



Chugachmiut BIRTH TO FIVE Head Start

# 2024 Annual Report

This Annual Report summarizes key information about the Chugachmiut Birth to Five Head Start Program for the program year of 2023-2024.



# Head Start Birth to Five



Chugachmiut’s Birth to Five Head Start is a federal- and state-funded program that promotes school readiness and provides quality health, nutritional, social, and other services to enrolled children and families. Head Start is a federal program that prepares young children, birth to five years old, for success in school and in life. Programs work to meet high standards for delivering quality services to children and their families.

Children who attend Head Start programs participate in school readiness activities while developing social skills. Head Start children also receive nutritious meals and the necessary health care in a safe environment. Head Start and Early Head Start welcome children with disabilities.

Parents with children in Head Start participate in all aspects of the program. They help to govern, plan what children learn, and provide advice about needed services. Parents and other community members also volunteer in classrooms and other parts of the programs.

In the 23-24 program year, Chugachmiut Birth to Five provided Head Start services for children aged 3-5 in Nanwalek and Port Graham. Home-based Early Head Start services were provided in Nanwalek to children ages 0-3. Chugachmiut was funded to serve 22 children and their families.



## Enrollment and Attendance

Over the 2023-24 school year, we served **22 children** through our Birth to Five program in two center-based classrooms and the Early Head Start Home-Based program in Nanwalek.

**Average monthly Enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment): 100%**

We served **100% of the eligible children** in our two communities who wanted to enroll in Head Start/EHS services.

Attendance by month:

Month	Attendance Percentage
August 2023	74%
September 2023	80%
October 2023	86%
November 2023	68%
December 2023	74%
January 2024	48%
February 2024	89%
March 2024	81%
April 2024	58%
May 2024	57%



## Head Start Medical and Dental Services



**Medical:** 100% of enrolled children had medical homes, which include community clinics. **96% (21 of 22) children were up to date on their well-child exams** according to the EPSDT schedule. 21 of 22 enrolled children’s immunizations were appropriate for their age and/or catch-up schedule. One child had a State of Alaska-approved immunization exemption.

**Dental:** **12 children (55%) received a dental exam.** Of these children, 3 were diagnosed as needing, and all received, further dental treatment by the end of the school year. Lockdowns due to COVID-19 early in the year, and the lack of dental staff, limited dental services in our communities.



## Parent, Family, Community Engagement

We believe a child's family is their most important teacher and advocate. Chugachmiut staff strive to build relationships with families that support family well-being, strong parent/child relationships and ongoing learning and development for both parents and children.

We provide the following opportunities for our families:

- Parent Orientation
- Parent Committee Meetings
- Policy Council
- Cultural opportunities and events
- Home Visits for our center-based programs
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Family activity events
- Family literacy nights
- Father Engagement and Family Lunch and Learn training events.



We partner with parents to create family goals, such as obtaining a GED, building a resume, applying for jobs, and connecting with resources and services. We share the responsibility for the children's outcomes, through parent input into the curriculum and encouraging home activities that support developmental goals for each child.

