



2022/2023
Annual Report
VOALA Head Start
&
Early Head Start
Los Angeles, San Fernando,
South Los Angeles



NUMBERS

	LOS ANGELES COUNTY			SAN FERNANDO VALLEY		SOUTH L.A.		TOTALS	
	HS	EHS	CCP	HS	EHS	HS	EHS	HS	EHS (incl. CCP)
Children Served	1,246	423	133	385	116	587	132	2,218	804
Families Served	1,184	381	49	362	107	550	119	2,096	656
Pregnant Women Served (& Total Families)	N/A	20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20
Children with Disabilities Served (& Percentage)	256 (21%)	98 (23%)	35 (26%)	69 (18%)	40 (35%)	66 (11%)	22 (17%)	391 (18%)	195 (24%)
% Completed Medical Exams (home)	97%	94%	100%	100%	100%	94%	82%	97%	94%
% Accessible Dental Care	89%	75%	93%	98%	91%	83%	62%	90%	80%
# of Meals Served	352,555			120,174		156,453		629,182	



ENROLLMENT (COMING OUT OF PANDEMIC)

LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
NA	79%	79%	82%	83%	82%	84%	86%	87%	86%	88%	87%

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EARLY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
60%	65%	64%	64%	60%	60%	63%	59%	57%	52%	53%	53%

EHS FAMILY CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
74%	76%	82%	85%	83%	81%	79%	75%	74%	79%	85%	87%

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
NA	72%	78%	81%	80%	81%	85%	86%	91%	92%	93%	90%

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY EARLY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
68%	69%	69%	68%	68%	86%	81%	68%	74%	75%	72%	68%

SOUTH LOS ANGELES HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
NA	71%	73%	76%	76%	76%	82%	81%	83%	83%	84%	83%

SOUTH LOS ANGELES EARLY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
81%	83%	82%	88%	89%	85%	89%	88%	86%	88%	86%	83%



ELIGIBLE CHILDREN IN VOALA SERVICE AREAS- *Based on ACS 2021 Survey (total of all families with children under 5 at or below 100% FPL by Zip Code) + 10% Over-income availability + 10% Children with special needs.*

	LOS ANGELES COUNTY	SAN FERNANDO VALLEY	SOUTH LOS ANGELES	CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP
ELIGIBLE CHILDREN	17,684	5,399	5,749	N/A
CHILDREN SERVED	1,802 (incl. CCP)	501	719	N/A
% SERVED	10.2%	9.3%	12.5%	N/A

VOALA service areas: The Eastern portion of the San Fernando Valley; East Los Angeles, the Southern Bay/Harbor Area of Los Angeles County, South Los Angeles, and parts of West Los Angeles.

CRITERIA FOR PRIORITY ENROLLMENT *in response to the Community Assessment:*

- Disability (IEP/IFSP)
- High Risk Family
- Immediate family member with disability or chronic illness
- Child recent physical indicates BMI is at 95th percentile
- Homeless Family
- Issues of Domestic Violence
- Literacy needs in the family's primary language
- Dual Language Learner
- Teenage Parent
- Child of an Incarcerated parent
- Child Protective Services
- Child with Asthma
- Five years old not ready for Kindergarten
- 5 Yr. Old (Kindergarten Unavailable)
- Mental Health issues
- Child with health issues
- Pregnant mother
- High Risk Pregnancy
- Child with other than biological parent
- Child in Foster Care/ Kinship Care
- Military family
- Supporting other
- Pregnant Teen
- Parenting Teen
- Returning child
- Single Parent
- Transitioning EHS Student to Head Start



2022/2023 EXPENDITURES

	LOS ANGELES COUNTY		SAN FERNANDO VALLEY		SOUTH LOS ANGELES		COVID
	HS	EHS	HS	EHS	HS	EHS	
Personnel	10,879,577	4,307,221	3,454,222	965,128	5,891,167	824,846	851,297
Fringe Benefits	2,459,948	985,242	926,651	257,395	1,458,379	172,614	153,306
Travel	4,822	1,747	705		399		
Equipment	291,900	181,892	51,178		13,407		
Supplies	675,055	355,576	206,369	82,599	541,278	73,987	51,271
Contractual	35,942	16,914	13,775	3,725	21,261	3,293	
Construction	2,166,497				3,419,460	337,544	
Other	4,229,129	1,630,676	1,067,108	292,730	1,761,952	238,902	2,226,247
Direct Charges	20,742,870	7,479,268	5,720,008	1,601,577	13,107,303	1,651,186	3,282,121
Indirect Costs	2,192,504	835,093	696,835	199,247	1,180,962	158,998	159,647
Totals	22,935,374	8,314,361	6,416,843	1,800,824	14,288,265	1,810,184	3,441,768

*Note: Child Care Partnership is included with Los Angeles County Early Head Start

Volunteers of America of Los Angeles (VOALA) demonstrated sound fiscal management and accountability measures in 2022/2023, as shown in the audit completed in December 2023 by Simpson & Simpson, CPAs. The complete audited consolidated financial statements of VOALA for FY 2023 may be obtained by contacting VOALA at 3600 Wilshire Blvd, #1500, Los Angeles, CA 90010.

