



2015-2016

**Head Start / Early Head Start
Annual Report**

Special points of interest:

- **Mother of the Year Honorees**
- **School Readiness**
- **Parental Engagement**
- **Special Activities**



Inside this report:

At the Heart of AVANCE	1
Policy Governance	2-3
Head Start & Early Head Start Enrollments	4
Health Services	5
Head Start School Readiness	6-7
Early Head Start School Readiness	8-9
Teacher Performance	10-11
Parental Engagement	12-13
Funding, Program Budgets & Financial Support	14-15
Annual Fiscal Audit	16
2014-2015 Monitoring Review	16



WE ARE AVANCE!

ABOUT AVANCE-SAN ANTONIO, INC.

- Founded in San Antonio in 1973 (42 Years of Excellence)
- AVANCE's Premise — Education begins when a child is born and parents are their child's first and most important teacher.
- AVANCE facilitates change through education and support: first, in parents, then in their young children, family and home. The change AVANCE makes in today's families dramatically impacts future generations.
- AVANCE's Purpose— To develop strong and stable families, healthy children and promote economic self-sufficiency in families.



Hector Turcios (RCC)
Showing his special walking push toy

AVANCE MISSION STATEMENT

AVANCE unlocks America's potential by strengthening families in at-risk communities through effective parenting education and support programs.

AVANCE MODEL OF SERVICES

The AVANCE Model of Services begins with parents and their infants or young children under the age of three. It reaches out to create strong families by offering parenting education, social support, adult basic and higher education, and leadership development. Quality early childhood education is provided to children ages birth to four. Services are inter-related, family centered and preventive in nature. The AVANCE Model of Services is integrated into all aspects of home, school and community life.

HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START SERVICES FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES

- For children and families ages birth to 5 years
- Head Start Programs provide Center-based Option Services
- Early Head Start Programs offers two program options: 1) a Home-based Option with weekly home visits and bimonthly group socializations, and 2) a Center-based Option whereby infants and toddlers receive quality care in fully licensed Child Early Education Centers while parents work, attend college or job training.
- Comprehensive services are provided for all children and families to include health, nutrition, mental health, services to children with disabilities, parental engagement and social services through an asset based case management system.

**2016 Celebrating Fathers Luncheon
(Honoring Chairman's Award Winner, Harvey E. Najim
& AVANCE Parent Miguel Olivarez**



Left to Right (Executive Director-Rebecca C. Cervantez, Daughter-Carrie Najim Matthiesen, Honoree-Harvey E. Najim, Daughter-Christine Najim Ray and Board Member -Linda Camp)



Left to Right (Executive Director-Rebecca C. Cervantez, AVANCE Parent, Experanza Olivares, AVANCE Parent Honoree, Miguel Olivarez, and Center Director/Parent Educator Georgette Chapa)

AVANCE-San Antonio Board of Directors

The AVANCE-San Antonio Board of Directors is comprised of highly professional individuals who are committed to the AVANCE Mission. Members include local attorneys, businessmen, educators and financial experts who support AVANCE with their expertise. The Board's commitment is truly evident in their time and effort in planning the successful Celebrating Fathers Luncheon. Each year the Board selects a Chairman's Award Honoree who exemplifies the values instilled in AVANCE parents and who gives back to the community. Also, a former AVANCE Parent Graduate is selected who has taken AVANCE's Mission to heart and has achieved positive changes for themselves and their family.

<p><u>BOARD CHAIR</u> JULIA R. REINHART <i>Vice President Human Resources, Administration and Refinery Operations</i> Valero Energy Corporation</p>	<p><u>BOARD SECRETARY</u> MARISA BONO <i>General Counsel</i> MALDEF</p>	<p>CHRISTOPHER LAIA <i>Senior Vice President of Compliance & Ethics</i> USAA</p>
<p><u>BOARD VICE CHAIR</u> KAREN M. THOMPSON <i>Senior VP & General Counsel, Litigation, Regulatory & Environmental</i> NuStar Energy L.P.</p>	<p><u>BOARD PARLIAMENTARIAN</u> LINDA CAMP</p> <p>SYLVIA A. ENRIQUEZ <i>Retired, VIA Metropolitan Transit</i></p>	<p>ROSEMARY H. PUENTE <i>Owner</i> RHP Consulting, LLC</p>
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Members attended Policy Council Orientation
October 2015 at the Oblate School of Theology



The Policy Council was comprised of 15 actively enrolled parents and two Community Representatives (one Community Agency Representative and one Community Representative-at-Large). During the 2015-2016 the Council reviewed and approved the 2016 Community Assessment, the HS/EHS Self Assessments, Program Service Plans, Strategic Goals and Objectives, School Readiness Goals, Program Financial Reports and HS and EHS Continuation Grants. Several members participated in the 2016 Self-Assessment process and the all-day Strategic Planning Workshops and program Service Plan Workshops. Quorum was established at every scheduled meeting.



HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL
September 2015 – August 2016

POLICY COUNCIL PARENT MEMBERS

HEAD START - SAN ANTONIO

SYLVIA LAINES (01/15/15) Head Start Center-based Option	GINA CHAVARRIA (11/0/10/15) Head Start Center-based Option	YADIRA CORTEZ (10/10/15) Head Start Center-based Option
TERESA GARCIA (10/10/15) Head Start Center-based Option	MARIA ANTONIETA RUIZ (10/10/15) Head Start Center-based Option	

EARLY HEAD START - SAN ANTONIO

CHRISTIE CANO (08/07/14) Early Head Start Center-based Option	MAGNOLIA OLIVO (10/10/15) Early Head Start Center-based Option	ROSANITA GONZALEZ (08/07/14) Early Head Start Center-based Option
ANA GARCIA (10/10/15) Early Head Start Home-based Option	DIANA BANEGAS (10/10/15) Early Head Start Home-based Option	

HEAD START TEXAS - WINTERGARDEN

LILIA ANNETTE SALAZAR 10/05/13) Head Start Center-based Option	APRIL DIAZ (08/19/14) Head Start Center-based Option
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EARLY HEAD START - TEXAS WINTERGARDEN

JESSICA GARZA (10/10/15) Early Head Start Center-based Option	MELISSA MALDONADO (10/10/15) Early Head Start Home-based Option
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EARLY HEAD START – EXPANSION AND CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

BRIANNA LYNN RAMOS (10/10/15) Early Head Start Center-based Option

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS

MEGAN JANZEN (04/23/13) Community Agency Representative San Antonio Food Bank	MAYRA MALDONADO (01/15/13) Community Representative-at-Large Former Parent San Antonio
VIVIANA TRISTAN BRAKE (3-19-13) Community Representative-at-Large Chair, Former Parent Texas Wintergarden	



Special shoes for a special toddler,
Annabeth Sanchez
(EHS-SA Home-based Option)

AVANCE-San Antonio provides: Head Start and Early Head Start Program services in San Antonio and in the five Texas Counties of Uvalde, Zavala, Real, Kinney and Edwards, also known as Texas Wintergarden. The Head Start Programs offer Center-based Option Services while the Early Head Start Programs provide services under two program options, Home-based and Center-based. All programs offer comprehensive services in the areas of health, nutrition, mental health, services to children with special needs, early childhood development/education. Families also receive social services support and parents have the opportunity to become engaged at all levels of programming to help their child and family achieve their highest potential.

2015-2016 Service Area Eligible Children & Service Levels

Program	Age & Income Eligible Children	Eligible Children Served	Total Families Served	Percentage Served
Head Start-San Antonio	1,260	929	860	74%
Early Head Start-San Antonio, Expansion and Child Care Partnership	6,989	580	505	8.3%
Head Start Texas Wintergarden	644	209	199	32%
Early Head Start Texas Wintergarden	874	311	266	36%

Funded Enrollment for 2015-2016

Program	Home-based Option Services	Center-based Option Services	Total Funded Enrollment
Head Start San Antonio	N/A	813	813
Early Head Start San Antonio	106	192	298
Early Head Start Expansion and Child Care Partnership	N/A	72	72
Head Start Texas Wintergarden	N/A	323	323
Early Head Start Texas Wintergarden	20	160	180

AVANCE partners with parents to ensure that children:

- Have a medical/dental home including primary health care providers.
- Are up-to-date on all well-child healthcare (EPSDT scheduled physicals, immunizations and dental visits) .
- Are provided healthcare services during illness and follow-up services to ensure they are fully recovered.
- With special needs receive needed services and accommodations.
- Their siblings and parents have access to healthcare at one of our two Community Health Clinics.



EHS Parent, Stephanie Ortiz with her son, Zhalen Reyes trying on his new hearing aid at the Fenley Center

AVANCE Community Health Partners

- For San Antonio- Two Community Clinics are operated in AVANCE facilities and in partnership with the University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio (UTHSCSA) School of Nursing. Our Clinics offer dental screenings, immunizations, hemoglobin and lead screenings, health services for the entire family. Services are provided in a culturally sensitive manner communicating with families in their primary language (English or Spanish). San Antonio Metropolitan Health District also partners with AVANCE to provide comprehensive health services.
- For all Programs—Family Service Association, Texas A&M Expanded Nutrition Program, San Antonio Food Bank and Early Childhood Intervention Programs
- For TX Wintergarden programs AVANCE collaborates with Our Health Community-based Clinic operated by Community Health Development, Inc. Clinics which are available in Uvalde, Leakey and Camp Wood, Texas, La Vida Y Salud Health Systems for health services in Zavala County for Crystal City and La Pryor. AVANCE collaborative efforts help provide a full array of health services and preventive health education.

