S-A-L COMMUNITY SERVICES

Early Head Start
Child Care Partnership

2025-2026 Annual Report



About Us

Mission

SAL Community Services Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Program purpose is to partner with families and communities to enhance physical, social and emotional well being and promote self-sufficiency through comprehensive services.

Vision

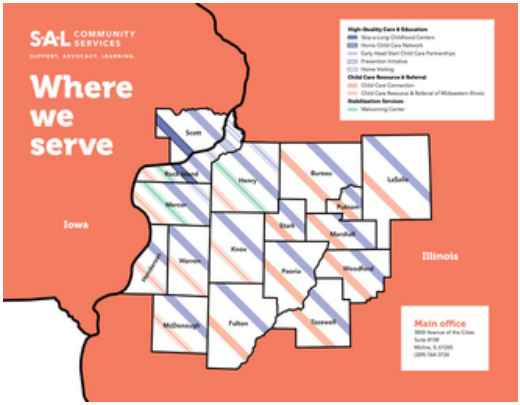
Building resilient families through positive relationships and supportive communities.

Program Values

- Relationships
- Community
- Purpose

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Summary of Program

The SAL Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (EHS CCP) continues to provide high-quality early childhood education and comprehensive family services to infants, toddlers, pregnant women, and families throughout Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island Counties. During the 2025-2026 program year, we maintained 168 funded enrollment slots and served 217 children and pregnant women through center-based, family childcare, home-based, and pregnant women program options. Families received a wide range of supports, including health and developmental services, family engagement opportunities, parenting education, housing and crisis assistance, mental health resources, and transition support.

Through individualized family partnerships and community collaboration, SAL helped families strengthen stability, access resources, and support their children's growth and development. Services were delivered through three direct service sites serving children 6 weeks to age three, two Home Child Care Networks serving children birth to age four, and a Home-Based program option for children birth to age three and pregnant women. Program services included 119 center-based slots, 36 home-based slots, 9 family childcare slots, and 4 pregnant women slots, providing families with flexible, high-quality early childhood opportunities that best meet their needs.

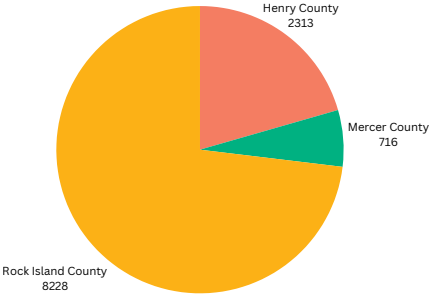
As we enter the coming program year, SAL EHS CCP will focus on advancing school readiness, strengthening social-emotional development, expanding family engagement, and promoting the health and well-being of both children and staff. Guided by our program goals, we will continue to maintain strong enrollment, build community partnerships, enhance fiscal stewardship, strengthen staff retention and professional growth, and utilize continuous quality improvement practices to ensure high-quality services. Through these efforts, SAL EHS CCP remains committed to creating safe and nurturing environments where children thrive, families succeed, and communities grow stronger.



Teonna Dowell
Early Head Start Child Care Partnership
Program Director

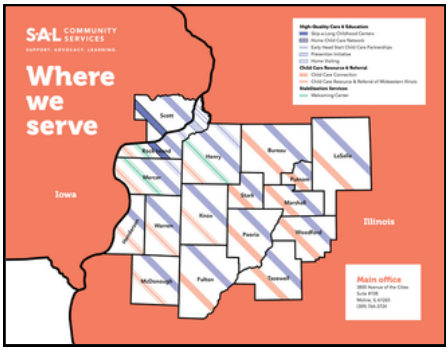
Our Communities

Population of children Birth-5 Years of Age per County



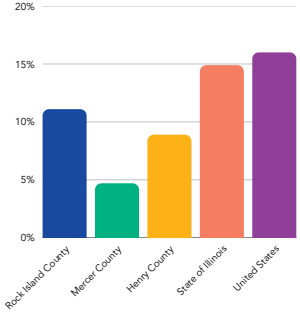
Approximately 11,257 children 0-5 years old reside in our service area. Of those children qualified for EHS services (Ages 0-2 years), approximately 16% are underserved, further proving the need and importance of Early Head Start Services.

Our Service Area



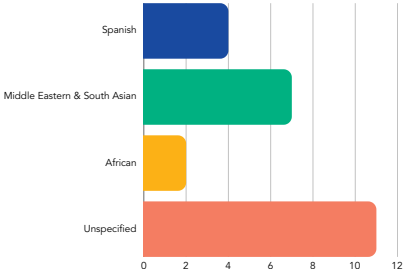
The "Where we serve" map shows the entire SAL Community Services service area. EHS service delivery areas of Rock Island, Henry, and Mercer counties are shown.

Percentage of Population Ages 0-5 Living in Poverty



There is a great need for Early Head Start services in the counties we serve. On average 10.5% of children 0-5 years old within our service area live in poverty.

Number of families who speak a language other than english



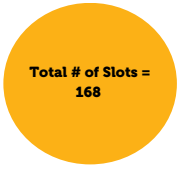
In the population we serve, there are families with various languages and cultures. We provide translators for parents during orientation, home visits, parent meetings, socializations, and etc.

Source: All data sources from 2025 Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map (IECAM), Illinois Department of Public Health, United States Census Data, 2020-2025

Programming

Center Name	Total # of Classrooms	PY 25-26 Funded Slots	Total # of Participants
Milan Skip-A-Long Campus	3	24	51
Moline Skip-A-Long	4	32	66
Rock Island Skip-A-Long	3	24	50
Small Hands Big Hearts	1	9	15
Bull Frogs & Butterflies	1	5	5
Little Blessings Home Daycare	1	7	9
Aledo YMCA	1	4	7
Home Based/Home Visitors	4	40	66
WIU Bilinguel Early Learning Center	2	10	21
Kindercare	2	16	15





*Note that the total number of participants refers to individuals who participated in the program. The total number of participants in each option may include the same child twice if they changed locations or EHS program options during the program year.

Service Locations

Skip A Long Moline Campus
4800 60th St. #8104
Moline, IL, 61265.

Skip A Long Rock Island Campus
1609 4th Street
Rock Island, IL, 61201

Skip A Long Milan Campus
1800 1st Street West
Milan, IL 61264

Little Blessing Home Daycare
1895 24th Avenue Court
Moline, IL 61265

Small Hands Big Hearts
2821 5th st.
Rock Island, IL 61201

Bullfrogs and Butterflies
2006 13th Street
Silvis, IL 61282

Aledo YMCA
400 N. College Ave.
Aledo, IL 61231

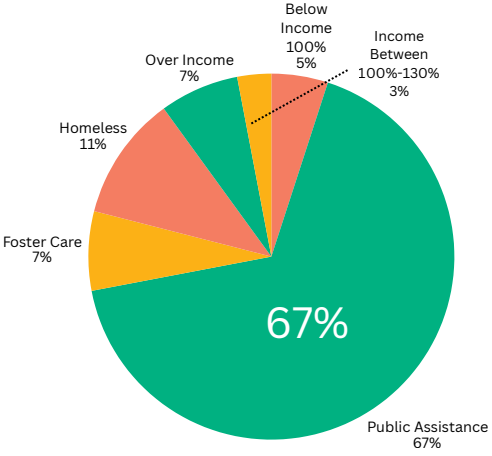
WIU Bilinguel ELC*
406 7th St.
Moline, IL 61265

Kindercare*
3316 Blackhawk Road
Rock Island, IL 61201

*Indicates centers SAL EHS CCP was not partnered with the entire program year

Enrollment

Primary Type of Eligibility

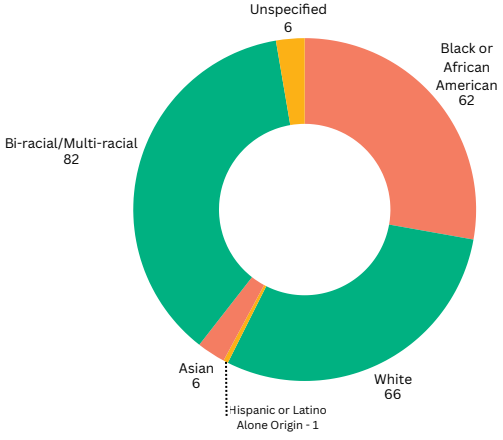


A total of 217 children were enrolled in the EHS Program at some point during the 2024-2025 Program Year. The majority of children who attend EHS were eligible from SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). 5% were below Federal Poverty Line (FPL), 3% were between 100-130% of the FPL. 11% were homeless, and 7% were in foster care. Only 7% of enrolled children were over income.

143
Newly Enrolled Students

74
Second or more year Students

Child Race and Ethnicity



Staff

Cumulative Table for Teachers/Staff 25-26

Number of Teachers with Bachelor's Degree	**6**
Number of Teachers with Associate's Degree	**11**
Number of Teachers with CDA	**9**
Number of Infant/Toddler Teachers working towards credentials	**6**
Total number of Infant/Toddler Teachers	**32**

The EHS Program, Teachers, and Staff are committed to participating in professional opportunities to improve the services provided to children and families.



During the 2025-2026 Program Year, some examples of trainings provided to Early Head Start teachers are:

Active Supervison
Mandated Reporter
Nurtition & Mental Health
Financial Wellness
Brain Development
Sigh Language & Speech Development
Supporting Children with Disabilities
Supporting Dual Language Learners
A Culture of Child Safety
Creative Curriculum
Conscious Discipline

Teachers individualize dual language learning using information from observations and parental input. This is an ongoing collaboration with parents to support proficiency in both languages through curriculum and parent engagement events.

Posters, pictures and classroom materials are labeled with the languages and respectfully portray the cultures of the families we serve. The classroom environment in all of our programs reflects and welcomes the diverse backgrounds of our families.

Program Governance:

The Governance of SAL Early Child Care Program is shared by the SAL Board of Directors and the Policy Council. The shared responsibility for policy oversight is essential for program design, implementation, and maintaining quality services for Early Head Start children and families. The Policy Council is comprised of 80% parents with currently enrolled children and 20% community partners.

The Policy Council's regularly scheduled meetings are on the fourth Thursday of each month at 5:30pm. All parents are welcome to attend, but only elected representatives are given the opportunity to vote on presented issues.

2025-2026 Policy Council Members and Community Representatives

Brittany Bohlken (Chair)
Sha'Miracle Jones
Cheyenne Wasson
Audrey Davis

2025-2026 Board of Directors

Bill Stoermer (Chair)
Stephens Dunne
Dave Howell
Thomas Mason
Mike Oberhaus
Alfred Ramirez
Jennifer Rouse
Dianna Saelens
Karla Steele
Leah White
Jadiem Wilson
Haley Wikoff
Lucie VanHecke
Kirby Vyncke-Hughes

Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

At SAL Early Head Start Child Care Partnership, we believe strong family and community partnerships are essential to supporting children's healthy development and lifelong learning. **Throughout the year, we provided opportunities for families to connect, learn, and engage through a variety of activities:**

- **Family Engagement Events:** Families participated in events such as Day at the Zoo, Fall Family Day, Touch a Truck, and the June Family Fun Festival. Children and caregivers enjoyed age-appropriate activities, including a mini pumpkin patch, professional family photos, and a texture scavenger hunt. Community partners, including EveryChild, Bethany for Children & Families, and Family Resources, attended Touch a Truck to connect families with local resources and support services.

- **Home Based Socializations:** We hosted 24 socializations, including an evening at the park and a day at the splash pad. These gatherings provided opportunities for families to strengthen their support networks, children to develop social skills with peers, and parents to bond and create meaningful memories with their children.

- **Parent Governance:** Four quarterly Parent Committee meetings gave parents opportunities to share feedback, learn about program initiatives, and help shape family events and socializations. Families are also encouraged to participate in Policy Council, a parent-led governing body that helps guide the Early Head Start program by reviewing the program's financial statements, policies, procedures, and more.

Through these efforts, we strengthened family partnerships, connected families to community resources, and supported children's learning, development, and well-being.

Family Events


Day at the Zoo


Fall Family Day


Touch a Truck


June Family Fun Festival

Family Satisfaction



100% of parents surveyed would recommend the SAL Early Head Start program to a friend!

5-Week Caregiver Workshops

The Basics

The Basics Workshop with QC United Way

24:7 DAD

Moms and Dads Group

Resource Connections

SAL built special relationships to help families access services like:

- Goodwill of the Heartland Vouchers
- Diaper, wipe, and formula assistance from the YWCA of the QCs
- Free car seats & installation from the National Safety Council

Family Testimonials

"I'm so thankful [for EHS]. They are always kind, respect us, and always gives advice our family needs."

"Everyone was awesome and went above and beyond to accommodate me. Thank you!"

About Our Families

Family Makeup

- 27% Two parent families
- 73% One parent families
- .02% Grandparents
- .04% Foster Parents

Education & Employment

- 161 families included parents or guardians who were employed, attending school, or in a job training program.
- 14% Obtained less than a high school diploma.
- 48% Obtained a high school diploma or GED.
- 29% Obtained an associate's degree, vocational school, or some college.
- .09% obtained a bachelor's or master's degree.

