

# Kennebec Valley Community Action Program Child & Family Services

Head Start

Early Head Start

Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships



## Annual Report

2019-2020





## Contents

Introduction .....	2
School Readiness.....	3
Classroom Scoring Assessment System .....	4
Family Engagement.....	5
Program Highlights.....	6
External and Internal Audits and Reviews .....	7
Child & Family Services - Revenue & Expenses.....	8
Staff Qualifications .....	9
Site Locations 2020-2021 .....	10

**Vision:** To ensure every child arrives at school healthy and ready to succeed.

**Mission:** Through an integrated approach, provide each child with the high quality early care and education that honors her/his unique characteristics and promotes the development of social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills essential for a healthy, successful, and productive life. Child Development Services is an integral partner in delivery of service in all settings.



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## Greetings!


In January of 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared The War on Poverty in his State of the Union speech. Shortly thereafter, Sargent Shriver took the lead in assembling a panel of experts to develop a comprehensive child development program that would help communities meet the needs of disadvantaged preschool children. This was the birth of Head Start, which was also one of Kennebec Valley Community Action Program's first programs!

We are proud of the many accomplishments in the Child & Family Services Department, including high quality Early/Head Start collaborations with public schools and with providers in the communities we serve. Thousands of children and families have received high quality, comprehensive services and supports in northern Kennebec and Somerset Counties over the past 55 years.

The Board of Directors and KVCAP's Senior Management Team know that this agency's success is due to the hard work and excellent skills of dedicated staff, as well as guidance from the Policy Council. Working together, we help create lasting change and a brighter future for children, families and individuals in our communities. We all win when we work together to build systems and services that help children be successful in school and life, our families to become financially stable, and people to make healthy choices.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to KVCAP's mission and for your support for children, families and communities as we continue our *War on Poverty!*

With gratitude,



**Suzanne Walsh,**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Tracie Fortin,**  
Chief Operating Officer,  
Child & Family Services



# School Readiness

KVCAP's School Readiness Plan includes indicators in each of the development areas comprising the Head Start Child Development and Learning Framework and outlines the essential areas of learning and development for children. This Framework serves as a lens for analyzing data in order to understand child progress and to identify areas that need additional resources and attention.

Child outcomes are measured through authentic assessment practices and the collection of documentation that illustrates what children know and are able to do in areas key to future success. Throughout the pandemic we have been working with families to assure children have opportunities to practice building positive social skills and taking appropriate actions to meet their needs.

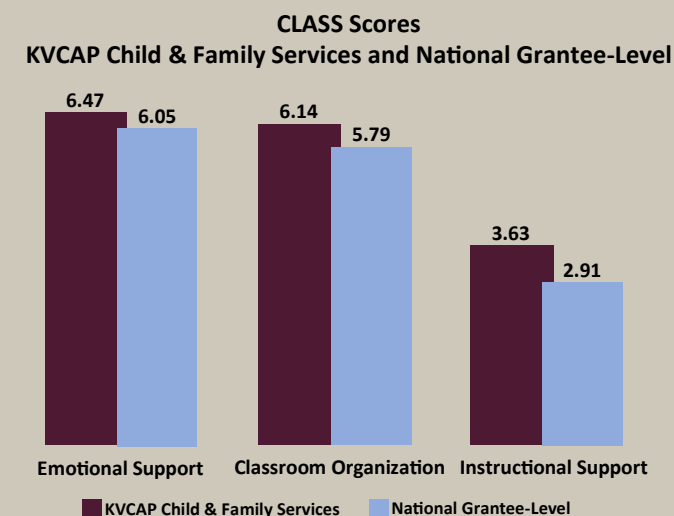
Our focus areas include:

- The implementation of Conscious Discipline, a comprehensive emotional intelligence and classroom management system that integrates all domains of learning (social, emotional, physical, cultural and cognitive) into one seamless curriculum.
- Health and Safety practices focusing on hygiene and following COVID-19 protocols.
- Finding new and creative ways to keep families engaged virtually and in-person. Remote learning platforms have been used as methods to engage remote learners in participating in curriculum activities, and opportunities for virtual social interaction with peers.
- Building a strong infrastructure for Technical Assistance supports through mentoring groups and coaching.