Program	Children with Insurance	Received all Immunizations possible or met state exemption	% of Children Who Received Medical Exams	Ongoing Dental Care
HS- San Antonio	97%	95%	99%	98%
EHS - San Antonio	100%	95%	100%	93%
EHS Expansion/CCP	99%	86%	100%	87%
HS –TX Wintergarden	94%	99%	100%	100%
EHS— TX Wintergarden	95%	90%	100%	100%

School Readiness

Scientific-based Curriculum (aligned with the HS Early Learning Framework and Texas Start Guidelines)

- **Head Start**– Teachers utilized the *Pearson Publication Opening the World of Learning Curriculum in English and Spanish* and *Teaching Strategies GOLD* as the ongoing assessment tool for monitoring children's outcomes. Teaching Strategies GOLD is aligned with the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework and TEA Early Learning Guidelines. See Head Start Outcomes on page 7.
- **Early Head Start**– Teachers utilize the Teaching Strategies GOLD Web-based Curriculum as the ongoing assessment tool for monitoring children's outcomes. There are four checkpoints during the year. See Early Head Start Outcomes on pages 8 and 9.



Family fun and learning during Family Night

Documentation

Weekly anecdotal documentation is entered into the program (TS GOLD) to identify emerging developmental skills and acknowledge the mastery of such skills.

Data shared with parents

- Outcomes are shared with parents at least three times per year after the Fall, Winter, and Spring Checkpoints .
- For Center-based Option programs, two (2) Parent Conferences and two (2) Home Visits are held in the Fall and Spring of the program year to also discuss individual child school readiness goals and progress.
- The Development and Learning Report from TS GOLD shares with family members where the child is at developmentally and upcoming individualized goals for their child.

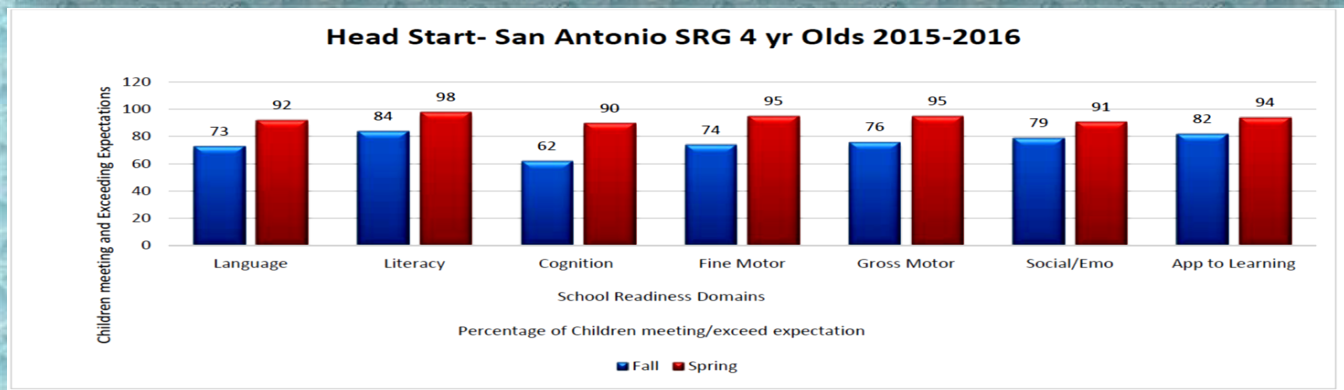
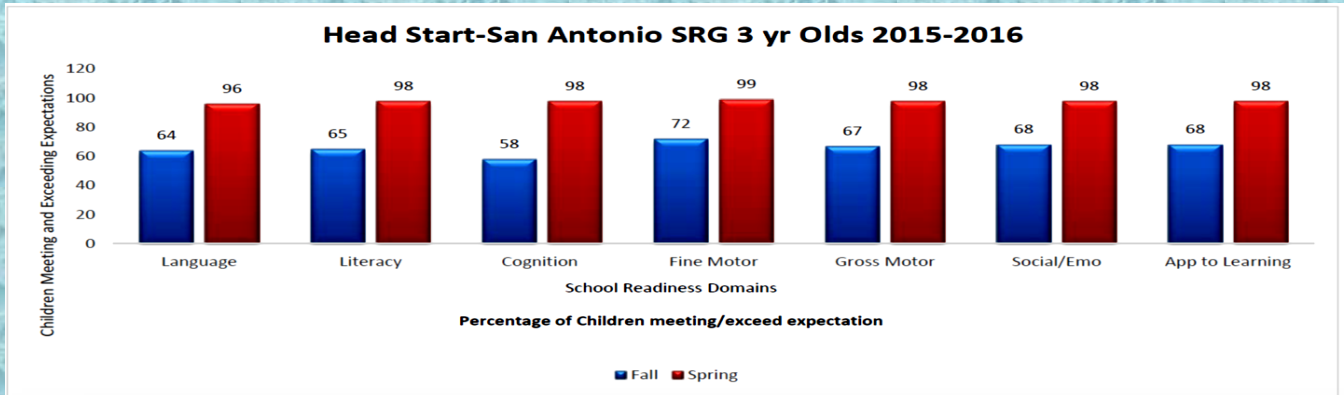
Parental Engagement