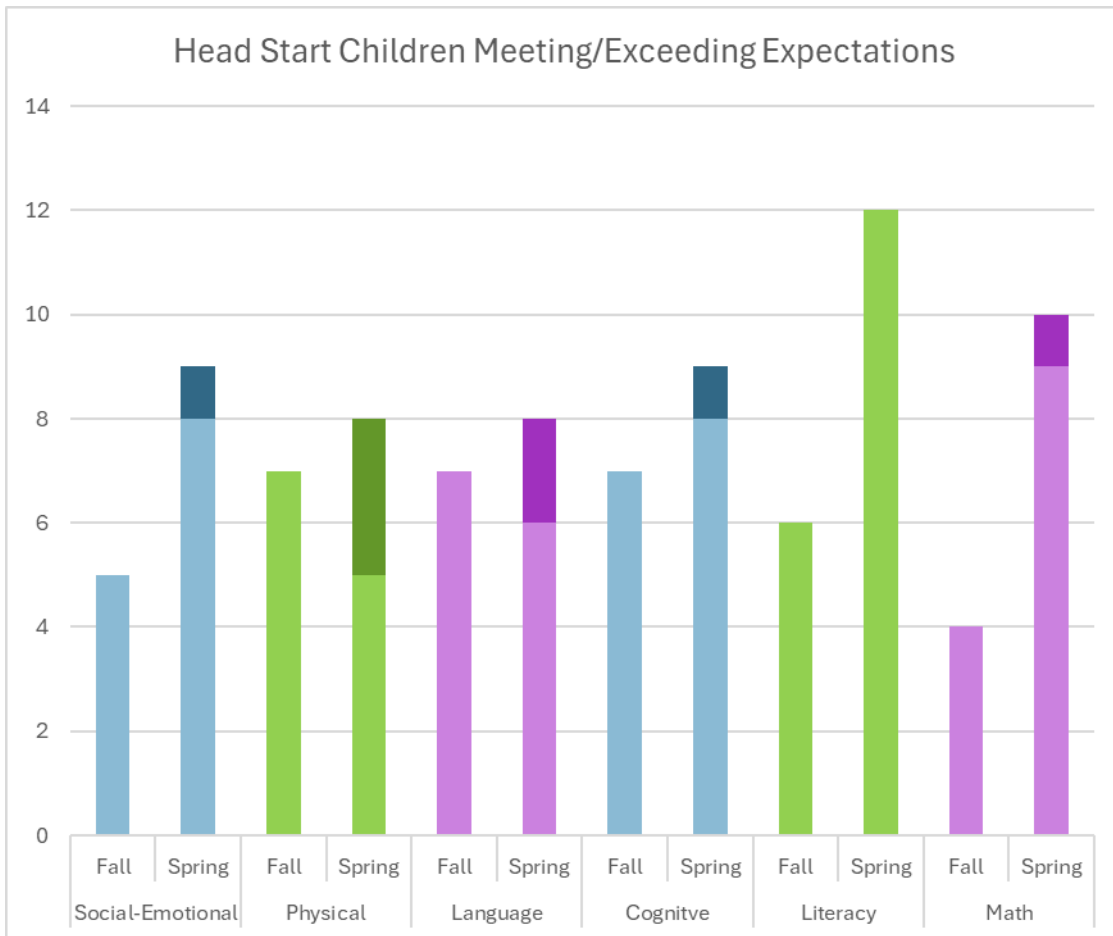
During the 23-24 program year, we served 20 families who all received at least one program service to promote family outcomes.



# School Readiness

Preparing children and families for success in school and life is an overall goal of our program. To ensure children transition successfully to elementary school, our teachers use a standardized curriculum and assessment tool. Teachers track each child’s progress in five developmental areas: Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional, Language and Literacy, Cognition, and Perceptual, Motor, and Physical. Our School Readiness Goals are aligned with our curriculum (The Creative Curriculum), our assessment tool (Teaching Strategies GOLD), the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (ELOF), and the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines, and report children’s learning progress in the school readiness skills/areas of social-emotional development, physical development, language, cognitive, literacy, and math.

A report is generated three times a year for parents, staff, and governing bodies. Our program analyzes data to assess children's overall growth and make decisions to enhance program quality. On average, in the 23-24 school year, there was a ten to twenty-five percent growth in all areas of development. The most notable progress was observed in math, literacy, and social-emotional development.



## Transition to Kindergarten



Transition materials are provided to all parents at the last home visit/parent-teacher conference.

Head Start staff meet with the Kindergarten Teacher to share information (with a release) about each child's school readiness outcomes. The Head Start Teachers and transitioning children spend one to three days visiting the Kindergarten classroom.

## Federal and State Monitoring



April 4-8, 2022 a Focus Area 2 Federal Monitoring Review for Chugachmiut Birth to Five Head Start was conducted. One non-compliance with the Head Start Program Performance Standard 1302.12 Determining, verifying, and Documenting Eligibility. (k) Records. Documentation of children's eligibility (for those enrolled during the height of the COVID pandemic) was not complete. The enrollment and eligibility process and documentation were strengthened, policies and procedures revised, and staff trained. A Follow-Up Review was conducted October 3-7, and it was determined that the Non-Compliance was corrected and that we are fully compliant.

The State of Alaska conducted a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Administrative review on January 19, 2023. There were two small findings around Site Monitoring. Corrective action was implemented by our program, and we were determined to be in compliance.