PROGRAM REVENUE SOURCES

PUBLIC FUNDS RECEIVED 2022-2023

HEAD START	L.A. COUNTY	SAN FERNANDO	SOUTH L.A.	OTHER	TOTALS
BASIC	22,145,052	6,288,973	13,838,250		42,272,275
COVID SUPPLEMENTAL	637,055	75,000	219,454	3,441,768	4,373,277
T&TA	153,267	52,870	230,561		436,698

EARLY HEAD START

BASIC	8,139,814	1,780,574	1,775,548		11,695,936
SUPPLEMENTAL	80,260				80,260
T&TA	94,287	20,250	34,636		149,173

CA DEPT. OF EDUCATION

State Preschool	1,125,826	555,052	181,059		1,861,937
CACFP	974,565	328,731	438,661	87,198	1,829,155
Child Development				1,912,968	1,912,968

OTHER FUNDING

Other Program Grants				119,430,949	119,430,949
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TOTAL PUBLIC FUNDS	33,350,126	9,101,450	16,718,169	124,872,883	184,042,628
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VOALA REVENUE SOURCES

PRIVATE FUNDS RECEIVED 2022-2023

Individuals	112,174
On-line giving	3,671
Corporations	2,798
Foundations	829,928
Bequests	347,313
Contributions, In-kind	546,558
United Way	911,356
VOA, Inc.	112,174
TOTAL	2,753,798

OTHER REVENUE FROM OPERATIONS

Government Fees: Direct Federal	95,095,462
State	24,909,952
Local	64,037,214
Other Revenue: Program Fees	8,811,863
Rental Income	
Other Operating Revenue	339,145
TOTAL	193,193,636

OTHER REVENUE FROM NON- OPERATIONS

Investment Earnings	3,209,799
Loss of Disposition of Fixed Assets	(25,883)
Realized / Unrealized Gains on Investments	7,888,485
Other	(470,129)
TOTAL Non-operating gains (losses)	10,602,272

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PARENT INVOLVEMENT

One of the key components for the success of the children is the participation and dedication of their parents and family members. We offer parent and family member activities including classes, trainings and workshops at all of our sites.

PARENT VOLUNTEER HOURS:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

HEAD START	67,785
EARLY HEAD START (CCP)*	32,942

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

HEAD START	17,564
EARLY HEAD START	7,636

SOUTH LOS ANGELES

HEAD START	20,122
EARLY HEAD START	6,320

*Note: Child Care Partnership is included with Los Angeles County Early Head Start

POLICY COUNCIL:

The Policy Council is comprised of parents elected at each HS/EHS site and program and serves as a decision and policy-making body for the VOALA Head Start and Early Head Start programs. The Policy Council consists of committees that focus on specific areas of concern including bylaws, procedures, development, personnel, and finance. The Head Start Director selects the Community representatives.



PARENT ACTIVITIES

HEAD START / EARLY HEAD START

Parents Activities		
Parent Orientation	Employment Training/Resources	Kindergarten Coalition
Parent Center Committee meetings	Literacy training	PC Executive Officer training
Policy Council training	Autism and Care Packages	Creative Curriculum
Disabilities Training	Health Advisory Committee	Nutrition Workshop
Family Partnership Goal Setting Workshop	Parent Center Representatives training	ESL Classes
Parent Literacy training	Childhood Asthma training	Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)
	Financial Literacy training	Lead poisoning prevention
Identifying Families Strengths Workshop	Red Cross- Emergency Preparedness	California Shakeout
Domestic violence training	Financial Empowerment Workshops	Male Involvement activities 1. STEAM. 2. Literacy
Car Seat safety training	Oral hygiene	Tobacco Use and the Effects of Child Development
Kindergarten transition	Family Mental Health	Child & Family Outcomes
Allergy training	Wellness Workshops	Holiday Events/Donations
Financial Empowerment	Smoke Detector Training	Child Abuse and Neglect Training
Parent's Guide to Special Education	Parent and Child Intervention Summer Program	Positive Parenting Program
One Voice Gift Cards	Parent's Guide to Special Education	Parent and Child Intervention Summer Program
Growing Great Kids	Read Across America Week	COVID-19 Safety Training and Vaccine Clinics
Ages and Stages: Developmental Milestones	Be A Hero Day – Take Your Child to School	211 Services
Lending Libraries	Nurturing Fathers Workshop	Food Banks
Leadership Training	Walk and Bike to School	Virtual Nutrition Cooking Classes



