

Head Start and Early Head Start Annual Report

Program Number: 05CH8456/01

Program Name: Children's Place Association: Arthur E. Jones Early Childhood Care and Learning Center and Home-Based Early Learning Program

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Agency Type: Nonprofit. Center-based Head Start/Early Head Start, home-visiting Early Head Start

Agency Description:

Children's Place Association has 133 Head Start/Early Head Start-eligible slots. Children's Place provides comprehensive support services to children and families affected by illness and poverty. Programs include 24-hour nursing for medically complex children, mental health counseling, case management, summer camp, foster care and adoption, emergency assistance, supportive family housing and early education services that include a Home-Based program and the Arthur E. Jones Early Childhood Care and Learning Center. The Early Learning Center serves 0-5-year-old children with age-specific classrooms, degreed teachers and specially trained aides, an onsite nurse, nutritious meals, transportation and a secure, private playground. The Home-Based program serves 0-3-year-old children, providing developmental and emotional screenings, nutrition education and assessments, monthly infant health checks by a Registered Nurse, advocacy, referrals and group socialization. The Center-based programs includes Head Start and Early Head Start programming, and the Home-Based program provides Early Head Start programming.

Because of our capacity to provide nursing and specialized therapeutic care, Chicago Public Schools and the Ounce of Prevention Fund selected Children's Place as one of just two organizations in the city to pilot a special education model project that began in 2017. At no cost to Children's Place, a special education instructor is placed in our Early Learning Center classrooms to assist children with special needs, so that they are able to stay in the group setting with their typically-developing peers. The project also brings professionals on site to provide specialized therapies (speech, physical, occupational, etc.), rather than disrupting children's learning with trips to other facilities/locations. The resources this pilot brings to our Center benefit all of the children in our classrooms, as we ensure every child gets the individualized services he/she needs to learn.

Site Location:

<i>Early Learning Center</i>	<i>Home-Based Early Learning Program</i>
1800 N. Humboldt Blvd.	3543 West Chicago Ave
Chicago, IL 60647	Chicago, IL 60651

Community Areas Served:

Both programs supported by the Ounce operate out of Humboldt Park on Chicago's West Side. According to data from the most recent Community Assessment, conducted by the Ounce of Prevention Fund and Children's Place Association, in July of 2018, the total population of

Humboldt Park was 44,841, of which 11% were children aged 5 and under, or approximately 4,900 children. Child poverty remains high at 46%, with 21.5% of children in extreme poverty in this community. The per capita income was \$18,576, below the Chicago average. While the unemployment rate had decreased it remained high, at 14%. The rate of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) receipt was 11% and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) receipt was 82%. Limited English proficiency was present in 15% of the households and 27% of adult residents did not have a high school degree. The violent crime rate increased 17% from the previous year and was 18.7 per 1,000 persons.

While programs are located in Humboldt Park, both our Center and the Home-Based programs serve a diverse group of families from not only this area but also communities across the city, ranging from Chatham to Uptown and including Austin, Avondale, Belmont Cragin, Bucktown, East Garfield Park, Humboldt Park, Logan Square, South Lawndale, Washington Park, West Town and others.

Approximately 50% of children served by the Early Learning Center are African-American, 40% Hispanic and 10% other. Nearly half of the children served had an illness or disability, 51% of children lived in a single-parent household and 22% have a parent living with a disability or medical condition. In the Home-Based program 70-75% of families are Hispanic, 15-20% African American and 10% other. A large number of families within the service category that are categorically homeless and in need of permanent housing. Children’s Place programs specialize in serving families and children in need, and more than 45% of children in the home-based program have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and receive early intervention services.

