



**Moore Community House  
Early Head Start**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2024-2025**



# Moore Community House, Inc.

## Our Mission

Moore Community House, Inc. is a non-profit advocacy and social service agency that works to create a pathway to economic security for low-income women and families by providing affordable, high-quality early childhood education and job training for work that pays a living wage.

## Our Vision

We envision a thriving community where economic security for women is achieved through accessible childcare and job training opportunities that lead to sustainable, living-wage employment.

## Our Core Values

- **Empowerment:** We believe in empowering individuals through education, skills training, and opportunities for personal and professional growth.
- **Equity:** We are committed to promoting equity by addressing systemic barriers and advocating for justice and fairness for all.
- **Community Engagement:** We value collaboration and active engagement with our community, fostering partnerships that drive meaningful impact.
- **Innovation:** We embrace innovation and creativity in our programs and services, continuously seeking new ways to address evolving needs.
- **Compassion:** We demonstrate compassion and empathy in our interactions, recognizing the dignity and worth of every individual.
- **Integrity:** We uphold the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability in all our endeavors.

Through our comprehensive programs in early childhood education, workforce training for women to enter high wage careers, and our advocacy efforts, we strive to build a more just, inclusive, and prosperous future for all. Together, we can transform lives and communities, making a lasting difference for generations to come.



# Our History

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Moore Community House, Inc. (MCH) is a private nonprofit organization that operates an Early Head Start (EHS) program and the Women in Construction (WinC) workforce training program. For 100 years, MCH has strengthened families and communities by advancing economic security for low-income women, children, and families across the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Since 1924, the agency has served as a cornerstone of support for families in East Biloxi and throughout Harrison County. As MCH celebrated its centennial year, the organization continued its legacy of impact through two evidence-based programs proven to help families move toward long-term self-sufficiency: high-quality, affordable early childhood education and comprehensive family support services through Early Head Start, and workforce training that prepares women for higher-paying, nontraditional careers through Women in Construction.

Together, these transformative programs create lasting opportunities for low-income women and their young children while strengthening the economic future of our community.

# A Message From Our Leadership



## Branden Forshee

As we reflect on another year of service through Early Head Start, I am filled with gratitude for the families, staff, community partners, and supporters who make this work possible. At Moore Community House, we remain committed to providing high-quality early childhood education and comprehensive family support that helps children thrive and strengthens our community for generations to come. We are proud to share the impact of this year's work and the lives touched through our program.

-Branden Forshee, CEO  
Moore Community House, Inc.



## Katina Spaulding

This past year, the MCH EHS program have demonstrated strong growth, resilience, and impact in serving children and families during critical early development years. We expanded access to high-quality early childhood education while strengthening school readiness through enhanced curriculum, developmental screenings, and individualized support. Our staff remained committed to creating safe, nurturing environments that foster healthy development and lifelong learning. We also deepened family and community partnerships by increasing parent engagement opportunities and connecting families to essential services such as health care, nutrition, and workforce resources. Through a continued focus on quality improvement and strong performance standard practices, we are proud of the progress made and remain committed to building on this momentum to better serve our community in the year ahead.

Sincerely,  
EHS Program Director

# Early Head Start

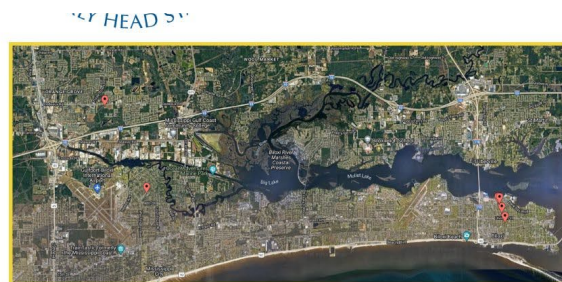
Moore Community House Early Head Start (MCH EHS) program provides early childhood education, health services, and family support to low-income families with pregnant women, infants, and toddlers up to age three.

Our comprehensive services include:

- **Family Advocates:** Our team members assess the specific needs of individual families and develop a holistic approach to address those needs.
- **Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP):** Provides nutritious meals to each enrolled child and supports nutrition education.
- **Expectant Mothers Program:** Offers support to expectant mothers to help them give birth to healthy infants.
- **School Readiness Program:** This program supports children from birth to age three by providing parenting training and encouraging family engagement in the child's educational journey. It fosters positive development and preparation for success in school.
- **Employment and Training Referrals:** Facilitates connections between parents of children in Early Head Start and local employers.
- Through these services, we create opportunities for parents to work or pursue education while offering valuable learning experiences for their children.

