



Serving the counties of Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York in Nebraska and Smith in Kansas with Head Start and Early Head Start services.



HEAD START

ANNUAL REPORT • 2012-2013



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Our Mission

*Overcoming Poverty by
Helping People, Improving Lives
and Strengthening Communities.*

Our Vision

*Our vision is that communities are
safe and supportive; differences and
traditions are respected; individuals
and families are financially secure;
and everyone has opportunities to
develop their potential.*



Head Start 0-5

The Blue Valley Community Action Partnership Head Start 0-5 program delivers comprehensive and high quality services designed to foster healthy development in low-income and at risk children. Head Start services are responsive and appropriate to each child's and family's developmental, ethnic, cultural and linguistic heritage, and experience.

Head Start provides a range of individualized services in the areas of:

- Education
- Special Education
- Nutrition
- Medical, Dental and Mental Health
- Social Services

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership operates a home-based Early Head Start Program serving 90 children ages 0-3 and pregnant mothers. Families receive weekly home visits for 1½ hours and two socialization opportunities a month. The primary focus of the Early Head Start program is child development, parenting, goals to strengthen the family, and self sufficiency.

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership provides center-based Head Start services to 249 children ages 3-5. During the 2012-2013 program year, Blue Valley Community Action Partnership's Head Start Program collaborated with Beatrice Public School, Crete Public School, Deshler Public School, Fairbury Public School, Thayer Central Public School and York Public School in an effort to provide quality preschool services to more at-risk children in these communities. The program provides 3-5 hours of class time, four days a week. The program is at no cost to families and provides 1/3 of a child's daily nutritional requirement.



Enrollment

Funded Enrollment:

Early Head Start	90
Head Start	249

Average Monthly Enrollment:

Early Head Start	100%
Head Start	100%

Actual Enrollment:

Early Head Start	118
Head Start	291

Number of Families Served:

Early Head Start	91
Head Start	265

Enrollment by Eligibility:

Income Eligibility	333	81%
Over Income	17	4%
Receipt of Public Assistance	23	6%
Foster Children	8	2%
Homeless	30	7%

Enrollment by Ethnicity:

Hispanic or Latino Origin	68	17%
Non-Hispanic or Latino Origin	341	83%



Health Services

Health Insurance:

Children with Health Insurance	355	89%
Combined SCHIP/Medicaid	322	91%
Private Health Insurance	33	9%
Children without Health Insurance	45	11%

Medical Services:

Completed Dental Examinations (Head Start)	251	89%
Needed and Received Follow-up Treatment	27	
Completed Dental Screening (Early Head Start)	95	91%
Completed Physical Examination (Head Start 0-5)	267	95%
Needed and Received Follow-up Treatment	18	





Parent Engagement

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership 0-5 Head Start program encourages parents to be involved in all aspects of our program. Parents have the opportunity to attend Parent Meetings, Family Events, Parent Trainings, Policy Council and be involved in the classroom. Families enrolled in the Early Head Start program participate in weekly home visits that are 1½ hours while families participating in Head Start receive one home visit for approximately one hour in the families' homes each month. Our Family Advocates assist families with assessing their needs, accessing resources, setting goals for their child and family, and linking families with other community agencies.

At Blue Valley Community Action Partnership's Head Start program, we believe that parent and family engagement is essential to quality early care and education. Blue Valley Community Action's Head Start program is implementing the Parent, Family and Community Engagement Framework. This framework is designed to build ongoing partnerships between our program and the children's caring adults to promote family well-being and children's school readiness.

We have formed a Parent, Family, and Community Framework committee. This committee includes our Parent Involvement Officer, Health Assistant, Staff Development Officer, Staff Resource Manager, Teacher and two Family Advocates. The committee completed meetings throughout the year that included:

- Reviewing the seven Family Outcomes:
 - * Family Well-Being; Positive Parent-Child Relationships; Families as Lifelong Educators; Families as Learners; Family Engagement in Transitions; Family Connections to Peers and Community; and Families as Advocates and Leaders
 - * The committee identified areas of strengths and areas in which there is room for improvement.
- The goal for the committee is to:
 - * Set goals in the area of Family-Well Being
 - * Present all findings and goals to the Management Team
 - * Present the goals and plan of action to the Teachers, Teacher Aides, Cooks and Family Advocates



Helping People ... Changing Lives

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership is continuing to be dedicated to father and male involvement in the Head Start Program. We provide opportunities for fathers and male figures to become involved with and to strengthen the relationship with their child. These opportunities include:

- Sharing with mothers the importance of father or male involvement in their children's lives
- Encourage dad's participation in the home visits
- Donuts for Dads: inviting fathers and male figures to eat breakfast and participate in classroom activities
- Inviting fathers or male figures to come to socializations
- Sports Day: Fathers and male figures play games, do art projects, scavenger hunts and picnics
- Career Day: Fathers and male figures share information about their careers with the children
- Read Books: Fathers and male figures are invited to come read to the children
 - * If fathers or male figures cannot come to the center, they are given the opportunity to be videotaped reading a book that can be played during story time at the center.



Three hundred fifty-six families received Head Start 0-5 services in 2012-2013. Two hundred twenty-seven Head Start families and 81 Early Head Start families participated in the Family Partnership Agreement process, setting goals for their child and family. The following five areas were the most identified areas of need for families and areas in which services were received either through Blue Valley Community Action or another service agency.

1. Parenting Education	307 families
2. Health Education	302 families
3. Emergency/crisis intervention	137 families
4. Mental Health Services	57 families
5. Housing Assistance	33 families





Preparing Children for Kindergarten

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership's Head Start programs help to prepare children for kindergarten by getting parents involved in their child's education at an early age and by nurturing their overall development. Preschoolers are learning all of the time. They learn best through being active and having hands-on experiences.

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership's Early Head Start program uses Beautiful Beginnings and Parents as Teachers as its curriculum for prenatal women and children 0–3 in the Home Based Program. Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum GOLD is utilized to prepare children for kindergarten in five areas: Social Emotional Development, Physical Development, Cognitive Development, Approaches to Learning, and Language Development.



Blue Valley Community Action Partnership's Head Start program has actively collaborated with public schools within the service area to establish program goals for improving school readiness of children participating in the program. These goals align with the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework, State early learning standards and the requirements and expectations of the schools to the extent that they apply to the ages of children participating in the program. The following illustrates Blue Valley Community Action's School Readiness Goals and Outcomes:

READINESS GOALS FOR SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BVCA 0-3:

- Children will demonstrate responsive interactions and relationships with others.
- Children will begin to develop control over some feelings and behaviors.
- Children will begin to internalize some rules, routines and directions.

BVCA 3-5:

- Children will demonstrate healthy regulation of emotional expressions and behaviors.
- Children will establish and sustain positive relationships.
- Children will participate cooperatively and constructively in group settings at school, in the community, and with family.

READINESS GOALS FOR COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

BVCA 0-3:

- Children will begin to use math concepts in daily routines, including:
 - * shapes and their properties
 - * counting using one-to-one correspondence
 - * awareness of numbers and quantities up to 3
- Children will use their senses to explore and discover their surroundings, including:
 - * characteristics of living things (e.g. self, family, plants, animals)
 - * knowledge of physical properties of materials (e.g. shape, color, texture, sensory)
- Children will begin to connect new experiences with what they remember.