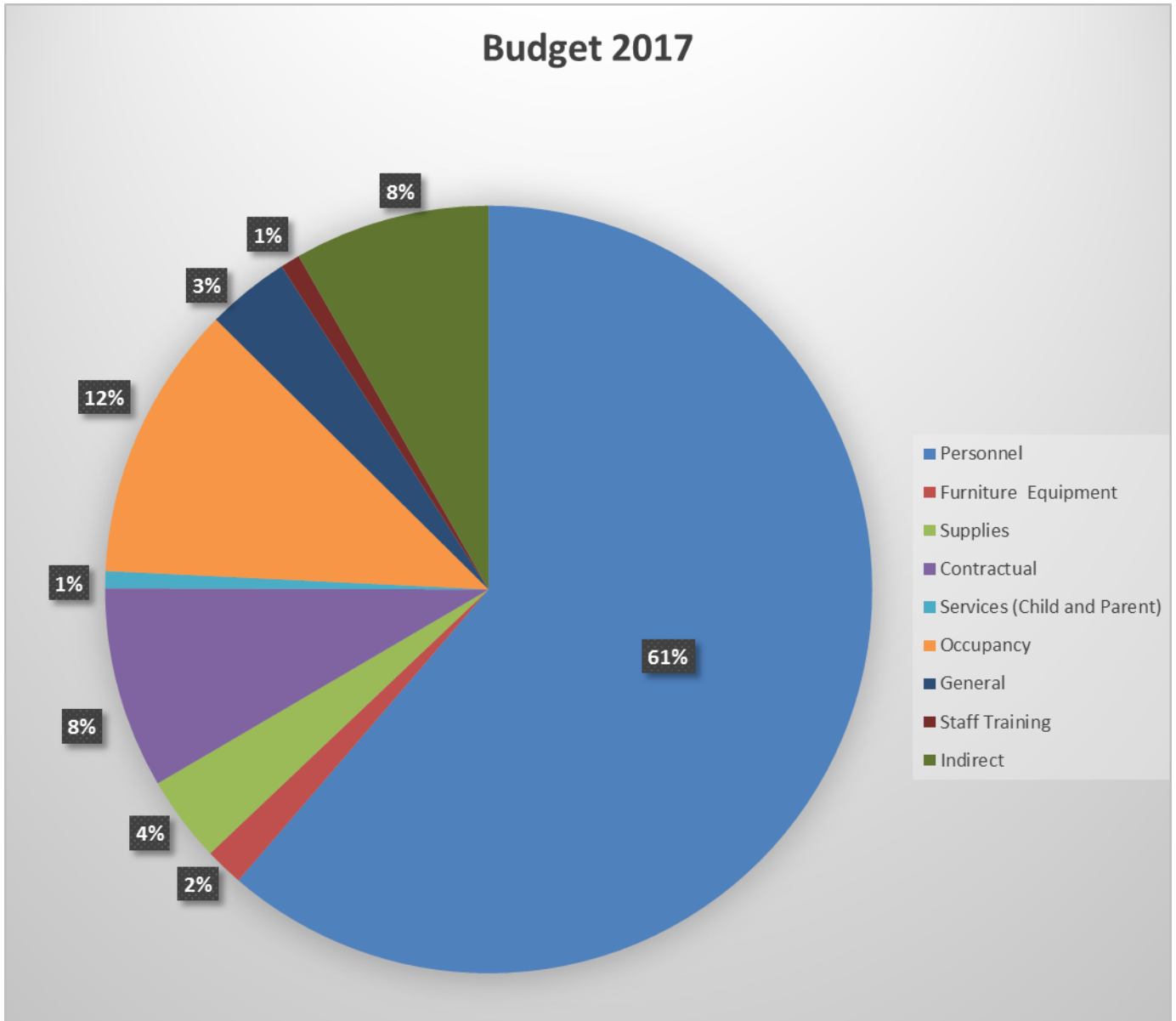
Please see below for additional details from the most recent Community Assessment.

