHOOL	2-9	48	NO	YES
UNION BAPTIST KINDERGARTEN	3-5	50	NO	NO
WEE WISDOM LEARNING CENTER	0-5	70	YES	YES

Source: MS State Department of Health Licensed Child Care Facilities (active status)

PSD Early Head Start recognizes the value of coordinating the planning and delivery of services with other providers who serve the same populations. PSD Early Head Start has maintained partnership agreements with Annie’s Kindergarten and PRCC Child Development Lab School 15 years. During this time, EHS staff have helped parents with applications for childcare assistance and provided information regarding selection of quality childcare, including some of our childcare partners, as needed. Further, the current ECCPs have always been invited and encouraged to become familiar with Head Start philosophies and operations and to attend EHS pre-service and in-service trainings.

Further, PSD EHS has received Childcare Partnership funding to provide additional EHS services to 72 children via these before mentioned childcare partners. Through this funding opportunity, pre-service and in-service training support opportunities will be provided for all program staff to enhance the knowledge and skills that they need to deliver quality EHS services to children and families. These include extensive training on: 1) a research-based early childhood curriculum; 2) facilitating positive teacher-child interactions to improve child outcomes; and 3) parent education / parent engagement strategies that build stronger parent-provider partnerships. Staff will also have access to on-site, practice / research-based coaching support as they implement effective teaching practices. All partnering child care centers are committed to increasing their Mississippi quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS) ratings over the course of this funding opportunity and administering quality care to the children and families of Pearl River County.

Table 9 below lists existing childcare services in the geographic area currently and projected to be served over the next year.

Table 9. PSD EHS Childcare Partners						
Name of Center	Years in Service	Capacity	Ages Served	Number of EHS-eligible Children currently served	Accreditation / State Quality Rating	Child Care Payment Approved Provider?
Annie’s Kindergarten & Daycare	37	59	0-5	56	Comprehensive Center	Yes
PRCC Child Development Lab School	27	50	0-5	16	Comprehensive Center	Yes



CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

PSD is committed to enrolling children with disabilities and will ensure at least ten (10%) percent of the enrollment opportunities are available to children with significant disabilities (as defined by the IDEA Part B Lead Agency). As always Child Find efforts will be coordinated with a network of community partners, including our 3 current LEA partners (Picayune School District, Pearl River County School District, and Poplarville School District) in identifying and recruiting children with disabilities. Further, program management and staff will identify children with disabilities at enrollment and during the course of program participation via the screening/referral process. Continuous Quality Improvement efforts will ensure that information and resources represent the population and that strategies guiding these efforts are planned and intentional. The program will ensure that staff engaged in recruitment and enrollment of children are knowledgeable about the provision of 45 CFR Part 84, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs and Activities Receiving of Benefitting from Federal Assistance, and of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101). PSD will access resources and plans for placement options, such as dual placement, use of resources staff and training so that a child with a disability for who Head Start is an appropriate placement according to the IEP is not denied enrollment because of: a) Staff attitudes and/or apprehensions; b) Inaccessibility of facilities; c) Need to access additional resources to serve a specific child; d) Unfamiliarity with disabling condition or special equipment, such as prosthesis; and e) Need for personalized special services such as feeding, suctioning, and assistance with toileting, including catheterization, diapering, and toilet training.

The same policies governing Head Start program eligibility for other children, such as priority for those most in need of the services, apply to children with disabilities. The program will take the following factors into account when planning enrollment procedures: a) The number of children with disabilities in the Head Start service area including types of disabilities and their severity; b) The services and resources provided by other agencies; and c) State laws regarding immunization of preschool children. The recruitment efforts will include recruiting children who have severe disabilities, including children who have been previously identified as having disabilities. These efforts will include outreach to other agencies, resulting in referrals and acceptance of children with severe disabilities. Recruitment materials will state clearly that the program seeks and serves children with disabilities.

PSD has long-standing existing collaborative partnerships with Part C - Early Intervention (First Steps) as well as Part B-Early Intervention agencies all over Pearl River County (Picayune School District Exceptional Education; Pearl River County School District Student Services; Poplarville School District Exceptional Education) for children who turn 3 while enrolled in our EHS program. The MOUs give specific detail to the

process of providing referrals, intervention services, and the creation of Individual Education Plans for children with disabilities. Within the first 45 days of a child’s first day of attendance (with parental consent), health, education, mental health, and disability managers will conduct developmental screenings to identify delays or potential disabilities. All findings are discussed with the parent and the parent will work with the team in making the decision as to whether the child is referred to an LEA for further evaluation. If the screening shows that further tests are needed, parental permission will be secured and school psychologist within the school district would begin the process of evaluation which would lead to intervention services provided by special education staff within the school system. The child's Individual Educational Plan (IEP) will be created by a team, which includes the parent, teacher, Mental Health Coordinator, Disability Coordinator, LEA Early Interventionist, and as well as other staff as needed. Through these agreements, children with disabilities will be fully enrolled in Head Start. Both the Disability and Mental Health Coordinators will ensure the individual needs of children eligible for services under IDEA are met, the program: a) Work closely with the local agencies responsible for implementing IDEA, the family, and other service partners, as appropriate, to ensure: services for a child with disabilities are planned and delivered as required by their IEP, as appropriate; children are working towards the goals in their IEP; elements of the IEP that the program cannot implement are implemented by other appropriate agencies, related service providers and specialists; IEPs will be reviewed and revised, as required by IDEA; and services will be provided in a child’s regular Head Start classroom to the greatest extent possible.

Table 10. 2018-2019 INFANT AND TODDLER EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES (EHS PROGRAMS)	
Number of EHS Center-Based children enrolled in the program who have an individualized family service plan (IFSP) indicating that they have been determined eligible by the PART C agency to received early intervention services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)	21
Number of EHS Child Care Partnership children enrolled in the program who have an individualized family service plan (IFSP) indicating that they have been determined eligible by the PART C agency to received early intervention services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)	6
CHILDREN RECEIVING PART C EARLY INTERVENTION	27
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL PARTICIPANTS (N = 202)	13%

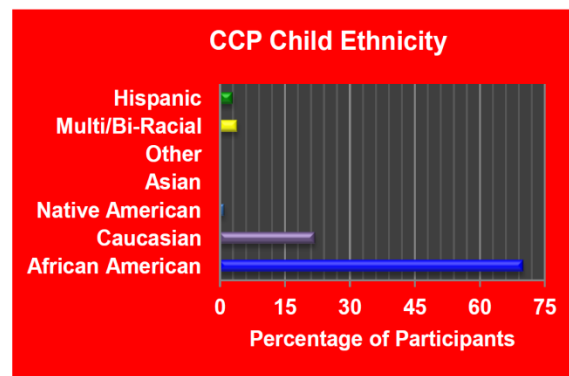
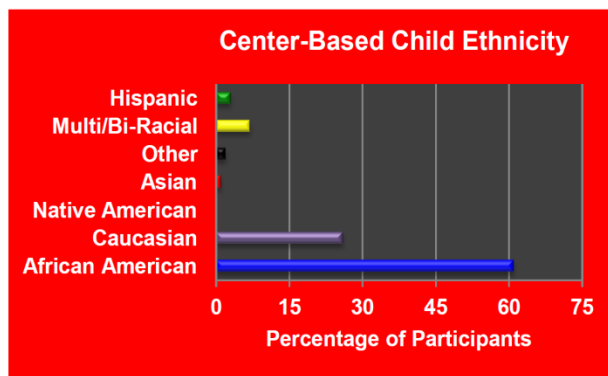
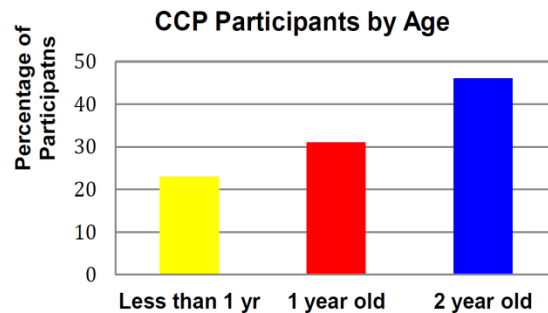
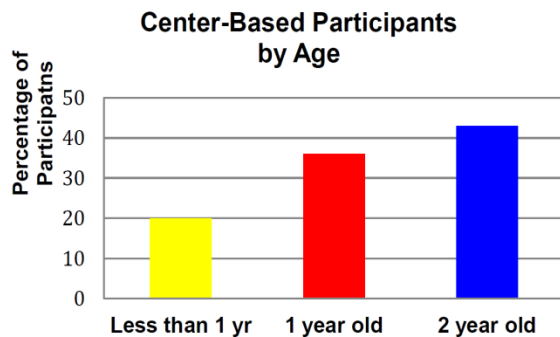
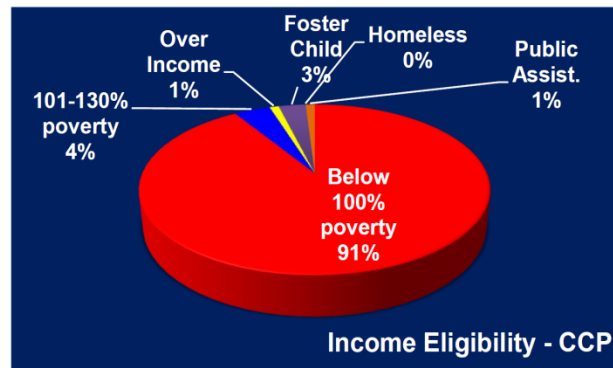
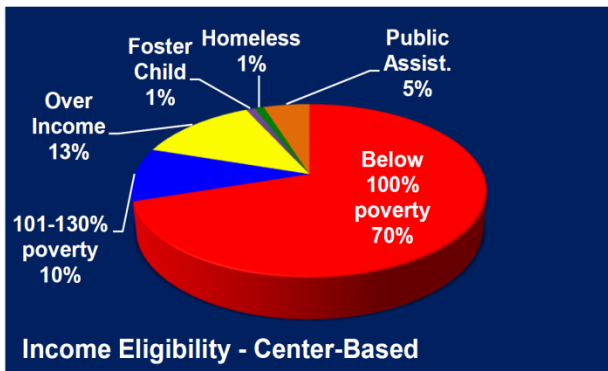




