Jefferson Davis, Louisiana
HEAD START
ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019 School Year Results
Reflections from Our Director

Dear Friends,

The Save the Children Head Start Program has been serving low income children and their families in Jefferson Davis Parish since 2012. We are committed to making a difference in the lives of children and strive to serve the most vulnerable and at-risk children and their families in our community including children who are experiencing homelessness, in foster care, and with special needs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful groups of parents who serve on committees and Policy Council, our staff who remain focused and motivated, our many community partners, school district, and other contributors for their expertise, guidance and continuous support. It takes all of us working together to provide high-quality, early learning services to children, equipping them with the foundation for lifelong learning and success.

Head Start is recognized as a model preschool program for addressing the needs of the whole child. In every Save the Children Head Start classroom we individualize the mental, social, and emotional development of each child in our care. Most importantly, we support the role of parents as their child’s first and most important teacher.

We believe that in partnership with parents we share a common purpose: meeting children where they are in life to ensure their success in school and all other aspects of life. We treat each person with respect; dignity; kindness, and; compassion, customizing services to meet individual needs. We build relationships that motivate people to create and sustain positive changes in their own lives.

Proud of our accomplishments and want to share them with you. Please take time to learn about the great work we are doing for children and families in Jefferson Davis Parish.

Sincerely,

Johnnie Belle Chavis

Johnnie Belle Chavis
Save the Children Head Start Program Director
Jefferson Davis, Louisiana
ichavis@savechildren.org

Management Team
Johnnie Belle Chavis, Program Director
Cynthia Arceneaux/Kinta Grayson, Health/Nutrition Specialist
Gwennette Bellard, Education/ Mental Health Manager
Gloria Joseph, Human Resources Manager
Candice Gladney, Human Resource Specialist
Kimberly Beverly, Data Specialist
Patricia Dufrene, Disabilities Specialist
Shondale Talbert, Facilities/Transportation Manager
Terry Fontenot, Parent, Family, Community Engagement Manager
Kelia Coleman, Parent, Family, Community Engagement Specialist

About Louisiana Head Start
Head Start Annual Report

In July 2012, Save the Children was awarded $1,287,345 in base and technical assistance funds to serve 182 children in a Head Start center-based program in the parish of Jefferson Davis in Southwestern Louisiana. Area demographics show that there are about 802 children five years and under living at or below poverty in this parish. There are high rates of poverty, (especially child poverty) lack of education, teen births, obesity and infant mortality.

Program highlights:

• 80% of Head Start Teachers has B.S. degrees or higher
• 20% of Head Start Teachers has an Associates degree
• 100% of Head Start Assistant Teachers has a Child Development Associates or higher
• 100% of our Teachers and Teacher Assistants have the LA state ancillary teaching certificate
• 100% of our Family Services Coordinators has a Family Services Credential or higher
• An average of 265 volunteers helped achieve Non-Federal Match

Service Area Map showing both Jennings and Elton Centers within our Louisiana Jefferson Davis Head Start program

Save the Children Head Start Jeff Davis, LA
BY THE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Centers</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Children &amp; Families Served</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children with Disabilities Served</td>
<td>18/10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children who are transported by Save the Children buses</td>
<td>90/79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Eligible Children Served</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Local Head Start Staff</td>
<td>42</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Save the Children prides itself of leading Head Start programs that are two-generational, serving children and parents alike. During the 2018-19 school year, we:

• Partnered with families as they completed Family Needs Assessments, and helped families identify and access resources to meet family goals
• Adopted the Center for Social and Emotional Framework for Early Learning (CSEFEL) parenting curriculum
• Community, State, and Regional Speakers were invited to provide learning sessions on a variety of topics at parent meetings and events
• Families built their knowledge through attending educational/health fairs that the program conducted to link families to local resource agencies.
• The program will provide more opportunities this program year for families to engage in program events like Mother/Daughter Tea, Father/Daughter Sweetheart luncheon, Mother/Son Brunch, Father/Son Cook Off, and others.

Health Data

| Number of children with an ongoing source of continuous, accessible health care | 99% |
| Number of children with continuous, accessible dental care provided by a dentist | 99% |
| Children Who Received Medical Exams | 168 |
| Children Who Received Dental Exams | 139 |

PRE-KINDERGARTEN KINDERGARTEN READINESS

Save the Children Head Start Jeff Davis Parish’s approach to School Readiness means that children are ready for pre-kindergarten, families are ready to support...
their children’s learning, and the pre-kindergarten programs are ready for the children.

Save the Children Head Start created School Readiness Goals for Families to assist parents in ensuring that their children are prepared for Pre-Kindergarten.

The format of our Plan is based on the five central domains of the Head Start Early Learning Framework (ELOF), and Louisiana Birth to Five Early learning and Development Standards (ELDS).

This plan focuses our efforts on ensuring children are kindergarten-ready by the end of the Head Start program year. We will support children’s learning and progress toward achieving these School Readiness goals!

**School Readiness Goals**

**Language and Literacy** - Children will demonstrate receptive and expressive language skills and communication in their home language. Identifies and names people, animals, and objects when prompted; follow simple requests, accompanied by gestures or not; uses one or two word sentences or phrases; and initiates and attends to brief conversations.

**Cognition** - Children will be able to show multiple ways to solve problems and use their senses to investigate their environment; applies knowledge to new situations; children will engage in exploring their environment through observation, manipulation, making predictions, classifying, comparisons and communicating their findings to others.

**Approaches to Learning** - Children will be able to express themselves through engaging with others; uses imitation or pretend play to express creativity and imagination.

**Physical and Motor Development** - Children will develop control of small muscles for manipulation and exploration: Controls small muscles in hands when doing simple tasks.

**Social and Emotional Development** - Children will be able to show an increasing ability to manage their own emotions and behaviors; begin to understand safe and unsafe behavior; understands simple routines, rules or limitations; shows confidence in increasing abilities; and develops awareness of self as separate from others.

The Head Start program made an effort to prepare students and their families for kindergarten by conducting Transition meetings during the end of January and the beginning of February 2019. The goal of these meetings was to share with parents the necessary requirements for enrolling their child in kindergarten. Parents learned about their responsibilities for registering their child for kindergarten at the Transition meetings. Children engaged in a transition day event in Jeff Davis parish where they spent 2.5 hours in a kindergarten classroom. Each student took home with a “Summer Transition Packet”. This packet was designed to assist with the transition from Head Start to the kindergarten classroom. It also provided information and strategies for parents to utilize with the students during the summer months. The goal of the “Summer Transition Packet” is to support parents in continuing to assist their children with the transition to kindergarten. Here are just some of the ways we helped both children and families prepare for kindergarten.

Families of students enrolling their child at Save the Children’s Jefferson Davis Head Start Program at the beginning of the school year, or at other times during the year, were provided with a packet of information about the Head Start program which includes a copy of the parent handbook. In addition, parents attended orientation, open house, school readiness meeting, curriculum trainings, parent conferences, and other trainings. Families were given the opportunity to visit the classrooms, meet administrators, the family engagement specialists, and other staff involved with students to ask about the program and the curriculum.

- **TS GOLD growth summary as of Spring 2019 showed children meeting or exceeding expectations across domains.** The data shows 75% of children meeting or above the growth range in the physical area of development, 74% in Social Emotional, 74% in Cognitive, 76% in Mathematics, 85% in Literacy and Language domains.
• **18 children received special needs services during the year.** 18 Head Start children with disabilities had an IEP and received therapy services in their center to promote learning and development. IEP goals are a part of the weekly lesson plan so individual learning occurs every day.

• **Families engaged in reading to their children at home during the program year.** Every family in our program this year signed up for our Raising a Reader program. In this program each child brings a backpack home with 4 books each week. Parents sign that they read books to children and completed an activity with their child. In addition, we have a book of the month and use books for parent events; which enabled each child to have an at home library of 32 books each.

staff training needs are identified and addressed throughout the year. In addition to professional development, appropriate monitoring practices, including classroom observation of education staff, provide opportunities for coaching. This offers opportunities to guide and support teachers to become more proficient classroom teachers.

Another important goal is to maximize each child's learning potential to become life-long learners. This involves not only helping each child love to learn, but also helping every child to be physically, emotionally and socially ready to learn. In order for our teachers to be successful in helping children love to learn, we have to empower parents to be their child’s first teacher. This involves helping parents understand and learn how to be an advocate for their child, be a partner with their child's teacher and be willing to promote and encourage their child to learn. Children have a higher potential to become life-long learners when their parents support and promote learning at home and school.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Building upon a successful 2018-19 school year, Save the Children Head Start Jeff Davis Parish continues to make School Readiness our primary goal to ensure that children are ready for kindergarten.

