



# Discovery Station Early Head Start Annual Report Program Year 2014 July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015





**Discovery Station EHS by the Numbers**

**The Family Services, Inc. Discovery Station Early Head Start program (EHS)** is a comprehensive early childhood development program for pregnant mothers and families with children from birth to three years of age. Located in upper Montgomery County, Maryland, the program offers both home-based and center-based child development services for 147 children, as well as health, mental health, nutrition and early intervention coordination and community resource referrals. This Annual Report summarizes services, expenditures and outcomes for the Program Year 2014 that covers the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

- Total pregnant women and children served: **273**
- Average monthly enrollment: **147**
- Average enrollment in the Home-based: **111**
- Average enrollment in Center-based: **36**
- Families listing Spanish as primary language spoken in the home: **170 (62%)**
- Percentage of eligible children served: **Less than 5%**  
(2010 Census indicates 3,186 children in Montgomery County, MD, eligible for Early Head Start)
- Children receiving early intervention services: **19%**
- Percent of high school seniors with children in the program who graduated: **100%**
- Percent of eligible children with up to date immunizations: **98%**
- Percent of eligible children with up to date dental exams: **79%**



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**Progress with School Readiness Indicators**

<b>Domain of Learning</b>	<b>Social-Emotional</b>	<b>Physical</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>Approaches to Learning</b>	<b>Cognitive</b>	<b>Literacy</b>
Summer 2014	76%	90%	62%	79%	91%	70%
Spring 2015	87%	85%	78%	93%	94%	84%

**Building School Readiness from 0- 3years**

The overall goal of the EHS program is to support children’s school readiness. Discovery Station EHS uses research-based curriculum in both the home based program option and the child development center. Every week home visitors introduce parent-child activities using the *Parents as Teachers* curriculum. Teachers use the *Creative Curriculum* for their lesson plans. Ongoing child observations and assessments are conducted using the Teaching Strategies GOLD system which is aligned with the curriculum and measures child growth and development in all domains of learning. By the end of the program year, our children showed remarkable improvement in meeting or exceeding widely held expectations for school readiness (see page 3 for details).

All children receive a developmental screen within the child’s first few months with the program to determine if additional support or referrals in the areas of health, mental health and disabilities are needed. If any concerns are identified, EHS specialists work closely with families and early intervention specialists to make sure children get the help they need. This may include speech and language support, physical therapy, mental health services and family support. During this program year, 19% of the participants in the Discovery Station EHS program received additional early intervention services that are coordinated with the home visiting and classroom curriculum activities.

When children turn three, staff assist families as they transition into Head Start or other child care settings. Written transition plans include activities to help parents understand what to expect in a new environment, adjust to another preschool program, adapt to changes in routine, and visit the new setting. We also support parents of children with diagnosed disabilities they enroll in new programs and transition from Infant and Toddler services to the public schools. Through our partnership with the Head Start and the Prekindergarten division at Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), parents learn about educational services available once they age out of EHS.



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### Family Engagement

Family Partnership Agreements support achievement of family and personal goals, such as graduating from high school, finding affordable housing, or overcoming post-partum depression. These goals are developed jointly with staff and each individual family enrolled in the program. Families also develop individual child development plans that help their children grow and learn. Parents and guardians have the opportunity to take on a leadership role in EHS Policy Council and participate in the program planning, oversight and monitoring. Policy Council reviews all EHS funding applications and participates in the annual self-assessment.

The majority of families (75%) participate in weekly home visits with a Family Support Worker who provides in-home child development activities and parenting support. Monthly learning parties and bilingual group activities help reduce social isolation and enhance the knowledge and skills needed for healthy child development. The remaining families have an infant or toddler who is enrolled in the Discovery Station Child Development Center and attend work, school or job training. These families participate in parent-teacher conferences and Center activities such as center orientation sessions, breakfast meetings with community representatives, parent discussion groups and transition ceremonies.

The *Keys to Success* is an after school tutoring and summer career and college readiness program offered to expectant and parenting teens. **In June 2015, all eight participating seniors graduated high school and were admitted to the local community college!**

### On-Going Monitoring

- A Fiscal/ERSEA onsite review was conducted on December 15 to 19, 2014, and indicted full compliance with Head Start Performance Standards.
- A Health and Safety Monitoring review was conducted on January 8 to 9, 2015, with one non-compliance item identified. After a follow up site visit, the non-compliance finding was closed in September 2015.
- The A-133 audit report for Program Year 14 was completed in January 2016 and does not include any findings for EHS.
- The Comprehensive Services and School Readiness onsite review was conducted February 2 to 4, 2016 with results pending.

# Discovery Station Early Head Start Annual Report

## July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

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### Financial Report - July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

<b><u>Public and Private Funding</u></b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Grant – Federal (HHS ACF)	\$1,889,179	\$1,889,179
Food reimbursement program(MSDE)	32,000	31,005
Grant – State (MSDE)	42,790	88,591
Grant – City of Gaithersburg	12,000	12,000
Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation	25,000	25,752
Richard and Nancy Marriott Foundation	10,000	10,000
Other Foundation Support	5,000	9,491
In-Kind Support	209,569	226,129
<b>Total Revenue and Support</b>	<b>\$2,225,538</b>	<b>\$ 2,292,136</b>
<b><u>Program Expenses</u></b>		
Personnel (salaries, benefits, taxes)	\$1,437,547	\$1,444,787
Facility and occupancy	189,669	195,818
Other Direct Costs	141,140	221,218
Training and Technical Assistance	39,500	45,150
In Kind Support	209,569	226,129
<b>Subtotal Expense</b>	<b>\$ 2,017,425</b>	<b>\$ 2,133,102</b>
Indirect/ Administrative costs (Reimbursed)	\$ 208,113	\$ 159,034
<b>Indirect/ Administrative costs (Actual)</b>	<b>\$ 286,878</b>	<b>\$ 269,534</b>
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,304,303</b>	<b>\$ 2,402,635</b>
<b>Deficit on federal award</b>	<b>- \$78,765</b>	<b>-- \$110,500</b>

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