## Classroom Assessment Scoring System

The **Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)** is a system for observing and assessing the quality of interactions between teachers and children in preschool classrooms. The CLASS examines social-emotional and instructional interactions that contribute to children's social competence and academic achievement. The CLASS measures: (1) Emotional Support, (2) Classroom Organization, and (3) Instructional Support.



### CLASS Dimensions

**Instructional Support**  
Concept Development  
Quality of Feedback  
Language Modeling

**Classroom Organization**  
Behavior Management  
Productivity  
Instructional Learning Formats

**Emotional Support**  
Positive Climate  
Negative Climate  
Teacher Sensitivity  
Regard for Child Perspective



# Parent, Family and Community Engagement

Developing partnerships with families is the cornerstone of service delivery. The program promotes the involvement of the whole family and coordinates specific activities to encourage male involvement. The following are a sampling of areas of assistance and involvement opportunities.

### Program

- Decision Making
- Program Planning and Evaluation
- Policy Council
- Parent Committees
- Curriculum Planning

### Parent Education

- Training Opportunities
- Conscious Discipline Training
- Relationship Building
- Career Counseling Services

### Family Support

- Goal Setting
- Housing Assistance
- Mental Health/Health Services
- Emergency Assistance
- Substance Abuse Services
- Home Visits
- Referrals



## Summary of the 2020 Family Survey Results:

- 99% of families feel they have the opportunity to discuss their children’s learning and development.
- 97% of families feel their child’s progress is shared in language they understand and in ways that are respectful to them and their family.
- 97% of families feel their contributions are valued by program staff/providers.
- 99% of families feel they are comfortable when they have concerns letting staff/providers know and working together to find a solution that works for both family and staff.
- 98% of parents are comfortable recommending the program to others.
- 98% of families feel their input helped teachers/providers individualize for their child(ren).
- 99% of families feel staff respond in a timely matter if they need to discuss something.

Program Highlights		
Attendance	Head Start/ Early Head Start	Early Head Start- Child Care Partnerships
Average daily attendance	87%	82%
Average monthly enrollment	97%	88%
Total funded enrollment	313	100
Eligible Children Served* <small>*Income &lt;Federal Poverty Guidelines and Categorically eligible</small>	82%	80%
Number of homeless families served	19	6
Number of nutritious meals and snacks prepared/served <small>(Additional meals/snacks served at partner locations through contractual agreement)</small>	44,892	14,012
Child Health Attendance	Head Start/ Early Head Start	Early Head Start- Child Care Partnerships
Newly enrolled children with developmental assessment within 45 days	93%	75%
Children who accessed ongoing, continuous and preventive dental care	88%	66%
Children up-to-date on immunizations	78%	74%
Children up-to-date on EPSDT <small>(Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment)</small>	63%	56%
Children who had access to ongoing, preventive and acute medical care	99%	99%
Child Disability Services	Head Start/ Early Head Start	Early Head Start- Child Care Partnerships
Children with a diagnosed disability	24%	5%
Number of children with an Individualized Education Plan/Individualized Family Service Plan	29	7
Ethnicity/Race		
White		84%
Other/Unspecified		9%
Multi/Bi-racial		7%

\*Additional partnership enrolled children not included in this Head Start report.





### Independent Audit Report

The Independent Audit Report was completed by One River, Certified Public Accountants for the year ending September 30, 2019. The reports required by *Government Auditing Standards* and *Uniform Guidance* did not contain any findings. The report required by *Maine Uniform Accounting and Auditing Practices for Community Agencies* also contained no findings to the Child & Family Services program.

### Self Assessment & Community Assessment

An annual self-assessment is completed as a part of the programs internal ongoing monitoring process (February 2020). Staff, community partners and parents use a variety of tools and methods to determine the effectiveness of the program’s service delivery system in all content areas. Program goals are developed with an accompanying Training and Technical Assistance plan to continue to enhance staff skills and improve quality. KVCAP’s full Community Assessment can be found by visiting [www.kvcap.org](http://www.kvcap.org).