## MCH EHS serves Pregnant Women and Children from Birth to Age Three in Harrison County, MS

### Biloxi Locations



**Nichols Building**  
345 Nichols Drive Biloxi MS 39530  
228-436-0633



**Davis Building**  
406 Davis Street Biloxi MS 39530  
228-436-0881



**MCH Main Office (Finance and Human Resource Office)**  
325 Nixon Street Biloxi MS 39530  
228-436-6601



**Women in Construction**  
684 Walker Street Biloxi MS 39530  
228-207-5265



### Gulfport Locations



**Linda Lyons Building**  
13523 Dedeaux Rd. Gulfport, MS. 39503  
228-277-1010



**Bayou View Building**  
55 Fifty First Street Gulfport MS 39507  
228-206-3515

# Program Goals

- **MCH EHS Goal One:** MCH EHS will provide quality services to the youngest children to set solid foundations for lifelong learning and meet future expansion opportunities for providing these services to additional children.
- **MCH EHS Goal Two:** MCH EHS will provide support, information, and resources for families of enrolled children facing economic and social hardships to build resilient and self-motivated families for an effective community.
- **MCH EHS Goal Three:** MCH EHS will promote a holistic wellness approach to uplift the future health status of Mississippi children and families.
- **MCH EHS Goal Four:** MCH EHS will provide high-quality, individualized experiences and responsive, nurtured care to increase their potential to enter Kindergarten with a solid academic foundation that promotes success throughout their educational career.
- **MCH EHS Goal Five:** MCH EHS will provide tools and resources for all staff to be confident, capable, and successful in their developing careers.

# School Readiness Goals

- **School Readiness Goal 1:** The children are healthy and have developed the physical skills necessary to succeed in school. (Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development)
- **School Readiness Goal 2:** Children have a positive picture of themselves that will affect every area of growth, including developing trusting relationships with others. (Social- Emotional development)
- **School Readiness Goal 3:** Children demonstrate an interest in learning, resulting from continuity of care, individualization, and family support. (Approaches to Learning/Cognitive)
- **School Readiness Goal 4:** Children communicate through languages and gestures. (Language and Literacy)
- **School Readiness Goal 5:** Children have problem-solving abilities and concept attainment (Cognition/Math)

# Audits and Monitoring

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## Independent Financial Audit

Moore Community House, Inc. underwent its most recent independent financial audit, as required by the Head Start Act and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F), for the fiscal year ending 2025. The audit resulted in no findings, demonstrating the agency's strong financial management practices and commitment to fiscal accountability.

## Federal Monitoring Review

During the week of December 9, 2024, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a monitoring review of Moore Community House, Inc. to determine whether previously identified finding(s) had been corrected. Based on the information gathered during this review, ACF closed all previously identified finding(s) included in the report.

## Self Assessment

The annual self-assessment monitors progress toward program goals, ensures compliance with Head Start regulations, and evaluates effectiveness in promoting school readiness. This process allows the program to identify areas for improvement and make necessary course corrections. The self-assessment team includes MCH EHS Administration Members. The annual self-assessment was completed in May 2025. The Policy Council approved the results on May 20, 2025, and the Board of Directors approved them on May 22, 2025.

## Community Needs Assessment

The agency conducts a comprehensive community needs assessment every three years, with annual updates. The needs assessment and other program data inform decision-making for current and future services. Annual updates include changes in demographics and family work/school schedules. The most recent update was approved by the Policy Council on May 20, 2025, and by the Board of Directors on May 22, 2025.