AVANCE implements a School Readiness Goals Plan. AVANCE's School Readiness Focus group includes teachers, Family Development Staff, all coordinators and parents. Meetings have been held each Fall and Spring to discuss the goals of the agency and ideas to overcome any barriers. The following are strategies being utilized to engage parents in their child's education:

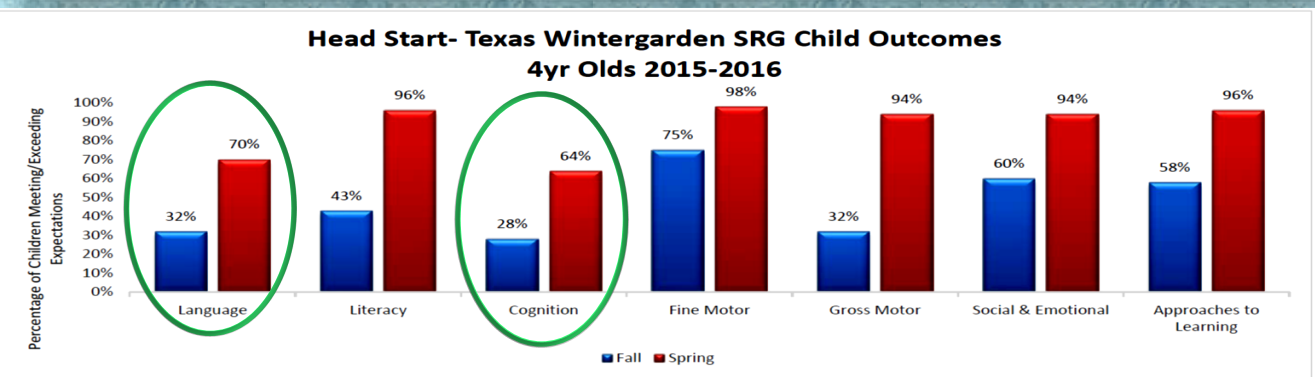
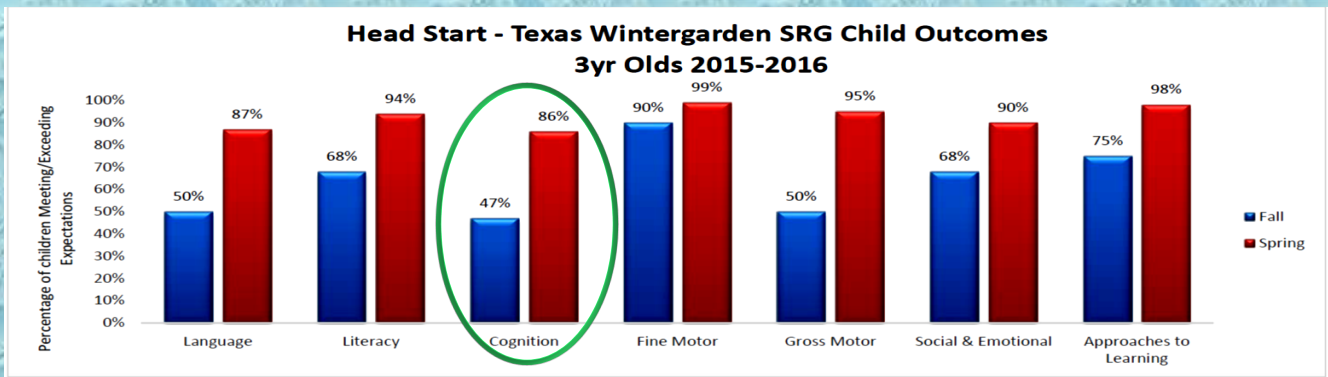
- **Survey families** on their needs and wants relating to School Readiness
- **SRG parent training** on School Readiness and the importance of parental engagement.
- **School Readiness Activities**- Monthly Calendars, Family Projects and Quarterly Make and Take Workshops offered at the Head Start and Early Head Start sites
- **Family nights**-A quarterly event where teachers model appropriate teaching methods and parent child interactions through activities where parents then have the opportunity to engage in with their child.
 - **Aligning Family Engagement Outcomes and School Readiness Child Outcomes**
 - Exposing families to **Ready Rosie** an online tool in English and Spanish that gives all AVANCE families and caregivers the ability to receive messages on their mobile devices or home computers that include short videos that model fun learning activities. These activities can be done in the home, car, grocery store, restaurants, public transportation or laundromats – wherever real life happens.
 - **SRG Take Home Activities**– Parents receive monthly calendars and supplies to complete age appropriate parent/child activities to reinforce learning and support SRG Goals and outcomes.