CHILDREN & FAMILY DATA

Child/Family Demographics (2018-2019)

The demographic makeup to children enrolled in PSD EHS during the 2018-2019 school year was consistent with the demographic makeup of the service area.



Monthly Attendance 2018-2019 – Funded Enrollment 202 (Actual Enrollment : 202)					
	Center-Based	CCP		Center-Based	CCP
August 2018	92%	95%	January 2019	89%	89%
September 2018	92%	93%	February 2019	89%	90%
October 2018	92%	93%	March 2019	89%	93%
November 2018	90%	89%	April 2019	90%	91%
December 2018	91%	87%	May 2019	89%	89%

Health/Nutrition

The assurance of each child's health and well-being is the promise of our future. Not only is the actual health of the child important, but also the environment in which the child grows and develops. Parental behaviors and the social environment of the community play large roles in a child's health and well-being. The percent of babies born of low birth weight is increasing at the national and state levels. Pearl River County saw a marked increase in the percent of babies born less than 2500 grams to 5.9% in 2000. This percentage was significantly higher in 2016, increasing to 10%. As for immunizations, the percent of children under the age of 5 up-to-date on immunizations in Mississippi has remained relatively steady and was 83.1% in 2000. As of 2011, MS had an average immunization rate of 72% percent for the major childhood vaccinations. Also, 17% of the population of Pearl River County receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. These SNAP benefits provide monthly benefits that help eligible low-income households buy the food they need for good health.

Meeting Health /Nutrition Needs. The health and wellness of the total family is a major focus of the PSD EHS program. We obtain information on the families eating habits, their health history, and the determination of what relationships exist with health care professionals. This information assists us to create or plan beneficial health care and health education. Early Head Start staff receives training on a wide range of health, nutrition, and safety topics, so they can present them to parents in a motivational way. Opportunities for parental trainings in CPR, Pediatric First Aid, Oral Health, and smoking cessation will continue to be scheduled by the EHS nurse. PSD/Early Head Start realizes the importance of positive prenatal care, and its influence on the health of mother and child through the following areas: Early and continuing risk assessments, which include an assessment of nutrition status as well as nutrition counseling and food assistance if necessary.

Table 11. Health Outcomes for PSD EHS Families (2018-2019)		Source: PSD EHS Program Data Reports – Child Plus	
Health Service Category	% of Families	Health Service Category	% of Families
Children with Medicaid / Chip Other Insurance	89% 11%	Children served by a mental health professional	3%
Children with Access to Health Care	100%	Children with ISFP or IEP eligible to receive early intervention services	13%
Children up-to-date on age appropriate preventive and primary care	95%	Children received continuous, accessible dental care	94%
Children with up-to-date immunizations	100%		

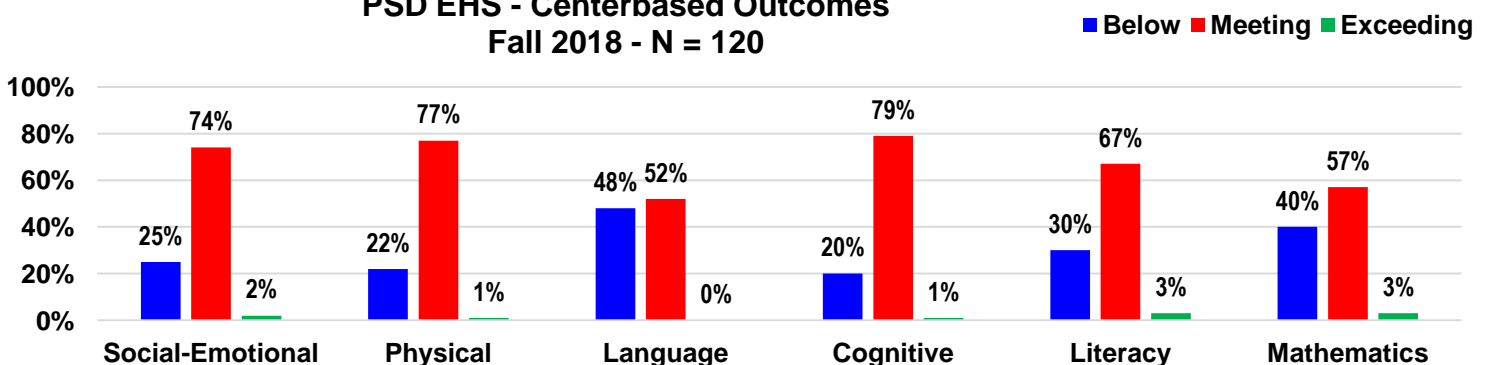
Child Education Needs

The Anne Casey Foundation Kids Count reports that on average, only about 44.7% of all preschool-aged children in Pearl River were enrolled in a preschool or nursery program from 2014-18. Also, in Mississippi, the high proportion of parents of infants in the labor force (87.5%) and the fact that 33% of children between 4 months and 5 years are determined to be at moderate or high risk for developmental or behavioral problems shows the increased need for Head Start and Early Head Start services that provide families with the resources that lay the foundation for success (Zero to Three, 2013).

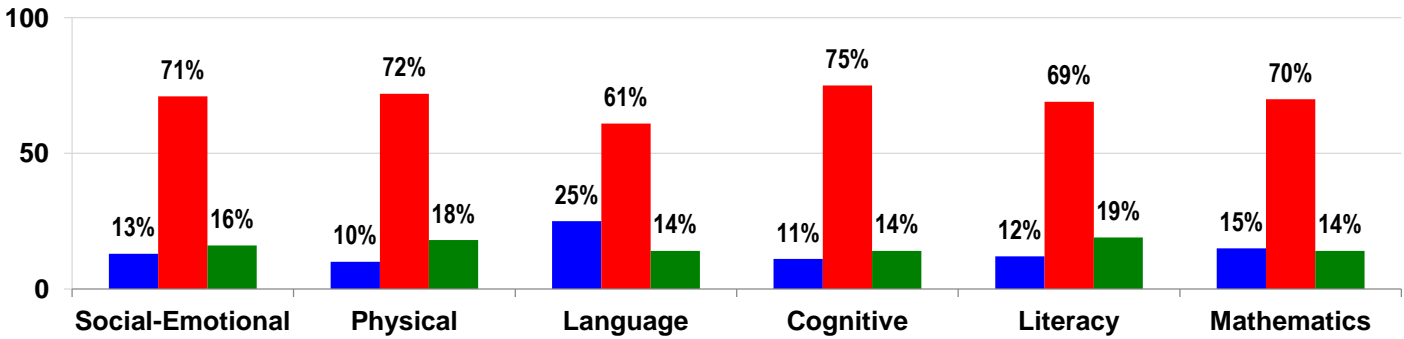
PSD EHS child development services will closely follow the Head Start Performance Standards.

- *The development of secure relationships* are taken into consideration when selecting teachers to ensure that employees are stable and reliable. Teachers remain with their children from entry to Early Head Start to exit.
- *The development of trust and emotional security to foster exploration* includes offering staff training on the best ways to provide a nurturing and secure environment. Their performance is consistently monitored to ensure that children are offered love and opportunities to explore. All staff and parents are trained in Dr. Becky Bailey’s Conscious Discipline, which fosters nurturing and loving guidance.
- All centers are clean, attractive, stimulating environments, equipped with age-appropriate materials, which will encourage each child’s curiosity, exploration and development.
- To encourage self-awareness, autonomy and self-expression, a variety of developmentally appropriate activities that fosters these skills are included in each child’s individualized education plan.
- To support of emerging communication skills of infants and toddlers, children have many opportunities to interact with adults and other children at the center. Teachers receive training related to the embedding of language rich moments throughout the daily routines and activities of children.
- In order to develop gross motor skills, many opportunities for physical development are provided. A variety of materials will be provided in the center which is used as children learn to grasp, pull, push, crawl, walk and climb. For fine motor skills, staff training, provision of opportunities and materials, and parent education and support form the basis for the development of control and coordination of small, specialized motions using the eyes, mouth, hands and feet.
- For Screening and Assessment, EHS and ECCP staff use the Brigance screening tool to provide continuity of care among many local community service providers. The Creative Curriculum Continuum assessment tools, which are used as an ongoing assessment system, are used to identify skills a child is ready to learn, to plan individualized activities. Information is collected on each child by observation and collection of child’s work. Curriculum goals and objectives provide guidance for planning for each child’s needs and a method of determining what a child knows (baseline) and progress. Further, samples of children’s work are kept in their portfolios within their assigned classrooms. The teachers are responsible for maintaining this record and appropriate contents.