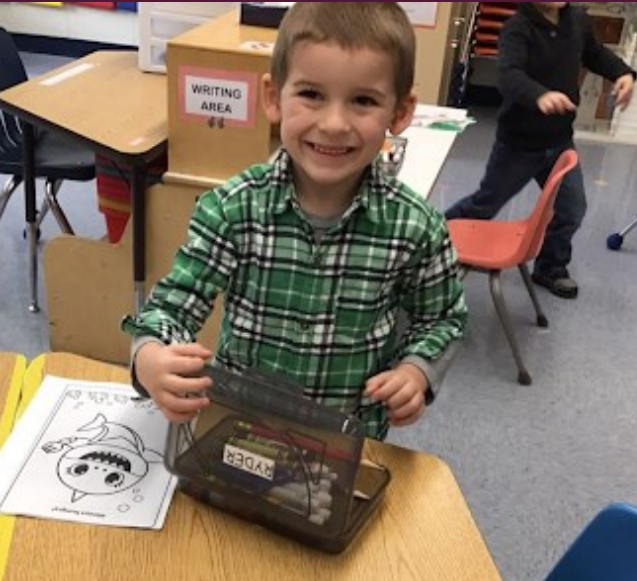
### Federal Monitoring Review

The Office of Head Start uses the Head Start Monitoring System to measure the performance and accountability of Head Start programs across the country, assessing grantee compliance with the Head Start Performance Standards, the Head Start Act, and other regulations. The Aligned Monitoring System will provide the Office of Head Start with the performance data needed by year four of the five-year grant cycle. The data is used to determine whether the grantee will need to compete for further Head Start funding according to the Designation Renewal System.

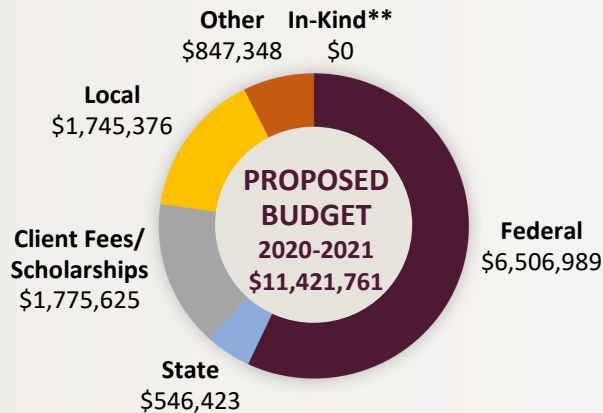
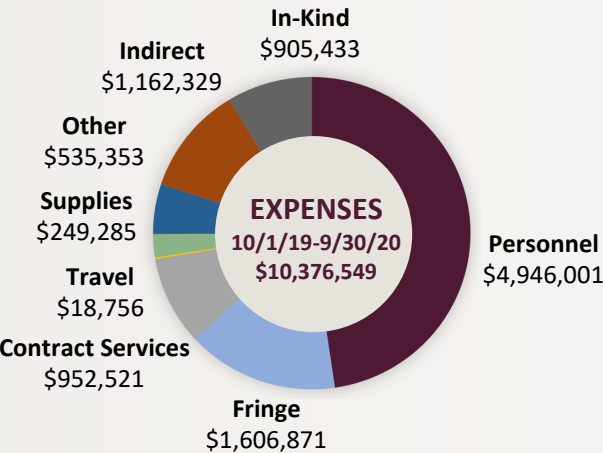
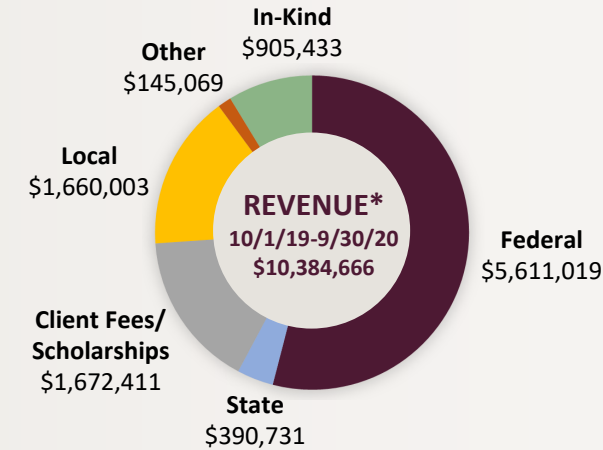
The federal monitoring review is conducted in three parts:

- Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)
- Focus Area One: Understanding the Approach to Program Services
- Focus Area Two: Understanding Performance for Continuous Program Improvement

Kennebec Valley Community Action Program was fully compliant in its last federal monitoring Focus Area 1 review (January 2020).



## Revenue & Expenditures



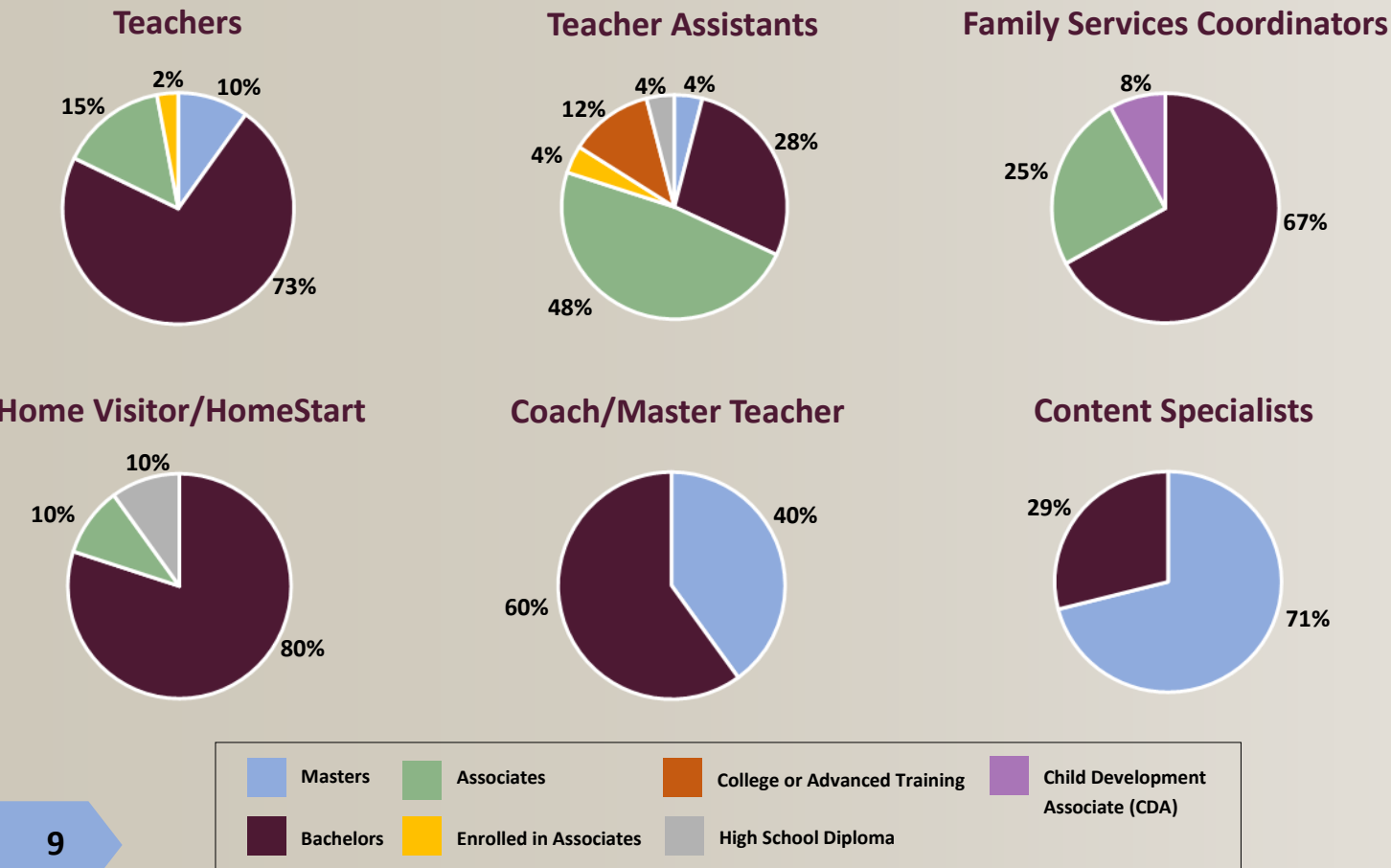
\*Excludes COVID Payment Protection Program  
 \*\*Non-Federal Match waived due to COVID-19