Head Start-San Antonio School Readiness Outcomes



Head Start -TX Wintergarden School Readiness Outcomes



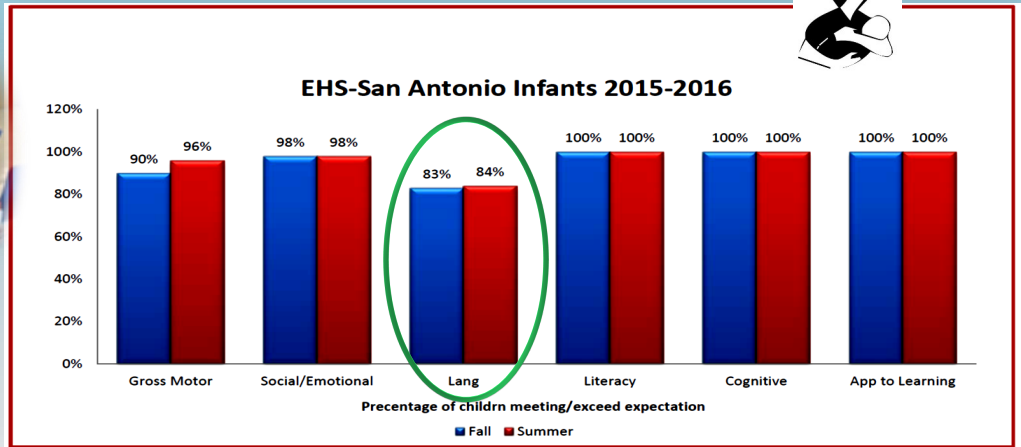
= Domain areas that will be focused on for the 2016-2017 program year