PSD EHS - Centerbased Outcomes
Fall 2018 - N = 120

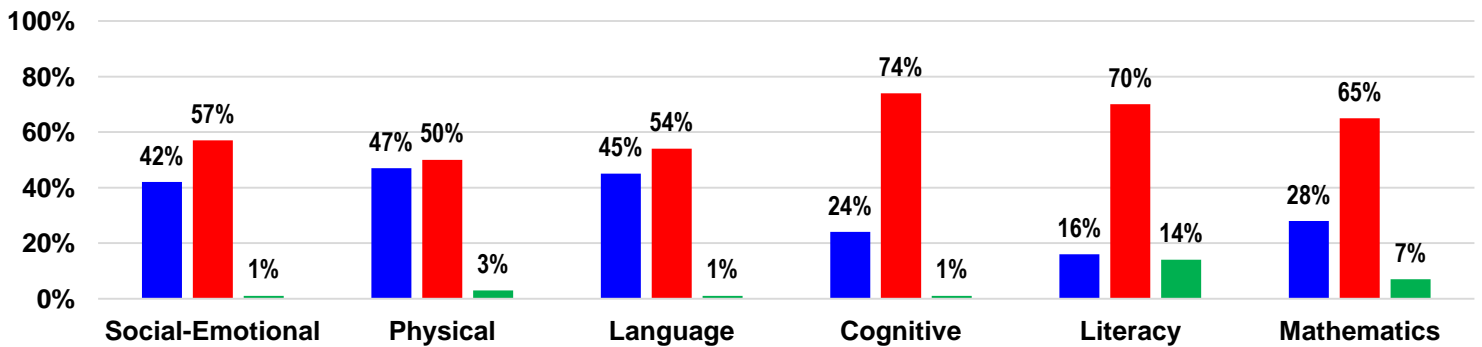


Spring 2019 Center-Based Outcomes

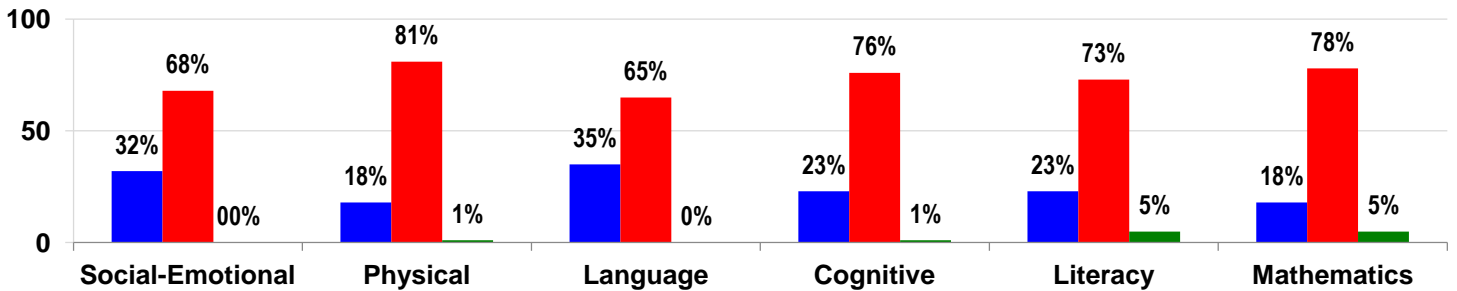


PSD EHS - Child Care Partnership / Family Child Care FALL 2018 - N = 82

■ Below ■ Meeting ■ Exceeding



Spring 2019 Child Care Partnership Outcomes



Pregnancy Needs

The PSD/ Early Head Start program is designed to meet the needs of the mothers-to-be and her family in a way that ensures a healthy outcome for the newborn child and mother. Early Head Start will assist pregnant teens to access comprehensive prenatal and postpartum care and provide assistance for mothers to secure services and resources for new born children through the following:

1. Teens are given first priority on the criteria selection for enrollment. Once a teen has been identified they are automatically ranked high on the Child Plus enrollment selection sheet.
2. Family Advocate does an initial intake, recruitment application, and for families who are not eligible or are able to immediately enroll in for the program, the FSW will provide referral information. Pregnant women complete an enrollment form providing EHS staff with information on their health and

pregnancy status. The information shared by the client assists the nurse with ensuring that the needs of the clients are met during monthly home visits. Information gathered includes the following: Comprehensive Prenatal information including present and post pregnancies; Development of individual plan of care to determine areas of need including health, oral health, mental health and nutritional life goals, educational plan and time, day, and place of scheduled weekly visits.

3. Upon acceptance into the program, each pregnant teen is assigned a nurse through which home visits and weekly contacts are made. During these visits, training is provided to the pregnant mother on building and enhancing self-esteem, continued goal setting for the young mothers, the benefits of breastfeeding, the importance of prenatal care, fetal growth and development, and signs of prenatal/post-partum depression. After the birth of the baby, the nurse makes visits to the child's home to monitor health and nutritional needs and to provide support services until the infant is enrolled in Early Head Start. Since adequate nutrition is critical to the mother and fetus, PSD EHS encourages the pregnant women to receive all the services offered by the WIC program.

Family Service Needs

In 2018, 40% of the births to females in Pearl River County were to females who had only a high school diploma or less. This can be attributed to areas such as social issues, young teen mothers dropping out of school, peer pressure, and economic stress as well as demographic backgrounds for formal education. Housing, job training, education, and emolument supports are needed by low-income families. Family Services Advocates work closely with each family to help them develop their goals for personal growth and family stability. The EHS is connected to agencies such as the Housing Authorities, food banks, Workforce Investment Board, Community Collages, Adult Education, social services and child welfare department, child care planning councils, public health department, mental health services/agencies, drug/alcohol departments, and domestic violence shelters. Also, according to the National Alliance to End Homelessness (2014) there was a 7.2% decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness as part of a family nationally; however, 16 states reported increases in family homelessness including Mississippi, with a homeless family rate of 5.01%. Further, there are close to 3,700 children in Mississippi residing in resource homes / foster care and regional estimates indicate that there are likely close to 500 of those children reside in the service areas, with the majority of those children residing in Hancock County (MS Dept. of Human Services, 2010).

Meeting Family / Social Service Needs. The Family & Community Partnerships Manager and the Family Advocate work through difficult family supportive service situations involving housing, food, clothing, utility assistance, legal matters (child support, etc.) and any other matter that a family may be confronted with that requires special assistance. Further, the Mental Health Specialist works with providers to understand how to identify problems when they are situational, transitory, or more enduring, how to develop intervention strategies, and when to make referrals. We assist parents on focusing on prevention, early intervention, and helping families access the needed levels of intensive treatment. The Early childhood mental health consultation represents an important service for us to infuse the mental health perspective into programs for young children and their families. Our services are delivered in a board range of setting to fit the needs of our families and children were ever the best or appropriate place such as: center (child care), home visiting and family support programs, pediatric clinics and practice, as well as help court and child welfare and staff in shelters for homeless families or battered women and children and substance-abuse treatment programs. The

Mental Consultants working in these settings will address a broad range of needs, encompassing prevention, early intervention, and, for the most troubled children, referrals for treatment. In any given day activities include: providing advice to a teacher or parent; designing a classroom-based early intervention strategy; helping arrange for a referral for a child and family with more serious needs; and providing crisis intervention in response to a program, family, community, or sadly, national disaster for example (Katrina).

Program Management Needs

Findings from Annual 2018-2019 Self-Assessment. PSD Early Head Start team leaders helped prepared written summaries and verbal reports that outline the key strengths and weaknesses discovered during their assessment activity. The Program Managers compiled the information submitted into one report.

Areas of Concern included:

- 1) Incomplete documentation (child and family files were not consistently scanned into the ChildPlus data system)
- 2) Inconsistent monitoring to ensure that files were complete and procedures were being adhered to
- 3) Lack of communication between teams (ensuring all service areas were on the same page). Each service area manager provided detailed corrective action plans and expected dates of completion for each area of non-compliance identified.

PICAYUNE SCHOOL DISTRICT EARLY HEAD START
2019 SELF-ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

WHAT IS SELF-ASSESSMENT?
Self-Assessment involves a specified time for PSD EHS to stop and take stock. Self-Assessment focuses on the big picture question, "Are we doing the right things?" It is Self-Assessment that helps a program determine if it is doing everything it can to benefit the children and families it serves.

A process called C.I.A.R.A. (Create, Implement, Analyze, Revise, & Act) was adopted by the PSD EHS Management Team and was utilized to guide the self-assessment. This method will continue to be used to ensure program continuous quality improvement.

