




2017 ANNUAL
REPORT TO THE
COMMUNITY



Enrichment
Services Program, Inc.
A Community Action Agency



Economic Impact: Identifying and removing barriers to achieve family stability and promote interdependency.



ESP is committed to increasing the awareness of the impact of poverty and implementing strategies for reducing it. We are dedicated to identifying and removing barriers to achieve family stability and promote interdependency. Turning hope into reality, ESP motivates residents toward a desirable future and encourages them to become a healthy contributor to the life of our community.

IMPACTING THE COMMUNITY

Dear Community:

Our 2016-2017 fiscal year was an extraordinary year. The launch of Columbus 2025 by the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce gave us an opportunity to reflect on our economic and long-term impact in the Chattahoochee Valley Region. The initiative focuses on increasing prosperity, reducing poverty and improving the overall quality of life in the region. These areas aligned perfectly with our work and vision of eliminating systemic poverty.

In 2016-2017, many goals were accomplished. Specifically, we completed one of our three-year goals. In 2014, our Board of Directors committed to move 500 families toward and 15 families to self-sufficiency. As defined by our organization, self-sufficiency is the ability to meet one's basic needs without private or public assistance. At the end of our fiscal year, we moved 770 families toward self-sufficiency and 17 families to complete self-sufficiency.

Additionally, we continued the path of being a model agency and providing high quality well-rounded educational services to the youngest members of our community... our children! This path included the assurance that our Child Development Centers in Georgia would become recognized as Quality Rated Centers through Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL). The program assigns one, two or three stars to early education and school-age care programs that meet or exceed the minimum state requirements. At the end of 2016-2017, five of our Child Development Centers became Quality Rated centers.

During 2016-2017, we expanded our Employment Training service to meet job demands in our region and help more individuals move into the workforce and earn living wages. We began offering scholarships to individuals interested in receiving their commercial driver's license (CDL) or becoming facility maintenance technicians. Through our partnerships, we helped 40 individuals gain credentials to move into the workforce.

Our success this past fiscal year is a reflection of strong board leadership, dedicated staff and committed stakeholders. We hope that you will continue to support and work with us in creating hope for a brighter future for children and families in the Chattahoochee Valley.

John Peebles
Chairperson, Board of Directors

Belva Dorsey
CEO



ENRICHMENT SERVICES PROGRAM, INC. (ESP)

VISION

Eliminate Systemic Poverty

MISSION

Eliminate poverty through education, services and partnerships.

VISION FOR INDIVIDUALS:

All individuals and families in the Chattahoochee Valley Region have a voice, are valuable community contributors, and have the resources needed to be healthy and self-sufficient.

VISION FOR THE COMMUNITY:

Communities in the Chattahoochee Valley Region are safe, produce economic growth, provide an abundance of opportunities, and strive for ongoing improvement.

VISION FOR THE AGENCY:

Enrichment Services Program, Inc. is a national leader and a model in ending systemic poverty.

We are an organization based on:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Teamwork
- Excellence
- Diversity
- Hope
- Dedication
- Compassion
- Continuous Improvement

LONG RANGE GOALS:

Education – Develop community capacity to ensure all children receive a high quality well-rounded education and individuals and families receive educational services that lead to good health and self-sufficiency.

Self-Sufficiency – Expand community and agency capacity to ensure families and individuals are mentally (intellectually), physically, emotionally, and financially stable.

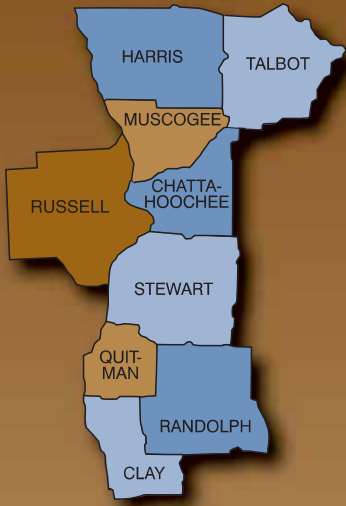
Basic Needs – Build community coalitions which address the basic needs of residents.

Agency – Establish ESP as a recognized national leader and a model to end systemic poverty.

“Prior to coming to ESP, I had just gone through a divorce and was having a hard time making ends meet. I really needed support adjusting to my new life. ESP was my support system. They provided a safe place for my youngest daughter to learn through their Head Start Program. My Family Service Worker worked with me one-on-one. She connected me to other resources and services at ESP and in the community, like Section 8 and SNAP. My weekly check-ins with my Family Service Worker kept me motivated, focused and inspired. Now, nearly a year in the program, I have a full-time job and a stable income. I’m no longer receiving outside assistance and in the process of becoming a home owner. ESP’s support has made this possible for me and my family.”