2015-2016 EHS-San Antonio School Readiness Goal Outcomes

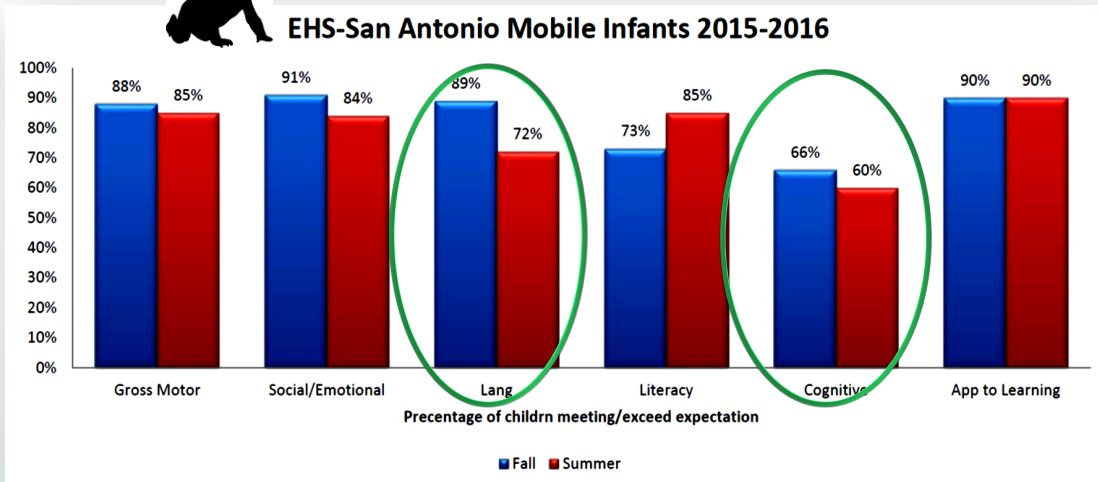


Aunt Baleria Musquiz works with her niece on family project

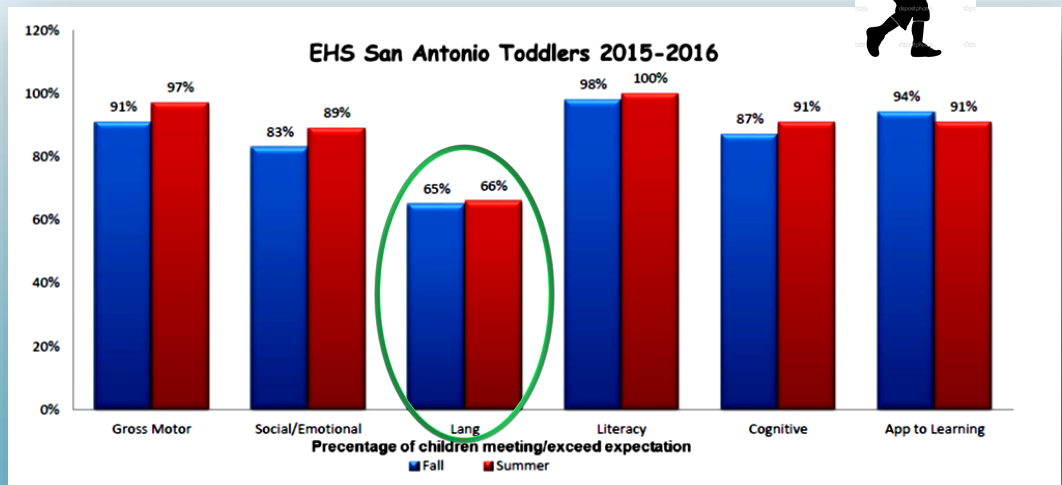
Infant Outcomes



Mobile Infant Outcomes



Toddler Outcomes

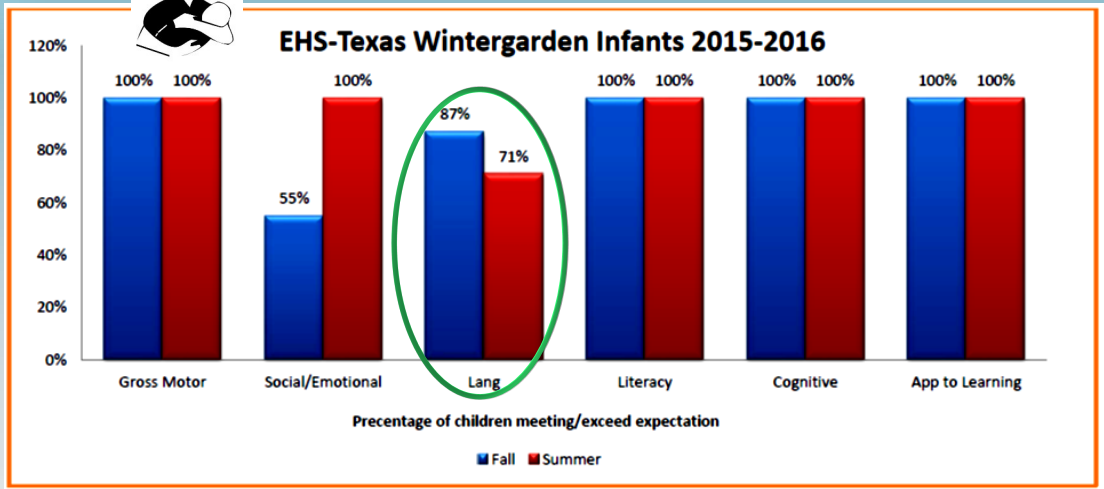


Note: Early Head Start Children transition out when they become three years throughout the year with highest turnover during the summer. A new infant/toddler is enrolled to replace transitioning child. As a result, there are changes in the group of children being assessed between each checkpoint. Outcomes may be affected by these changes.

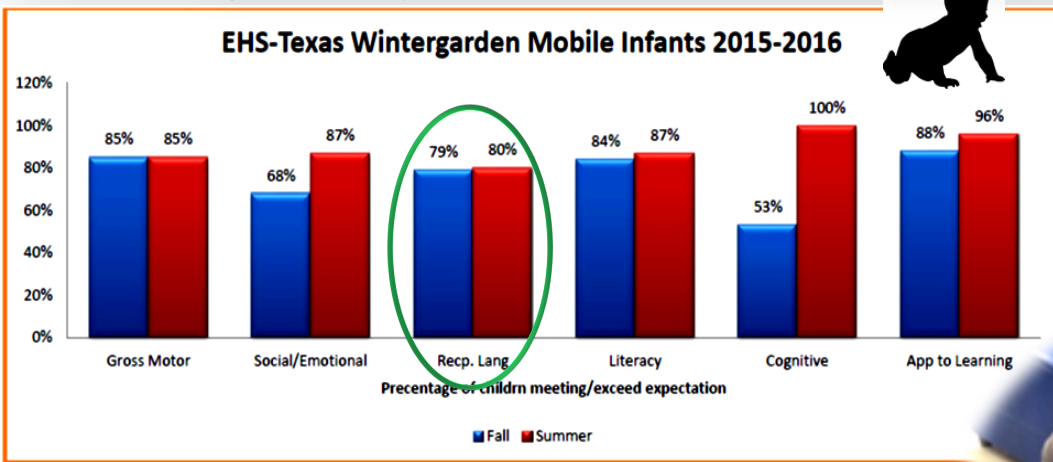
2015-2016 EHS-Texas Wintergarden School Readiness Outcomes



