



Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

ECD ADDENDUM

Early Childhood Development Programs

CPLC's Early Childhood Development (CPLC ECD) Programs serve children from birth to age 5, pregnant women, and their families. They are child-focused programs aimed at increasing the school readiness of young children in low-income families.

CPLC ECD's Head Start agencies, which are operated locally and funded by federal grants, provide a range of services in the areas of education and early childhood development; medical, dental, and mental health; nutrition; and parent involvement.

School readiness is at the core of Head Start and our focus is on ensuring school readiness and social competence for every child CPLC ECD serves. We implement a comprehensive program that provides an array of services to ensure children are healthy and able to learn. Teacher accreditation is a key component of ensuring school readiness. Additionally, we provide a learning environment designed to meet best practices for the social, emotional and cognitive development of young children.

Children are provided with individualized education plans that focus on ensuring that specific learning goals are established and supported. Every child enrolled and served by our Head Start programs receives a developmental screening through the use of the Ages and Stages and/or Ages and Stages Social Emotional Questionnaire completed collaboratively between the parents and teachers.

CPLC ECD has also established a dual language policy that ensures early learning by supporting the home language as well as the acquisition of English.

CPLC maintains formal agreements with Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to ensure a seamless transition process for preschoolers leaving the Head Start programs and entering Kindergarten.

Throughout the year, we work with parents to establish rapport and enhance their understanding of childhood development and help them "get ready" for their child to

enter the Public Schools. Additionally, we work with children to help them acquire and enhance their transition skills.

We support parents and children in the classrooms to ensure they have a strong level of understanding regarding transitioning to public schools through the following activities:

- Home visits and teacher/parent conferences
- Parent meetings
- Parent Workshops and planned activities (HUB)
- Center staff recruitment of experienced or second-year parents to work with first-year parents to provide one-on-one support if needed.
- Developing a packet of information including a portfolio and the continuity record about each child's progress that the family can take with them to the next program
- Classroom Planning, including transition activities throughout the year (field trips, newsletter, HUB activities)
- Transition Memorandum of Understanding with the LEA and Part C (AzEIP)
- Supporting parents to be well prepared for the changes that they face
- Providing education and training on local education program options, as well as on the administrative structure of the education system in the local community, and on advocacy in that system both for their child and for their community
- ECD staff assist parents in communicating with teachers and other school personal so that parents can participate in decisions related to their child's education

Preparation for Preschool to Kindergarten transition include parent training, parent and child orientations, child and parent kinder class room visits, and the provision of kinder bound School Readiness Kits that include age appropriate books and school supplies. Additionally, In support of Transition to Kindergarten, we:

- Identify all Kindergarten bound children and appropriate school district
- Prepare children for transition (Lesson Plan, Stories, Field Trips, and Activities)
- Arrange meetings with LEA
- Last Home Visit (Review Transition Plan, Home Activities, Child Progress and Planning Report, issue a Transition Kit)
- FSW Last Home Visit (Continuity Record, follow-up and closure) Team Effort
- Parent Involvement
- Completion of the Transition Plan (next placement)
- Discuss Transfer of Records
- Coordination with all parties

In addition, staff assist children and parents throughout the year with transitions in and out of the program by:

- Encouraging/planning for children and parents to visit the new program, before the children begin

- Making orientation information available, including information about parental rights and opportunities for parental participation so that they are prepared for active involvement in activities and committees in their child's new school

Programs within Early Childhood Development include Early Head Start and Arizona Migrant and Seasonal Head Start.

The most recent tri-annual Federal Monitoring review (PRISM 2007) of CPLC's Head Start programs resulted in only a single finding in the area of Teacher accreditation. Methods have been put in place to ensure that the program changes based on the 2007 PRISM finding has a strong positive impact on the area targeted for improvement.

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. maintains as our standard procedure to reduce errors, minimize omissions and report accurate, timely and complete financial statements at all times. We strive to continually improve our policies and procedures related to providing services to our communities. During the course of the annual audit of our Consolidated Financial Statements for Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc, its subsidiaries and affiliates, a few findings affecting the statements were identified and corrected before those statements were published. A copy of the annual audit report is available from our Corporate Compliance Department and may be requested during normal business hours.

► **Migrant and Seasonal Head Start**

CPLC is the statewide grantee for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start services for Arizona. Services are provided in those areas where hand-picked and row crops are most prevalent, which includes the agricultural communities of Dysart/Surprise, Queen Creek, Eloy, Wilcox, Somerton, San Luis, and Yuma.

CPLC served 753 low-income children of migrant and seasonal farmworkers ages 0-5 annually in 41 classrooms, serving an estimated 56% of estimated number of eligible farmworker children in the state of Arizona. Average monthly enrollment varies for this program, as CPLC offers a distinct summer session for Migrant children whose families make a temporary move to Arizona for peak season agricultural work. During the 2007-2008 program year, this program maintained an average monthly enrollment of 499 (an average monthly enrollment of 531 during the regular season and 149 during the summer session).

This year, 718 (95%) of these children received early periodic medical and dental screening, diagnosis and treatment. Additionally, 753 (100%) children were up to date on immunizations, 545 (72%) received preventive dental care and 39 (5%) children with diagnosed disabilities were served.

Parents also participated in a wide range of educational activities, receiving information about child behavior and discipline, nutrition and obesity, family literacy, mental health and immigration, among other topics. A total of 207 fathers participated in parent activities this year.

At the end of the program year, a total of 249 children successfully transitioned from Migrant and Seasonal Head Start into Kindergarten.

Arizona Migrant & Seasonal Head Start Fiscal Activities for Program Year 2008-2009

► **Early Head Start**

CPLC's Early Head Start program served a total of 91 children and pregnant moms this program year in four classrooms and through home-based services, serving approximately (.02%) of the estimated 382,386 Head Start eligible children in the state of Arizona. This program maintained an average monthly enrollment of 52.

The target population is children ages 0-3 from low-income families, with a focus on pregnant and parenting teens as well as other families that meet the eligibility criteria. These young families face continuing challenges in the areas of medical and dental care, nutrition, housing, transportation and education. By understanding the needs of young low-income families and assessing the gaps and resources that are available in the local communities where they live, CPLC Early Head Start becomes better able to plan an effective strategy for making a positive impact on these at-risk children and families.

Of the children served this year, 76 (84%) received early periodic medical and dental screening, diagnosis and treatment, 75 (82%) were up to date on immunizations, 76 (84%) received preventive dental care, and 11 (12%) children with diagnosed disabilities were served.

Parents participated in activities including a father-child day event, motivational literacy activities, healthy choices initiatives and more.

Of the children served by CPLC's Early Head Start program, 19 successfully transitioned into a regular Head Start program.

Early Head Start Fiscal Activities for Program Year 2008-2009

(INSERT 2008 EHS REVENUE AND EXPENSE TABLES HERE)