

2012 – 2013 Denton ISD Head Start Community Assessment
Prepared for the Board of Trustees Meeting
February 26, 2013

Purpose of Report

As stated in the *Head Start Program Performance Standards and Other Regulations* (Management Systems and Procedures (45 CFR 1304.51 (a) (1) (i-iii)) and Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance (45 CFR 1305.3)) grantees must prepare a comprehensive Community Assessment every three years and include a summary in their first year grant application. In the intervening two years, grantees are required to review their Community Assessment Report and if necessary, update the information and reconsider the decisions.

Board Goal

- I. **Vision**...In pursuit of excellence the district will:
 - b. Develop and maintain a culture where learning remains our first priority.
 - e. Develop a budget focused on student and professional learning.
- II. **Teaching & Learning**... In pursuit of excellence the district will:
 - h. Advocate and practice true accountability based on measurement of individual student progress over time, regardless of external mandates.
- III. **Climate**...In pursuit of excellence, the district will:
 - c. Establish a high expectation level for success for all students, staff, parents, and community.
- VI. **Growth, Change, and Fiscal Responsibility**...In pursuit of excellence the district will:
 - e. Demonstrate effective and efficient management of district resources.
 - f. Provide leadership and/or oversight to ensure District meets all fiscal, legal, and regulatory requirements.

History

Each Head Start Program is required to complete a comprehensive process for Community Assessment designed to answer the essential question: *How can Head Start serve the greatest number of eligible children and families and those who are in greatest need?*

AWSYC Head Start Program in partnership with all stakeholders follows the 5 stages of the Community Assessment process:

- Step 1: Plan and Organize**
- Step 2: Design Data Collection**
- Step 3: Gather Data**
- Step 4: Review and Analyze**
- Step 5: Make Decisions**

Objectives

The objectives of Head Start are clear:

- ❖ Enhance children's growth and development
- ❖ Strengthen families as the primary nurturers of their children
- ❖ Provide children with educational, health, and nutritional services
- ❖ Link children and families to needed community services
- ❖ Ensure well-managed programs that involve parents in decision-making

Appendix

The AWSYC Community Assessment 2013 summary is attached. It was presented and approved by Policy Council on February 8, 2013. The Head Start Community Assessment was completed in consultation and participation of the policy groups and, as appropriate, other community members, grantee and delegate agencies.

HEAD START COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT REVIEW – 2012-2013

Policy Council Approved February 8, 2013

In March of 2012, a community assessment was conducted and is attached. Ann Windle School for Young Children is in year 3 of a three-year grant cycle, which requires a review of the 2012 community assessment. Any significant changes are to be included in the grant application for the 2013-2014 school year. From January through February of 2013, we reviewed this assessment. Below are the findings of that review.

A review of current providers of services for children with disabilities prior to the age of three was made. LaunchAbility continues to be the only service provider for the Denton ISD attendance area. Corporate Medicaid providers for OT, PT, and Speech Therapy serving children five years and under include: Therapy 2000, Kids Speak, and Sante Pediatric Therapy. There are several private speech therapists who provide service including Kimberly White and Iris Lopez.

A review of Medicaid and Medicare providers for mental health services indicated no changes. Both the University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University continue to provide services on a sliding scale.

Due to a large increase in local providers as well as a change in Texas law, there is no longer a need for mobile dentists to practice on our campus. A list of providers that accept Medicaid is shared with parents who do not have documented dentists, and will also be provided to parents at enrollment. There continues to be resources for underserved and uninsured students.

No significant changes were seen in the areas of health and nutrition.

One local daycare that served ages 0-5 recently closed. As a result, other agencies' enrollment has shown an increase. Prior to the daycare closing, the majority of the local child care centers reported a decrease in enrollment due to the increase of free programs offered in Denton ISD and the economy.

No significant changes have been identified in the housing category, due to limited funding. Denton Housing Authority has temporarily closed its Section 8 waiting list and is not accepting applications at this time. Projection for the applicant currently listed is a five-year waiting period.

Provisions for transportation have increased, due to Denton County Transportation Authority implementing changes due to the rising population, continuous developments and to better serve the needs and demands of the community.

Denton has experienced an unemployment rate that is slower than the nation average. The unemployment rate for December dropped six-tenths of a percentage point over the previous year, due to seasonal hiring. The most needed community services continue to be rent and utility assistance.

The Denton Independent School district's enrollment is currently at 25,786. This is a 3.7% increase from the 2011-2012 school year, with a 3.5% growth projected for the 2013-2014 school year. Denton ISD's Special Education and Pre-K enrollment has increased from 995 to 1,000 with a projection of 1,003 which is not a significant increase.

Our Head Start priority list currently stands at 128. We exceeded 69 in our last community assessment.

No current census information is available to compare the National, State, County and City demographic data at this time.

In summary, there are no significant changes since the last community assessment. The family services staff will continue to work with families by making referrals to equip our families with the resources and skills needed for job training.