Spoken Languages & Language Regions

- English
- Spanish
- Middle Eastern
- South Asian
- African

Military

- 1 active duty
- 1 veteran

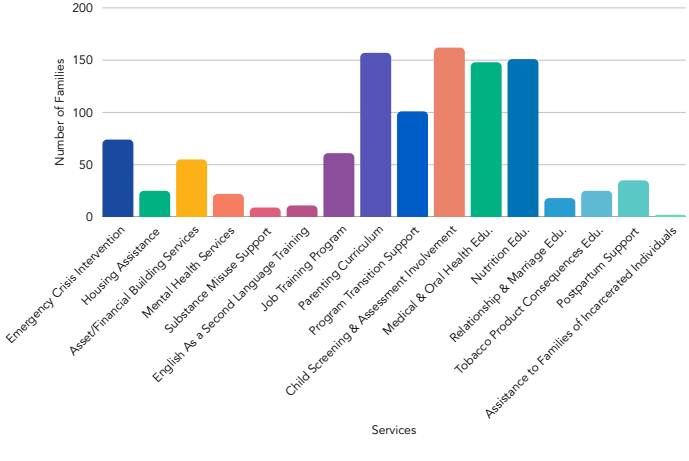
Housing

- 25 families received housing support during the program year.
- 10 unhomed families aquired housing.

Male Caregiver Engagement

- 77 fathers or male caregivers participated in home visits, conferences, and other child development experiences.
- 13 participated in parenting education workshops
- 46 participated in family assessments & goal setting.

Parent Needs and Services



Parent and Family education builds strong and resilient communities and empowers families to be their child's first and most important teacher, ensuring that children enter school healthy, safe, and prepared to thrive.

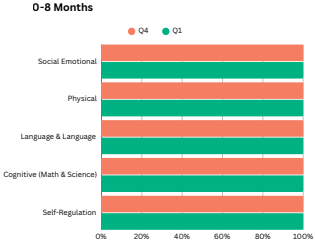
The top services the SAL EHS CCP program staff provided to families were education in health, child screenings, parenting curriculum, and nutrition.

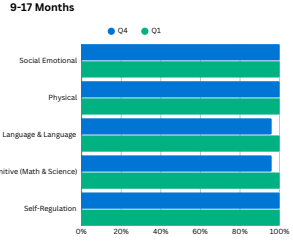
These services are a critical component to the Early Head Start Model.

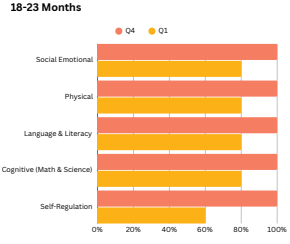
School Readiness Outcomes

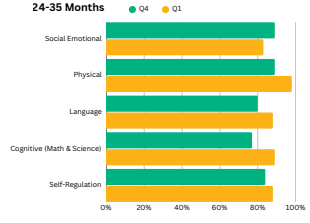
School readiness for infants and toddlers means supporting and protecting the developing brain in such a way that the brain creates a strong physical foundation for learning. Healthy social-emotional development has been shown to predict children's success in school and throughout life. **The goal identified by SAL EHS CCP is that children will have the social and emotional skills needed for a successful transition from Early Head Start to their next educational setting.** The objective is that at least 80% of the children will meet the social-emotional development milestones for their age.

Based on the below Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) results, all enrolled children met or exceeded the 80% goal by program year end!

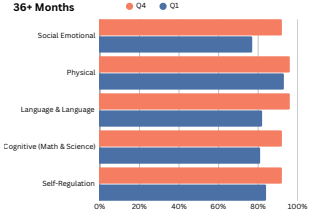






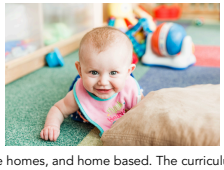


*SAL EHS CCP utilizes the Desired Results Developmental Profile - Infant /Toddler Comprehensive View to assess the knowledge and skills of the children in the program. The data presented for each reporting period reflects a snapshot of the children enrolled in specific age groups at that time. As children grow and transition to new classrooms, group-level results may vary between assessment periods. These changes do not necessarily indicate a decline in children's development, but rather reflect the changing composition of the groups being assessed. Individual child progress continues to be monitored, shared with families, and used to support individualized learning and development goals.