Step 1 Create - Using the Head Start Program Performance Standards, Head Start Act, and Focus Area Protocols for Federal Review, the PSD EHS Management Team **creates** procedures, monitoring tools, tracking instruments, and data processes for ensuring that requirements are being assessed and met.

Step 2 Implement - The Management Team **implements** program activities according to Federal (HSPPS), state, and local regulations, as well as PSD EHS school readiness goals & PRCE Framework.

Step 3 Analyze - The Management Team collects data, **analyzes** that data by reviewing for compliance / non-compliance, and makes recommendations for change.

Step 4 Revise - Based on findings, the PSD EHS Management Team **revises** procedures, monitoring tools, tracking instruments, data processes as needed.

Step 5 Act - Utilizing corrective action plans, the PSD EHS Management Team **acts** by carrying out the revisions and monitor process for continuous quality improvement.

METHODOLOGY - Self-Assessment Teams reviewed ChildPlus Data Management System scanned documentation and program reports, annual reports, governance files, community assessments, and other documentation. Teams also conducted interviews with program management, EHS & CCP staff, parents, school board rep, policy council, and teachers. Classroom and facility observations were also completed.

FINDINGS - Identified issues included 1) incomplete documentation (child and family files were not consistently scanned into the ChildPlus data system), 2) inconsistent monitoring to ensure that files were complete and procedures were being adhered to, and 3) lack of communication between teams (ensuring all service areas were on the same page). Each service area manager provided detailed corrective action plans and expected dates of completion for each area of non-compliance identified.

PHASES OF THE SELF-ASSESSMENT PROCESS

POST

5 **Prepare Report**

4 **Recommend**

3 **Analyze & Dialogue**

2 **Engage Team**

1 **Design Process**

PRE

PHASES OF THE SELF-ASSESSMENT PROCESS

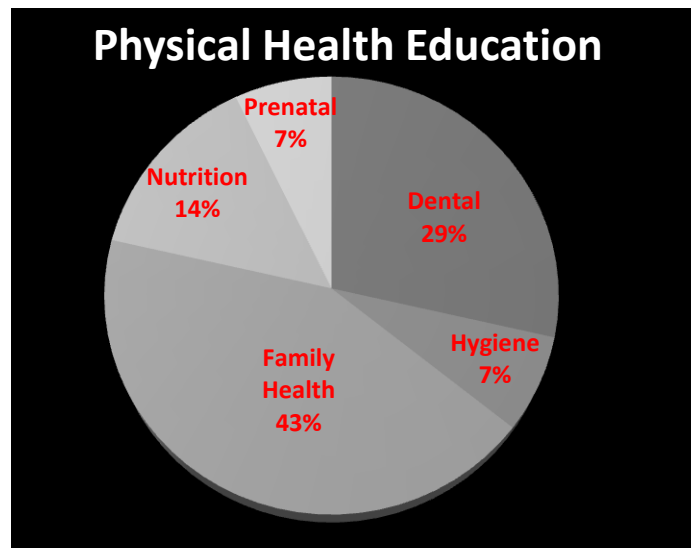
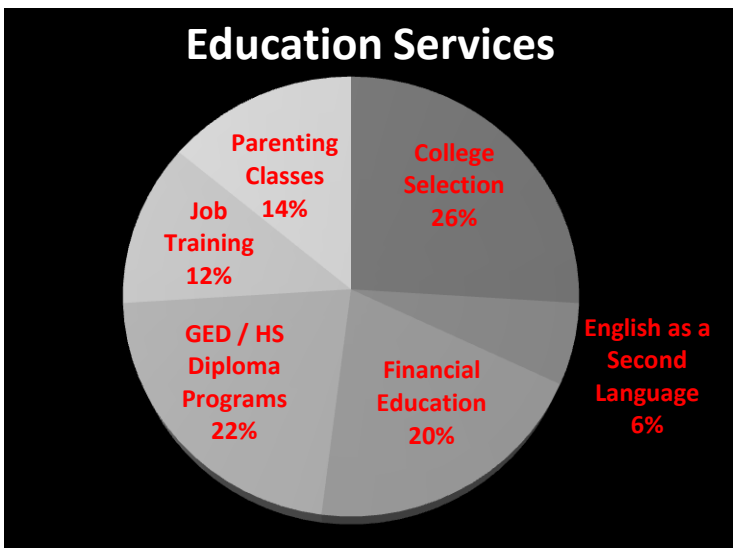


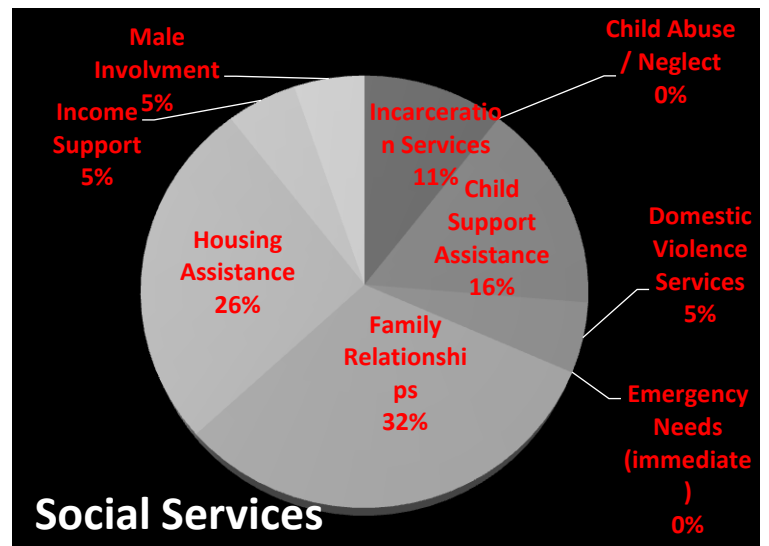
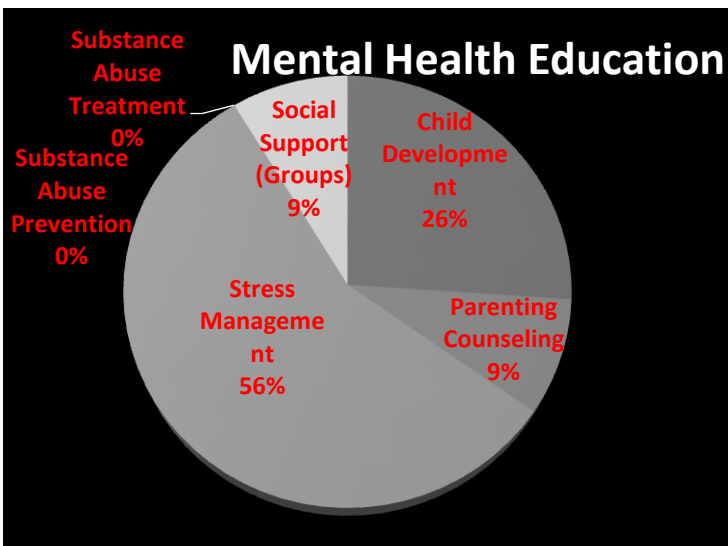
DATA SUPPLIED BY FAMILIES & INSTITUTIONS

Concerns Identified by Families

Upon enrollment, each PSD EHS family completes a survey of family concerns, indicating any needs for assistance. Once those needs are identified, each family advocate works with the families to ensure that their needs are addressed. See results for the 2019-2020 school term below. The survey included the following:

- Adult Education
- Budgeting
- Child Abuse / Neglect
- Child Health & Development
- Child Support Assistance
- Clothing
- Communication
- Computer Skills
- Debt Counseling
- Domestic Violence
- Early Intervention Services
- Employment
- ESL Training
- Emergency / Crisis Intervention
- Incarceration Assistance
- Family Planning
- Family Relationships
- Gambling
- Health Education
- Homelessness
- Household Management
- Home Ownership
- Housing Assistance
- Income Support
- Legal Assistance
- Literacy Assistance
- Male Involvement
- Money Management
- Job Training
- Prenatal Exposure
- Family Health
- Mental Health
- Nutrition
- Parenting Issues
- Parenting Counseling
- Personal Hygiene
- Personal Safety
- Pregnancy
- Recreation
- Social Support
- Stress Management
- Substance Abuse
- Prevention / Treatment
- Time Management
- Transportation Assistance
- Utilities



