



Early Head Start Annual Report – FY22

Early Childhood Programs in University Settlement

Social development. Emotional development. Developing a love of learning. To us, they're all vital. Our early childhood education programs work to narrow the achievement gap, create opportunities for young learners in our communities, and ensure that every child is prepared for kindergarten and beyond.

We begin partnering with families early in a child's life. Our programs for children include early childhood mental health counseling, center-based early childhood centers.

In addition to programs for children, we engage expecting mothers and parents with parenting skills workshops, counseling, and network development.

All programs are responsive to the needs of children and families. We are dedicated to teaching and caring for children with different learning approaches, including children with special needs. We integrate mental health screening and care for children and parents, knowing that this investment makes a big difference in young lives. Our staff reflects the diversity of our communities and speak a variety of languages, including English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin.

Families access our programs in a variety of contexts, including programs for expecting mothers, early childhood centers for children ages 2-5, evidence-based home visiting programs for children ages birth-4, and a family childcare network engaging children in home-based settings and serving Manhattan and Brooklyn residents.

Across our early childhood programs we strive to partner with families to help build strong educational and social-emotional foundations, strengthening our community's future.

Early Head Start Programs

At University Settlement, our Early Head Start programs serve infants and toddlers under the age of 3, as well as expecting moms. We provide multiple program options in Manhattan and Brooklyn, including full-day infant-toddler classrooms, home-based services, parent-child socialization groups, and Family Child Care partnerships.

Public Funds Received and Budgeting

In FY 22, University Settlement Early Head Start programs was awarded \$ 6,154,854 and non-federal share of \$1,564,400. Our program year begins from September 2022 to August 2023. We do not receive any private funds for the program. The table below demonstrates the budget expenses to April 2023. This report will be updated upon completion of the FY22 audit in summer of 2023.

Budget Category	Budget	Actuals	Variance
Personnel	\$3,492,502.00	\$2,093,804.02	\$1,398,697.98
Fringe Benefits	\$1,207,118.00	\$820,647.85	\$386,470.15
Supplies	\$171,588.00	\$68,594.14	\$102,993.86
Contractual	\$241,415.00	\$94,928.26	\$146,486.74
Other	\$1,042,231.00	\$234,380.08	\$807,850.92
Total Direct Cost	\$6,154,854.00	\$3,312,354.35	\$2,842,499.65
Indirect Cost	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Federal Share	\$6,154,854.00	\$3,312,354.35	\$2,842,499.65
Non-Federal Share	\$1,564,400.00	\$790,466.13	\$773,933.87
Early Head Start Program Cost	\$7,719,254.00	\$4,102,820.48	\$3,616,433.52

The proposed budget for FY24 is appended below. With the addition of cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and Quality Improvement award, our award of \$6,773,746 with non-federal share of \$1,693,437 is currently pending approval.

Budget Category	Early Head Start
Personnel	\$3,912,731.00
Fringe Benefits	\$1,557,079.00
Equipment	\$25,000.00
Supplies	\$155,788.00
Contractual	\$343,508.00
Other	\$779,640.00
Total Direct Cost	\$6,773,746.00
Indirect Cost	\$0.00
Federal Share	\$6,773,746.00
Non-Federal Share	\$1,693,437.00
Early Head Start Program Cost	\$8,467,183.00



Who We Served + Our Enrollment Statistics

With our program year still progressing. The report below will be reporting the numbers we have for FY 2021-22. In FY 21-22, University Settlement's Early Head Start program served

- 313 families
- 320 children

Our average monthly enrollment across all Early Head Start programs was 68%. As we are recovering from COVID-19 pandemic, programs are experiencing lower enrollment numbers. Another factor contributing to the lower number is

- In our EHS program located in the Lower East Side, enrollment was 74%
- At our EHS program located in East New York, enrollment was 18%. The low enrollment is due to the impact of COVID-19 and staffing and management changes in the program
- At our EHS FCC program (Family Child Care in providers' homes on the Lower East Side, Washington Heights, and Brooklyn), enrollment was 88%. We were fully enrolled at the end of the program year.

90% of the families we serve in our programs were income-eligible or meet other categorical eligibility requirements. 10% of the families make above 100-130% of the federal poverty guidelines.

100% of children enrolled in our programs received medical exams.

Approximately 55% of children enrolled in our programs received dental exams through the dental screenings we have twice a year on site.



How We Engage Parents & Caregivers

Across our Early Head Start programs, we consistently seek to engage families and caregivers. In FY 2021-22, we hosted events including a Lunar New Year Celebration, twice annual dental screenings, a nutrition workshop, a workshop focused on helping children with separation anxiety, a pumpkin patch event for Thanksgiving where children and families were able to pick pumpkins at school, a winter meet and greet with fun activities for caregivers and children, a Family Day picnic, Black History Month trivia games, and a graduation ceremony.

In addition to events and workshops, parents and caregivers are also regularly invited to participate in meetings to discuss concerns and share suggestions with program. Parents and caregivers are also invited to assist with their child's transition during the first two weeks of school, and as needed by their children and families. We also encourage parents the opportunity to join our policy council, which helps shape how our program operates.



How We Prepare Children for Kindergarten

We begin transitioning children to kindergarten when they turn 2.6 years old. Program-wide transition efforts and collaboration with our 3K programs is a continuous process that typically begins in January or February. We begin meeting with our 3K program leadership to discuss the number of transition children and begin a transition timeline for the year. We host transition workshops for families with children going to general education settings and special education settings. In addition, we also prepare a transition packet for all families aging out of EHS that consist of a summary of the child's development, most recent Teaching Strategies Gold Checkpoints report, and any special needs service reports. Families receive a complete hand off with a 3K program with check ins with families and schools receiving them.