– Ms. Dunning,
ESP Customer





2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kim Cantrell, Chair/Finance Committee Chair	Muscogee County
John Peebles, Chair-Elect/Vice Chair/ Advancement Committee Chair	Muscogee County
Frederick Wolf, 1st Vice Chair	Muscogee County
LaChandra Brundage, Secretary	Harris County
Savonne Monell, Assistant Secretary/ Governance Committee Chair	Muscogee County
Ralph Huling, Immediate Past Chair/GCAA Representative	Muscogee County
Kenneth Sumpter, Buildings & Grounds Committee Chair	Clay County
Deborah Paris, Program AD HOC Committee Chair	Muscogee County
Joyce Burton	Chattahoochee County
Joe Lee Williams	Stewart County
Linda Mitchell	Talbot County
Susan Andrews	Harris County
Willie Bussey	Quitman County
Wesley Williams	Randolph County
Richard Morris	Quitman County
Lisa Scully	Harris County
Kathleen Jones	Russell County
Sherletha Thomas-Cutts	Muscogee County
Lindsay Erwin	Russell County
William Lindsey	Muscogee County
Jose Guzman	Muscogee County

HUMAN RESOURCES

Department of Early Childhood and Family Services

Teaching Staff (Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Disability Classroom Aides, Substitute Teachers)	189
Support Staff (Family Service Workers, Bus Drivers, Bus Monitors, Custodians, Center Assistants, Administrative Assistants, Kitchen Staff, etc.)	81
Service Area Specialists (Parent, Family, Community Engagement Specialists, ERSEA Specialist, CACFP Specialist, Health & Safety Specialist, Facilities Specialist, Transportation Specialist, Education Specialists and Health & Nutrition Specialists)	16
Administration (Service Area Managers, Program Director and Center Managers)	14

Community Services Department

Site Coordinators	6
Support Staff	1
Administration (Program Manager and Program Director)	2

G & A Department

Development	1
Executive Office	2
Finance	5
Human Resources	4
TOTAL	321

2017 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



2016 -2017 ESP LEADERSHIP TEAM

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Belva Dorsey

Chief Executive Officer

Jamie Austin

Director, Community Services

Teresa Johnson

Director, Department of Early Childhood & Family Services

Therese Soon

Chief Financial Officer

Dennis Walsh

Director, Human Resources

Marquitta Williams

Director, Development



**"I lost my mother,
my job and my
home** in the same year.

ESP helped me by providing child care service for my child during a time that I couldn't afford it. They have helped me find employment and housing to get back on my feet. Now, I'm working hard to become a home owner, a goal that I have had all of my life."

*– Ms. Benson,
ESP Customer*

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Community Services Department

Angel Walker, Program Manager

Department of Early Childhood & Family Services

Tracy Belt, Quality Assurance Manager

Rachel Campbell, CFC Manager

Tonya Meadows, Collaboration Manager

Mary Miller, Senior Center Operations Manager

Sabrena Stephens, Early Childhood Development Manager

Finance Department

Pamela Whitehead, Accountant

Human Resources Department

Monica Stone, Human Resources Generalist



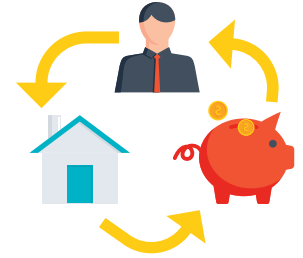


The mission

of Enrichment Services Program is to eliminate poverty through education, services and partnerships.

2016-2017 ORGANIZATIONAL SNAPSHOT

FUNDING SUPPORT: \$13,962,716



TOTAL NUMBER EMPLOYEES: 321

SERVICES

**TOTAL SERVED FOR LIHEAP
4,494 HOUSEHOLDS**



**TOTAL SERVED FOR EMPLOYMENT
TRAINING: 63 INDIVIDUALS**

**TOTAL SERVED FOR FOOD DISTRIBUTION:
31,980 FOOD BOXES DISTRIBUTED**



**TOTAL SERVED FOR EARLY HEAD START
CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP:
273 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**TOTAL SERVED FOR HEAD START
– 898 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**



2017 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

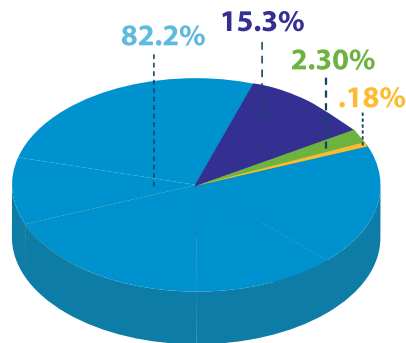


ENRICHMENT SERVICES PROGRAM, INC. SUPPORT AND REVENUE

For the Year Ended July 31, 2017

Federal Funding	\$11,480,960
State Funding	\$2,136,274
Private Donations	\$24,593
Donated Supplies, Services, & Space	\$320,889

Total Support and Revenues \$13,962,716



Results of the Financial Audit

We received a clean audit with no findings.