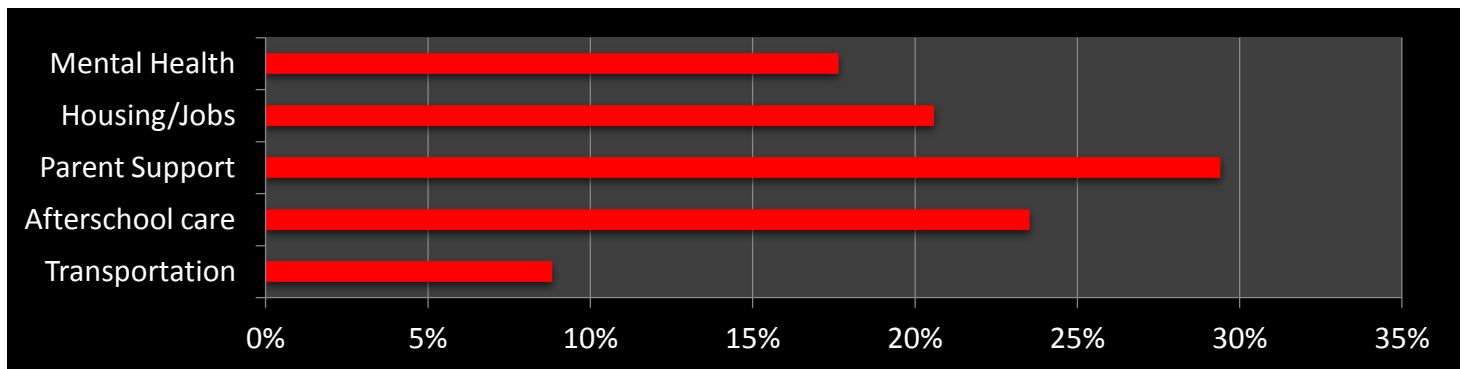


Concerns Identified by Early Head Start Families

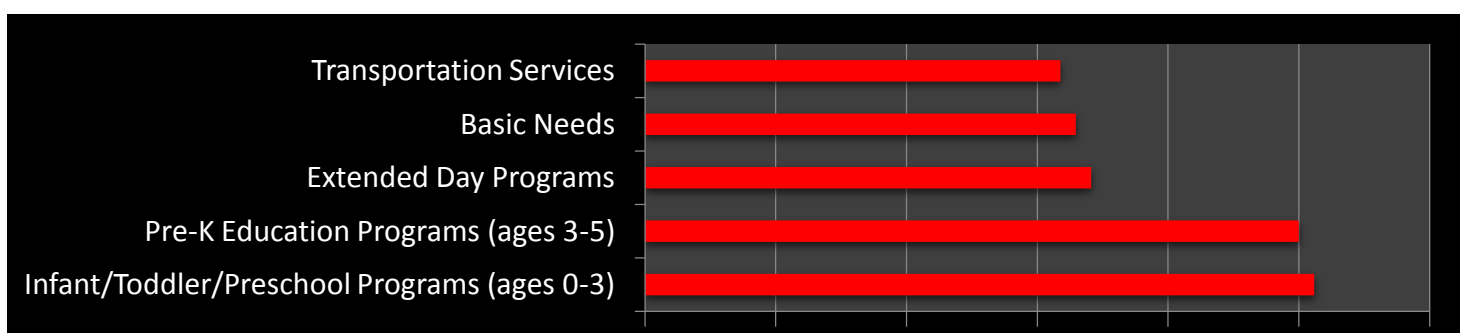
1. In the past year, have you experienced changes in the following:

	Annual Household Income	Employment	Homelessness	Transportation
0 = No change	0	0	126	113
2 = Decrease	0	0	3	5
1 = Increase	0	0	1	12

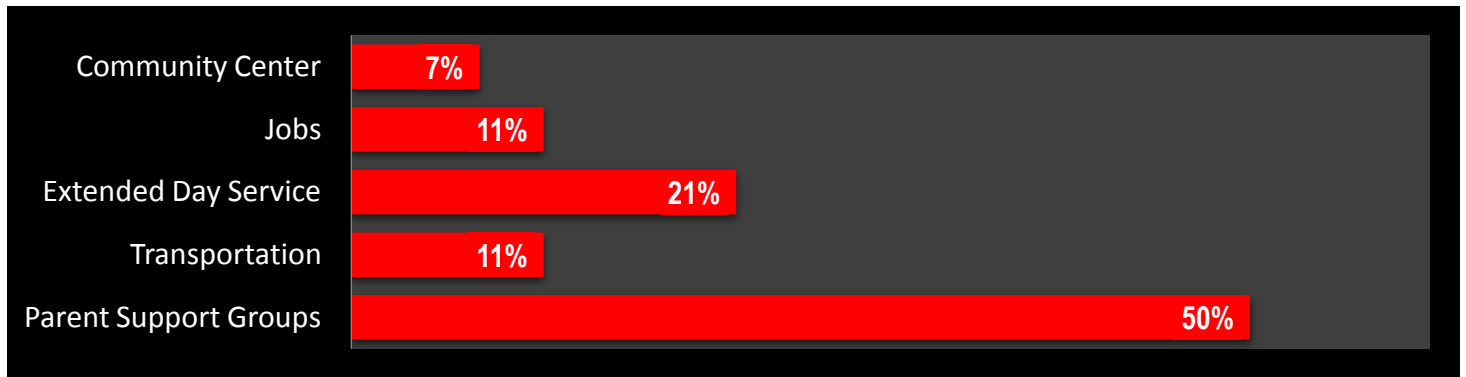
2. What other concerns do you think are issues for the Picayune, Pearl River community?



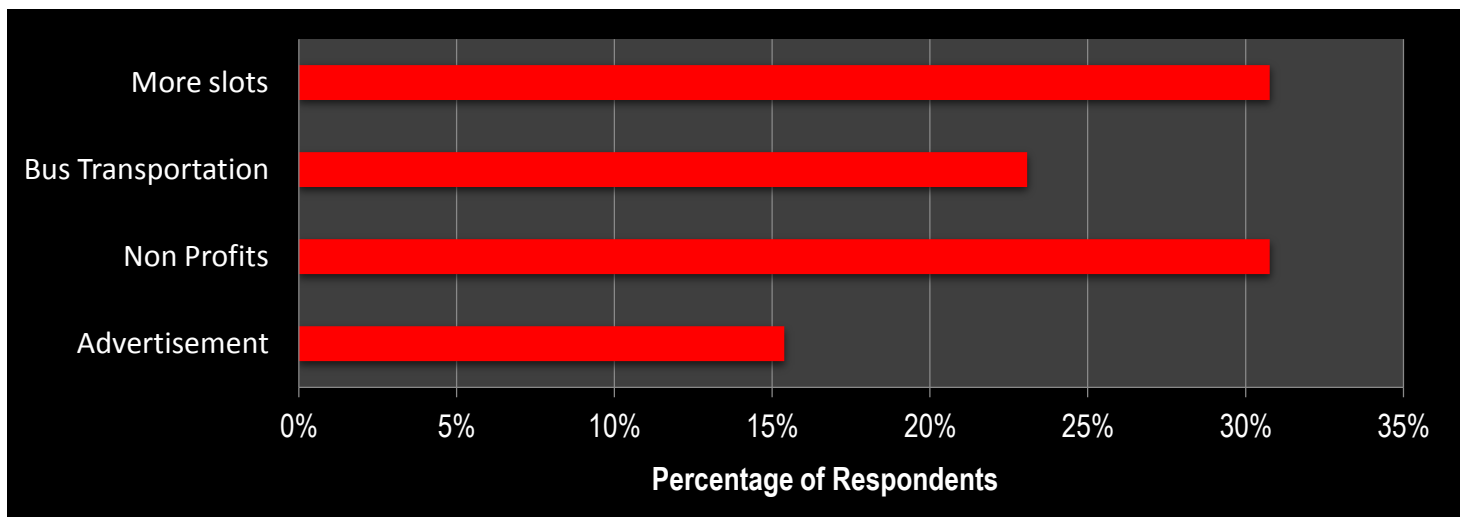
3. List the 5 greatest service needs for children and families



4. What other programs/services do you believe that our Early Head Start could offer to better serve our community?



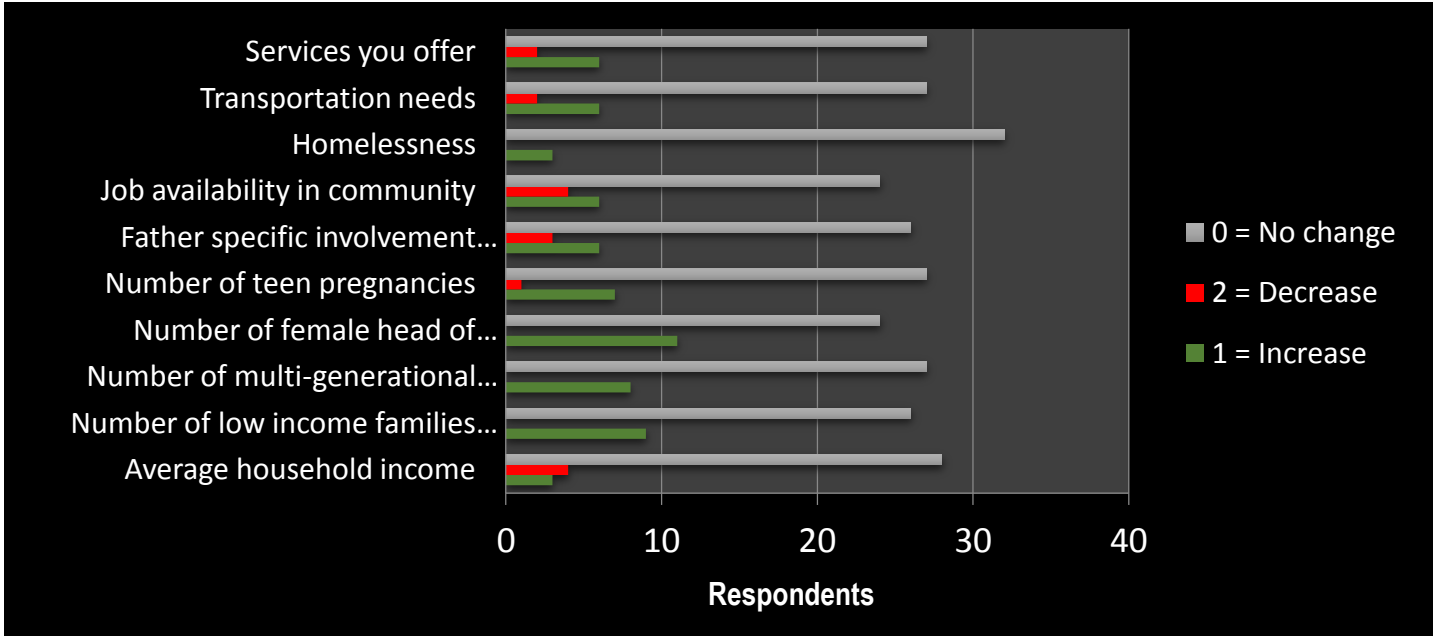
5. Do you have any suggestions about how Early Head Start could collaborate or partner with others in order to better meet the needs of low income children and families?



