



# NEW DIRECTIONS EARLY HEAD START

2020 - 2021 Annual Report



DELAWARE INSTITUTE FOR  
Excellence in  
Early Childhood

## Message From the Director

The 2020-2021 program year was another challenging year for everyone, but together we survived and thrived. It was not a “normal” year as we continued to manage the impact of

COVID-19 for children, families, staff, our community, and partners. Our center partners were open, providing much needed in-person services. Home visiting services were provided virtually until June 2021 when we began providing in-person services while still having an option for virtual visits. We were committed throughout the year to adapting our program to provide the support and services identified by parents and staff.

New Directions Early Head Start (NDEHS) staff and partners went above and beyond during the past year. They continually adapted to each new challenge with grace and perseverance. I am so grateful for the knowledgeable and dedicated staff that work at NDEHS. In addition, I am thankful for the commitment of the Board and Policy Council members who provided invaluable guidance and ongoing support while juggling the impact of COVID in their own lives.

NDEHS remains committed to quality services that meet the needs of children and families in our community while supporting the dedicated staff who provide those services. We are grateful for the many partnerships in the community which enables us to fulfill our mission.

### Office of Head Start NDEHS Review

During the year, the Office of Head Start (OHS) conducted a weeklong monitoring review, June 7, 2021 – June 11, 2021, of NDEHS. This review included a comprehensive look at all program services; Program Management and Quality Improvement; Governance; Monitoring and Implementing Quality Education and Child Development Services; fiscal management; Monitoring and Implementing Quality Health Services; Monitoring and Implementing Quality Family and Community Engagement services; Monitoring and Implementing Fiscal Infrastructure.

NDEHS received our report in August which indicated we are 100% in compliance with Federal Head Start requirements. In addition the report did not identify any areas in which there was a concern for improvement or an opportunity for continuous improvement.

*New Directions Early Head Start (NDEHS) provides pregnant women, infants, toddlers and their families with quality care and family services. We support families by providing the best services for them and their young children. Our goal is to promote children's success and families' self-sufficiency through community collaboration and partnerships. This includes both home-based and center-based services for families.*



# New Directions By Numbers

## Program Demographic and Service Information

### Children and Pregnant Women Served

Program Year 2020-2021

Pregnant Women

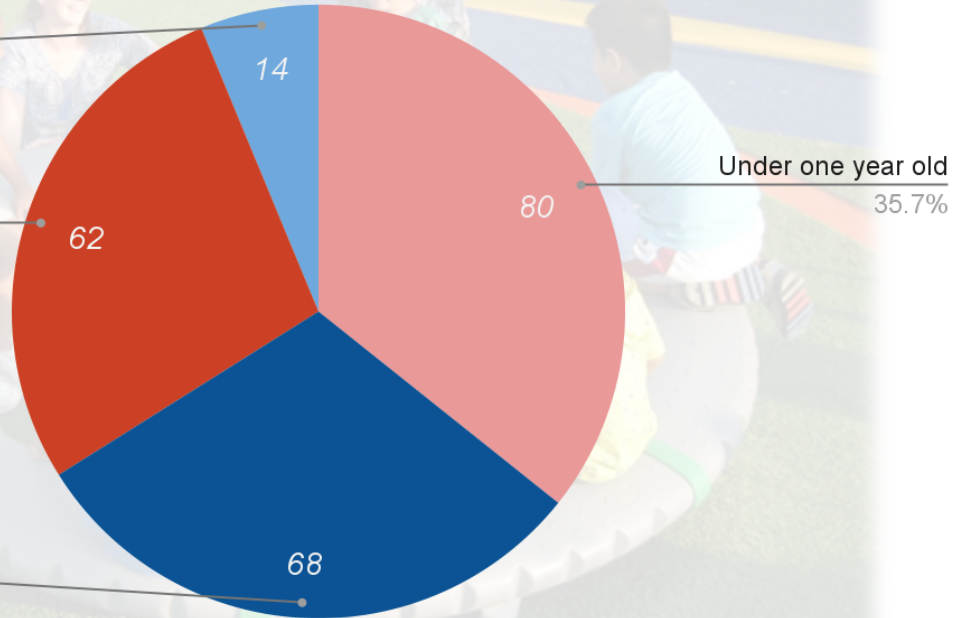
6.3%

Two year olds

27.7%

One year olds

30.4%



**183**

**Total Number of  
Families Enrolled**

- 71 Families/participants who do not speak/read English as their primary language
- 16 Families over income eligibility
- 78 Families with father participation
- 9 Homeless families served which include 9 children

**210**

**Total Children  
Enrolled**

- 182 Children up to date on preventative care
- 202 Children as up to date on immunization as possible
- 17 Children with identified disabilities

**14**

**Pregnant Women  
Enrolled**

- 100%(14) Of pregnant women received prenatal care
- 12 received postnatal care; some women were still pregnant at the end of the program year



# New Directions By Numbers (Cont.)

## Family Partnerships and Services

All 183 (100%) families participated in a family goal setting process, which resulted in an individualized family partnership agreement in 2020-2021. All families received at least two family service referrals and services as outlined on the PIR during the program year.

