

**Annual Report: 2009-2010**  
**Family Resource Agency of North Georgia**  
**Head Start – Early Head Start – Georgia Pre-K**  
**Funded Enrollment: 782 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	88	20
Chattooga	48	91	
Dade	16	51	
Murray	16	57	
Walker	24	159	40
Whitfield	56	276	

- **Centers/Classrooms/Staffing**

23 Centers – 4 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: 3 classrooms of 20 four (4) year olds; One Pre-K 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	\$5,608,427
Early Head Start	\$2,761,788
CACFP - Head Start	\$442,296
CACFP - EHS	\$122,291
Georgia Pre-K	\$191,614
Client Fees	\$75,684
Child Care Funds	\$1,254
Training/Technical Assistance Supplemental	68,697
Program Improvement – HS & EHS	\$230,164
Quality Improvement – HS & EHS	\$401,779
Emergency Funds – One-Time Supplemental	\$35,000
Early Head Start Expansion Start-Up & First Year	\$713,558

- **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  
17 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 2009-2010 children made significant progress towards school readiness over the course of the year as demonstrated by the Outcomes reports. At the beginning of the year, 89% of the 3 and 4 year olds were at the 2 lower skill levels and 11% at the 2 higher levels; by the end of the year, only 27% were at the 2 lower levels and 73% had progressed to the 2 higher levels.

- **Screening:**

The Denver II is used to screen children upon enrollment to identify potential developmental concerns. The Devereaux ECA is used for behavioral, social and emotional area screening as needed.

- **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 2009-2010 there were 265 volunteers in Head Start/Early Head Start.

- **Disabilities**

We serve disability children in all of our classrooms and work collaboratively with local school systems and community agencies to have children with special needs referred to Head Start. During 2009-2010 10% of our Head Start and 8% of our Early Head Start slots were filled by children with diagnosed disabilities. Many additional children received services through the “Response to Intervention” process which provides the services for a year before a formal diagnosis occurs. We have agreements with all of the local school systems and Babies Can’t Wait to provide the special needs services to these children. We also have classrooms operated collaboratively with the local school systems to provide inclusive classrooms for moderate to severely involved disability children.

- **Some unique highlights of the program**

- **Blue Ridge Academy, Pioneer & Pennville HS** – collaborative inclusive special needs classrooms with local schools; jointly staffed and/or served by both Head Start and school special needs staff; more classrooms of this type planned for the 2010-2011 school year.
- **Whitfield Dalton Day Care & Kids Station Learning Center** – collaborative partnerships blending HS and day care services
- **Spanish speaking** children/families = 148
- **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
- **Battlewood Head Start:** Head Start center located in a HUD housing complex; serving the families who qualify for HUD housing
- **Expansion:** The program applied for and received Early Head Start Expansion to increase our services to infants, toddlers and pregnant women; for 2010-2011 - expanding our High School Teen Parenting program, and Battlewood Head Start and our collaborative partnership at Whitfield Dalton Day Care to include Early Head Start services as well as providing additional infant/toddler slots at existing EHS centers.

• **Program Information Report – 2009-2010 Program Year:**

Criteria	Early Head Start	Head Start
Total number of Children enrolled	228	933
Total number of Pregnant women enrolled	20	
Average Monthly Enrollment	100%	100%
Percentage of over income children served (due to special circumstances)	2.8%	6.7%
Children enrolled less than 45 days (may not have been enrolled long enough to receive medical/dental services)	24	54
Children receiving up-to-date age-appropriate health care	89%	89%
Children up-to-date on all appropriate immunizations	100%	100%
Children receiving dental screening	91%	96%
Children receiving routine developmental, sensory, behavioral screenings	100%	100%
Children with diagnosed disability	15	81
Total number of families enrolled	220	854
Families who received some type of assistance, education and/or intervention	126	697

\*Percentages for health services deduct the children enrolled less than 45 days

Following is a map of our service area:

