Episcopal Community Services

Head Start

ECS
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A delegate of Neighborhood House Association

ECS Head Start & Early Head Start

- Comprehensive child development programs serving children from birth to age 5, pregnant women, and their families
- Research-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum
- Overall goal: Increasing preschool & kindergarten readiness for young children from low-income families
- Provide services to over 2,000 children and their families each year
- Federally funded program
- Distance-learning 2020-2021

Parents as Partners

- Great focus is placed on working with parents/guardians to ensure child has best possible outcome
  - Parents are interviewed to identify any needs and to support their goals
  - Focus is on strengthening families by connecting them to community services
  - Work with them in ensuring their children are healthy and ready to learn

Parents are the child's 1st teacher

Program options

- Prenatal program
- Early Head Start (ages 0-3)
  - Home Based
  - Family Child Care
  - Center Based
- Head Start
  - Home Based
  - Center Based (half-days & full day)
  - Family Child Care
  - State preschool at St. John's
  - District Collaboration
    - (South Bay and San Ysidro)

Prenatal Services

- Weekly home visits: 1-on-1 visits with expectant client as well as partner or spouse
- Pregnant women receive information and support on all pregnancy related topics including breastfeeding, fetal development, postnatal health care, etc.
- Connect to community resources

Family Child Care

- Children receive child care and educational services in a safe nurturing mini center setting of the homes
- Providers currently in the areas of San Ysidro, Imperial Beach, South Bay San Diego, Chula Vista and National City

Home Based Program

- Follow *Parents as Teachers* curriculum to educate the parent on child development and to promote teaching opportunities in their natural environment
- One visit per week that lasts 1.5 hours
- Socializations twice a month
- Parent and home visitor reinforce the activities during regular home visits to ensure that child has a smooth transition to kindergarten

Center Based Programs

- Focus on school readiness goals
- Part of San Diego Quality Preschool Initiative
- *Creative Curriculum* is implemented to allow for individualization
- Screening Tools: ASQ-3 & ASQ-SE
- Assessments include: DRDP 2015
- Teachers also conduct Home Visits and Parent Teacher conferences twice a year
- Learning Genie is a tool to facilitate and individualization

Health Program Services

- Health Requirements:
  - Immunizations (2 MMR, 2 Varicella prior to entering Tk/ PreK) Child must be current/ complete or have Medical Exemptions
  - Individual Health Plans (medications or for specific health needs at school)
  - Lead and Tuberculosis Risk Assessments
  - Oral Health Assessment
  - Medical Assessments based on AAP/ Bright Futures Periodicity Table
- Additional Health/ Nutrition areas we oversee:
  - Specific health concerns such as anemia, low-high BMI, vision, allergies, etc.
  - Special Meals and Accommodations

Video of our 2020-2021 services

Family Engagement Center

- A safe space for families that offers resources, activities and events all focused on strengthening Head Start families.
- All Head Start families are invited to participate. They obtain the calendar of events or flyers from staff at their respective center.
- In addition, the space is used for other agency needs.

New location for our Family Engagement Center

310 3rd Avenue, Chula Vista 91910
C-11 & C-14

Planned activities once we open:

- Para Las Familias will be meeting with families
- Application assistance for our program
- Space for workshops or presentations- virtual and in-person
- Parent-child activities for our ECS Head Start families.

Current goal is to be better known in the community

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