# Budget and Financials

## REVENUE

### Federal Share

Early Head Start – Base Operations	\$2,335,906
Early Head Start – Training & Technical Assistance	\$23,603
Child and Adult Care Food Program	\$156,081

### Non-Federal Share

Early Head Start	\$177,931
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<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$2,693,521</b>
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## EXPENSES

### Explanation of Budgetary Expenditures | EHS 2024-2025

Personnel	\$1,680,089
Fringe	\$183,556
Travel	\$5,636
Supplies	\$174,030
Contractual	\$20,752
Other	\$271,841

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,335,906</b>
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### Proposed Budget | EHS 2025-2026

Personnel	\$1,939,257
Fringe	\$232,711
Travel	\$20,411
Supplies	\$130,000
Contractual	\$22,000
Other	\$320,829

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,665,208</b>
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# Leadership and Governance

**MCH Governing Board** is composed of individuals who reflect the community it represents. The Board of Directors plays a crucial role in the operations of Early Head Start, as it is legally responsible for administering and overseeing the agency and its programs. This includes safeguarding federal funds, adopting governance practices, and ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations

**Moore Community House Governing Board Members Include:**

- Linda Lightsey | President
- Ann Smith | Vice President
- Stacey Bullard-Casey | Treasurer
- Kiara Taite Secretary | Secretary
- Lauren Clark | Director
- Claire Dobbs | Director
- Elijah Mitchell | Director
- Larry Hilliard | Director
- Candy Eatmon-Franklin (Policy Council Liaison)


**Policy Council:** The Policy Council is composed of Early Head Start parents and community members who work in partnership with program leadership to provide guidance and oversight for the program. Parent representatives and community representatives are elected by classroom families to participate in monthly meetings with program management. An alternate parent representative is also elected to attend meetings when needed. Policy Council members may participate in meetings virtually.

**Parent Committee:** At the beginning of each school year, a parent committee, made up exclusively of parents of currently enrolled children, is established at each center and meets every other month starting in September. At these meetings, parents are provided program and center-level updates from staff, and they, in turn, provide staff with ideas and feedback to help develop and implement program policies, activities, and services to help meet the needs of children and families. The feedback from the parent committees is filtered up to the Policy Council and Board of Directors through a Parent Committee report provided to the Policy Council. This year, parent committee meetings were held virtually using Zoom.


**Health Advisory Committee:** The Health Advisory Committee meets throughout the program year to discuss policies and health issues within the community, address health service challenges, and establish solutions.

# Our Team


**MCH Administration**




**Branden Forshee**  
Chief Executive Officer




**Kara Vesa**  
Chief Financial Officer




**Amaja Bush**  
Director of Human Resources



**Katina Spaulding**  
EHS Program Director




**Ruth Mazara**  
WinC Program Director




**Francis Lopez**  
Finance Specialist


**MCH EHS Administration**



**Alison O'melia**  
Assistant EHS Program Director




**Josephine Gibbs**  
Family Health Services Specialist




**Margaret Crawford**  
Education Specialist

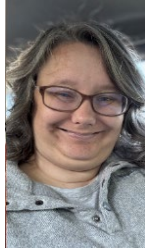
**MCH EHS Support Staff**



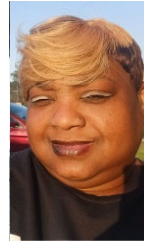
**Truly Turner**  
Teacher Coach



**Leon Britton**  
Facilities Manager

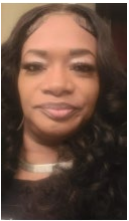


**Greta Miller**  
Program Administrator




**Alisha Coleman-Curtis**  
Health & Nutrition Manager


**Center Management**




**Latorya Hunter**  
Center Manager  
Davis




**De'Aundra Simmons**  
Center Manager  
Nichols




**Monica Bradley**  
Assistant Center Manager / Mentor Teacher  
Linda Lyons



**Latoria Magee**  
Center Manager  
Bayou View




**Janell Hanks**  
Center Manager  
Linda Lyons




**Jessica Butler**  
Assistant Center Manager / Mentor Teacher  
Davis


**Family Health Services Advocates**




**Tenisha Hasan**  
Nichols



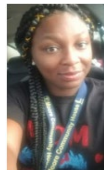
**Naraliz DeLeon**  
Linda Lyons



**Jana Kij**  
Linda Lyons



**Zakiyyah Hasan**  
Bayou View



**Shayla Taylor**  
Davis

# EHS By the Numbers

## Moore Community House Early Head Start Sites



### Enrollment

128 Center-Based Funded Enrollment  
16 Funded Pregnant Women

**144 Total Funded Enrollment**

154 Children Enrolled  
3 Pregnant Women

**157 Total Cumulative Enrollment**

### By Age

Under One Year	23%
One Year Old	41%
Two Year Old	34%
Pregnant Women	2%

### Primary Language

English	85%
Spanish	14%
American Sign Language	1%

### Race / Ethnicity

Black / African American	77%
Hispanic / Latino Origin	15%
Bi-Racial / Multi-Racial	5%
White	3%