Overall Grantee Budget 2017

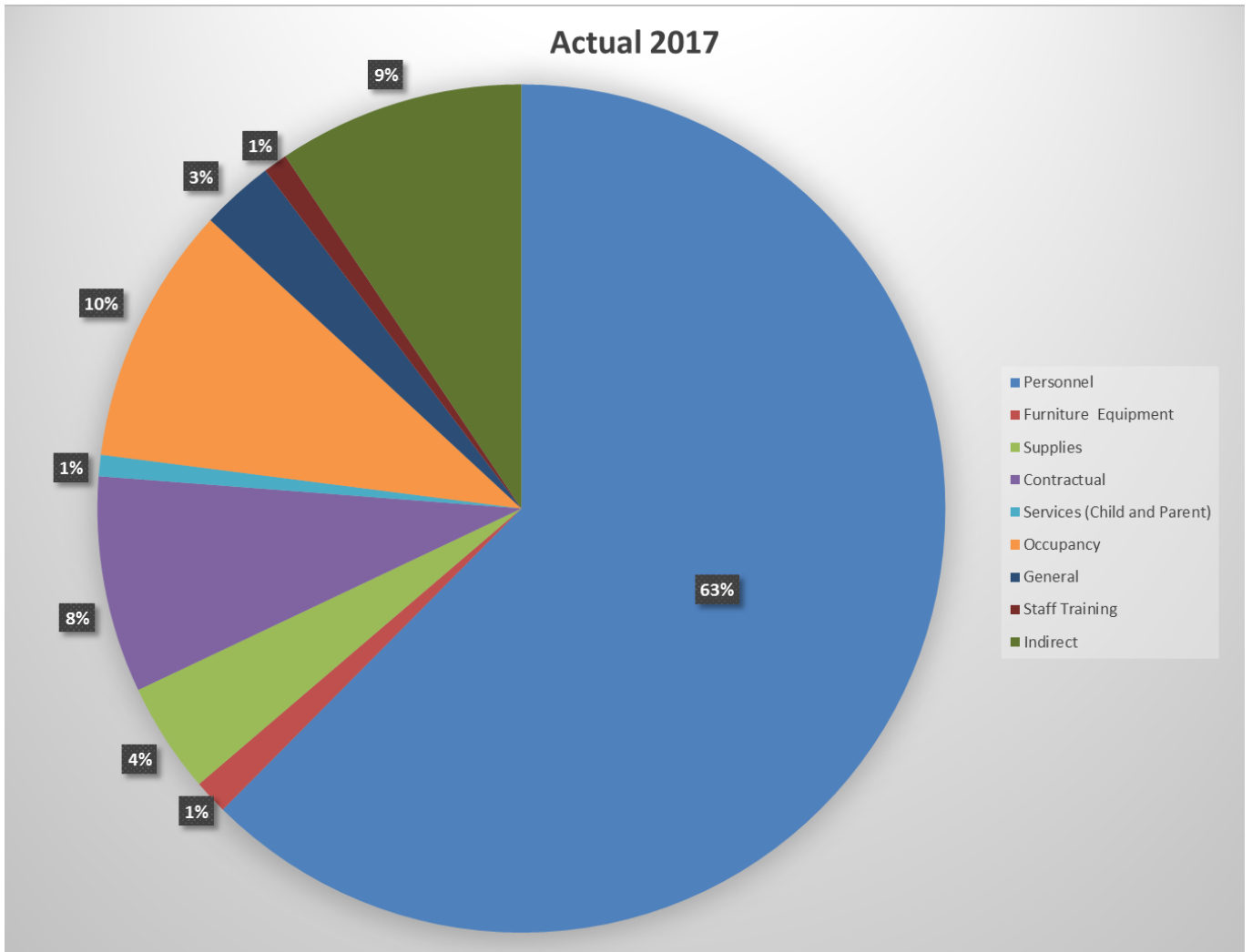
Total Public and Private Funds Received:

Public Funds		Private Funds	
Source	Amount	Source	Amount
Federal	\$928,971	Individuals, Corporations, Foundations, etc.	\$135,056
State	\$480,072	In-kind	-
Local School District	\$501,600		
Total	\$1,90,143	Total	\$135,056

Grantee Expenditures 2017



Grantee Expenditures 2017



Children and Families Served in 2017

Grantee Funded Enrollment

	Head Start Enrollment	Early Head Start Enrollment
Center-based Program		
a. 5 days per week		
1. Full-day enrollment	41	32
2. Part-day enrollment		
b. 4 days per week		
1. Full-day enrollment		
2. Part-day enrollment		
Home-based Program		60
Unallocated Slots		
Total:	41	92

Site: Children's Place Association

Total Children Served: 147

Total Families Served: 120

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

Number of Eligible Children in Community, ages 0-5	4,673
Percentage of children served in agency	3%

Health

Percentage of enrolled children who received medical and dental exams

Percentage of enrolled children who received medical and dental exams	Received Medical Exams	Received Dental Exams/ Oral Care
Children's Place Association	100%	64%

Parental involvement in Directly Operated, Delegate and Partner Agencies

Each year, the Ounce of Prevention Fund supports Children's Place Association in conducting/updating a community assessment outlining the strengths and needs of the communities served by the Children's Place Early Learning Center and Home-Based early education program.