Concerns Identified by Institutions Serving Early Head Start Families

The community needs were identified by collecting and analyzing data and information from multiple quantitative and qualitative sources. Considering information from a variety of sources is important when assessing community needs to ensure the assessment captures a wide range of facts and perspectives and to assist in identifying the highest priority of needs. One of the most important sources is to seek input directly from those served by PSD EHS. Each of PSD EHS’ parents was given an opportunity to participate in the survey and provide their valuable input. The survey was also offered to the social service agencies and businesses who are collaborate with PSDEHS as community partners. There are needs identified that can be addressed and met by PSD EHS and others that must be referred to other local organizations or agencies. Several improvement opportunities were identified where PSD EHS might act as a community catalyst for action but not part of PSD EHS’ implementation plan.

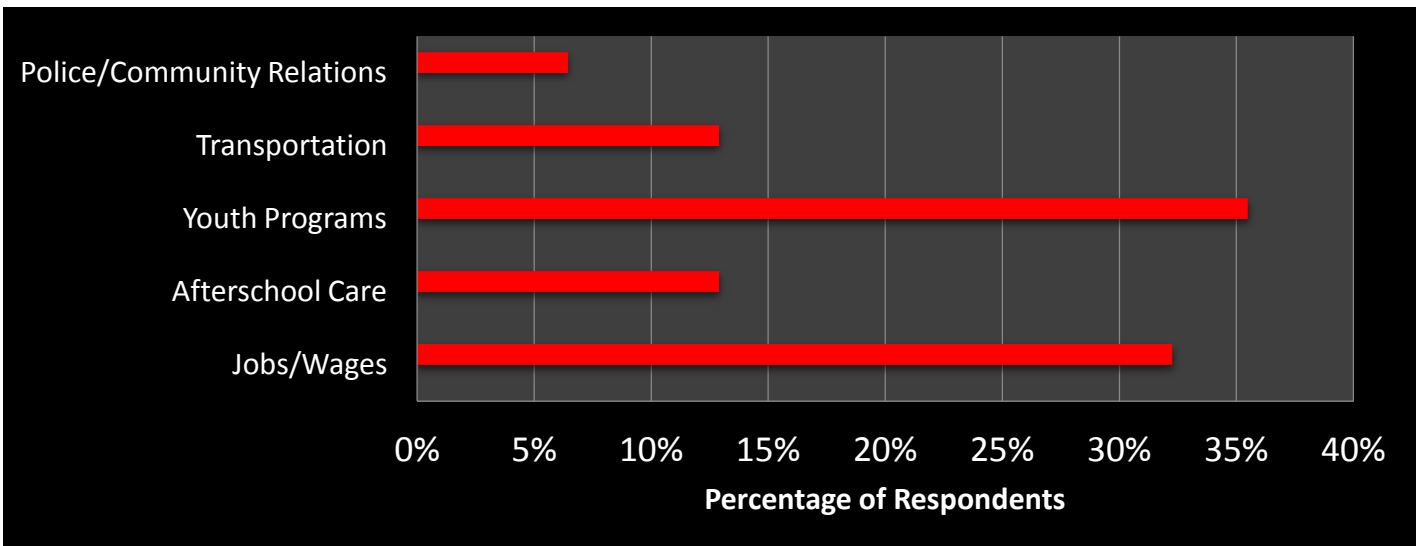
1. In the past year has your agency seen changes in the following:



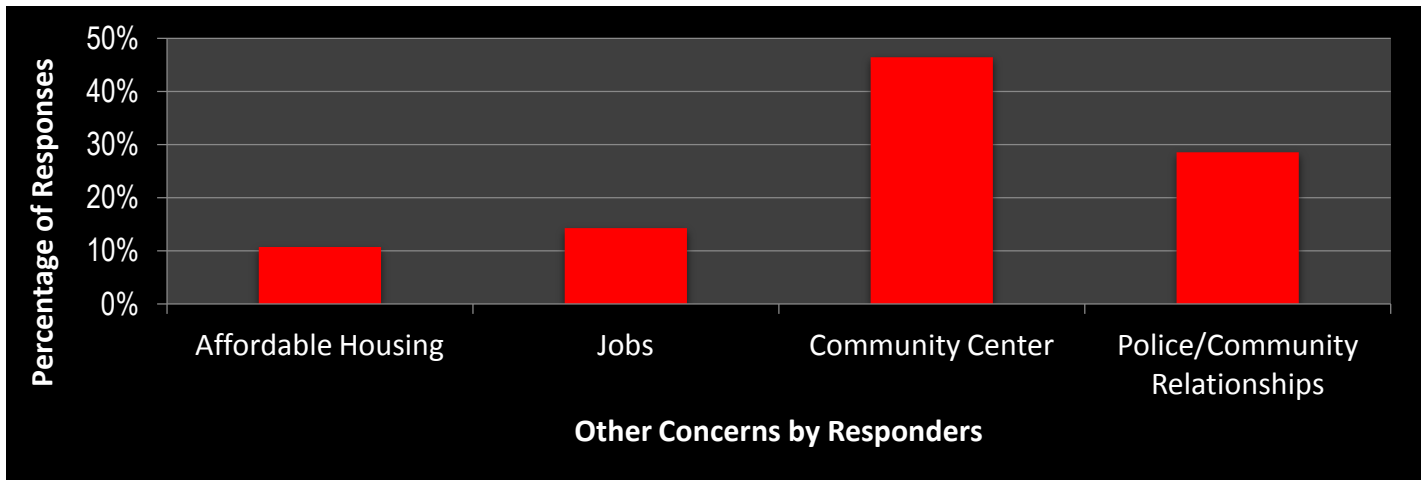
2. What do you see as the strengths of the community?



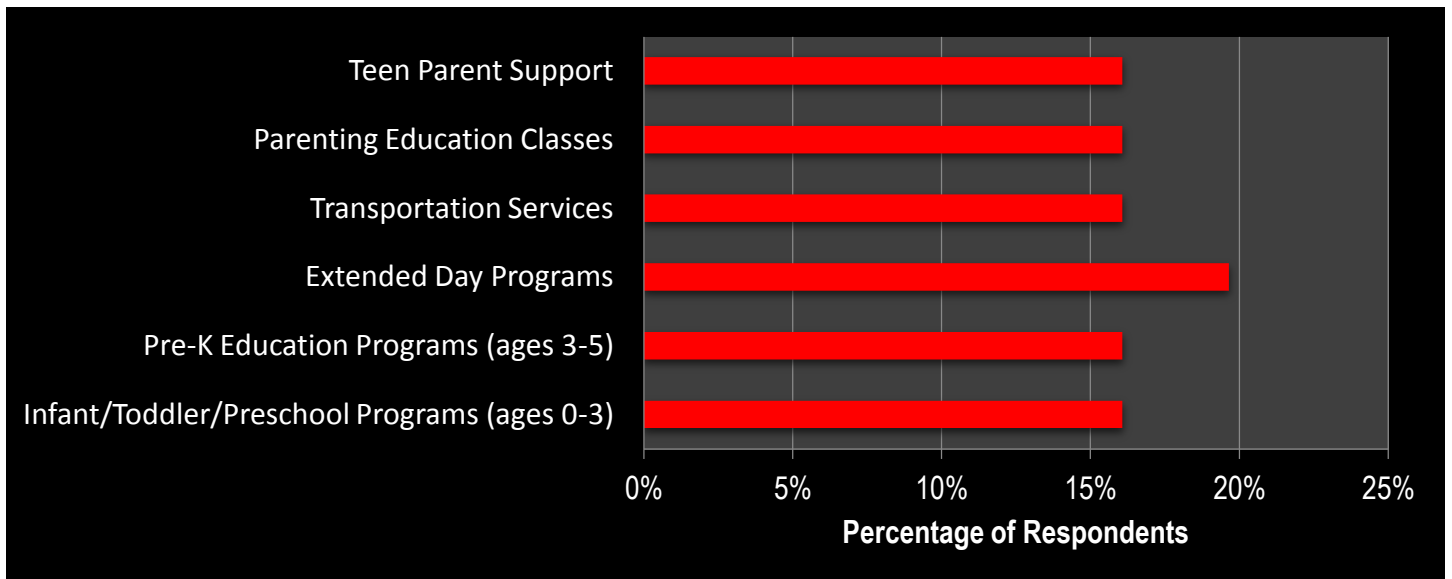
3. What do you believe are your agency or community obstacles when working with low income families?