**130 Families received emergency/crisis intervention addressing an immediate need for food, clothing and shelter**

**181 Families were involved in discussing screening and assessment result for their children**

**46 Families received financial education and asset building services**

**19 Families received housing assistance**

**16 Families received job training**

**22 Families received a mental health referral or assistance**

### **Substance Abuse Assistance in families**

- **21 received substance use prevention services**
- **11 participated in substance use treatment programs**



# 2020-2021 Program Year

## Our Progress Through the Pandemic

Family support staff working with center-based families continue to support families through outside in-person visits, virtual and center meets as parents drop off and pick up. Both home-based and center-based support staff worked hard in planning a variety of experiences to support family wellbeing and child development for all families. We also continue to support families by providing them with diapers, wipes, thermometers, hand sanitizer and masks as necessary. Additionally, with the colder months approaching, NDEHS continues to provide families with winter coats through donation and fundraising during the pandemic.

## Family Engagement

- **Stand By Me - Financial Literacy 4 part series, and Child Tax Credit info session**  
Program-wide event provided by \$tand By Me and offered in both English and Spanish languages.
- **‘Chat & Chew’ Mental Wellness Series**  
‘Chat and chew’ sessions were offered every month to connect families with mental health consultants to talk about topics such as selfcare, early signs of autism, feelings around the COVID vaccine and more. All sessions were offered multiple times in English and Spanish.
- **Food Bank of Delaware Cooking Classes**  
In partnership with the foodbank NDEHS provided families with a monthly cooking class and ingredients to support families who shop with a limited budget to cook healthy meals.
- **Delaware State Park Entry Passes**  
In an effort to support the health and safety of families and staff, NDEHS partnered with the Delaware State Parks to offer no cost annual park passes to families.
- **Dolly Parton Imagination Library**  
NDEHS supported 176 families during the intake and /or enrollment process to register for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.
- **NDEHS Monthly Book Distribution**  
Each month families were provided a book to keep to support reading at home and introduce various concepts to children through stories.



## Staff Wellness

NDEHS recognizes that staff have also been impacted by trauma and we have worked to provide several opportunities for staff to come together and enjoy self care opportunities such as: lunch get togethers, cooking classes, yoga, zumba, state park passes to promote mental health and much more. In addition NDEHS has identified a team that will be working in a trauma-informed action plan to embed trauma-informed initiatives throughout the program.