Enrichment Services Program, Inc. PROGRAM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For the Year Ended July 31, 2017

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY SERVICES

Head Start and Early Head Start	Budget	Actual Expenditures
Salaries (<i>Please see page 3 for positions.</i>)	\$5,720,385	\$5,425,807
Fringe Benefits	\$1,267,374	\$1,085,831
Training	\$161,258	\$161,258
Travel	\$6,000	\$8,313
Supplies	\$246,256	\$652,739
Equipment	\$179,800	\$206,939
Contractual	\$864,890	\$688,755
Other	\$1,742,277	\$1,911,972
Indirect Cost (federally approved)	\$886,662	\$890,439
Total	\$11,074,902	\$11,032,053

In-kind Donations (20% minimum required match) \$2,662,204

No budget; reimbursable based on meals served

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) \$448,907
Total \$14,215,542

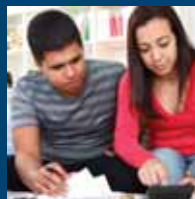
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services Block Grant \$658,999
 Energy Assistance \$1,404,898
Total \$2,063,163

GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION \$1,060,163

In 2016-2017

ESP expended over \$13 million and served over 6,000 individuals through its Education, Employment Training, Stabilization and Family Strengthening services.



DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD & FAMILY SERVICES

Outcomes for Children

The *Get Ready to Read* screening is a reliable, research-based series of questions for children 3-5 years of age, to determine whether they have the early literacy skills they need to become readers. ESP, Inc. staff administers the screening to 3 & 4 year old children in the fall, winter, and spring of the school year.



GEORGIA

Age of Children	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Growth Percentage
	(Percentage of children that were ready to read)	(Percentage of children that were ready to read)	
3	4%	55%	51%
4	29%	70%	41%

ALABAMA

Age of Children	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Growth Percentage
	(Percentage of children that were ready to read)	(Percentage of children that were ready to read)	
3	25%	65%	40%
4	23%	63%	40%

Teaching Strategies GOLD Individual Child Assessment

ESP, Inc. staff assess the development of enrolled children three times a school year (Fall, Winter and Spring) using the Teaching Strategies Gold Individual Child Assessment. This research based observation assessment documents the teacher's observations on individual children in six (6) domains: Social Emotional, Physical, Language, Cognitive, Literacy and Mathematics.





DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD & FAMILY SERVICES

Outcomes for Children

Individual Child Assessment Report 2016/2017

(Percentage of children that are **meeting or above** the expected growth range when compared to National Norms for children that were assessed utilizing Teaching Strategies Gold Individual Child Profile)

GEORGIA

Domain	Birth-12 months	13-26 months	27-36 months	3 year old	4 year old
Social Emotional	100%	96%	88%	96%	86%
Physical	100%	97%	89%	96%	88%
Language	100%	78%	78%	93%	87%
Cognitive	100%	98%	77%	95%	84%
Literacy	100%	93%	88%	95%	95%
Mathematics	100%	94%	88%	93%	78%

Individual Child Assessment Report 2016/2017

(Percentage of children that are **meeting or above** the expected growth range when compared to National Norms for children that were assessed utilizing Teaching Strategies Gold Individual Child Profile)

ALABAMA

Domain	3 year old	4 year old
Social Emotional	100%	71%
Physical	99%	88%
Language	99%	90%
Cognitive	97%	94%
Literacy	97%	100%
Mathematics	97%	94%

Head Start – Georgia

Disabilities

Total number of enrolled children with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) - **39**

Percentage of enrolled children with an IEP - **6%**

Early Head Start – Georgia

Disabilities

Total number of enrolled children with an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) - **20**

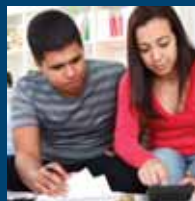
Percentage of enrolled children with an IFSP - **9%**

Head Start – Alabama

Disabilities

Total number of enrolled children with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) - **3**

Percentage of enrolled children with an IEP - **2%**



“ESP has helped my family

in so many ways. My daughter is receiving a great education through the Head Start Program. She is learning to speak English and communicating more with others. I am very grateful for the support that I have personally received. ESP helped me overcome the obstacle of unemployment. I now have a great job, and, my family has two stable sources of income. My family is happy; my daughter's happy; and I'm happy! Thank you so much ESP!

– Mrs. Amaro,
ESP Customer

STORY OF SUCCESS

The Amaro Family: Overcoming Obstacles

The Amaro Family became an Enrichment Services Program, Inc. (ESP) customer through the Head Start Program. The family of six was seeking affordable childcare services for their youngest daughter as Mrs. Amaro was trying to move back into the workforce. At the time, Mr. Rodriguez, Mrs. Amaro's husband, was the only person working full-time and the family needed another stable source of income to maintain their household expenses. The family was facing the challenge of finding a childcare program for dual language learners. Mrs. Amaro learned about ESP's Head Start Program in the community. She had heard that ESP had bi-lingual staff, teachers and case managers, who could meet the needs of her family. The Amaros completed an application and were accepted into the Head Start Program. The family began receiving educational services for their child and family strengthening services. They worked closely with a dedicated Family Service Worker, who connected them to community resources and provided one-to-one support to Mrs. Amaro to help her find a job.

Shortly after enrollment, Mrs. Amaro secured a full-time job at Kmart, and, the family started their path towards becoming economically stable. With additional income, they were able to meet their basic needs with little outside assistance. For Mrs. Amaro, she was enjoying her new position and expanding her customer service skills. However, in late 2016, Mrs. Amaro learned that her place of employment would soon close their doors in early 2017. The family found themselves (again) reliant on one source of income to maintain their household needs. Mrs. Amaro shared the news with her Family Service Worker, who brought some relief to the unsightly future. Together, Mrs. Amaro and her Family Service Worker developed a Self-Sufficiency Plan with a new goal: to find and maintain stable employment. Mrs. Amaro learned about a Center Assistant vacancy at ESP and decided to apply. Using her transferable job skills in customer service, she was able to secure the position. Mrs. Amaro expressed:

ESP has helped my family in so many ways. My daughter is receiving a great education through the Head Start Program. She is learning to speak English and communicating more with others. I am very grateful for the support that I have personally received. ESP helped me overcome the obstacle of unemployment. I now have a great job, and, my family has two stable sources of income. My family is happy; my daughter is happy; and I'm happy! Thank you so much ESP!

The Amaro Family is still receiving educational services for their daughter. In the Fall, the youngest Amaro family member will enter Kindergarten. Mrs. Amaro is still employed with ESP as a Center Assistant.





COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

Regular - **2,996** households served

Crisis - **1,498** households served

Total Number of Customers - **4,494**

Number of crisis customers where disconnection was avoided - **1,490**

Number of crisis customers where services were restored - **8**

\$1.2 million was expended to help households with low-income pay their heating bills.



Employment Training Scholarship Program

Number enrolled - **63**

Number graduated - **40**

Number certified - **28**

Number working in the field - **24**

Average cost per person is \$1,082.



Food Commodities Distribution

Number of food boxes distributed - **31,980**



According to Feeding America (2014), the following food insecurity rate exists with the corresponding amounts of individuals affected;

- Chattahoochee County: **18.5%** (2,190)
- Clay County: **29.8%** (930)
- Harris County: **10.9%** (3,530)
- Muscogee County: **21.7%** (42,990)
- Quitman: **22.5%** (540)
- Randolph County: **26.3%** (1,950)
- Stewart County: **22.6%** (1,340)
- Talbot: **20.7%** (1,360)



This program is provided in partnership with Feeding the Valley Food Bank.

Self Sufficiency Program

We served **141** customers during the fiscal year.

Out of the three year target goal of **500, 770** families moved towards self-sufficiency.

Out of the three year target goal of **15, 17** families have completely moved to self-sufficiency.

Self-Sufficiency is defined as the ability to meet one's basic needs without private or public assistance.



"When I enrolled in the Employment Training Program,

I was unemployed and assisting family members in caring for my grandmother. I've always been interested in nursing and was excited when I learned that ESP offered scholarships to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). My Site Coordinator helped me every step of the way. We talked about my long-term goals, created a plan to help me reach my goals and spoke weekly about my progress. I completed the CNA Program top in my class. Immediately after graduating, I was able to put my skills to use by saving my son's life from choking on a piece of candy. Without the skills that I learned in the program, my son would not be alive today. I continue to work as a part-time CNA and as a manager for a local business."

– Ms. Sanders,
ESP Customer





In 2016-2017, ESP helped

1,182 children gain
school readiness skills to be
successful in Kindergarten
and beyond.

HEAD START - GEORGIA

Dental

100% of the children enrolled for at least 90 days received a dental exam

Treatment

Total Number of Failed Screenings/Exams - **203**

Treatment was completed for **88** children by the end of the program year

Number of children in Treatment - **99**

No Activity/Parent Notified/Appointment Scheduled - **16**

Medical

100% of the children enrolled for at least 90 days received a medical exam

Nutrition

Percentage of children that were overweight, underweight or anemic - **28%**

Ongoing Health Concern

Asthma is the most prevalent health concern among enrolled children. **31** children were diagnosed as having Asthma when they entered the program.

EARLY HEAD START - GEORGIA

Dental

100% of the children enrolled for at least 90 days received a dental exam

Treatment

Total Number of Failed Screenings/Exams - **14**

Treatment was completed for **10** children by the end of the program year

Number of Children in Treatment - **4**

Medical

100% of the children enrolled for at least 90 days received a medical exam

Nutrition

Percentage of children that were overweight, underweight, or anemic - **47%**

Ongoing Health Concern

Asthma is the most prevalent health concern among enrolled children. **3** children were diagnosed as having Asthma when they entered the program.





HEAD START - ALABAMA

Dental

100% of the children enrolled for at least 90 days received a dental exam

Treatment

Number of failed Screenings/Exams - **35**

Treatment was completed for **28** children by the end of the program year

Number of children in treatment - **7**

Medical

100% of the children enrolled for at least 90 days received a medical exam

Nutrition

Percentage of children that were overweight, underweight, or anemic - **55%**

Ongoing Health Concern

Asthma is the most prevalent health concern among enrolled children **14**. Children were diagnosed as having Asthma when they entered the program.

Family Engagement Activities

- Parent Meetings
- Home Visits
- Policy Council
- Male Involvement
- Family Literacy Functions
- Board of Directors
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Policies and Procedures Input
- Parent Teacher Conference
- Field Trips
- Program Planning Input
- Curriculum Input
- Training or Resources and Referral Information
- Family Partnership Agreement

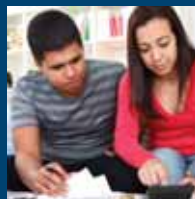


The services provided
by ESP lead to

POVERTY
going down and
PROSPERITY



increasing in our
community one family
at a time.



With a quality early childhood education, children can thrive. Without a quality early childhood education, children may start school behind and remain behind.

DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY SERVICES PARENT FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

HEAD START – School Year 2016/2017

	GEORGIA TOTAL	ALABAMA TOTAL
Total number of Head Start children served(cumulative)	732	166
Income Eligible	590	146
Public Assistance	78	11
Over Income	35	7
Foster Children	11	2
Homeless	18	0
3 Year Olds Served	410	76
4 Year Olds Served	322	90

RACIAL BACKGROUND

Black or African American	648	151
White	26	8
Biracial/Multi-racial	31	5
Hispanic or Latino	26	2
Asian/Native American	1	0

LANGUAGE

English Speaking	706	164
Spanish	25	2
African Languages	1	0
Pregnant Moms	5	0



2017 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



EARLY HEAD START - GEORGIA – School Year 2016/2017

	GEORGIA TOTAL
Total number of Head Start children served (cumulative)	177
Income Eligible	141
Public Assistance	21
Over Income	8
Foster Children	2
Homeless	5
Under age 1 Served	9
1 Year Olds Served	41
2 Year Olds Served	127

RACIAL BACKGROUND

Black or African American	164
White	2
Biracial/Multi-racial	8
Hispanic or Latino	3
Asian	0

LANGUAGE

English Speaking	174
Spanish	2
African Languages/French	1
Pregnant Moms	4

CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP - GEORGIA – School Year 2016/2017

Total number of Head Start children served (cumulative)	96
Income Eligible	75
Public Assistance	14
Over Income	3
Foster Children	1
Homeless	6
Under Age 1	11
1 Year Olds Served	42
2 Year Olds Served	43

RACIAL BACKGROUND

Black or African American	85
White	6
Biracial/Multi-racial	5
Hispanic or Latino	0
Asian	0

LANGUAGE

English Speaking	96
Spanish	0
African Languages	0

Through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), we assisted 4,494 households with paying their heating bills to prevent service interruption.





Together, ESP and Feeding the Valley

distribute roughly 3,000 food boxes each month to families at our Neighborhood Service Centers. The food items may include meats, whole grain breads, pastries, fresh fruits and vegetables, canned goods and dairy products.

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

Feeding the Valley Food Bank

In the Chattahoochee Valley Region, there are over 46,000 people who are food insecure or who do not know where their next meal will come from.

Enrichment Services Program is committed to helping people meet their basic needs. Partnering with organizations is crucial to addressing the needs of our customers. For over ten years, ESP has partnered with Feeding the Valley Food Bank to address food insecurity in our community and to help families, especially seniors, connect to healthy and nutritious food items each month.



Feeding the Valley is one of eight regional food banks in Georgia and is headquartered in Midland, Georgia. They are also a member of the Feeding America network- the nation's leading hunger relief organization. Feeding the Valley receives and distributes donated food items, fresh produce and various grocery products from both national and local providers. ESP serves as the hub for the food distribution to residents in 7 of our 8 Georgia counties. With the exception of Muscogee (GA) and Russell (AL) Counties, many of our counties are



located in rural Georgia, where there is limited to no access to adequate food resources. Together, ESP and Feeding the Valley distribute roughly 3,000 food boxes each month to families at our Neighborhood Service Centers. The food items may include meats, whole grain breads, pastries, fresh fruits and vegetables, canned goods and dairy products.

In 2016-2017, ESP and Feeding the Valley distributed 31,980 food boxes to households to help families/individuals maximize their current benefits and connect them to healthy food items.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



2016-2017 SPONSORS AND DONORS

2016 Turning Hope into Reality Luncheon Sponsors

- Amerigroup
- B 4 Christ Ministries
- Chattahoochee River Missionary Baptist Association
- Liberty Utilities
- Wade Linen Service, Inc.
- WOW Media



Enrichment Services Program

is creating hope for a brighter future for individuals in the Chattahoochee Valley Region.

2017 Cupcakes + Cocktails

- Albright, Fortenberry & Ninas, LLP
- AllState
- CB&T
- Harris Security
- Kinetic Credit Union
- The Bridge Church International
- TSYS
- Wade Linen Service, Inc.



Donors (Gifts over \$200)

- Amerigroup
- Beallwood Baptist Church of Columbus
- Belva Dorsey
- Col. (Ret) Frederick Wolf, Jr.
- Columbus Board of Realtors
- Flint Energies Foundation
- Frederick Wolf, Sr.
- Georgia Power Foundation
- Janice Sherriff
- Jean Wyatt
- John Peebles
- Ken Henson, Jr.
- Liberty Utilities
- Lisa Scully
- Rotary Club of Columbus
- Sabrena Stephens
- Tom Flowers
- William Lindsey
- Zoe Pediatrics Foundation



Aspiring Bakers Competition Winner Kendell Houston

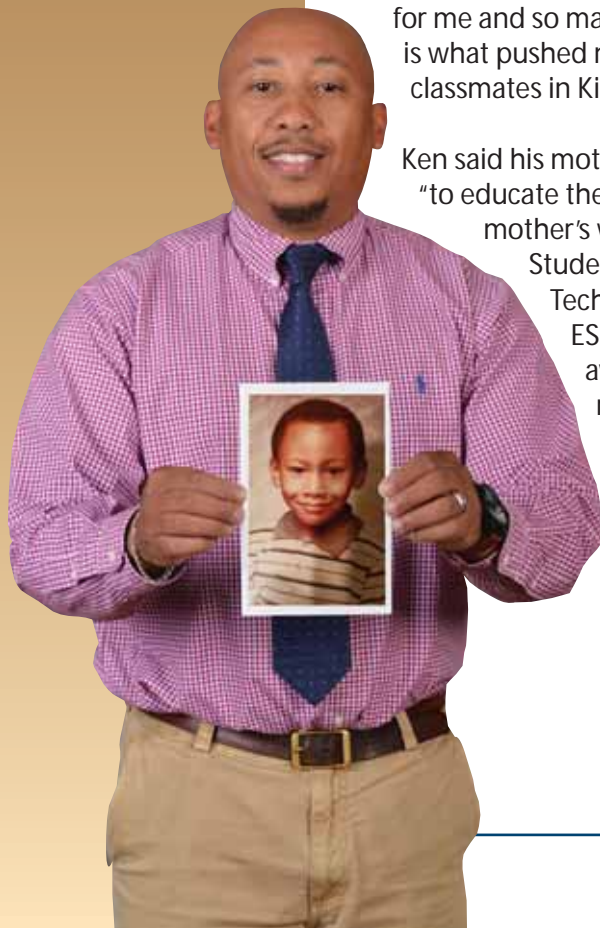




“Early Education is the key

to reversing poverty. As an only child, I remember learning social skills and how to interact with others, which are things that many children miss today. The Head Start program opened my eyes to education and was just that rock for me and so many other alumni of the program.”

– Ken Lockhart,
Head Start Alumna ‘84



STORY OF SUCCESS

Enrichment Services Program takes the hopes and dreams of others and transforms them into reality. Because of the strong foundation and long-term impact that the Head Start Program provides, individuals, like Ken Lockhart are able to excel educationally and professionally. Here is his story.

Ken Lockhart – Head Start Alumnus ‘84

Supporting children in their earliest years with high-quality care and education is one of the best investments that one can make. Ken Lockhart learned this first-hand at an early age.

Ken grew up in a single parent household in Talbot County, Georgia. His mother, Glenda Lockhart, served as the Neighborhood Site Coordinator for ESP in Talbot County, until her passing in 2015. As a young child, Ken watched his mother dedicate much of her time ensuring families with young children knew the importance of early education and the Head Start Program and helping families move out of poverty. Ms. Lockhart enrolled Ken in Head Start in 1983. Ken said the experience set a foundation that’s still in him today.

“Early Education is the key to reversing poverty. As an only child, I remember learning social skills and how to interact with others, which are things that many children miss today. The Head Start program opened my eyes to education and was just that rock for me and so many other alumni of the program. My education through the program is what pushed me to set the bar high for myself. I remember being ahead of my classmates in Kindergarten,” says Ken.