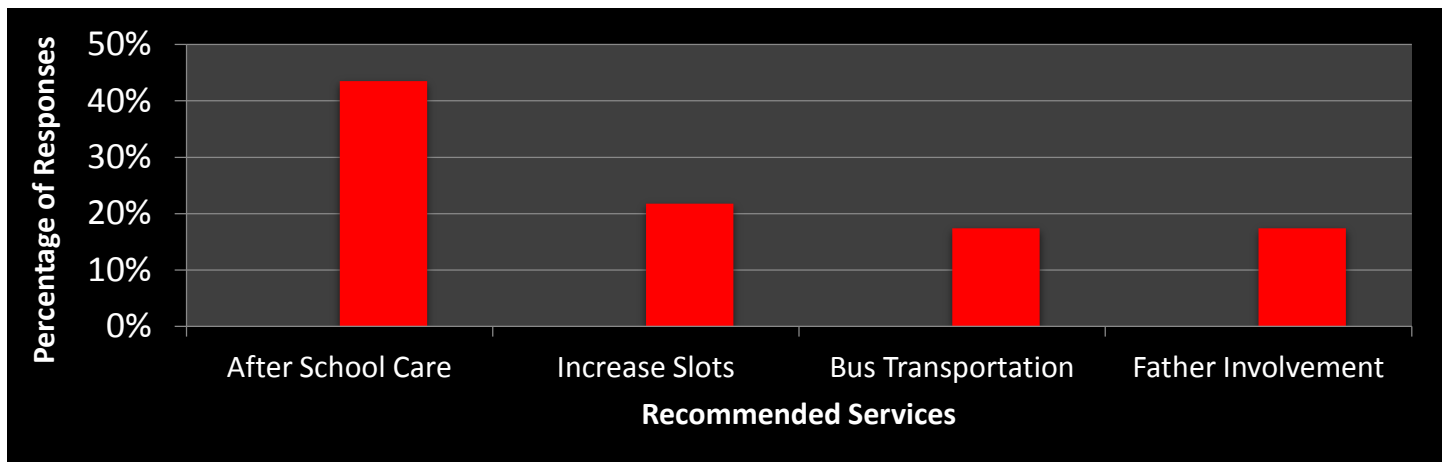
4. What other concerns do you think are issues for the Picayune (Pearl River County) community?



5. What do you think are the 5 greatest service needs for children and families in Picayune, Pearl River County, MS?



6. What other programs/services do you believe that our Early Head Start could offer to better serve our community?





COMMUNITY RESOURCES

FORMAL PICAYUNE SCHOOL DISTRICT EARLY HEAD START COMMUNITY PARTNERS	
Agency's Name	Area of Service
PSD Occupational Child Care Program	Therapy
Mississippi State Extension	Family Educational Services
Children's International UC Medical Group	Pediatric Medicine
PRVO-Picayune	Family Resources
Fatherhood Program	Fatherhood
Families First for Mississippi	Family Resources
Mississippi Action for Progress, Inc, Head Start	Early Childhood Education
Mississippi Dept of Child Protection Services	Child Protection
Pregnancy Support Services	Pregnancy Support
Pine Grove Outreach Center	Mental Health
Tracey M. Boston, PhD, LCSW	Mental Health
Margaret Reed Crosby Memorial Library	Literacy
PRCC Nursing Education	Nursing Services
Innovative Health Solutions	Family Health
r. H.E Combs, D.M.D	Dentistry
Picayune School District Exceptional Ed	Early Intervention
Poplaville School District Special Education	Early Intervention
Pearl River County School District Exceptional Education	Early Intervention
First Steps	Early Intervention
Annie's Daycare and Kindergarten (CCP)	Child Care Partner
PRCC Child Development Lab School	Child Care Partner
BankPlus	Financial Literacy
Southeast Mississippi Rural Health Initiative	Family Health
Manna Ministries - Picayune, MS 39466	Emergency Needs / Family Health
MS State Dept of Health	Family Health

OTHER RESOURCES IN THE PSD EHS SERVICE AREA

Organization Name	Organization Type
<p>Devereux & Nguyen 6420 Hwy 11 N. Ste C Carriere, MS 39426 (601) 799-3120</p> <p>Patrick Eck, DDS., LLC 1127 Hwy 43 N Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-5443</p> <p>Penley Family Dentistry 6480 Hwy 11 North Carriere, MS 39426 601-749-9330</p> <p>Picayune Dental Clinic 200 Norwood St. Picayune, MS 39466</p>	Dentists
<p>Audibel Hearing Healthcare 1817 Hwy 11 N Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-0550</p> <p>Bedford Care Center of Picayune Cooper Road Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 606-1898</p> <p>Children's International Medical Group 1016 Sixth Ave. Suite A Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-5558</p> <p>Hattiesburg Clinic 128 Highland Parkway Suite 200 Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 358-9630</p> <p>Highland Community Hospital 130 Highland Commons Parkway Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 358-9400</p> <p>Picayune Eye Clinic 908 Sixth Ave. Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-4182</p> <p>Picayune Family Health Center 1911 Read Rd. Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 251-3500</p> <p>Riser Medical Associates 2274 Hwy 43 S Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-5798</p> <p>Slidell Memorial Hospital 1001 Gause Blvd. Slidell, La 70458 (985) 280-8813</p> <p>Southern Eye Center 1 Sycamore Rd. Ste K Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 264-3937</p>	Hospitals / Clinics
<p>Brandi's Hope 1401 6th Ave Picayune, MS 39466 (601)382-4468</p> <p>Therapy Office (Marilyn Gouguet, LCSW) 703 West Canal St. Picayune, MS 39466</p> <p>Pine Grove Outreach Center of Picayune 6482B Highway 11N Carriere, MS 39426 (601) 799-0849</p>	Mental Health Services
<p>Karen Hilton, PT- Mileston Therapy, LLC 201 Second St. Picayune, MS 39466 Tel: 601-799-4065</p> <p>Amanda Koch, OTR/L-Ready Set Go Therapy, Inc. 201 Second St. Picayune, MS 39466 Tel: 601-799-4065</p> <p>Stephanie Theriot, SLP-CCC Tots To Teens Communication Therapy, LLC 117 B. North Main Picayune, MS 39466 Tel: 601-798-6900</p>	Disability / Therapy Services

<p>Chamber of Commerce Jobs http://picayuneareachamber.chambermaster.com/jobs/</p> <p>Federal Job Openings http://www.usajobs.opm.gov</p> <p>Mississippi State Employment Service 1839 Cooper Rd., Picayune, MS 39466; 601-798-3472 http://www.mdes.ms.gov/wps/portal/#null</p> <p>Jobs at Stennis Space Center http://www.nasa.gov/centers/stennis/about/jobs/index.html</p> <p>The Picayune Item Classifieds http://www.picayuneitem.com</p> <p>WRJW Radio - 1320 AM Job Bank, openings are aired three times per day, Monday through Friday, at 7:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m., and 4:15 p.m., and at Noon on Saturday. Job postings are FREE to Chamber members, \$15.00 to non-members. Call WRJW Radio at 601-798-4835 for more information.</p>	<p>Employment Resources</p>
<p>Carriere Volunteer Fire Department 7414 Hwy 11 601-799-2345</p> <p>Leetown Volunteer Fire Department 24440 Rester Rd. 601-799-3755</p> <p>McNeill Volunteer Fire Department 106 Library St. 601-798-7065</p> <p>Nicholson Volunteer Fire Department 601-799-1010</p> <p>Picayune Station No. 1 12233 Adcox Rd. , Picayune, MS; 601-798-7862</p> <p>Picayune Station No. 2 220 S. Haugh Ave. , Picayune, MS; 601-799-0614</p> <p>Picayune Station No. 3 1700 Palestine Rd., Picayune, MS; 601-798-4811</p> <p>Picayune Fire Chief's Office 12233 Adcox Rd., Picayune, MS; 601-798-6513</p> <p>Poplarville Fire Department 110 Industrial Pk.; Poplarville, MS 601-795-2200</p>	<p>Fire Departments</p>
<p>Picayune Police Department 328 S. Main St., Picayune, MS; 601-798-4682; 601-798-7411</p> <p>Pearl River County Sheriff's Office Dispatch 601-798-5528; Jail/Sheriff's Office 601-749-7700</p>	<p>Police Departments</p>
<p>CITY OF PICAYUNE (WATER & NATURAL GAS) 203 Goodyear Blvd Picayune, MS 39466; (601) 799-0602</p> <p>PEARL RIVER COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY (WATER & NATURAL GAS) 100 Street A, Suite F, Picayune, MS 39466; (601) 799-5259</p>	<p>Utilities</p>