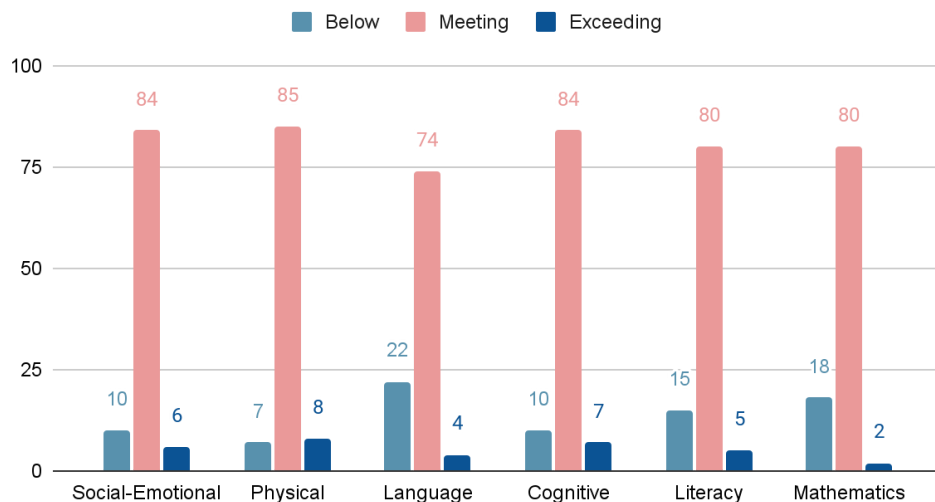


# 2020-2021 Child Outcomes

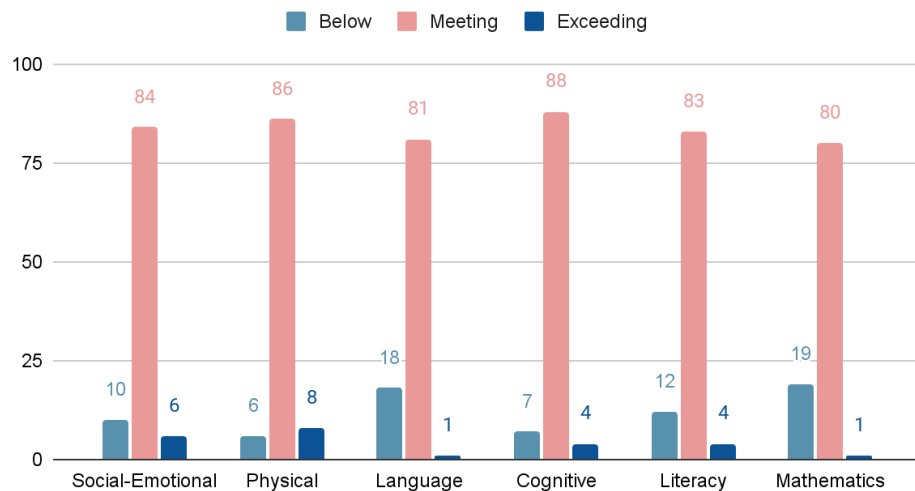
## Key Outcomes

NDEHS continued to assess the children's development using virtual observations and parent observations. The following is our child outcome data for the year.

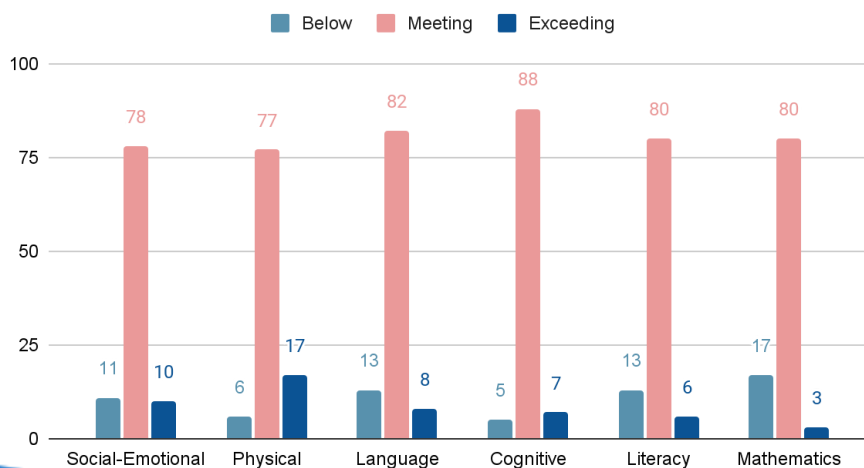
Fall 2020-2021



Winter 2020-2021



Spring 2020-2021



# 2020-2021 NDEHS Financials

## FEDERAL

Federal Funding from HHS Available:	\$	2,744,268.00
CARES Funding	\$	171,367.00
<b>Total Federal Funding</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,915,635.00</b>

### EXPENSES:

<b>TOTAL HHS Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,799,773.00</b>
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### Breakdown:

Personnel	\$	913,892.00
Fringe Benefits	\$	356,789.00
Travel	\$	375.00
Supplies	\$	48,166.00
Contractual	\$	1,103,919.00
Other	\$	91,404.00
CARES/COVID	\$	167,768.00
Indirect Cost	\$	117,460.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,799,773.00</b>

Training (TTA)	\$	51,819.65
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\*Included in above total

In-Kind/Non- Federal Match	\$	640,680.00
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## GIFT

Donations:	\$	3,677.53
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<b>Total Gift Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,256.69</b>
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Basic Needs for Baby	\$	124.78
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Coats	\$	2,112.66
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General Program Support	\$	19.25
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,256.69</b>
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## STATE

State Contract:	\$	54,220.00
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<b>Total State Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>54,119.00</b>
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### Breakdown:

Personnel	\$	20,305.55
Fringe Benefits	\$	8,069.01
Travel	\$	108.72
Supplies	\$	18,576.04
Contractual	\$	-
Other	\$	-

Indirect Cost	\$	7,059.27
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<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>54,118.59</b>
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## TOTALS

<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,973,532.53</b>
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<b>Total expenditures (from all funding sources)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,856,148.69</b>
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# A Special Thank You to Our 2020-2021 Supporters and Partners



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*newark*  
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- *College of Education and Human Development -Dean's Office and Department of Human Development and Family Sciences*
- *University Wellness*
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- *Lab Preschool*
- *Prospect*
- *Joann Quinn - handmade knitted hats*





# Meet Our Partners



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY LEARNING CENTER

## Equal Employment Opportunity

*The University of Delaware is an Equal Opportunity Employer, which encourages applications from Minority Group Members, Women, Individuals with Disabilities and Veterans. The University's Notice of Non-Discrimination can be found at <http://www.udel.edu/aboutus/legalnotices.html>*

[www.ndehs.udel.edu](http://www.ndehs.udel.edu)



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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
& FAMILY SCIENCES