BVCA 3-5:

- Children will use number concepts and operations in daily routines including:
 - * identifying shapes, their properties, and how they are related to one another
 - * counting using one-to-one correspondence
 - * quantifying objects
 - * demonstrating knowledge of patterns
- Children will use scientific inquiry to gain understanding of their surroundings, including
 - * characteristics of living things (e.g. self, family, plants, animals)
 - * knowledge of physical properties of materials (e.g. shape, color, texture, sensory)
 - * children will demonstrate comprehension of their community, earth's environment and nature

READINESS GOALS FOR APPROACHES TO LEARNING

BVCA 0-3:

- Children will show an interest in varied topics and activities, desire to learn, creativeness, and persistence, independence in learning. Indicators of positive approaches include:
 - * attending, engaging, and persisting
 - * displaying creativity in the arts (music, movement, drama, art, play)
 - * solving problems
 - * curiosity and motivation
 - * flexibility and inventiveness

BVCA 3-5:

- Children will show an interest in varied topics and activities, desire to learn, creativeness, and independence in learning. Indicators of positive approaches include:
 - * attending, engaging and persisting
 - * displaying creativity in the arts (music, movement, drama, art, play)
 - * solving problems
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Helping People . . . Changing Lives

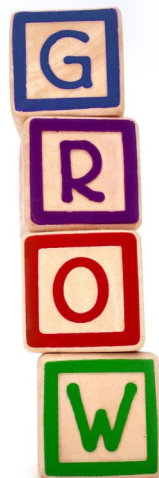
READINESS GOALS FOR LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

BVCA 0-3:

- Children will understand and use expressive language for conversations and communicating needs.
- Children will demonstrate phonological awareness by joining in rhyming songs, games and activities.
- Children will begin to identify and name letters common in their environment.
- Children will begin to learn and show how print works (books, environmental print, other text).
- Children will engage with stories, books, and environmental print, beginning to learn how pictures, symbols and print are used.
- Children will use scribble, shapes, pictures or emergent or pretend writing for purposeful representation of thoughts.
- English Language Learning children will demonstrate an increasing ability to comprehend and speak English, while maintaining their home/primary language.

BVCA 3-5:

- Children will comprehend and use expressive language for conversations and communicating needs.
- Children will demonstrate phonological awareness including discriminating rhymes and discriminating alliteration
- Children will identify and name letters.
- Children demonstrate knowledge of print and its uses (books, environmental print, other text).
- Children will use emergent writing skills in their daily routines and environment.
- English Language Learning children will demonstrate an increasing ability to comprehend and speak English, while maintaining their home/primary language.



