

**Annual Report: 2008-2009**  
**Family Resource Agency of North Georgia**  
**Head Start – Early Head Start – Georgia Pre-K**  
**Funded Enrollment: 800 Head Start (includes 20 Pre-K) – 184 Infants/Toddlers/Pregnant Moms**

- **Service Area: Six (6) Northwest Counties of Georgia**

County	Early Head Start	Head Start	Head Start/ PreK Blended
Catoosa	24	76	20
Chattooga	48	91	
Dade	16	51	
Murray	16	60	
Walker	24	219	
Whitfield	56	283	

- **Centers/Classrooms/Staffing**

21 Centers – 3 are collaborative partnerships with other child care providers or school systems  
 43 Head Start Classrooms = 17 Three Year olds or 20 Four Year Olds; One Teacher/One Assistant Teacher  
 23 Early Head Start Classrooms = 8 Birth to Three Year olds and Pregnant Women; Two Teachers  
 Pre-K Class: 1 classroom of 20 four (4) year olds; One Pre-K certified Teacher; one Assistant Teacher  
 Most classrooms operate 6.5 hours; 6 classrooms are Full day – up to 11.5 hours per day  
 Number of staff employed - 241: Head Start – 164 staff; Early Head Start – 77 staff

- **Budget**

Funding for the program comes from several sources:

Head Start	\$5,651,359
Early Head Start	\$2,674,635
CACFP - Head Start	\$413,320
CACFP - EHS	\$108,637
Georgia Pre-K	\$77,112
Client Fees	\$68,265
Child Care Funds	\$1,100
Training/Technical Assistance Supplemental	49,773

- **Regulatory standards**

**All aspects of the program comply with or exceed Head Start Performance Standards.**

Other regulatory bodies/accreditation:

Georgia Bright From the Start: Department of Early Care and Learning Licensing (DECAL)

National Association for the Education of Young Children Accreditation (NAEYC)

Georgia Standards of Care: Center of Distinction

- **Monitoring Reviews**

- Federal Tri-annual Monitoring Review – April, 2008  
Findings: Minor facilities issues which were corrected immediately
- Georgia DECAL licensing reviews – Ongoing  
15 centers voluntarily licensed Findings: No critical findings

- Annual Audit -- No audit findings
- NAEYC Accreditation – Ongoing  
17 Centers Accredited

- **Assessment**

Assessment using the Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum is utilized by both Head Start and Early Head Start.

The ongoing assessment of preschool Head Start children includes collection of data on eight (8) domains of children’s learning and development and legislatively mandated areas contained in the IM-0018.

EIGHT DOMAINS:

Language Development	Creative Arts	Social & Emotional Development
Literacy	Science	Physical Health and Development
Mathematics		Approaches Toward Learning

Early Head Start children are assessed on developmentally appropriate criteria for infants and toddlers.

Teaching staff in both programs utilize the information on children’s skill levels to develop lesson plans which meet the individual goals of each child. Children’s progress in each of the assessment areas must be evaluated to determine strengths and weaknesses of the program curriculum. This information is used by the program to plan training for staff and any necessary changes in the curriculum. Assessment provides individualized instruction for each child to insure school readiness.

Overall for school year 2008-2009, children progressed from 22% at the highest or next to highest skill level at the beginning of the year to 73% at the highest or next to highest level by the end of the school year.

- **Family Service Activities**

Family Service Specialists must insure that full enrollment is achieved by the first day of class in August and maintained throughout the year. They make regular contact with families throughout enrollment, tracking attendance, completion of required health and dental screenings/exams, and progress on ongoing family goals. All information is entered into the ChildPlus database, which allows supervisors, monitors and coordinators to track required activities for completion by deadlines.

- **Parent Involvement Activities**

Parent meetings occur monthly to provide parent input into program planning, parent education activities, classroom curriculum, and center activities. Parents are also elected to serve on Policy Council, a committee which provides oversight and approval of program activities and policies. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classroom and work at home with their children and to apply for Head Start staff positions. Volunteering is an important aspect of parent involvement. During 2008-09 there were 283 volunteers in Head Start and 48 in Early Head Start.

- **Disabilities**

We serve disability children in all of our classrooms. During 2008-09 11% of our Head Start and 10% of our Early Head Start slots were filled by children with diagnosed disabilities. We have agreements with all of the local school systems and Babies Can’t Wait to provide the special needs services to these children.

- **Some unique highlights of the program**

- **International Academy & Pioneer HS** – collaborative classrooms with local schools
- **Whitfield Dalton Day Care** – collaborative partnership blending HS and day care services
- **Spanish speaking** children/families = 194
- **Fatherhood Program** to encourage active participation by fathers in their child(ren)’s development
- **Pre-Natal Program:** Serves pregnant moms to provide preparation for motherhood: includes education on birth, SIDS, child development, health, nutrition and parenting and the program also insures that proper pre- and post-natal health care is obtained by the pregnant woman.
- **High School Teen Parenting Program:** Early Head Start centers in two local high schools to provide pre-natal care to teen moms, support them in completion of high school; provide care and education for their infant/toddler while they attend school.

- **Program Information Report – 2008-2009 Program Year:**

Criteria	Early Head Start	Head Start
Total number of Children enrolled	219	992
Total number of Pregnant women enrolled	27	X
Children enrolled less than 45 days (may not have been enrolled long enough to receive medical/dental services)	11	68
Children receiving up-to-date age-appropriate health care	157	888
Children up-to-date on all appropriate immunizations	214	931
Children receiving dental screening	190	907
Children receiving routine developmental, sensory, behavioral screenings	209	924
Children with diagnosed disability	21	105
Total number of families enrolled	193	906
Families who received some type of assistance, education and/or intervention	193	906

Following is a map of our service area:

