



REDDING RANCHERIA HEAD START & CHILD CARE

2021-2022

ANNUAL REPORT

**You may access the annual report at www.reddingrancheria-nsn.gov*



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OPENING MESSAGE

Dear Community Members,

The 21/22 school year allowed us to start returning to normal with some accommodation and while we were open for most of the year, we had to move into a full distance learning model during the months of January and February. The pandemic created issues but also tremendous learning opportunities for our staff in regards to supporting students' social emotional well-being as well as connecting with students, parents and coworkers in online environments. We have also been busy implementing new technology used by teachers and students in the classroom. We have also been able to utilize our outdoor classroom much more this year.

Staff turnover has been a challenge and we have had multiple vacant positions throughout the year but we are confident that we will be able to enter the 22/23 year fully staffed. Even through the challenges we were able to stay fully enrolled in both our child care and Head Start programs through almost the entire year. We are also proud to say that we were able to connect many children with learning delays to special services such as speech and OT. As we continue to move forward together, we celebrate our successes and work on our needs as we will help to inspire our staff, students and families to have growth in all situations. Our focus this year has been to our native traditions and culture, and our commitment to the well-being of children, families, staff, and our community while supporting Kindergarten Readiness Goals.

Sara Zapata -

Program Manager

Redding Rancheria Head Start & Child Care



Mission Statement

The Redding Rancheria Head Start and Child Care provides a safe, developmentally appropriate, nurturing environment for children that promotes social, emotional, cognitive and physical growth, as well as a positive self-image, a love of learning, and a pride for their native culture.

Vision Statement

To prepare children for kindergarten who are resilient, happy, culture enriched and eager to learn.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Redding Rancheria's Head Start and Child Care center has been in operation since 1995. Both the Head Start and Child Care programs are federally funded through the Office of Head Start and the Office of Child Care respectively. The program serves thirty-four (34) children in two Head Start classrooms. Seventeen (17) full time children attend the CCDF Child Care classroom on a sliding scale fee basis for low to moderate-income, working parents. These two grants funded programs complement each other and enable the Redding Rancheria to serve native families in our community. Both the Head Start and Child Care emphasize Native American culture, traditional values and prepare children for success in school by developing personalized school readiness goals.

As a result of planning, support services and collaboration from our stakeholders and federal partners, ongoing monitoring, and professional development, our programs achieve full compliance in the following areas:

- Child Development and Education
- Inclusion and Mental Health
- Parent, Family and Community Engagement
- Environmental Health and Safety
- Health and Nutrition
- Program Governance
- Program Management
- ERSEA (eligibility, recruitment, selection, enrollment, attendance)

HIGHLIGHTS

- 100% of children served were Native American.
- Head Start- 34 children and 40 families were served.
- Child Care- 17 children and 20 families were served.
- The year-end wait list was 58 children.
- 2021-2022 Attendance: This year we served students with a combination of center based learning, hybrid learning and distance learning at different times throughout the year.
- The attendance percentage for Head Start Center based learning was 71%.

- The attendance percentage for Child Care center based learning was 72%.
- FY 2021 had parent and community volunteer hours valued at \$11,447. Volunteer services were limited due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- Every child received one new book per month as part of our Bookworm Club Literacy Program as well as a book on their birthday signed by all the staff.
- Teachers continue in CLASS Professional Development as well as continued education at Shasta College.



PROGRAM GOALS

Fall 2021-Spring 2022

LONG RANGE GOAL: Meet and exceed the Head Start Performance Standard of 85% monthly attendance to positively impact family awareness, behavior and school readiness.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Educate families through Parent Connection Meetings, newsletter posts and social media on the importance of regular attendance and how it can impact Kindergarten Readiness.

PROGRESS: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the school had a mixture of distance learning, center based



learning. The first half of the school year and through the winter months we did have to close for a period of time and restrict in person meetings with parents. This limited the attendance in interaction with parents at Parent Connection Meetings. The school also had a strict COVID-19 sickness policy that forced children to stay home from school more than normal due to symptoms and contact with sick family members. We focused on helping parents stay engaged through distance learning and online platforms. While attendance was a challenge at time due to closures and illnesses, we are proud to stay that we were fully enrolled all school year.