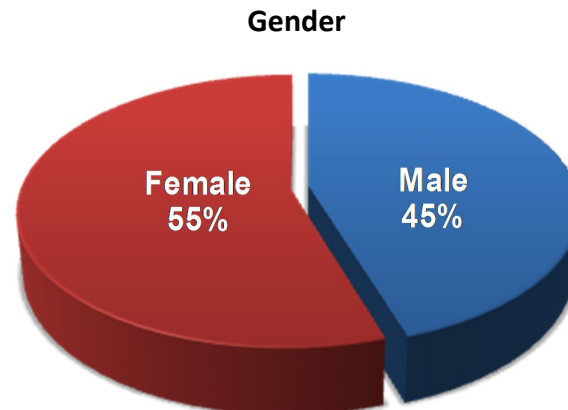
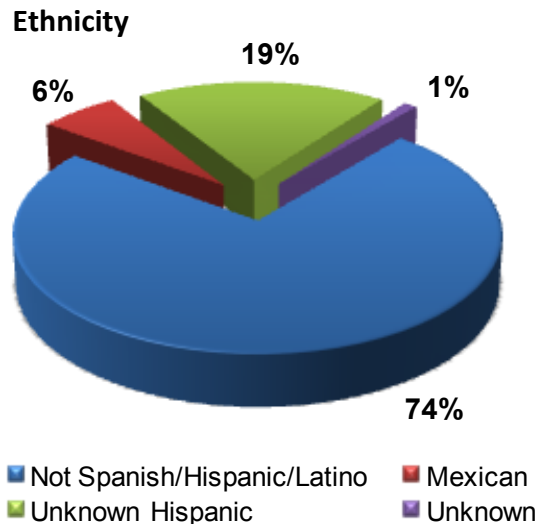
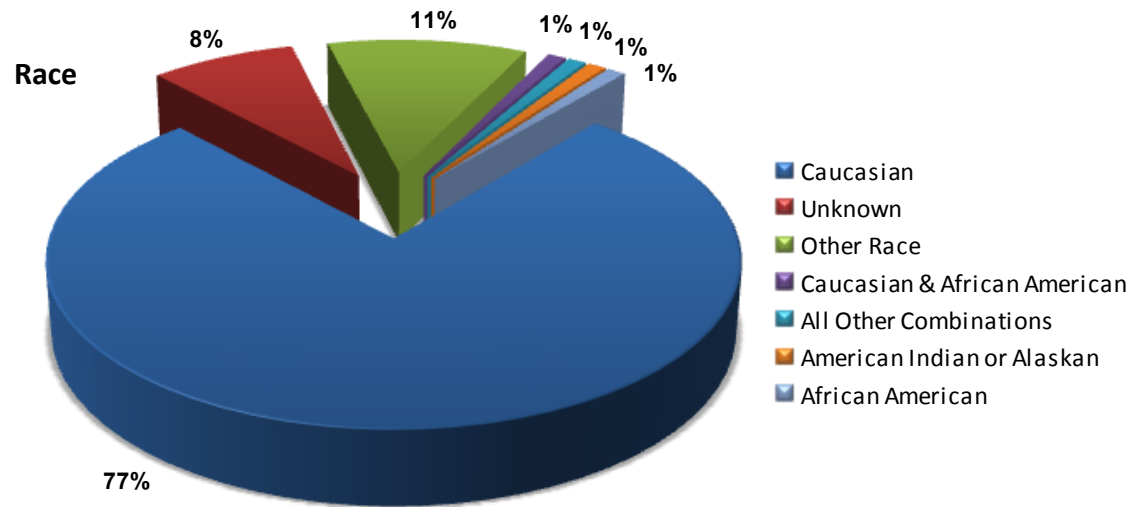
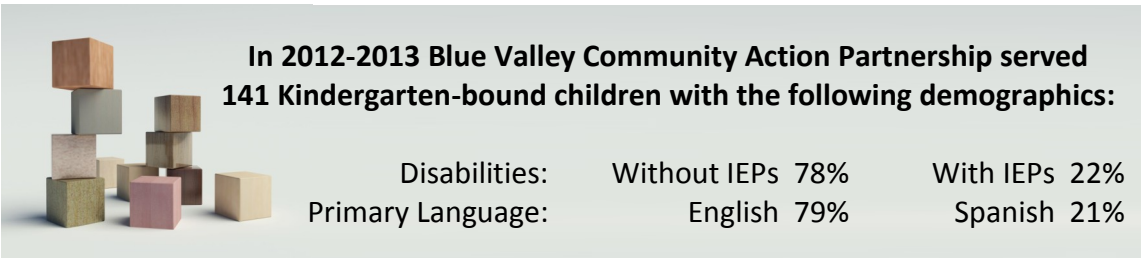
READINESS GOALS FOR PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

BVCA 0-3:

- Children will develop control of large muscles for movement, navigation and balance.
- Children will demonstrate coordination of small muscles by using hands and fingers to control objects and increase fine motor skills.
- Children will begin to identify and practice healthy and safe habits.

BVCA 3-5:

- Children will progress in traveling skills to move purposely in their environment and demonstrate more coordinated movements (such as balance, throwing, catching) in play and games
- Children will demonstrate control of small muscles for such purposes as using utensils, self care, building and exploring.
- Children will identify and practice healthy and safe habits.