### Enrolled in Prior Years

Yes	57%
No	43%

### Eligibility Criteria

Utilizing Public Assistance	77%
<=100% of Poverty Level	15%
Homeless	5%
At 101% - 130% of Poverty Level	3%
Foster Care	1%
Over Income	1%

141 Families Enrolled  
83% Average Monthly Enrollment



In the 2024-2025 Program Year, MCH EHS served 1.3% of eligible children in Harrison County.

# EHS By the Numbers

Moore Community House & Mississippi State University Extension Service Partnership Site



## Enrollment

32 Center-Based Funded Enrollment  
6 Funded Pregnant Women

**40 Total Funded Enrollment**

41 Children Enrolled  
4 Pregnant Women

**45 Total Cumulative Enrollment**

## By Age

Under One Year	24%
One-Year-Old	40%
Two-Year-Old	27%
Pregnant Women	9%

## Primary Language

English	98%
Spanish	2%
American Sign Language	0%

## Race / Ethnicity

Black / African American	91%
White	4%
Bi-Racial / Multi-Racial	3%
Hispanic / Latino Origin	2%

## Enrolled in Prior Years

Yes	27%
No	73%

## Eligibility Criteria

Utilizing Public Assistance	76%
At <=100% of Poverty Level	13%
Over Income	7%
Homeless	4%
At 101%-130% of Poverty Level	0%
Foster Care	0%



# Family Demographics



Families Served			
Program	Single Parent Families	Two-Parent Families	Total
MCH-EHS	19	95	114
MCH-MSU Partnership	32	5	37
<b>Totals</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>146</b>

Educational Attainment of Families Served					
Program	Non-High School Graduates	High School Graduates	More than High School, Less than A Bachelor's	Bachelor's Degree or Higher	Total
MCH-EHS	30	62	13	8	113
MCH-MSU Partnership	2	19	12	4	37
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>150</b>

Families Receiving Federal Assistance at Enrollment				
Program	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
MCH-EHS	2	16	77	78
MCH-MSU Partnership	0	3	21	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>104</b>

Services to Unhoused Families			
Program	Unhoused Children	Unhoused Families	Families Who Secured Housing
MCH-EHS	9	10	5
MCH-MSU Partnership	2	3	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>

## Military Families

1 MCH EHS parent/guardians were members of the United States military on active duty  
 2 MCH EHS parents/guardians were veterans of the United States military.

## Foster Care and Child Welfare

3 MCH EHS children spent time in foster care during the program year.

# Health and Well-Being

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**MCH EHS** promotes the health and well-being of children through a holistic, family-centered approach to care. Children receive health and developmental screenings, nutritious meals and snacks, opportunities for physical activity, and access to oral, vision, and mental health support throughout the school year.

Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), MCH provides healthy, dietitian-approved meals and snacks that support children's growth, development, and school readiness. Kitchen staff play an important role in promoting healthy eating habits and ensuring children receive nutritious meals in a safe and supportive environment.

Through partnerships with pediatricians, health departments, dental and vision providers, mental health professionals, and local education agencies, MCH helps families access essential healthcare services and early intervention resources. Family Advocates work closely with parents to ensure children receive needed screenings, assessments, and follow-up care.

For children with developmental delays or disabilities, MCH coordinates support services and referrals to First Steps Early Intervention and local education agencies to address individualized needs. By promoting preventative healthcare, nutrition, and whole-child development, MCH helps build a strong foundation for lifelong wellness and school readiness.

# Health Requirements

At the end of the program participation year, all children will have the following:

## MCH EHS

**Type of Healthcare** 130 children with health insurance

- 128 children have Medicaid and or CHIP
- Two children state only private or other insurance
- Two children have no insurance

**Ongoing Source of Health:** 131 children have ongoing source of continuous accessible health care provided by health care professionals.

**Dental Care:** 132 children have ongoing source of continuous accessible dental care.

**Immunization Up To Date:** 124 children with up-to-date immunizations.

## MCH- MSU

**Type of Healthcare :** 41 children with health insurance

- 40 children have Medicaid and or CHIP
- One child state only private or other insurance

**Ongoing Source of Health :** 41 children have ongoing source of continuous accessible health care provided by health care professionals.

**Dental Care:** 41 children have ongoing source of continuous accessible dental care.

**Immunization Up To Date:** 41 children with up-to-date immunizations.

# Health Management

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## Nutrition

Nutrition is important to a child's health, growth, and development. Nutrition services include nutrition assessments, nutritious meals approved by a dietician with modifications for children with special dietary needs, and education to empower parents to help them make healthy choices for themselves and their children. Children are provided with two nutritious meals (served family style) and one snack each day, all thoughtfully prepared to be low in sodium and fat. The agency adheres to all local, state, and federal regulations, and all food service personnel hold ServSafe and/or Food Handler certifications.

*During the 2024-2025 Program Year, the program served 19,853 breakfasts, 19,695 lunches, and 16,714 snacks, for a total of 56,262 meals provided to children.*

## Disabilities

The Head Start Birth to Five Program requires identifying young children with unique developmental needs, ensuring children receive appropriate and timely services, and helping families navigate eligibility guidelines. The Office of Head Start requires that 10% of the total funded enrollment be children with special needs.

*During the 2024-2025 Program Year, the program served a total of 12 children who were determined eligible to receive special education services with 8 across MCH EHS's three standalone sites and 4 at the MCH MSU partnership site.*

## Mental Health

Mental health support for children and families is a passion for this program. MCH EHS's mental health component is also supported through a partnership with Coastal Family Health which offers individualized support for children and their families and facilitates referrals for outside mental health services when needed.

# Pregnant Mothers

## Partners for a Healthy Baby | Expectant Mother Program

The Partners for a Healthy Baby program supports expectant and parenting families through a two-generation approach that focuses on the well-being of both parents and children. By strengthening family routines, promoting healthy development, and providing individualized support, the program helps families create safe, nurturing environments where children can thrive.

Through MCH Early Head Start and the MCH–MSU partnership, families receive prenatal, postpartum, and newborn education and support designed to promote healthy pregnancies, positive birth outcomes, and early childhood development. Family Advocates provide regular home visits, weekly check-ins, and continued support after birth to answer questions, provide encouragement, and connect families with helpful community resources.

Education for expectant mothers in our program focuses on the importance of a healthy mom and healthy baby.

*During the 2024–2025 program year, Moore Community House served a total of eight pregnant mothers, including four participants across MCH Early Head Start’s three standalone sites and four participants at the MCH–MSU partnership site.*

## BY THE END OF THE PROGRAM YEAR:

- All pregnant women had health insurance
- All pregnant women had ongoing sources of continuous, accessible health care.
- All pregnant women had prenatal care during their pregnancy.
- All pregnant women had education on breastfeeding, nutrition, fetal development, and risks of alcohol/drugs/smoking.

# Parent and Family Engagement

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Family involvement lies at the heart of a child's success in life. Parents and caregivers serve as a child's first, most important, and lifelong teachers and supporters of achievement. At MCH EHS and MSU MCH EHS, we are dedicated to partnering with the entire family to enhance children's academic and social development, paving the way for brighter futures for everyone.

We encourage adults in the family to engage in classroom activities actively, attend parent meetings, contribute to policy decisions for our program, and participate in fun events. Parents are also empowered to set a goal for their family and work toward it throughout the program year, with guidance and support from our staff.

## ReadyRosie | Parent Curriculum:

ReadyRosie offers a family learning program built on trusted research and proven practices. The program recognizes that families play a vital role in a child's health, well-being, and success in school. ReadyRosie combines easy-to-use parenting resources families can explore at home with interactive workshops where parents can learn, share, and connect with others. This approach helps families practice new skills in everyday routines, build confidence, and strengthen learning at home.

*During the 2024–2025 program year, ReadyRosie supported 84 families enrolled in MCH EHS and 27 families enrolled through the MCH–MSU partnership program. Families remained actively engaged with the program, viewing a total of 565 ReadyRosie videos. This strong level of participation reflects families' commitment to supporting their children's learning, growth, and development at home.*

## Engaging Fathers:

MCH recognizes the important role fathers and positive male role models play in children's healthy development and family well-being. Through family engagement activities, parent participation opportunities, and ongoing communication, the program encourages fathers and male caregivers to take an active role in their children's learning, development, and early education experience.

# Family Goal Settings, Needs, and Referrals

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MCH EHS and MCH-MSU also assist families in determining their needs and supports them in achieving their goals, such as continued education, steady employment, financial security, and housing stability. Throughout the year, families receive services and referrals to community resources for emergency crisis assistance, housing/utility assistance, mental health, ESL classes, GED classes, job training, child abuse, health/medical care, relationship/marriage education, parenting education, and asset building services

## ASSESSMENT TOOLS:

### MCH EHS | STRENGTHS, NEEDS, AND INTEREST PARENT SURVEY

85 families were assessed during the post-assessment. Four families were not assessed due to terminating the program. There are 13 shared families at Davis, Nichols, And Bayou View.

### MCH-MSU EHS | SHINE ON FAMILY ROAD MAP

29 families were assessed during post-assessment. All families were assessed. There are five shared families at Linda Lyons.

# Education Services

The Education Team at MCH EHS ensures high-quality teaching practices that support children’s emotional security, communication and language development, critical thinking, social-emotional growth, and active engagement in learning. Instruction emphasizes developmental progress, meaningful feedback, ongoing effort, and the use of assessment data to guide planning and provide age-appropriate learning experiences across all developmental domains.

MCH EHS utilizes the Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers & Twos and Preschool, selected for its strong research base, comprehensive training resources, and alignment with all Office of Head Start developmental domains. Teachers use Teaching Strategies GOLD (TSG) to conduct ongoing observational assessments across developmental areas, including literacy and numeracy predictors, ensuring support for all learners, including English-language learners, children with disabilities, and children demonstrating advanced development.

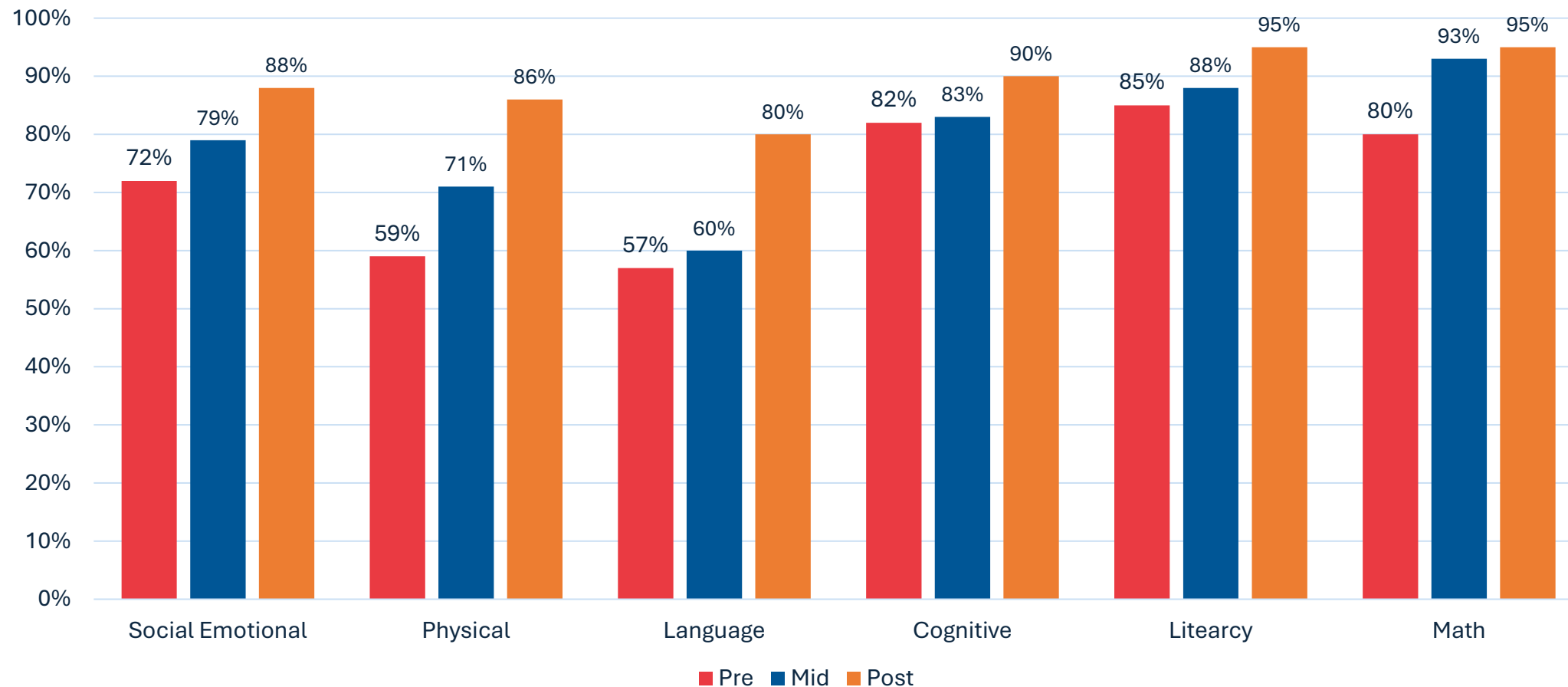
To support early identification and individualized instruction, MCH EHS uses developmental screening tools including the Ages & Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional, Second Edition (ASQ:SE-2), a caregiver-completed screening for children ages 1–72 months, and the Ages & Stages Questionnaires, Third Edition (ASQ-3), a parent-completed developmental screening for children ages one month to 5½ years (66 months). Through the MCH EHS and MSU MCH EHS partnership, teachers explain the purpose and results of developmental screenings and assessments to parents and engage families in ongoing discussions about their child’s progress.