Ken said his mother instilled three key life attributes in him growing up, which were “to educate the kids, feed the poor and take care of the elderly”. He’s following his mother’s wisdom in his work today. Ken currently serves as the Director of Student Success/Recruitment and Student Activities for Columbus Technical College and pursuing a master’s degree. He’s also a member of ESP’s Advancement Committee, where he’s helping ESP to raise awareness of poverty and implement strategies for reducing it. As Ken reflects on the Head Start Program, he says “The bible speaks of building on a solid foundation (solid rock) in Matthew 7:24-7. That’s what Head Start did for me. The Head Start program opened my eyes to education and the change that it has on the evolution of one’s self and people.”



STORY OF SUCCESS

Laodecea Seay is able to excel educationally and professionally because of the strong foundation she received while she was enrolled in the Head Start program in Stewart County. Here is her story.

Laodecea Seay – Head Start Alumna '85

"Everything I need to know I learned in Head Start. The Head Start Program provided me six hours of nurturing, learning and nourishment at a young age," says Laodecea.

Laodecea grew up in Lumpkin, Georgia; a town in Stewart County that in the early 80s had a population size less than 2,000 and a poverty rate of 38%. Opportunities were not abundant. However, the ones that were available, like Head Start, provided the greatest opportunities for success in life.

"My parents knew the importance of early education and wanted the best for me. They enrolled me in Head Start to ensure that I received a strong educational foundation. I don't remember much about the day to day operations of Head Start, but I do remember riding the bus, entering the classroom and being eager to learn," shares Laodecea.

Laodecea credits Head Start and her Head Start teachers, Mrs. White and Mrs. Culpepper, with helping her achieve her dream. She currently serves as the Director of Adult Education at Chattahoochee Valley Community College, where she helps adults build stronger academic skills to move into the workforce and/or pursue higher education. An advocate and alumna of Head Start, Ms. Seay dedicates time to ESP and the Head Start Program by serving on the Policy Council for the program and volunteering when needed. She is also advancing her education. Ms. Seay shares, "My dream of earning a college education continues to grow as I pursue a doctoral degree in educational leadership. I'm eternally grateful to the federal government for realizing that all children deserve an opportunity to succeed even when their parents may not be able to provide financial funding for those opportunities. On the local front, I'm eternally grateful to ESP for providing the Head Start Program. It will forever hold a special place in my heart."

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– Laodecea Seay,
Head Start Alumna '85





“Before I became a customer of ESP,

I served as a volunteer. I was having a difficult time trying to find a job and decided to volunteer to learn new skills. As I was volunteering, I learned about the energy assistance and food distribution programs and found out that I qualified for these programs. It was a blessing. My Site Coordinator helped me get into the Legacy Link Program, a program that helps seniors re-enter the workforce, and connected me to other resources, like the USDA Home Mortgage Program. With the help of my Site Coordinator and the USDA Program, I'm now a homeowner. I'm still working through the Legacy Link Program and helping others by referring them to ESP.”

– Ms. Wade,
ESP Customer

KINDERGARTEN PREPARATION

School Readiness Plan

Enrichment Services Program, Inc. has created a School Readiness Plan that outlines numerous components necessary to prepare children and families for entry into Kindergarten. These components consist of:

School Readiness Goals

High Quality Teaching and Learning – This component is comprised of the following four areas:

- Engaging Interactions and Environments
- Research-based Curricula and Teaching Practices
- Ongoing Assessment of Child Progress
- Highly Individualized Teaching and Learning

To ensure school readiness as children enter kindergarten, staff focuses on the 5 areas below when educating our children:

- Cognition and General Knowledge
- Approaches to Learning
- Physical Well-being and Motor Development
- Language and Literacy
- Social & Emotional Development

Transportation

ESP, Inc. transportation staff provided bus transportation for **174** children in Muscogee, Chattahoochee, Stewart, and Russell County.





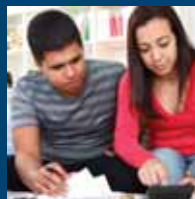
MONITORING EVENTS

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted three Monitoring Events during the 2016 Fiscal Year – Environmental Health and Safety (EnvHS), Fiscal and Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance (ERSEA) and Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS). Based on the information gathered, there were no areas of non-compliance found during the Environmental Health and Safety and ERSEA Monitoring Events.

There was one area of non-compliance identified during the Fiscal Monitoring Event. The organization did not comply with the Davis Bacon Act when new playground equipment was installed. This non-compliance was corrected and verified during the Follow-up Monitoring Call that was conducted on January 31, 2017.

ESP is providing
services and opportunities
in nine counties in the
Chattahoochee region.





Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

2016-2017 PARTNERS

280 Cuts
Amerigroup
Benchmarks Foster Care Program
Bladez Barbershop
Chattahoochee County Health Department
Chattahoochee County School District
Chattahoochee Valley Libraries
Child Care Network
Clay County Health Department
Clay County Library
Clay County School District
Columbus Board of Realtors
Columbus Health Department
Columbus State University
Columbus Technical College
Congressman Sanford Bishop Cunningham Center
Department of Family and Children Services - Chattahoochee County
Department of Family and Children Services - Clay County
Department of Family and Children Services - Harris County
Department of Family and Children Services - Muscogee County
Department of Family and Children Services - Quitman County
Department of Family and Children Services - Randolph County
Department of Family and Children Services - Stewart County
Department of Family and Children Services - Talbot County
Distinct Men Group
Diverse Power
Divine Edges
Equity Group
Family Connection - Chattahoochee County
Family Connection - Clay County

Family Connection - Harris County
Family Connection - Muscogee County
Family Connection - Quitman County
Family Connection - Randolph County
Family Connection - Stewart County
Family Connection - Talbot County
Family Counseling Center
Feeding the Valley Food Bank
Flint Energies
Gentiva Hospice
Georgia Cooperative Extension
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL)
Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS)
Georgia Department of Labor (DOL)
Georgia Legal Aid
Georgia Power
Goodwill Industries of the Southern Rivers
Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce
Housing Authorities
House of Mercy
Keller Williams Realty Company
Kinetic Credit Union
Liberty Utilities
Muscogee County School District
NeighborWorks Columbus
Open Door Community House
Pastoral Institute
Precision Cuts and Styles
Primetime Barbershop
Project Rebound
Quitman County Health Department
Quitman County Library
Quitman County School District

Rotary Club of Columbus
Rotary Club of Quitman
Russell County School District
St. Anne's Outreach
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Safe Kids Columbus
Sarrell Dental
STAT Medical
Stewart County School District
Stewart County Public Health Department
South Columbus Family Practice
Sumter Electric
Talbot County Board of Commissioners
Talbot County Health Department
Talbot County Library
Talbot County School District
Tri-City Housing Authority
United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley
USDA Rural Development
U.S. Housing and Urban Development
Valley Healthcare
Wallace College
WellCare
Wells Fargo
West Central Health District
Workforce Innovation Opportunity (WIO)
WLTZ First News
Zoe Pediatrics Foundation, Inc.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTERS, HEAD START/ EARLY HEAD START CENTERS AND CENTRAL OFFICE

Chattahoochee

706-989-3407
439 Broad Street
Cusseta, GA 31805

Clay

229-768-2055
155 Wilson Street
Fort Gaines, GA 39851

Harris

706-628-4962
747 Carver Circle
Hamilton, GA 31811

Muscogee

706-649-1600
2601 Cross Country Drive, Bldg. C
Columbus, Georgia 31906

Employment Training
Scholarship Program
706-649-1600

Quitman

229-334-4108
57 Kaigler Road
Georgetown, GA 39854

Randolph

229-732-6971
24 Calhoun Street
Cuthbert, GA 39840

Stewart

229-838-4269
2141 East Broad Street
Lumpkin, GA 31815

Talbot

706-665-8580
159 Park Road
Talbotton, GA 31827

Early Head Start and Head Start Centers

Benning Hills Head Start

706-223-3901
190 Munson Drive
Columbus, GA 31903

Boxwood Place Early Head Start

706-660-5381
1700 Boxwood Place
Columbus, GA 31906

Child Development Center

706-801-9428
2701 11th Avenue
Columbus, GA 31904

Chattahoochee Educational Center

706-989-1479
140 Merrell Street
Cusseta, GA 31805

Clay County Early Head Start

229-796-0063
706-577-2085
155 Wilson Street, Suite 4
Fort Gaines, GA 39851

Clay County Head Start

706-577-6430
200 Hobbs Lane
Fort Gaines, GA 39851

Cusseta Road Head Start

706-649-0780
4150 Cusseta Road
Columbus, GA 31903

Higginbotham Center

334-219-2655
2605 College Drive
Phenix City, AL 36869

Quitman County Early Childhood Development and Education Center

229-334-9214
213 Kaigler Drive
Georgetown, GA 39854

Stewart County Head Start

706-577-7549
P.O. Box 58
Georgia Highway 27 East
Lumpkin, GA 31815

Talbot Head Start

706-665-3717
159 Park Road
Talbotton, GA 31827

Central Office

706-649-1600
2601 Cross Country Drive, Bldg. C
Post Office Box 6627
Columbus, Georgia 31917-6627

ESP's core
services are Education,
Employment Training,
Stabilizing and Family
Strengthening.





Enrichment
Services Program, Inc.

A Community Action Agency

2601 Cross Country Drive
Building C
Columbus, Georgia 31906
www.enrichmentservices.org