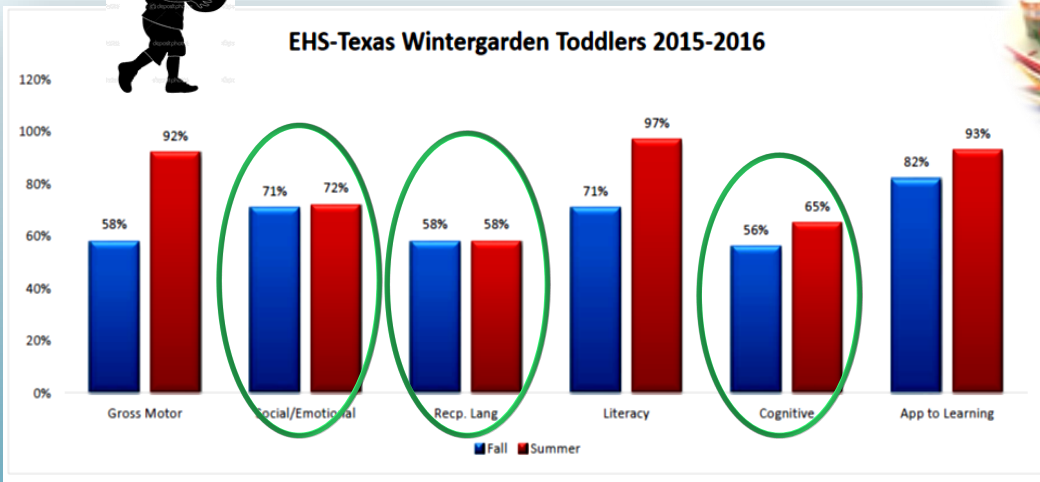
Infant Outcomes



Mobile Infant Outcomes



Toddler Outcomes



Alondra Arteaga engages with her son Jairen



= Domain areas that will be focused on for the 2015-2016 program year

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS[®]) is an observation instrument that assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions in center-based preschool classrooms. CLASS[®] includes three domains or categories of teacher-child interactions that support children's learning and development: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. Within each domain are dimensions which capture more specific details about teacher interactions with children.

CLASS[®] is scored by trained and certified observers using a specific protocol. Following their observations of teacher-child interactions, CLASS[®] observers rate each dimension on a 7-point scale, from low to high.

Scores of 1-2 mean the quality of teacher-child interactions is low. Classrooms in which there is poor management of behavior, teaching that is purely rote, or that lack interaction between teachers and children would receive low scores.

Scores of 3-5, the mid-range, are given when classrooms show a mix of effective interactions with periods when interactions are not effective or are absent.

Scores of 6-7 mean that effective teacher-child interactions are consistently observed throughout the observation period.

Footnote Reference: Early Childhood Education and Knowledge Center: *Use of Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) in Head Start*
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hs/sr/class>

2014-2015 Head Start CLASS Scores

Domain	National	Head Start-SA	Head Start-TXW
Emotional Support	6.10	5.93	5.27
Classroom Organization	5.83	5.94	4.48
Instructional Support	2.90	2.77	2.30

2015-2016 Head Start CLASS Scores

Domain	National Average	Head Start-SA Average	Head Start-TXW Average
Emotional Support	6.03	5.93	5.93
Classroom Organization	5.80	5.94	5.94
Instructional Support	2.88	2.77	2.77

PERFORMANCE

Early Head Start

Infant/Toddler Environmental Rating Scale (ITERS)

The ITERS instrument scores teacher/child interaction, language development, developmental learning activities (i.e. music/art expression, literacy, science etc.) as well as health and safety in the classroom. The scoring system is on a 1-7 scale, 1 being inadequate, 3 is Minimal, 5 is good and 7 is excellent. Following are the scores from the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 program years. Overall scores from this current year show about a 2% increase from last year being a step in the right direction. Early Head Start is currently rating between good and excellent on the ITERS Rating Scale Observations for Early Head Start. ITERS Observation will begin in 2017 for EHS-Texas Wintergarden.

Early Head Start-San Antonio	2014-2015	2015-2016
Frank Garrett Child Development Center	5.92	6.00
SW 19 th Child Development Center	5.86	5.90
Rebecca C. Cervantez Early Education Center	5.87	5.92
Kelly Child Development Center	6.34	6.35
Mirasol Child Development Center	6.38	6.40
Total	6.07	6.19

Aubrianna Alvarado



Ivan Muñoz



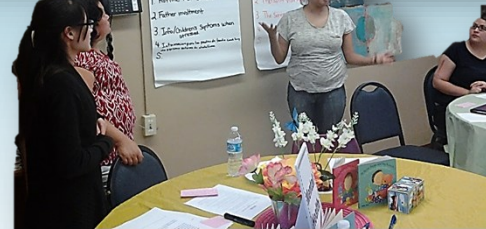
Rolando Rodriguez



EHS-TXW Transportation Parade May 2016



Texas Wintergarden families: Kabrina Landeros with son Aiden Gomez, Rosanna Reyes with daughter Ava Rodriguez, and Selena Borrego, & father Serapio with their son Sonny Vasquez on a family project in December 2015 during the parents' monthly meeting.