To provide additional support for children with disabilities, teachers complete the ASQ-3 following each well-baby check, using results to monitor development, inform instruction, and support timely referrals and services when appropriate.

## School Readiness Goals for 2024-2025

The goal is for 80% of the children to meet or exceed their school readiness goals by the end of the program year. All MCH EHS and MSU-MCH EHS children met or exceeded their school readiness goals in all domains.

# School Readiness Outcomes 2024-2025



**Note:** Percentages in the chart above indicate progress toward meeting widely held expectations.

# Transition Services Out of EHS

MCH EHS implements strategies and practices to support successful transitions for children and their families transitioning out of our Early Head Start program. A smooth transition from one early childhood learning program to another is important to ensure each child continues to receive enriching early child development services and each family continues to receive the support services necessary to promote healthy family development.

During the 2024–2025 program year, **54 children transitioned from MCH Early Head Start programs** into early childhood education settings, including Head Start and other early learning programs. This included 46 children from MCH EHS and eight children from the MCH–MSU partnership.

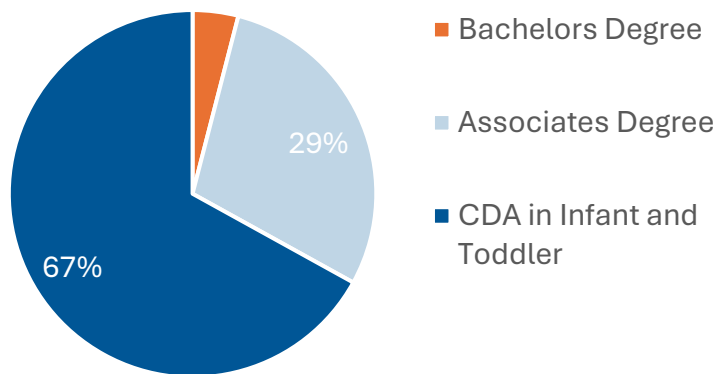
During the transition period, the program facilitates meetings between families, Head Start programs, and other childcare providers to discuss their program expectations, enrollment timelines, and required next steps for a successful transition, ensuring parents feel supported and the transition is as seamless and stress-free as possible.



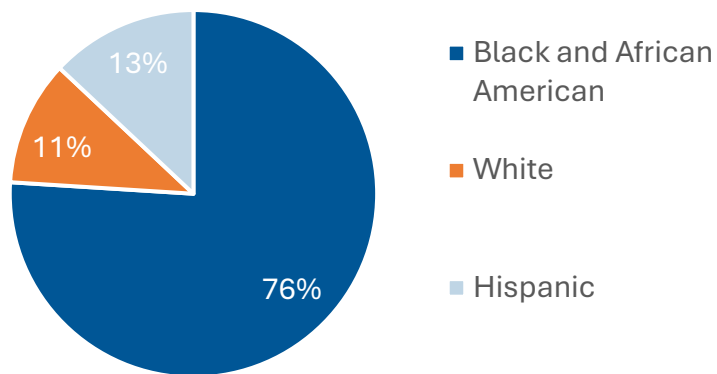
# Teaching Staff Demographics

During the 2024-2025 program year, MCH EHS employed 45 teaching staff across programs, including four infant/toddler teachers who are proficient in one or more languages other than English.