Summary of Most Recent Community Assessment:

The most recent community assessment, completed in July of 2018. This updated assessment includes new data for 2016 which, in accordance with Head Start Performance Standards, is used for program planning purposes. In summary, in the primary community areas served by Children's Place Association:

- There are limited housing and mental health services available to families in the areas served.
- The majority of clients served in the Home-Based program are Hispanic and have difficulties with medical care and finding employment.
- Unemployment in Humboldt Park remains high, and parents of children in Children's Place Early Head Start and Head Start programs experienced more unemployment than those in other Ounce programs. The percentage of families that have at least one parent employed was considerably lower than the all Ounce Head Start average. Unemployment for all parents at Children's Place has decreased in the past few years but remains high.

Parent Education Activities

Health: The Early Learning Center's Nurse and Family Support Specialists (FSS) for both the Center and Home-Based program train parents on Children's Place health and medical policies and procedures, and about the importance of medical and dental exams for children. The Nurse works with parents to make sure all health documentation is kept up to date. FSS support the Nurse in helping families obtain documentation and assist families with scheduling necessary appointments and finding medical and dental homes.

Mental Health: Parents participate in the annual meeting for planning mental health education. Parents recommend training topics for the monthly parent meetings, Pastries with Parents meetings, and socialization events. Parent also receive wellness trainings and support if needed. Play Therapy is available for those children in need through partnership with the Juvenile Protective Association, a leader in child mental health.

Education and Literacy: Parents work with teachers and other staff in planning their children's school readiness goals for the year. They also participate in parent teacher conferences and home visits with the teachers throughout the school year. Program outcomes for 2017 show significant progress in the area of literacy: in the fall, 10% of children were below national literacy expectations, 44% were meeting and 44% were exceeding the national expectations.

By the spring only 4% of children were below expectations, 35% were meeting and 59% were exceeding the national expectations.

Community and Social Services: Parents are provided with a variety of different resources at parent meetings, parent-teacher conferences, family assessments and throughout the year. Children's Place maintains numerous community partnerships within the local community and surrounding neighborhoods to help support parents with resources for needs identified.

Other Community-related Education: Children's Place offers trainings throughout the program year on topics in which parents express interest. For example, in the past year parents received training about autism, cooking classes, transition to kindergarten/school and other subjects.

Parent Committee Meetings: Parent meetings are offered monthly. Parents participate in the planning of these meetings and suggest topics of interest, as noted above. A Parent committee also has a representative that attends our monthly Parent Policy Council Meetings. During that meeting, the representative provides an agency update that was discussed in a previous parent meeting. The representative then gathers the information discussed at the Grantee Parent Policy Meeting and shares it with the parents at the following parent meeting.

Other special gatherings or activities: Parents participate in socialization events every month. They are also offered the opportunity to participate in field trips with the children, a holiday party and end of the year celebration.

Male Involvement: Children's Place hosts a quarterly Father/Male Figure Involvement Night to encourage male participation in our program and provide an engaging, fun and educational event specifically for the fathers/male figures

Kindergarten Readiness

Special Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten: Staff, parents and teachers meet at the beginning of the school year to develop school readiness goals, which assists staff in preparing children for kindergarten. Teachers and staff create individualized plans for children based on their goals and follow up with parents throughout the year during parent-teacher conferences

Transition Activities to Promote Kindergarten Readiness: Teachers meet with parents to prepare transition plans for children going to kindergarten. Parents are offered the opportunity to visit kindergarten with support from a classroom or FSS staff in order to prepare children, and themselves, for the transition.