Promoting staff development is an essential part of successful classroom learning. Staff training and professional development plays a key role in the strategic plan for education services. We ensure that
FINANCIALS
In 2018, the Jefferson Davis Head Start program received $1.896 million, mostly in public funds and gift-in-kind donations. The majority of funds in 2018 – approximately $1.34M, or 71 percent – were used for Personnel costs, with the remainder of funds used for facilities, supplies, or other program implementation costs.

SOURCES OF FUNDING

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts in Kind</td>
<td>$12,185</td>
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<td>Private Funds</td>
<td>$135,879</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>$6,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>$1,741,570</td>
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Total Budget: $1.896M

FY18 BUDGETARY EXPENDITURES

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies, Transportation and Implementation</td>
<td>$285,410</td>
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<td>Office and Facilities</td>
<td>$266,916</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Other</td>
<td>$5,623</td>
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SECRETARY REVIEW & FINANCIAL AUDIT RESULTS
Save the Children’s Head Start programs are included in the annual Save the Children A-133 Audit. There were no findings related to Head Start in the audit for fiscal year ending 2017 and 2018.

Save the Children Head Start Jeff Davis program had two Office of Head Start reviews during the program year of 2018-2019:

1. CLASS®
CLASS® observations were conducted in our preschool center-based classrooms using the Pre-K Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®). The CLASS® tool looks at three domains and ten dimensions of teacher-child interactions and measures those observed interactions on a seven-point scale. Below are our scores

**DOMAIN Score**
- Emotional Support 6.0139
- Classroom Organization 5.9815
- Instructional Support 3.0370

**DIMENSIONS**
- Positive Climate 5.94
- Behavior Management 6.17
- Productivity 6.11
- Quality of Feedback 3.33
- Concept Development 2.39
- Teacher Sensitivity 5.94
- Regard for Student Perspectives 5.22
- Negative Climate® 1.06
- Language Modeling 3.39
- Instructional Learning Formats 5.67
2. Focus Area Two (FA2) Monitoring Review, which is a review of the grantee’s performance and compliance with the requirements of the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) or Public Law 110-134, Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007. Note: We had five (5) areas of non-compliance and two (2) areas of deficiency. We have completed a corrective action plan to address all areas of non-compliance and deficiency.

PROPOSED FY19 BUDGET
Our projected FY19 budget is $2.13 million, an increase due to COLA (cost-of-living adjustment) funds that were awarded, as well as carrying large projects into 2019 from the previous year. Below is the allocation breakdown for the type of funding on the left and the cost category on the right.

SOURCES OF FUNDING

FY19 PROJECTED EXPENDITURES

- Gifts In Kind
- Public
- Undesignated

- All Other
- Office and Facilities
- Personnel
- Supplies, Transportation, and Implementation

$1,956,151
$166,377
$10,230

$1,361,342
$528,641
$84,814
$157,960
Save the Children Head Start Jefferson Davis Parish Sites

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration Office/Jennings Center</td>
<td>306 South Lake Arthur Ave.</td>
<td>Jennings</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>70546</td>
<td>(337) 616-9556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elton Center</td>
<td>209 Al Woods Street</td>
<td>Elton</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>70532</td>
<td>(337) 584-3015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Ward Elementary</td>
<td>208 Shankland Ave.</td>
<td>Jennings</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>705446</td>
<td>Dual partner</td>
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Save the Children’s Commitment to Head Start

Every child deserves the best chance for a bright future. That is why, for nearly 100 years, Save the Children has been working in the United States and around the world to keep children healthy, educated and safe. We deliver lasting results for millions of children, including those hardest to reach. Here at home, that means focusing our efforts on serving children in rural America. From our earliest days in Appalachia to the present, Save the Children is committed to meeting children’s needs, going where others cannot, filling critical gaps in services and delivering scalable solutions to the challenges children face.

In 2011, Save the Children identified a failing Head Start program in eastern Arkansas with no viable local providers. In that absence, Save the Children applied for and was awarded our first Head Start grant. Since then, we have been awarded additional grants and currently operate Head Start and Early Head Start programs in rural communities in four states: Arkansas, Louisiana (3), North Carolina and North Dakota.

Questions about Save the Children’s work in Jefferson Davis Parish be directed to Johnnie Belle Chavis by email at jchavis@savechildren.org or by phone at (337) 616-9556 ext. 101. Khari Garvin serves as the Executive Director of Save the Children Head Start Programs and can be reached at kgarvin@savechildren.org.