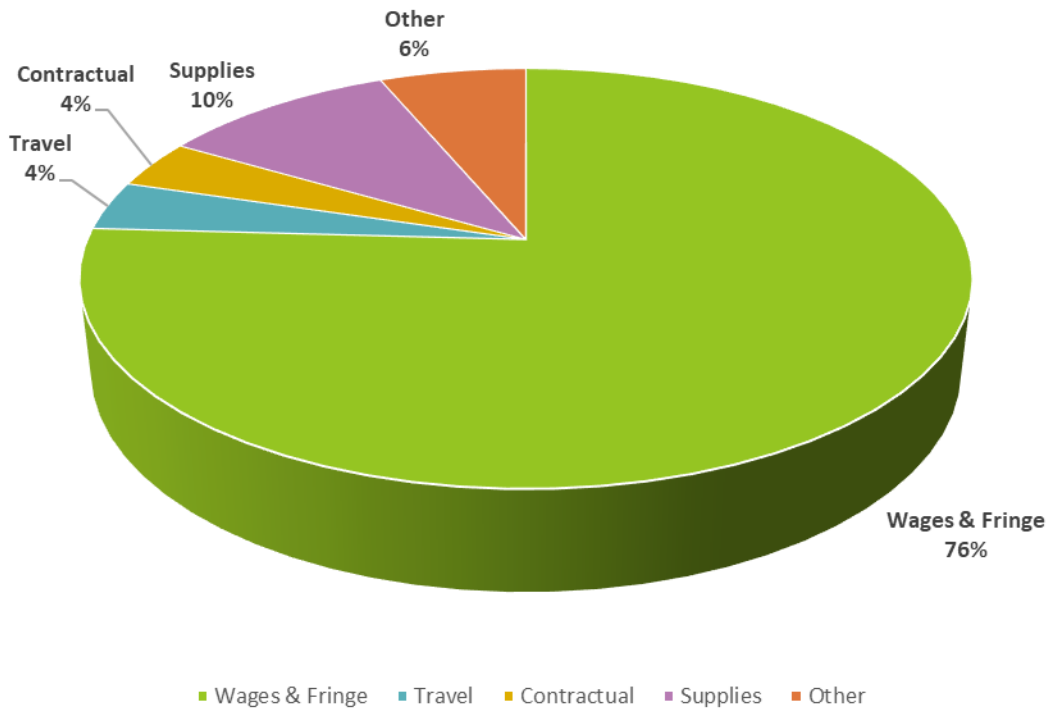


## 23-24 Birth to Five Program Year Funding

Revenue	Amount
Federal Head Start	\$1,395,166*
State of Alaska Head Start	\$134,117
CACFP (Food Program)	\$13,244
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,542,527</b>

*\* includes COLA, carryover and supplemental playground funds*

## 23-24 Birth to Five Program Year Operating Expenses



## 24-25 Program Year Funding

Our FY 24-25 Total Budget for Head Start is \$4,413,317. We received FY24 Federal Head Start Expansion funding to provide services to 70 additional children in Eyak/Cordova (Head Start), Seward (Head Start), and Valdez (Head Start and Early Head Start). Additionally, the State of Alaska Head Start funding was increased by the Alaska State Legislature for 24-25 and we received one-time funding from the Alaska Head Start Stabilization grant.

### 24-25 Program Year Budget At-a-Glance by funding source:

Budget Category	State Head Start	CACFP Food Program	AK Head Start Stabilization	Federal Head Start Year 1 of 5 (including Expansion Supplement)	Federal Head Start Low-Cost Extension
Personnel	\$117,748		\$23,747	\$739,130	\$27,095
Fringe Benefits	\$47,009			\$295,685	\$22,891
Travel				\$54,614	\$15,962
Contractual					\$121,333
Equipment				\$200,000*	\$106,122
Supplies	\$11,206	\$20,000		\$518,055*	
Other				\$1,546,243*	\$4,710
TTA				\$64,283	
Indirect	\$26,394	\$3,000	\$4,190	\$ 422,169*	\$21,731
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$202,357</b>	<b>\$ 23,000</b>	<b>\$27,937</b>	<b>\$3,840,179</b>	<b>\$319,844</b>

\*Includes start-up funds

## Financial Audit

Chugachmiut’s financial audit meets the GAAP and Uniform Guidance requirements of its federal grant sources, including Head Start. In FY23, there were no audit findings relative to the major federal and state awards.

Chugachmiut’s FY24 Audit is in process of being completed.





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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**  
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**  
[program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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