AVANCE HS/EHS Dia De La Familia Activities Sabinal, Texas (Spring 2016)



Sabinal Center Director, Sonia Prado with Parent Viviana Brake (AVANCE Policy Council Chair)



Sabinal Police Officer Angie and Ramon Rodriguez of the Sabinal EMS engaging w/parents Selena Borrego & Serapio Vasquez



Richard Rubio, an active Volunteer representing EMS and engaging with child, Trinity Gonzalez and parent.



AVANCE EHS Family Support Team and students from the Ogle School of Hair, Skin & Nail treated AVANCE Teen Parents to a Mental Wellness Makeover during Parental Engagement Activities this last July 27, 2016



Parental Engagement

AVANCE believes that "The parent is the child's first and most important teacher". Parent are provided a variety of opportunities to engage and support their child's learning and success:

- Nine-month AVANCE Parent-Child Education Program including Services to Fathers
- San Antonio Public Library's Little Read Wagon workshops
- Parent Meetings
- Parent Training
- Parent education (GED/High School/ESL/College)
- Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Nutrition Program Classes
- HS-SA Grandparents Day Event
- Wells Fargo Financial Literacy Program
- School Readiness Focus Groups
- Head Start/Early Head Start Service Plan Parent Workshops
- Health Advisory Committees
- WE: Women Empowerment Conference
- Literacy Fest & Family Nights
- I Am Moving I Am Learning Activities
- Ready Rosie



Celebrating Success!
EHS-SA Home-based Option Parent, Teresa Lagunas

Family Nights



\$\$ Funding and Budgets \$\$

2015-2016

Program	Total Federal Budget (Operating and Training & Technical Assistance)
Head Start-San Antonio	\$6,003,088
EHS-San Antonio	\$4,439,269
EHS Expansion/Child Care Partnership	\$3,186,174
Head Start-TX Wintergarden	\$2,486,219
Early Head Start - TX Wintergarden	\$2,806,446
Totals	\$15,390,918

Program
Parent-Child Program (City of San Antonio, United Way of San Antonio)
Services To Fathers (Foundation Support and United Way of San Antonio)
Parent Empowerment (United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County)
Early Beginnings (City of San Antonio)
Early Head Start-San Antonio (Administration of Children & Families)
Head Start-San Antonio (Administration of Children and Families)
Head Start/EHS Texas Wintergarden (Administration of Children & Families)
EHS Expansion & Child Care Partnership (Administration of Children & Families)
Texas Department of Agriculture-Child & Adult Care Food Program
General Fund Income
In-kind

“Strengthening families in San Antonio for over 40 years”



In-kind Requirement	Federal Expenditures	In-kind Actual
\$1,500,772	\$6,003,088	\$1,500,772
\$1,109,817	\$4,256,453	\$1,109,817
\$75,782	\$2,475,417	\$75,782
\$621,555	\$2,479,368	\$621,555
\$701,612	\$2,768,663	\$701,612
\$ 3,861,604	\$15,240,442	\$ 3,861,604

AVANCE-San Antonio, Inc.

Funding Totals (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

	Total
and Bexar County and Foundation Support)	\$ 1,251,458
Antonio and Bexar County)	\$ 113,076
	\$ 170,605
	\$ 134,840
Office of Head Start)	\$ 4,298,237
Office of Head Start)	\$ 5,940,271
Families, Office of Head Start)	\$ 4,829,255
and Families, Office of Head Start)	\$ 1,574,672
(CACFP)	\$ 559,370
	\$ 336,312
	\$ 3,545,382
Grand Total	\$ 22,753,478



Fiscal Audit

The latest Financial Audit for AVANCE-San Antonio, Inc. was conducted by McConnell & Jones LLP for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 and reflected an unmodified opinion. The report found AVANCE-San Antonio, Inc. in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. noting no material weaknesses. The auditors reported that the internal control over financial reporting showed the following:

- ◆ No—material weaknesses were identified
- ◆ No—significant deficiency identified that is not considered to be a material weakness
- ◆ No— Noncompliance material to financial statements noted.



Monitoring Review

The latest aligned federal review held during 2015-2016 were the following;

- A Comprehensive Services and School Readiness Review as conducted during the week of November 9-13, 2015 for the AVANCE-San Antonio Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. AVANCE-San Antonio received the review results noting that AVANCE had one area of non-compliance in the area of *Staff Credentials*. AVANCE submitted a program improvement plan and immediately implemented corrective measures. Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a follow-up review and have confirmed successful corrective action and have closed the previously identified findings.
- A Leadership, Management and Governance Systems Review was conducted during the week of December 7-11, 2015 for all AVANCE-San Antonio Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. Based on the information gathered no areas of noncompliance were found during the course of the review.
- A Fiscal Integrity and ERSEA (Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance) Federal Review was conducted during the week of March 30 to April 3, 2015 for all AVANCE-San Antonio Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. Based on the information gathered no areas of noncompliance were found during the course of the review.

Together We Can Achieve the Extraordinary!



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