



#### About EHS

In 2020-2021, Child Care Resources (CCR) applied to participate in the federal Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership program which partners with established community child care providers to promote the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development of infants and toddlers under the age of 4 through safe and developmentally-enriching caregiving. After being awarded funding, CCR launched its first full-year program from September 2021 to July 2022.

CCR's Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership Program (EHS) partners with Family Child Care Provider Partners (FCCPs) in Pierce and King county to serve pregnant people and young children with comprehensive child development and family support services. These services are provided in low ratio, family-style care settings that are culturally responsive, flexible to families' needs, and based in community.

To be eligible to participate in the EHS program, children must be under 3.5 years of age at the time of enrollment, and families must be able to demonstrate an extreme need and ability to benefit from the program. Priority is given to families experiencing poverty, homelessness, and/or the foster care system. Once a child is placed with a provider, their eligibility lasts until they reach four years old, so that families do not need to reapply every year.

Our EHS team serves the communities of Federal Way, Tacoma, Lakewood, Spanaway, and Graham. These families also have care options offered in Spanish, Punjabi, Somali, Tagalog, and English. EHS is unique in that care hours are extremely flexible. Many providers operate between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m Monday through

2021-2022

**Early Head Start** 



#### ABOUT CONTINUED

Friday while many start earlier than that; some even offer 24-hour care! This allows families to both benefit from EHS services while also having the opportunity to work non-traditional hours or shift work.

Enrolled families are assigned a specialist to work with, and they receive an initial home visit to establish family needs and goals within 30 days of placement. After this, families are granted a minimum of 4 home visits per year with their specialist in addition to conferences with their child's provider. For parents, the program offers training opportunities, advocacy opportunities, and committee meetings to encourage continued engagement with the program.

#### **Additional Services**

Support and resources from the Early Head Start program to children and families goes far beyond the classroom. The program also offers the following services to participants:

- Health and mental health services
- Access to health care coverage
- Support with early intervention and children with special needs
- Support with long-term/sustainable housing
- Domestic violence prevention and intervention supports
- Substance abuse intervention supports
- · Parent education and child development
- Job training and work placement
- Educational goals
- · Financial education and stability support
- Support with family-identified needs and goals
- Resources and referrals
- General family support (going beyond just the child to all members of the family unit)

## **Program Goals**

The CCR Early Head Start program has three broad program goals that guide our efforts as we build our program over the next five years. Respectively, those goals are to:

- Develop stable systems to allow for consistent and equitable provider support for the benefit of children, families, and communities
- Create and sustain an environment, structure, and support system that encourages wellness, fulfillment, and professional growth resulting in staff engagement and retention
- Collaborate with families to design and implement programming that honors families as the experts of their children and fosters a culture of shared leadership and mutual support.

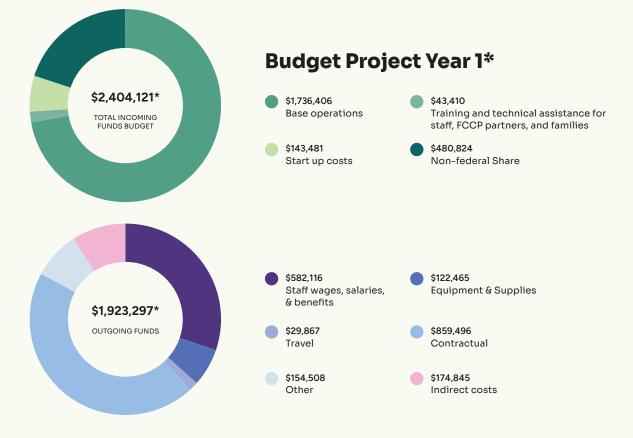
## **School Readiness Goals**

The program has identified five School Readiness goals to help direct our work as we support our youngest community members on their journey in school and beyond.

Children will enjoy engagement with learning, making discoveries, and solving problems on their own.

- Children will feel safe and secure with their own identity, emotions, relationships, and environment through meaningful interactions.
- Children will participate in nonverbal and verbal communication that is reflective of their communication styles, culture, and home language.
- Children will use their environment to support learning and understanding of culture and community by interacting with a variety of pretend play materials that represent diversity, culture, and community.

Children will have a connection with their body and an awareness of how to move and keep their body safe during movement.



\*The full Child Care Resources' FY 2021-2022 Financial Statements with Independent Auditor's Report will be available once approved by the CCR Board November 2022.

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"Sugar and Spice Family Child Care wanted to partner with EHS to help make sure the children of our daycare receive necessary services for kindergarten readiness. EHS will benefit the community by making sure no child is left behind, and that low income families and children from diverse backgrounds are offered the support/resources needed. EHS is needed because many low income families are suffering in silence and need someone to help advocate for their children.

Madonna & Valerie Murphy

Sugar and Spice Fmaily Child Care Tacoma, WA



Child Care Resources' mission is to nurture and sustain child-centered, antiracist early learning communities.