2. Increase family and student participation virtually if on distance learning due to sickness or COVID-19 closures.

PROGRESS: Program staff worked diligently to check in on students through email and phone while they were out on distance learning. We used a classroom app called Class Dojo for communication with the families. Our Health and Disabilities Coordinator position was vacant for a large portion of the year which made reaching out to families and parent education on health a challenge. The teaching and admin staff did their best to communicate with and support families through distance learning. We used in kind tracking

sheets to have parents track the work that they did with their children at home and sent homework packets and activities.

LONG RANGE GOAL: Expose and educate our children, families and staff in Native American traditions to improve cultural enrichment that will last a lifetime.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Send staff to cultural trainings.

PROGRESS: Due to COVID-19 most in person trainings were still cancelled this year. But some of our staff did participate in Native American trainings held by the Tribal Child Care Association of California. All of the staff also attended the Redding Rancheria Wellness Conference on October 2021. Native American activities and trainings included traditional healing, basket making, beading, drum making, dream catcher trainings, native American inspired movies, nature walks and hikes and much more.

2. Incorporate more Native culture and activities into the Parent Involvement activities.

PROGRESS: As noted previously many of the in person events were cancelled but we did have a parent beading activity to create necklaces for the children to wear at the end of year event.



LONG RANGE GOAL: Prioritize nutrition and create a “center of wellness” to encourage healthy eating and activity patterns of children, families and staff for the purpose of improving life outcomes.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Develop student’s awareness of healthy habits such as using clean tissues, washing hands, handling food hygienically, brushing teeth, and dressing appropriately for the weather.

PROGRESS: Throughout the school year we provided training both in person and virtually and in newsletters to children and families on health and safety. The Health & Disabilities

Coordinator did Wellness Wednesday activities in the classroom once a month on a variety of topics encouraging healthy habits. We also gave away health items such as hand sanitizer and facemasks. We also brought back in school teeth brushing at the end of the school year. Children received two teeth cleanings and checkups at school.

2. Participate in more outdoor group activities that increase the heart rate and require stretching.

PROGRESS: We utilized our outdoor classroom for lots of physical activity. We also had yoga and stretching in the classroom regularly. Twice during the year, we held a "Win Fit", an obstacle course race for the children. We brought bikes out onto the playground which the children love driving around our bike track.

2021 /2022 REVIEWS & INSPECTIONS

IHS Facility Inspection-

The IHS (Indian Health Services) Environmental Health and Safety Assessment was conducted at the Redding Rancheria Head Start & Child Care by Rinnah Wyatt on September 16, 2021. The facility was found to be well-operated.

Based on survey findings, the program was compliant with health and safety requirements, and has a detailed Safety Plan in response to Covid-19. A few recommendations were made:

1. There were missing bolts and loose bolts on the large playground structure. Corrective action: All bolts, hooks, eyes, shackles, rungs and other connecting and linking devices of all playground equipment should be designed and secured to prevent loosening or unfastening. Action completed.
2. Poison control phone number was not listed by the phone in Classroom 1 and Classroom 3. Corrective action: The telephone number for the poison control center should be posted in a location where it is readily available in emergency situations. Action completed.
3. Classroom 3 was using a sanitizer bucket to wipe down surfaces. Sanitizer was not detectable when the solution was tested. Corrective action: Sanitizer solution should be prepared daily to ensure there is an adequate concentration for effective sanitizing. Action completed.

CLASS Review- Michele Santos, a mentor coach with the Shasta County Office of Education and with the Quality Counts North State grant, did the CLASS review on all three classrooms in May of 2022 Michele has worked with the Head Start staff for five years now as a support for teachers and their personal growth in offering high quality care for children and families. Michele reported high quality education and care at our program and caring staff as well as high quality environment.

The CLASS Assessment measures the teaching staff's quality of language and positive adult-child interactions in each classroom. She reported that, "The rich Indigenous culture that is intertwined into the children's daily life, giving them the gift of representation every day is a gift not often seen, and it brought me such joy as well." She also observed that in each

classroom the children were so happy, no extreme challenging behaviors, everyone smiling, laughing and learning, engaged in an environment that can only enhance a child's preschool experience and intrinsic sense of self. We are so proud of our teaching staff and the outcome of the CLASS Review.



GOVERNING BODIES

PARENT COMMITTEE:

Our parent Committee is call “Parent Connection” and is offered a minimum of once a month and all parents are welcome to attend.

TRIBAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson: Jack Potter Jr.

Vice Chairman: Michelle Hayward

Secretary: Patty Spaulding

Treasurer: Hope Wilkes

Council Member: Jason Hayward Jr.

Council Member: Tony Hayward Sr.

Council Member: Laine Hayward

1st Alternate: Jason Hayward Sr.

2nd Alternate: Nicole Wilkes

3rd Alternate: Miranda Edwards

POLICY COUNCIL:

Chair Person: Sue Alexander

Vice Chairperson: Sarita Sanchez- Scoma

Secretary/Treasury: Destiny Richardson

Parent Representative: Sarah Gard

Parent Representative: Alexia Molina

Parent Representative: Shonna Northam

Community Representative: Miranda Edwards

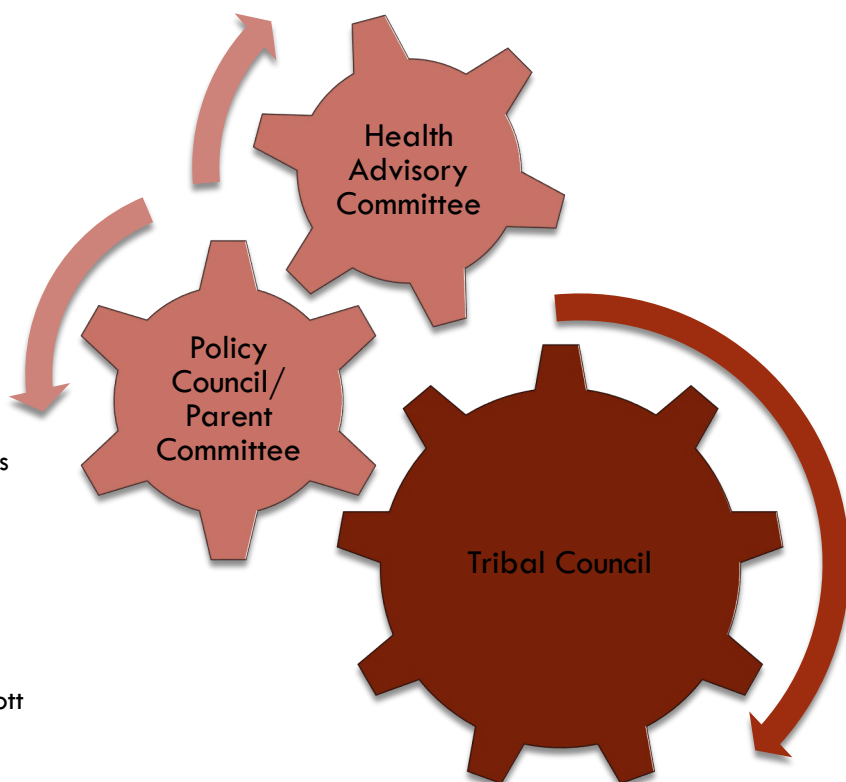
Community Representative: Dakotah Harper

Tribal Council Liaison: Jason Hayward Jr.

RR Education Director: Nicole Wilkes

HS & CC Program Manager: Sara Zapata

HS Teacher Representative: Cassi Lawson-Pigott



HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Glen Hayward: RRTHC- Executive Director Health Services

Dr. Paul Davis: RRTHC- Medical Doctor & Director

Dr. Todd Gandy DDS: RRTHC- Dental Director/ HAC Chairperson

Cory Ryan: RRTHC- Community Health Director

Keith Bunney: RRTHC-Medical

Patti Blair: director of Admissions/ Telemedicine

Kara Russell LCSW: RRTHC- Behavioral Health Director

Vicki Iwanski: RRTHC- Medical Administrative Assistant

Amy Pendergast: Public Health Representative

Rinnah Wyatt: Indian Health Services Representative

Elizabeth Gomez: Redding Rancheria Head Start Teacher Representative

Jessica Dennis: Redding Rancheria Head Start Health & Disabilities Coordinator/ Site Supervisor

Sara Zapata: Redding Rancheria Head Start & Child Care Program Manager

STAFF

Education Director: **Nicole Wilkes**

Program Manager: **Sara Zapata**

Administrative Assistant: **Kianna Benner**

Family Intake Coordinator: **Verenda Sims**

Health & Disabilities Coordinator: **Jessica Dennis**

Head Start Teachers: **Cassi Lawson-Pigott (Mentor Teacher) & Elizabeth Gomez**

Head Start Teacher Assistants: **Julie Bothwell & Priscilla Potter**

Child Care Teacher: **Marissa Phelan & Gabriella Ward**

Child Care Teacher Assistants: **Brandy Gemmill / Taylor Burris / Jessica Wilson**

Food Service: **Erin Blanks** (Also PM Child Care T.A.)

Family Child Care Coordinator: **Marissa Phelan**

Bus Driver: **Willie Reeves**

Bus Monitor: **Angie Carter-Streiff**

Tribal Youth Worker: **Aiyonia Alonso**



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Budgeted and actual expenditures for the Redding Rancheria Head Start program for FY 2021.

Revenue & Expenditures 2021	Actual Expenditures 2021	Budgetary Revenue 2021
HHS- Office of Head Start	\$480,323	\$474,654
CACFP School Lunch Reimbursements	\$7,329	\$19,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$0	\$0
<u>Total Revenue</u>	\$492,294	\$493,654

In-Kind Budget Expenditures 2021

Expenses provided on behalf of Redding Rancheria Head Start	Actual 2021	Budget 2021
Custodian, maintenance, safety/Fringe	\$20,222	\$40,881
Child consultants, therapists/fringe	\$6,262	\$12,518
Volunteer services/fringe	\$11,447	\$14,900
IT hours/fringe	\$1,845	\$3,183
Surveillance hours/fringe	\$7,207	\$8,000
Phone system and maintenance	\$3,132	\$3,500
Custodial supplies	\$2,200	\$0
Tribal indirect expense/in-kind	\$42,630	\$35,682
Total In-Kind	\$94,953	\$118,664
Total Revenue + In-kind expenses	\$571,330	\$612,318
Total Administrative Costs	10.87%	11%

HEAD START BUDGET NARRATIVE 2021

This budget supports:

- 1 part time Program Manager
- 1 full time Teacher Mentor
- 1 part time Health and Disability Coordinator
- 1 part time Family Intake Coordinator
- 1 part time Administrative Assistant/ ERSEA
- 2 full time Teachers
- 2 full time Teacher Assistants
- 1 part time Food Service Worker
- 1 part time Bus Driver/Transportation Personnel
- 1 part time Bus Monitor
- Vended meals breakfast, lunch, snack
- Transportation via contracted school bus to/from area bus stops
- Staff professional development/degree and certifications
- Parent Training and travel to participate in regional workshops and training

Additionally, the Redding Rancheria Head Start program budget relies on in-kind support from the Redding Rancheria Tribe and the Redding Rancheria Tribal Health Center to provide the following essential services free of charge:

- Facility rent and maintenance; nightly custodial services and supplies
- Children's health services including: child screening and testing, behavioral health services, nutritional services, and dental services.

Lastly, the Redding Rancheria Head Start program relies on parent and community volunteer services, especially to support the Policy Council and the Health Advisory Committee.



ENROLLMENT

Families interested in the Head Start program must qualify by meeting locally designed requirements. This free program serves federally recognized, Native American children between the ages of three and five years old. We reserve a minimum of 10% of our enrollment spots for children with disabilities. In general eligibility is based on family income at or below the poverty level. Families with other situations including homelessness, children in foster care, receiving temporary assistance are also eligible. 49% of enrolled spots are reserved for Redding Rancheria Tribal Member spots as over-income. In April of 2022 families who are receiving SNAP (CalFresh) qualify for the Head Start program under Public Assistance. Our Child Care Program serves Native American Children from income eligible, working families with locally designed requirements as well as parents who are full time students. This program has a share of cost. Eligible native children ages 0-5 years in our service area, per the 2019 Child Count = 1,550

- 100% of children served are Native American.
- Head Start- 34 children and 40 families were served.
- Child Care- 17 children and 20 families were served.
- Vacancies are filled from the wait list; Year-end wait list was 58 children.
- 12% of Head Start center based kids achieved a 21/22 year-end attendance more than 85%.
- 29% of Child Care kids achieved a 21/22 year-end attendance greater than 85%.

Family support was offered for families who were below 85% attendance. Strict Covid-19 illness policies kept students home if they were exhibiting symptoms or around ill family members.

- 21% of families enrolled were income eligible.
- 41% of families enrolled were over income, which is allotted for AI/AN programs.
- 9% of families enrolled were foster children.
- 24% of families enrolled were on public assistance.
- 3% of families enrolled were homeless.



HEALTH & NUTRITION SERVICES

The Head Start emphasizes the importance of early identification of health needs, which, if undetected or left untreated, may cause learning difficulties. The program makes every effort to ensure that our students are connected to a doctor or clinic in order to receive a complete age-appropriate health assessment as recommended by his/her physician. Health screenings are performed throughout the school year and parents are notified when screenings are scheduled and receive copies of the results. Within 45 days from the first day of attendance, all students are screened and assessed in the following areas: Developmental, Behavior, Vision, Hearing, Dental and Nutrition. Head Start and Child Care children receive breakfast, lunch and snack during program hours. Students receive three-quarters of their daily nutritional requirements while attending school.

2021/2022 Head Start Health Statistics

- 100% of children established a medical home
- 91% were seen at the Redding Rancheria Tribal Health Center, 9% were seen by other providers
- 47% of children were identified as up to date on all immunizations at the end of the school year
- 100% of children established a dental home, receiving an initial dental exam
- 6 children were diagnosed needing additional urgent dental treatment
- 100% of children received developmental screenings
- 100% of children received nutrition screenings
- 100% of children received hearing screenings
- 100% of children received vision screenings



2021/2021 Child Care Health Statistics

- 100% of children established a medical home

- 84% were seen at the Redding Rancheria Tribal Health Center, 16% seen by other providers
- 33% of children were identified as up to date on all immunizations at the end of the school year
- 94% of children established a dental home, receiving an initial dental exam
- 2 children were referred for urgent dental needs
- 100% of children received developmental screenings
- 100% of children received nutrition screenings
- 100% of children received hearing screenings
- 100% of children received vision screening



DISABILITIES & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Children with disabilities or mental health concerns are encouraged to participate in program services. Speech and Language services was the most frequently identified special education need. Appropriate accommodations, enhancements, and support is provided as needed for each child. We collaborate with



Redding Rancheria Tribal Health center to supply counseling services to our students here at school once a month. This school year there was a significant amount of interest for children to gain access to counseling. Families also typically see a provider additionally at the Health Center.

2021/2022 Head Start Disabilities Statistics

- 7 children had IEPs indicating that they qualified to receive special education services
- 3 children received IEPs prior to enrollment
- 5 children received IEPs during Head Start enrollment
- 0 children with RTI
- 0 children with 504 Plan
- 100% of those children transitioning to Kindergarten with IEP's were connected to further services

2021/2022 Head Start Mental Health Statistics

- 13 Head Start children receive RRTHC counseling services at school
- 5 Head Start children with a Child Support Plan

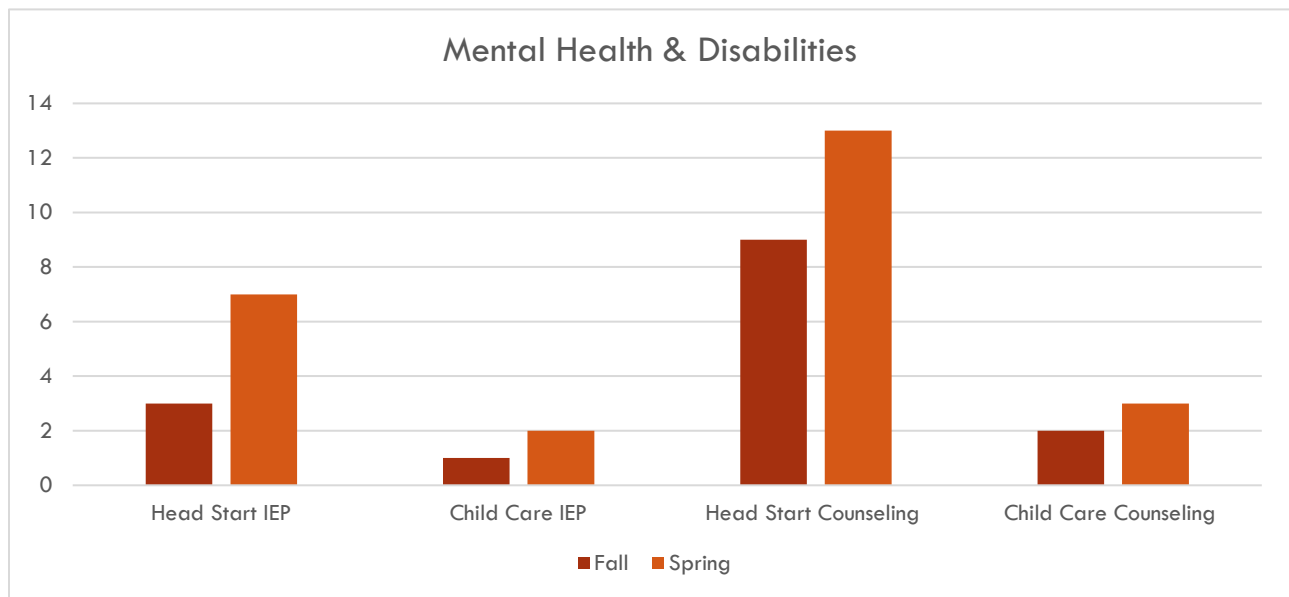
2021/2022 Child Care Disabilities Statistics

- 2 children had IEPs indicating that they qualified to receive special education services
- 1 children received IEPs prior to enrollment

- 1 children received IEPs during Head Start enrollment
- 0 children with RTI's
- 0 of children with 504 Plan

2021/2022 Child Care Mental Health Statistics

- 3 Child Care children receive RRTHC counseling services at school
- 1 Head Start children with a Child Support Plan



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Family engagement is a vital component in the structure and function of the Head Start and Child Care programs. A strong relationship between families and Head Start staff is essential to promoting healthy child development and positive learning outcomes. We value parents in our program and encourage involvement in a variety of ways including, program governance, program planning, curriculum development, child homework, and personal development.



Parent Committee

One of the program's primary goals is to help families participate in their child's education as well as in their own personal growth and development. All of our parents are a part of our "Parent Connection" Parent Committee where monthly education, trainings and resources are provided. This year the program provided 5 parent-child interactive Parent Connection Meetings with different themes. These workshops provide a great environment where families can come together to learn and support each other.

Parent Involvement Activities

- 5 Head Start parents were members of the Head Start Policy Council and 2 Child Care parents served as Community Partners.
- 5 "Parent Connection" meetings were held throughout the year, providing opportunities for parent education and feedback. These included Parenting Classes, Safe Trick or Treating, Dental, IEP's and Advocating for your Child, and Budgeting. Parent Connection meetings were limited due to Covid-19 restrictions and being short staffed.
- 8 Parent Involvement activities were held during the school year including: Food and Clothing Drive, Gift Wrapping, Back to School Day, Dream Catcher making, Family Culture & Hobby Week, Easter Egg Hunt, Week of the Young Child Gardening Activity, Graduation Beading,

and Box Car making. Parent Involvement activities were limited during part of the year due to Covid-19 restrictions and closures.

- Nearly 100% of parents participated in monthly special events including Box Car Race, Stick Horse Rodeo and Graduation.
- 100% of our families participated as parent/ teachers during distance learning.

Family Services- Head Start

- 4 families requested and received emergency/ crisis services
- 1 family requested and received housing services (homeless)
- 1 family requested and were assisted with adult education
- 1 families requested and received employment services
- 40 families received parenting education
- 40 families were assisted with gas vouchers/ transportation assistance
- 2 families were given utilities assistance
- 15 families were given food assistance
- 7 families received child care referral assistance
- 8 families received clothing assistance
- 182 Family Goals were written/ 180 were met
- 40 families participated in Bookworm Club

Family Services- Child Care

- 2 of families requested and received emergency/ crisis services
- 0 of families requested and received housing services (homeless)
- 1 of families requested and were assisted with adult education
- 0 of families requested and received employment services
- 20 families received parenting education



- 20 families were assisted with gas vouchers/ transportation assistance
- 0 families were given utilities assistance
- 5 families were given food assistance
- 4 families received child care referral assistance
- 4 families received clothing assistance
- 66 Family Goals were written/ 63 were met
- 20 families participated in Bookworm Club

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Community partners are essential in helping to enrich the fundamental services families need.

Cascade Union School District

SELPA

Redding Rancheria Tribal Health

California Highway Patrol

First 5 Shasta

**NATTA- Native American Training & Technical
Assistance**

Far Northern Regional Center

TANF

Cal Works

LIFE Center

Tribal Child Care Association of California

Bridges to Success

Help Me Grow

Local Child Care Planning Council

**CAAAYC (California Association of the Education of
Young Children)**

Shasta County ECE Advisory Board

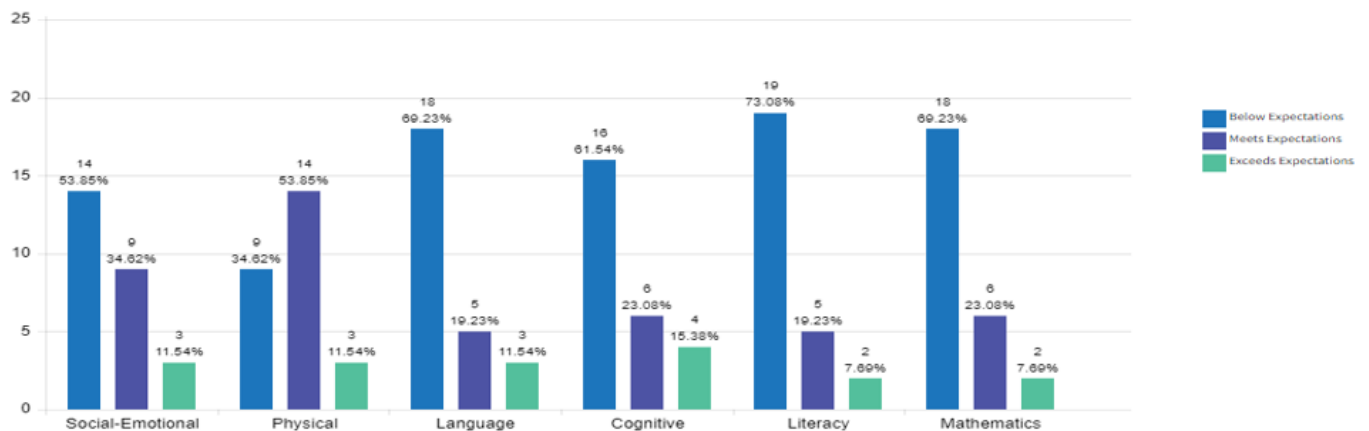
SCHOOL READINESS

The Redding Rancheria Head Start and Child Care prepares children with the skills they need to have a successful transition into kindergarten and beyond. We achieve this by establishing school readiness goals that are age and developmentally appropriate. It is our goal to improve student equity and access to high-quality education. Our teachers are our greatest asset in providing the highest quality of education. School Readiness Goals are centered on social/emotional development, cognition, language and literacy, physical health and motor development. Our teachers are dedicated to providing a quality program for students and families.

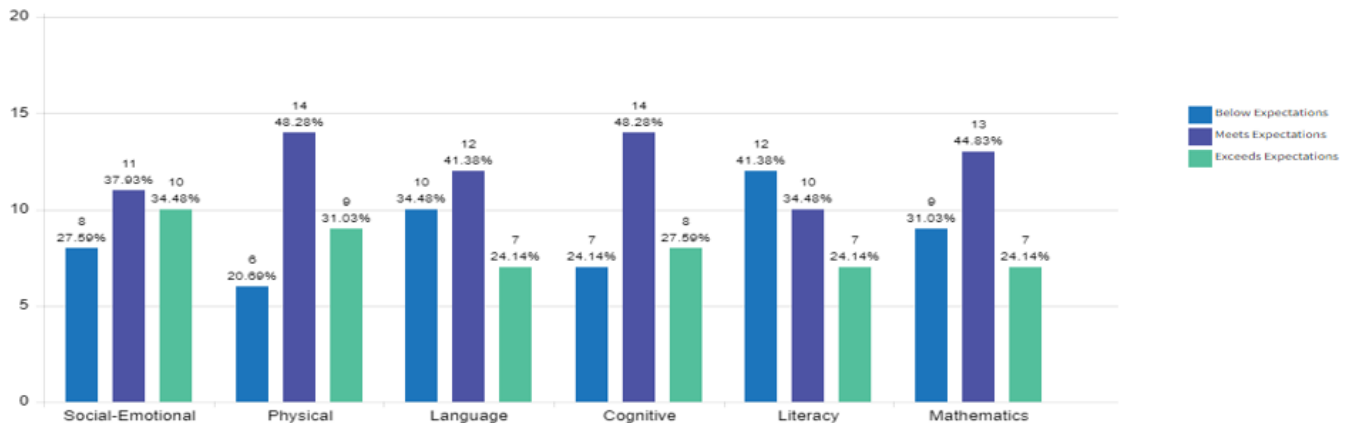
Children are assessed three times per year using Teaching Strategies.

Redding Rancheria Head Start – Widely Held Expectations / Outcome Report

Fall 2021-2022 - 3 year olds:

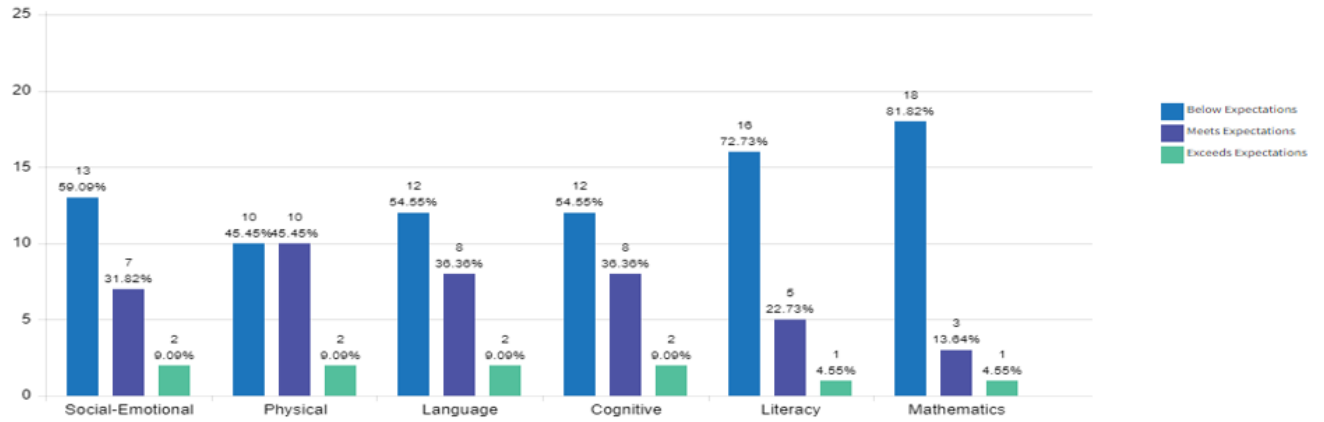


Spring 2021-2022 - 3 year olds:

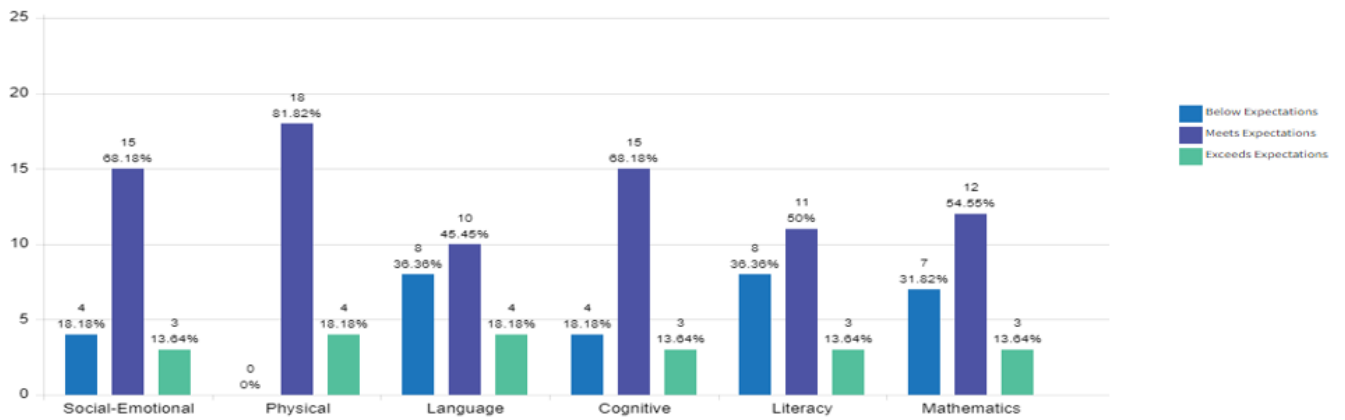


Redding Rancheria Head Start – Widely Held Expectations / Outcome Report

Fall 2021-2022 - 4 year olds:



Spring 2021-2022 - 4 year olds:



CLOSING STATEMENT

Head Start is committed to give every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, an opportunity to succeed in school and in life. Since its inception, Head Start has improved the lives of more than 32 million children and their families. Head Start is the place where, at an early age, children can acquire a life-long love of learning. The result for those children and families enrolled is that they became the focus of involved parents and many caring professionals. Children's developmental needs were identified and met; families were assisted in goal setting and managing emergencies. The Redding Rancheria Head Start program provided comprehensive parent education opportunities. On June 3, 2021, 26 students in the Head Start and Child Care successfully moved on to Kindergarten or Transitional Kindergarten. The goal of the Redding Rancheria is to support parents as educators of their children, and to assist in helping students meet their school readiness goals. These goals were achieved.



CONGRADULATIONS CLASS OF 2022!

