

Futures Unlimited, Inc.

2025 Head Start Report to the Public

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Empowerment, inclusion and opportunity — *our passion, our mission!*

Head Start Report to the Public

This annual Head Start report focuses on the work and data derived from the 2024-2025 program year. The contents of this annual report will provide specific information about the Early Head Start home visiting program and Head Start preschool, as well as highlight the major accomplishments over the past year. This report is posted to the public at www.futures-unlimited.org and shared with staff and families through notification after approval from Policy Council and the Board of Directors.

Futures Unlimited, Inc. is a private, non-profit corporation that serves as the administrative entity for early childhood programs, including Head Start, Pre-K At Risk, and Special Education. Although each of these programs may differ in some aspects, each has our fundamental mission at its core, which is to provide comprehensive services to children and families.

Working collaboratively with our community partners enables us to support children and families on their path to successful school experiences, self-sufficiency and life preparedness. In 2024, in conjunction with Sumner County Health Department, Sumner Mental Health and Caldwell Regional Medical Center we completed our five-year comprehensive community needs assessment. This tool is used to identify the needs of our communities and maximize our collective resources for the children and families of Sumner County.

Through long-standing community partnerships, our program met physical and emotional needs of children and families through health-related screenings, developmental screenings, and supports for mental health and wellness. Through family partnerships, we worked alongside parents to identify goals, connect to community resources, and support their role as their child's first and most important teacher. Through learning experiences guided by our dedicated teaching staff, children grew in all developmental domains—cognitive, physical, and emotional.

In the 2024–2025 program year—our fifth and final year of this grant cycle—we advanced our goal of implementing trauma-responsive supports. As a Head Start program dedicated to building resilience in children and families, we put these principles into practice every day, strengthening our shared commitment to safe, nurturing, and developmentally rich environments where young children can thrive.

We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and express our appreciation to our Board of Directors, Policy Council, and advisory councils who volunteer their time and expertise to provide support, oversight and direction to our agency. Finally, this report is dedicated to the staff who led quietly, showed up with purpose, and stayed grounded in the values of Head Start—this report reflects your efforts.



The Numbers

Head Start Preschool

- At the end of the enrollment year **75** cumulative eligible children and **57** families were enrolled in the federally funded Head Start preschool program.
 - **43%** of children were eligible to receive special education and related services through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
 - The Head Start Preschool slots filled **four** full-day classrooms for full enrollment of **66** slots, prior to closing a classroom in the spring. **Forty-nine** of the **66** slots remained full throughout the remainder of the school year at **74%** of funded enrollment.
- At the end of the year, **100%** of children had health insurance with **89%** covered by KanCare.
- At the end of the enrollment year **100%** of children had a medical home, **99%** had a dental home and **92%** were up-to-date on immunizations (all possible and appropriate for their age).

Early Head Start

- At the end of the enrollment year, **43** cumulative eligible infants and toddlers, **two** pregnant women and **35** families were enrolled in the federally funded Early Head Start home visiting program.
- **Twenty-six percent** of children were eligible to receive early intervention services through an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).
- Average monthly enrollment was **99%** of funded slots.
- At the end of the enrollment year **100%** of children and **100%** of prenatal mothers had health insurance. **Ninety-five percent** of children and **100%** of prenatal mothers were covered by KanCare.
- At the end of the enrollment year **100%** of children and **100%** of prenatal mothers had a medical home, **84%** of children had a dental home, and **91%** of children were up-to-date on immunizations (all possible and appropriate for their age).



Parent Activities

Parent involvement is an important part of a child's school success. Parents are given an array of opportunities to be involved in their child's education while participating in Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs.

Family Engagement Activities:

- Eighty-one percent of families enrolled in Learning Genie, our family communication and learning content tool.
- Many participated in preschool orientations, home visits and parent/teacher conferences throughout the year.
- Impact Bank, a community partner, provided parent training on budgeting for two families.
- Parents and families completed fall and spring satisfaction surveys, as well as a transition readiness survey.
- Ten parents participated in a 5 part learning series using the Conscious Discipline parenting curriculum.
- Eight Policy Council meetings took place with a total of six parents participating, and three parent committee meetings were held with a total of five parents participating.
 - The family engagement coordinator, health specialist and teaching staff collaborated with families to prepare for transitions into their respective preschool and kindergarten classes.
 - The program year was filled with opportunities for families to engage with their children while both learning and having fun. The back to school bash, a fall pumpkin party, a Dr. Seuss themed event, and a celebration for Head Start's 60th birthday were well-attended by families.

School Readiness



School Readiness—Birth to Five

Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start leads the early childhood field with a well-defined approach on healthy child development. This includes cognitive, social-emotional and physical developments—all of which are essential to preparing children for school. Child-level assessment data is aggregated from several sources to inform school readiness goals for the program. The Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) is the primary assessment tool used by the Head Start program. Additional assessment data came from the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA), a strengths-based tool to measure social-emotional development and resilience in young children. School readiness assessments revealed strengths for Early Head Start children in physical development, social emotional development, and cognition—which includes math and science. For Head Start Preschool children, aggregate data demonstrated developmentally appropriate gains made at each of three checkpoints program-wide. Reports indicate 100% of 4-year-old students met or exceeded targets by the spring assessment across each of the eight domains; with physical development, social emotional development and visual-performing arts as strengths.

Early Head Start Highlights:

- EHS staff attended the Kansas Home Visiting Conference and Conscious Discipline training.
- EHS provided 22 in-person socializations for participating families; with strong fatherhood participation.
- Home and child safety equipment, provided by the Head Start Collaboration Officer, was distributed to families. Quilts, handmade by Conway Springs Community Concern members, were supplied to families.
- On-site dental exams and in home dental hygienist services were offered to children and prenatal moms. Smile kits were distributed on behalf of Delta Dental of Kansas.
- EHS staff participated in recruitment activities to help build the EHS waitlist, including Picnic in the Park, the Wheat Festival parade, the Community Baby Shower, and Wellington’s Trick or Treat Down the Street.



Head Start Preschool Highlights:

- Preschool staff completed Conscious Discipline and MANDT training.
- The Dr. Yum’s Food Adventure continued in all classrooms, an evidenced based interactive curriculum designed for young children to “make friends” with new fruits and vegetables.
- On-site dental exams were provided for children without a dental home.
- Twenty-nine students began their transition to kindergarten in the spring, kicked off with a preschool promotion ceremony.
- Transition passports were provided for kindergarten teaching staff for each transitioning student.
- Eight students received therapeutic preschool services.

Federal Review Results

Futures Unlimited operates high-quality Early Head Start home visiting and Head Start preschool programs. In the fiscal year 2024-25, the fifth and final year of the grant, the Head Start program did not undergo any formal monitoring; having previously fulfilled the three required Office of Head Start (OHS) reviews within the five-year cycle.

The first of which was a Focus Area One (FA1), which occurred in 2022, to monitor progression in service provision; resulting in compliance in each of the five focus areas.

Our second monitoring, a CLASS video review, took place from January 3 to March 13, 2024. This monitoring measured teacher-child interactions. Scores landed in the low range for instructional support and mid-range for classroom organization and emotional support.



From April 22 to April 26, 2024, the Administration for Children and Families conducted a Focus Area Two (FA2) monitoring. The FA2 reviews performance and compliance with Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) and the *Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007*. Three of the twenty-three performance areas reviewed against standards were noted as strong practices for our organization. One area was considered out of compliance, and corrected within the specified timeline, and no areas of deficiency.

In addition to informing OHS of a grantee's performance, all monitoring results are used to inform program goals and professional development.

Financial Audit Results

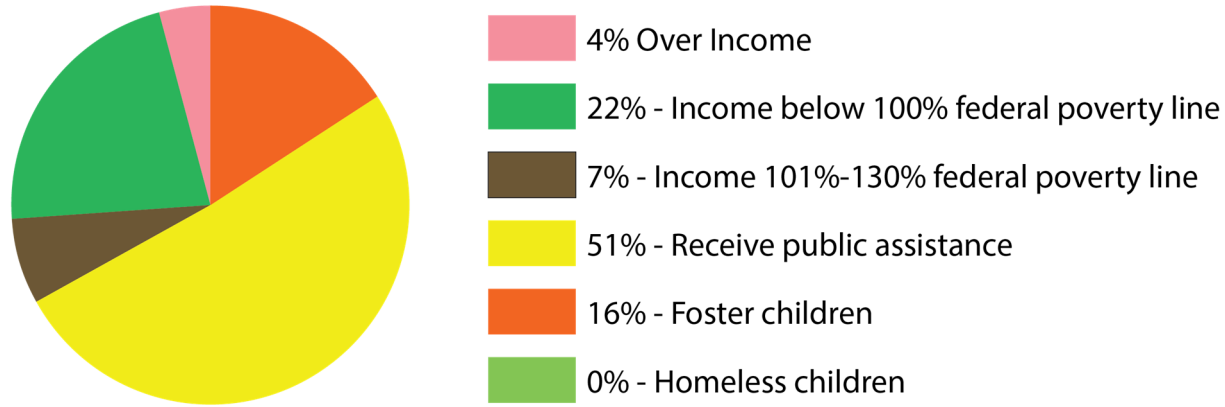
The Grantee for Head Start in Sumner County, Kansas is Futures Unlimited, Inc. The budget year begins July 1 and ends the following June 30 of each year. An independent accounting firm completes an audit of the agency, which includes all funds and accounts of Head Start. Single audits must be performed in accordance with Generally Accepted Governmental Auditing Standards by an independent auditor for organizations that receive \$750,000 or more in federal financial assistance.

The year ended June 30, 2025.

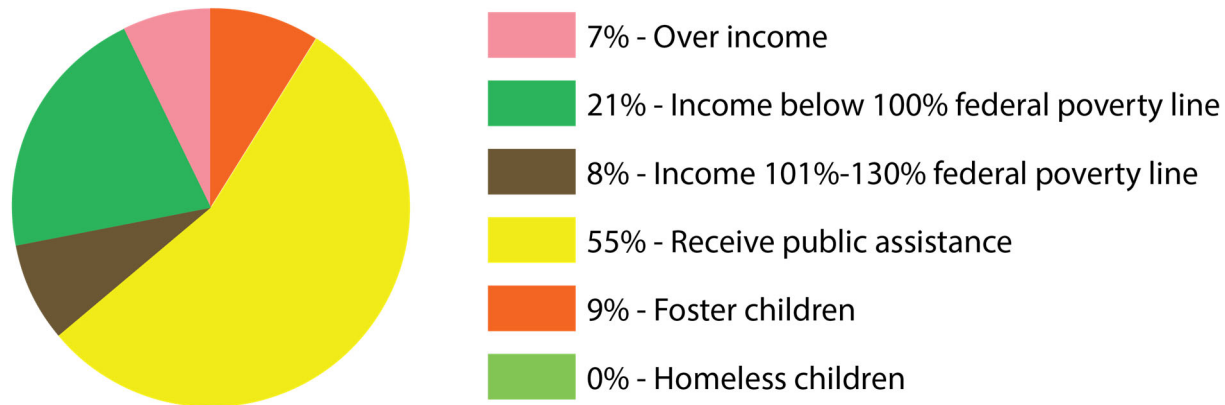
The most recent audit report is available upon request.

Number of Children and Families Served

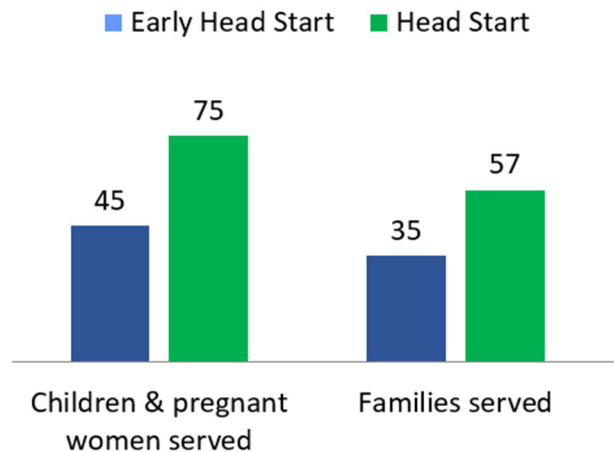
Early Head Start



Head Start

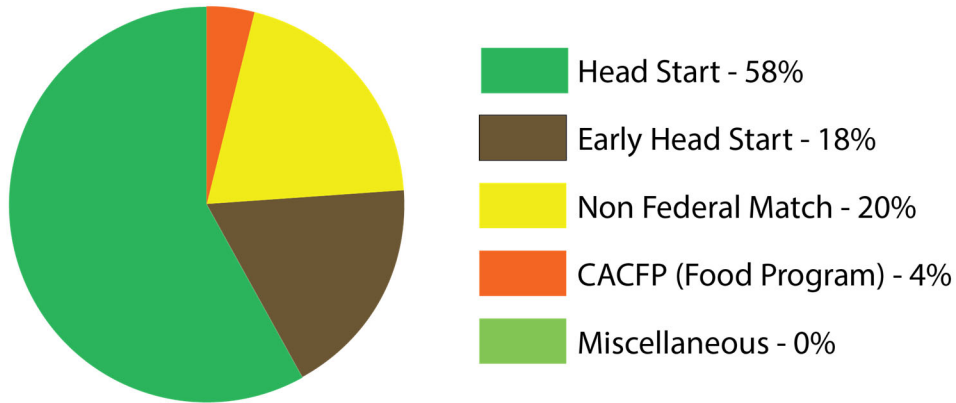


Total Number Served



2025 Program Revenue & Expenses

Revenue—\$1,504,769



Expenses—\$1,542,158