# Staff Qualifications

We value our highly trained staff! Professional Development is a major focus within Child & Family Services. Staff discuss professional development needs during his/her orientation period, and reviews/ revises this plan as part of his/her annual evaluation process for continuous improvement.



# 2020-2021 Child & Family Services Locations

## Child Care and Preschool Locations

<b>Albion Preschool</b> Albion Elementary School 20 School Street Albion, ME 04901 (207) 437-2616	<b>Educare Central Maine Child Care and Preschool</b> 56 Drummond Avenue Waterville, ME 04901 (207) 680-7200	<b>Skowhegan Early Head Start Child Care</b> 130 Academy Circle Skowhegan, ME 04976 (207) 858-1453
<b>Anson Preschool</b> Garret Schenck Elementary School 19 Ken Taylor Avenue Anson, ME 04911 (207) 696-3753	<b>Fairfield Preschool</b> Fairfield Primary School 63 High Street Fairfield, ME 04937 (207) 453-4220 x330	<b>Solon Preschool</b> Solon Elementary School 76 South Main Street Solon, ME 04979 (207) 643-2491
<b>Canaan Preschool</b> Canaan Elementary School 178 Main Street Canaan, ME 04924 (207) 474-3901	<b>Mill Stream Preschool</b> Mill Stream Elementary School 26 Mercer Road Norridgewock, ME 04957 (207) 858-1400	<b>Somerset Preschool</b> Somerset Elementary School 45 Blake Street Hartland, ME 04943 (207) 938-4770
<b>Clinton Preschool</b> Clinton Elementary School 75 Morrison Avenue Clinton, ME 04927 (207) 426-2181	<b>North Elementary Preschool</b> North Elementary School 33 Jewett Street Skowhegan, ME 04976 (207) 458-4372	

## Family Child Care and Center-Based Partner Locations

For more information about partner locations, please call (207) 859-1599

<b>100 Acre Wood Day Care</b> Dexter, ME	<b>Emme’s Caring and Sharing Child Care</b> Waterville, ME	<b>Learning Play Center</b> Waterville, ME
<b>100 Acre Wood Two</b> Dexter, ME	<b>Grins N’ Giggles Child Care</b> Cornville, ME	<b>Otter Brook Child Care</b> Fairfield, ME
<b>Bouncing Bubbles Child Care</b> Skowhegan, ME	<b>Happy Days Childcare and Learning Center</b> Winslow, ME	<b>Penquis</b> Bangor, ME
<b>D’s Daycare</b> Skowhegan, ME	<b>Home Away From Home Family Daycare</b> Dover-Foxcroft, ME	<b>Quimby Child Care Center</b> Norridgewock, ME
<b>Darlene’s Day Care</b> Pittsfield, ME	<b>Kiddie Kape Day Care</b> Dover-Foxcroft, ME	<b>Southern Kennebec Child Development Center</b> Farmingdale, ME

## Home Visiting

Home Visiting is provided throughout northern Kennebec and Somerset Counties. For more information, please call (207) 859-1652.



## Child & Family Services

101 Water Street, Waterville ME 04901 | (207) 859-1599 | [www.kvcap.org](http://www.kvcap.org)