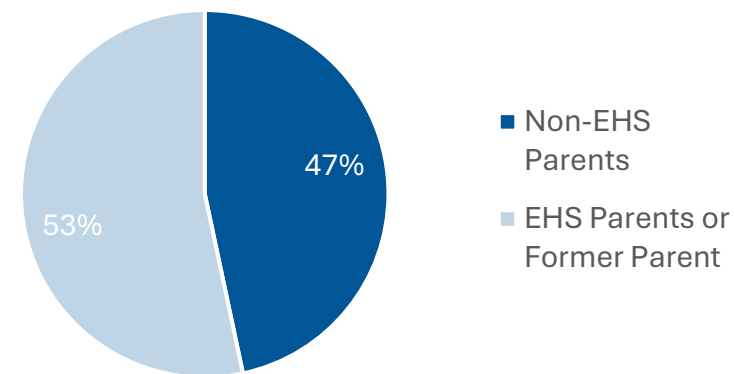
### Infant and Toddler Teacher Credentials



### Infant and Toddler Teacher Race and Ethnicity



### Current or Former EHS Parents



# Teacher Support and Development

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## Effective Coaching Practices

MCH EHS implements the Practice-Based Coaching (PBC) model, a structured professional development approach built around goal setting, focused observation, and reflective feedback, as recommended by the Office of Head Start. This model supports continuous improvement in teaching practices through individualized coaching and reflective supervision.

MCH EHS teacher coaches directly support teachers' use of effective teaching practices and implementation of individualized experiences responsive to each child's interests, strengths, and needs.

To inform coaching and professional development, MCH EHS uses the Pyramid Infant-Toddler Observation Scale (TPITOS) and the Teacher Success Rubrics (TSR).

### TPITOS

The Pyramid Infant-Toddler Observation Tool ensures that caregivers provide an early head start to children with a high level of classroom quality. The Pyramid Infant-Toddler Observation Scale (TPITOS) measures the implementation of practices associated with the Pyramid Model in infant and toddler care settings (birth years). TPITOS provides a snapshot of the adult behaviors and the classroom environment variables related to supporting and promoting the social-emotional development of infants and toddlers. The TPITOS observation is made up of observational items and Red Flag items.

### TSR

The Teacher Success Rubrics (TSR) provide a structured framework for evaluating teacher performance, clarifying expectations, and guiding reflective practice.

Coaches use TPITOS and TSR data to individualize coaching supports, identify strengths and areas for growth, and increase levels of support as needed to strengthen instructional quality and promote positive outcomes for teaching staff .

# 2024-2025 Teachers of the Year



**Nafeteria Hudson**  
*Linda Lyons Center*



**Tracey Bounds**  
*Nichols Center*



**Charlene Sanmiguel**  
*Davis Center*

# THANK YOU TO OUR MANY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**It would be impossible to serve our communities without the dedicated collaboration of our partners. We are deeply grateful for their support in helping us meet our vision of a holistic approach to education for children and families. Our heartfelt thanks go to the following organizations**

- Biloxi Housing Authority
- Biloxi Public Schools
- Boat People SOS
- Cadence Bank
- City of Biloxi
- Coastal Family Health Center
- Coastal Hearing Center
- Excel by 5
- First Steps Early Intervention
- Gulfport Public Schools
- Harrison County Public Schools
- Hope Credit Union
- MCH Women in Construction Program
- MGM Resorts Foundation
- Mississippi Action for Progress (MAP)
- Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church
- Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services
- Mississippi Department of Education
- Mississippi Department of Health
- Mississippi State University Extension Head Start
- SHEA (*Sharing Health and Education Awareness*)
- South Mississippi Smiles
- The Vision Center
- United Women in Faith
- United Way of South Mississippi
- Woodforest National Bank