Helping People . . . Changing Lives

OF KINDERGARTEN-BOUND CHILDREN OVER 95% MET OR EXCEEDED THE READINESS GOALS OF:



Healthy Emotions



Patterning



Alliteration



The Arts



Inventiveness



Cooperation



Scientific Inquiry



Balance/Traveling



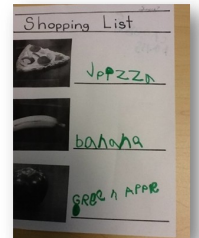
Social Studies



Print Knowledge



Physical Properties

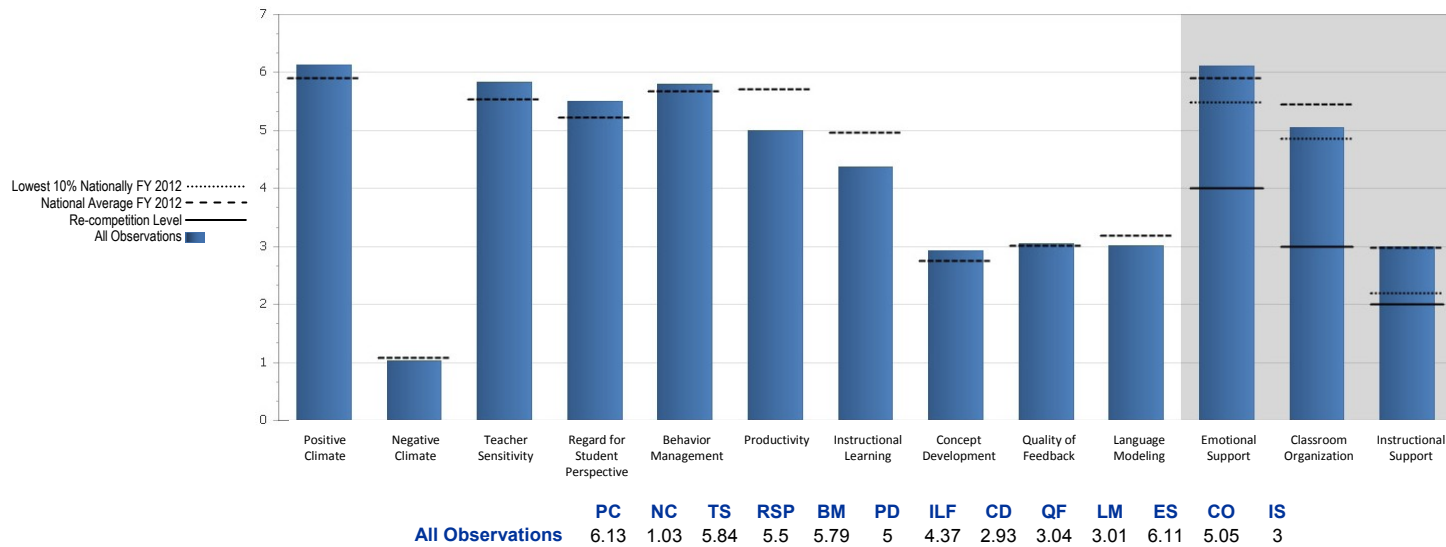


Letters

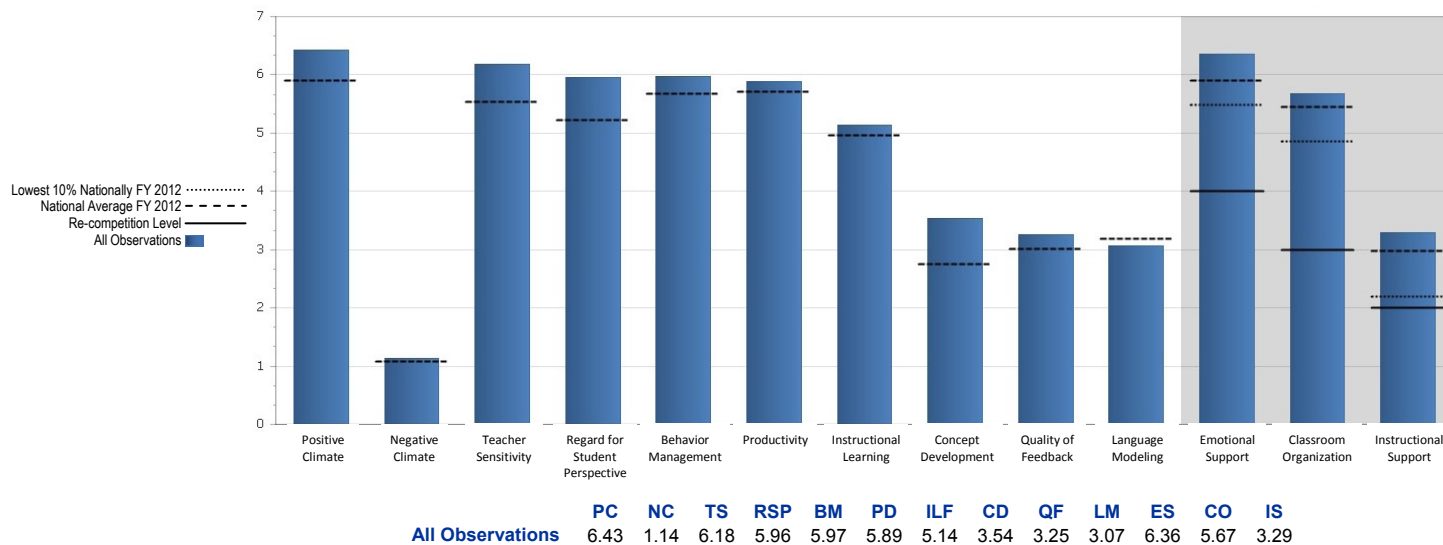
Classroom Assessment Scoring System



BVCA Partnership Head Start 2012-2013



BVCA Partnership Head Start 2013-2014





Federal Review

In March 2012, the Administration for Children and Families conducted an on-site monitoring review of Blue Valley Community Action Partnership's Head Start and Early Head Start programs. The Protocol utilized during the review measures seven areas of grantee performance and contains key indicators that are used to assess each grantee. Performance areas are centered around select Head Start Program Performance Standards, Head Start Act citations, and fiscal regulations. All performance areas include a series of key indicators, compliance measures, and targeted questions to consider that are used by the Monitoring Review Team to better evaluate each grantee.

Based on the information gathered the Head Start and Early Head Start program was found out of compliance in one area. The review team found that Blue Valley Community Action Partnership did not obtain a Federal Criminal Record Check (CRC) prior to hiring individuals within the mandated time frame. During the desk audit ACF reviewed a staff roster finding 10 new employees were hired since the March review. A review of the personnel records of the new employees was conducted by ACF in which they found each new employee had a CRC on file completed prior to date of hire. Blue Valley Community Action Partnership received a letter from the Administration for Children and Families on December 18, 2012 stating that no further corrective action is required and that the review was closed.

The Monitoring Review team also noted the follow areas of strength:

- Community Collaborations
- Knowledge and Understanding of Teaching Strategies GOLD
- Responsive to the scarcity of Mental Health Services



Agency Audit

The agency audit was completed by McDermott & Miller. The audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. It is the opinion of McDermott & Miller, that the financial statements referred to in the audit present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Blue Valley Community Action Partnership, as of September 30, 2013, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Funding and Budgets

HEAD START 0-5 BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2013

EXPENSES:

Salaries, Wages, Fringe Benefits	\$1,938,432.36
Contractual Services	\$95,506.35
Travel and Transportation	\$51,255.01
Insurance	\$45,534.35
Space and Other Rents	\$103,826.75
Supplies	\$104,758.16
Utilities	\$38,913.01
Equipment	\$0.00
Other Direct Costs	\$207,898.34
Indirect Costs	<u>\$424,554.67</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$3,010,679.00</u>