<p>Pearl River Central Water Association 17 White Chapel Rd., Carriere, MS; 601-798-3103</p> <p>Sunny Oaks Water Association 138 Floyd Moody Rd., Poplarville, MS; 601-795-3170</p>	
<p>American Legion Post 73 (VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION) 2500 Union School Road Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-9868</p> <p>MS Tobacco Free Coalition of Hancock & Pearl River County (PREVENT THE INITIATION OF TOBACCO USE AMONG YOUTH, PROMOTE TOBACCO CESSATION SERVICES) 17304 US Hwy 603 Kiln, MS 39556 (228) 282-2622</p> <p>Better Business Bureau of MS (HELPS PEOPLE FIND AND RECOMMEND BUSINESSES, BRANDS, AND CHARITIES THEY CAN TRUST) 505 Avalon Way, Ste. B Brandon, MS 39047 601-398-1700</p> <p>Christian Care Ministries (FAITHBASED: EMERGENCY SERVICES) 321 Williams Ave. Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 799-3593</p> <p>Goodwill Industries of South MS (CLOTHING AND JOB TRAINING) 901 Palestine rd. Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-8677</p> <p>Gulf Coast Mississippi Small Business Development Center (CONSULTING, COACHING AND TRAINING PROGRAMS) 1636 Poppas Ferry Road Biloxi, MS 39532 (228) 396 8661</p> <p>Junior Auxiliary of Picayune (CHARITABLE SERVICES) P.O. Box 27 Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 916-5621</p> <p>Manna Ministries, Inc. (FAITH-BASED: CLOTHING, FOOD, & FREE MEDICAL CLINIC) 120 Street A, Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 799-2121</p> <p>Pearl River Valley Opportunity (HOMELESSNESS RESOURCES) Pearl River County (Picayune) 7012 Highway 11 North, Suite D Carriere, MS 39426 (601) 749-7729 (601) 749-7730</p> <p>Picayune Lions Club (YOUTH / DISABILITY PROGRAMS) P.O. Box 225 Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 799-5363</p> <p>Rotary Club of Picayune (COMMUNITY SERVICE) P.O. Box 115 Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-4877</p> <p>Sav-A-Life of the Pearl River Area (PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICES) 1101 Goodyear Blvd. Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 799-2668</p> <p>The Housing Authority of Picayune (HOUSING ASSISTANCE) 821 6th Avenue Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-3281</p> <p>United Way of South MS (EDUCATION, INCOME STABILITY, & HEALTH RESOURCES) 11975 Seaway Rd. Gulfport, MS 39505 (228) 896-2213</p>	<p>Family, Community, & Civic Organizations</p>

<p>MDRS- Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation (DISABILITY SERVICES) 215 A. Williams Ave Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-7811</p> <p>MSU Pearl River County Extension Service (EDUCATIONAL & TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS) 417 Hwy 11 N. Poplarville, MS 39470 601-403-2280</p> <p>Alert Safety & Training, LLC (CPR & OSHA TRAINING) Picayune, MS 39466; (601) 273-0450</p> <p>Picayune School District (K-12 - PUBLIC SCHOOLS) 706 Goodyear Blvd. Picayune, MS 39466 P: 601.798.3230 F: 601.798.1742</p> <p>Pearl River Central School District (K-12 - PUBLIC SCHOOL) 7441 U.S. 11, Carriere, MS 39426</p> <p>Pearl River Community College (HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES / CERTIFICATIONS) 101 Highway 11 North, Poplarville, MS 39470, (601) 403 - 1000</p>	<p>Educational Agencies</p>
<p>15th Circuit Court District (DOMESTIC DISPUTES - DIVORCE, CHILD CUSTODY AND SUPPORT, PROBATE AND ESTATE MATTERS) 500 Courthouse Square, Ste. 3 Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 731-1476</p> <p>City of Picayune (BIRTH CERTIFICATES, LICENSES, PERMITS/ INSPECTIONS, DRIVERS LICENSES, JOB, MARRIAGE LICENSE) 203 Goodyear Boulevard Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 798-9770</p> <p>Pearl River Co. Soil & Water Conservation District (ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, FARM SUPPLY, GARDENING, GOVERNMENT, LAND DEVELOPMENT, LANDSCAPING, LAWN AND GARDEN, PRODUCE) - 310 Hwy 26 E Poplarville, MS 39475 (601) 795-4409 Ext 3</p> <p>Pearl River County (PROPERTY TAX, CIRCUIT CLERK, SHERRIF, JUSTICE COURT, CHANCERY CLERK, TAX ASSESSOR) P.O. Box 431 Poplarville, MS 39470 (601) 403-2300</p>	<p>Government Agencies</p>
<p>PARKS & RECREATION (TENNIS COURTS, BASEBALL FIELDS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND WALKING TRAILS) - 1400 U.S. 11, Picayune, MS 39466; 311 or (601) 799-0602 (Friendship Park; Jack Reed Park, Mildred Mitchell Park; Snyder Park; Ben Taylor Park; & J.P. Johnson Park)</p> <p>Pearl River County Welcome Center (RESOURCES / LINKS TO EVENTS IN PEARL RIVER COUNTY) I-59 N Mile Marker 3 Picayune, MS 39466</p> <p>Wet & Wild Fun Jumps & Waterslide's (ENTERTAINMENT / PARTY PLANNING SERVICES & SUPPLIES) Picayune, MS 39466</p> <p>Greater Picayune Arts Council (ART / CULTURAL PROGRAMS) P.O. Box 1512 Picayune, MS 39466</p> <p>Paint Your Own Studio (PAINT YOUR OWN POTTERY STUDIO OFFERING PARTY AND GROUP PACKAGES) 168 Richardson Rd Picayune, MS 39466</p> <p>NASA/John C. Stennis Space Center (STEM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, WEBINARS, WORKSHOPS, AND TOURS) Code IA10, NASA Bldg. 1100, Rm. #304 SSC, MS 39529 (228) 688-3333</p> <p>The Crosby Arboretum (PUBLIC ENJOYMENT OF PLANT SPECIES NATIVE TO THE PEARL RIVER DRAINAGE BASIN OF SOUTH-CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI AND LOUISIANA) 370 Ridge Road Picayune, MS 39466</p> <p>Picayune Main Street (COMMUNITY FESTIVALS) 200 Hwy 11 South Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 799-3070</p>	<p>Recreation / Parks</p>



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES (BASED ON PROGRAM & COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT DATA)

Objective 1: Development & Education. Expand Early Head Start services to eligible families in the primary service region as well as the cities of Poplarville, Carriere, McNeil, and Lumberton, MS through expansion opportunities.

Objective 2: Family Engagement. Assess the needs of the fathers in order to overcome the barriers which interfere with participation and communication. Some schools and communities do not fully understand the problems parents, particularly fathers, encounter and the importance of reaching out to them in order to build the kind of relationships that engage parents as true, active partners early in their children's education.

Objective 3: Family Support Services. Provide an array of family services that promote the safety and well-being of children and their families. This includes empowering families to achieve or sustain independence and self-sufficiency through partnerships with PSD EHS and other community programs.

Objective 4: Transportation. Provide reliable, affordable transportation services so EHS families may travel to and from service-related appointments, including but not limited to dental, medical, WIC, employment services, and agency events.

Objective 5: College / University Partnerships & Staff Credentialing. Establish partnerships with colleges/universities to serve clients who may qualify for agency programs. Such partnerships will also allow agency staff to receive specialized training, input and guidance from college/university staff and faculty. Lastly, partnering with colleges/ universities will allow the agency to utilize the talent of internship, work-study and field placement students.

Objective 6: Workforce Development. Establish an annual training calendar to schedule the attendance of families and the community at local workshops and other informative events. Provide training plans all interested parents in order to enhance employment stability and advancement.

Objective 7: Dual Language Learners. Develop strategies to identify, hire, and train bilingual staff members in order to better serve culturally and linguistically diverse children and families.

Objective 8: Parent Education. Increase the number of EHS parents who enroll in online high school diploma program via partnerships with Families First for Mississippi and the Picayune Family Resource & Education Center.

Objective 9: Data Driven Reporting. Assure all programs continue to operate efficiently and effectively, achieve program goals, and meet intended outcomes.

Objective 10: School Readiness. Assure that all participating children are ready for school, families are ready to support their children’s learning, and schools are ready for children.

Objective 11: Oversight & Accountability. Develop a Pearl River County EHS-Child Care Partnership Strategic Plan.

Objective 12: Community Engagement. Develop more formal working agreements among providers and other community service agencies to tackle the issue of access to resources for PSD EHS children and families.

Objective 13: Staff Training / Professional Development.

- Hire and Train Mentor-Coaches and enhance teacher capacity and to promote developmentally appropriate practice is through mentoring.
- Utilize the Accreditation Plan to ensure that all CCPs achieve a MS Quality Rating System rating as a “Comprehensive Center.”
- Expand Training/ Educational Opportunities of EHS and Early Childcare Partnership Staff