Curricula:

Conscious Discipline is a program used in all SAL Early Head Start program options including centers, family childcare homes, and home based. The curriculum teaches adults how to help children identify and regulate their emotions and begin to regulate their emotions. Teachers, Family Child Care providers, and Family Educators receive training each year to use this program well and to help children grow socially and emotionally.

In the center-based and family childcare programs, teachers use Creative Curriculum to support children's growth in all areas. They develop lesson plans every week based on each child's interests, strengths, and needs. Children learn through play and by engaging with caring adults and other children.

The home-based option uses the Parents as Teachers (PAT) curriculum. Family Educators help parents and guardians learn about early childhood development and positive parenting skills.

Child Assessment Tools:

Teachers, Family Child Care providers, and Family Educators observe children and take notes to learn and monitor progress. Four times a year, the information is reviewed using the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP). These assessments help teachers and parents understand each child's strengths and plan activities that help each child grow.

Health & Abilities Services

Healthcare	Children with health insurance and access to a consistent source of medical care: 100%
Dental	Children age 2 or older who received a dental exam during the 25-26 program year: 100%
Immunizations	Children with up-to-date & age-appropriate immunizations: 85.2%
Hearing & Vision Screenings	Screenings Completed Vision- 97% Hearing- 97%
Pregnancy Services	Expecting Parents who received prenatal care during pregnancy: 100% Number of expecting parents with health insurance: 100%
Nutrition	We provided nutrition education to 145 families, strengthening their ability to access, prepare, and choose healthy foods that contribute to lifelong health and well-being.

32 children had an IFSP during the 25-26 program year

13 children received an IFSP after their enrollment in EHS

47 children had a developmental concern identified during the 25-26 program year



2025 Dental Clinic Bus

SAL EHS CCP identifies young children with unique developmental needs and ensures children receive appropriate and timely services. The Office of Head Start requires 10% of the total funded Early Head Start enrollment be children with special needs.

SAL EHS served 19% of children with special needs during the 25-26 program year.

Families, teachers, or a developmental screenings identified a developmental concern early for 47 children. Of those 47 children, 32 children were eligible for an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). 13 of these children were newly enrolled for the 25-26 program year and received an IFSP.

Mental Health & Wellness

Early Head Start is dedicated to supporting the mental health and well-being of our children, families, and staff. Some of the mental health supports we provided the 2025-2026 program year were:

Family Supports

- Family Advocates and Family Educators check in with families regularly regarding their mental health.
- Referrals were made to community providers and resources that are appropriate to that concern to provide an extra level of support.
- Families were able to meet with our mental health partner, Everychild, throughout the program year to discuss concerns they many be having and received support.
- Postpartum parents received a PHQ-9 depression screener to monitor for postpartum depression.

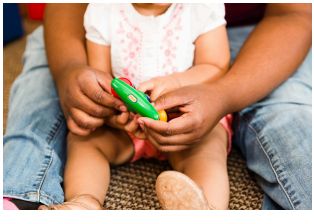
Child Supports

- Children received an Ages and Stages screening within the first 45 days of entering the program.
- Teachers received ongoing monthly training to identify and support children in the classroom with mental health concerns.
- An Everychild Mental Health Consultant performs regular classroom observations to identify concerns and support teacher learning.

Staff Supports

- All SAL Community Services staff can take advance of the free Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which can support staff in mental health, finances, legal concerns, and other services.
- Staff are provided and encouraged to attend and participate in staff wellness opportunities held throughout the year.







Program & Funding Information

2025 Fiscal Year Public and Private Funding

Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Grant Funding	Non-Federal Match Funding*	T&TA Funding
$4,221,704	$1,078,804	$93,509

Total Program Funding: **$5,394,017**

*Non-Federal match funding includes volunteer hours, discounts from vendors, and private donations from the community. T&TA Funding is to be use solely for staff professional development and learning.

Budgetary Expenditures

SAL Community Services EHS CCP budgetary expenditures are for the services provided to 168 children ages 0-4. Funding is spent in accordance with the regulations, standards, and guidelines of the SAL Community Services Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Grant from the federal government.

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2025 (3/1/25-2/28/26) for the SAL Early Head Start Child Care Partnership program is $5,394,017, which included the original award amount of $4,221,704 and an estimated $1,078,804 in non-federal matching funds.

Program Information

SAL EHS CCP Main Office Location
3800 Avenue of the Cities
Suite 108
Moline, IL 61265

Service Area Locations
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