REVENUES:

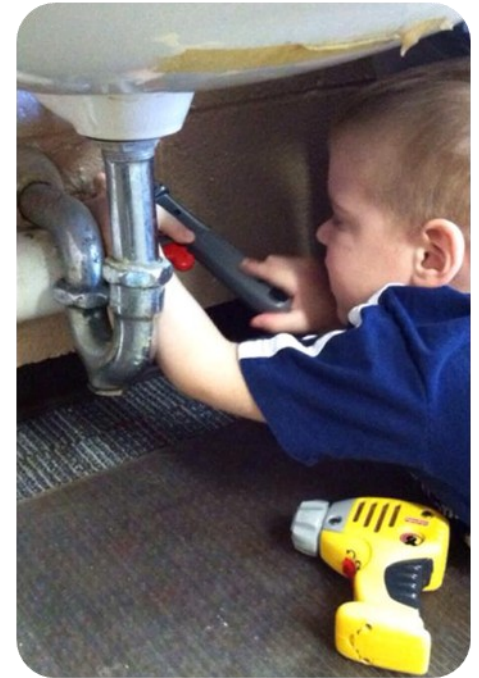
Federal Funds	\$3,010,679.00
Child & Adult Care Food Program	\$69,128.52
Non Federal Contributions	<u>\$764,072.76</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$3,843,880.28</u>

PROJECTED HEAD START 0-5 BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2013

EXPENSES:

Salaries, Wages, Fringe Benefits	\$1,904,536.00
Contractual Services	\$119,243.00
Travel and Transportation	\$35,198.00
Insurance	\$39,348.00
Space and Other Rents	\$92,460.00
Supplies	\$47,350.00
Utilities	\$30,924.00
Equipment	\$0.00
Other Direct Costs	\$160,831.00
Indirect Costs	<u>\$424,915.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$2,854,805.00</u>

NON FEDERAL MATCH: \$713,701.00





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CHILDREN SERVICES FIELD OFFICES



FILLMORE COUNTY HEAD START 0-5

1600 "I" STREET
 GENEVA NE 68361
 PHONE: (402) 759-3699
fillmorehs@bvca.net

GAGE COUNTY HEAD START 3-5

WYMORE CENTER
 517 NORTH 12TH STREET
 WYMORE NE 68466
 PHONE: (402) 645-3441
wymorehs@bvca.net

RISING STARS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

THAYER COUNTY 3-5
 335 EADS AVENUE
 HEBRON NE 68370
 PHONE: (402) 768-6727
thayerhs@bvca.net

GAGE COUNTY HEAD START 0-5

BEATRICE CENTER
 BEATRICE COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL
 5109 WEST SCOTT RD., SUITE 412
 BEATRICE NE 68310

HEAD START:
 PHONE: (402) 223-6035
beatricehs@bvca.net

Early Head Start:
 PHONE: (402) 223-6056
beatriceehs@bvca.net

SEWARD COUNTY HEAD START 3-5

459 SOUTH 6TH STREET, P.O. BOX 53
 SEWARD NE 68434
 PHONE: (402) 643-6272
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PRESCHOOL ACADEMY OF YORK P.L.A.Y.

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SALINE COUNTY HEAD START 0-5

Head Start:
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 CRETE NE 68333
 PHONE: (402) 826-5221
salinehs@bvca.net

Early Head Start:
 1540 Grove Street, P.O. Box 352
 Crete NE 68333
 PHONE: (402) 381-0057
salineehs@bvca.net

STEP AHEAD EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

JEFFERSON COUNTY 0-5
 1303 "B" STREET, P.O. BOX 403
 FAIRBURY NE 68352
 PHONE: (402) 729-2161
jeffersonhs@bvca.net

BLUE RIVER CHILDCARE & PRESCHOOL

325 EAST 9TH STREET
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