2023/2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

	LOS ANGELES COUNTY		SAN FERNANDO VALLEY		SOUTH LOS ANGELES	
	HS	EHS	HS	EHS	HS	EHS
Personnel	11,184,512	5,853,988	3,675,457	1,304,690	5,740,682	1,457,294
Fringe Benefits	3,352,000	1,780,000	943,000	319,000	1,673,000	344,000
Travel	10,450	23,310	8,760	6,960	12,515	4,180
Equipment	100,000	50,000	-	-	-	-
Supplies	522,196	358,047	133,681	44,211	248,241	55,678
Contractual	46,000	592,600	13,000	4,000	19,000	4,300
Construction	2,824,235	1,236,115	889,110	305,158	1,998,635	247,020
Other	18,039,393	9,894,060	5,663,008	1,984,019	9,692,073	2,112,472
Direct Charges	2,254,380	1,144,752	706,877	243,797	1,208,330	260,728
Indirect Costs	20,293,773	11,038,812	6,369,885	2,227,816	10,900,403	2,373,200
Totals	11,184,512	5,853,988	3,675,457	1,304,690	5,740,682	1,457,294





CHILDREN'S SERVICES





VOALA COMMUNITY SERVICES

Volunteers of America is one of Los Angeles' oldest and largest non-profit human services organizations. We are committed to serving people in need, strengthening families, and building communities. Established in 1896, Volunteers of America Los Angeles (VOALA) began with a Mission Hall, a home for orphaned children, and a prison reform crusade.

We work with men, women, families, seniors, and veterans, who are vulnerable to homelessness, substance abuse, unemployment, mental illness and crime, and who are ready to transform their own lives and become productive community members. We identify children and youth, who are at-risk of becoming the next generation of teen mothers, absentee fathers, and welfare recipients, and guide them on their pathway towards an educated and empowered future with needed resources.

VOALA designs programs to encourage positive development, promote self-sufficiency, and foster independence. Donors and funders recognize our ability to implement innovative programs with continual improvements resulting from ongoing evaluations.

We continue in the path of our founders, committed to finding solutions to the issues that burden us as individuals, and as a society. We retain the essence of their spiritual and social legacy with a broad scope of support and services for all - regardless of race, gender, age, or religious preference.

At VOALA, we believe all people have tremendous capacity for increased insight and self-sufficiency. We are dedicated to helping all people realize their full potential through relevant programs and services that have a deep impact. The results are a change in the way individuals see themselves and the world; broad, extending beyond individuals to their families and communities; and long lasting, extending beyond the time spent with us.

SOME PEOPLE CAN'T IMAGINE DOING WHAT WE DO. WE CAN'T IMAGINE NOT DOING IT.





VOALA CHILDREN'S SERVICES

CHILD DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION All children enrolled in our programs receive educational experiences that are developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate. Statutory requirements include outcomes that programs must strive for, so that the focus is on readiness to move to kindergarten. Literacy, numeracy, social and emotional are areas child development specialist are measuring for growth and development.

HEALTH Every enrolled child is expected to receive a broad array of health services including screenings and referrals, maintenance of immunization schedules, nutrition assessments and follow-ups, mental health assessments as part of initial screenings, and determination if any mental or physical delays are present. Our staff ensures that all children enrolled in the program receive health and dental services and have access to ongoing and routine health and dental care.

NUTRITION Enrolled children receive healthy meals, along with an assessment of their nutritional needs and the necessary follow-ups. Nutrition education is also available for parents and staff and incorporated into daily classroom activities for the children.

MENTAL HEALTH Mental health services are available to children and families, and include screening and assessments for children, training for parents and staff members, access to mental health professionals, and monitoring of all mental health services.

SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES At least ten percent of funded enrollment is reserved for children with disabilities. We work with local education agencies, and other providers to recruit and serve this population. Children with suspected and identified disabilities receive appropriate services and support, as they are included into the different Head Start and Early Head Start program options.

FAMILY SERVICES We work with parents to create family goals and identify strategies to meet those goals. Family and Community services focuses on ensuring that services to families are available and their needs are met by connecting them to the appropriate community resources.





MISSION STATEMENT

Providing quality education and comprehensive services to children, families and communities through support, guidance, resources and advocacy.

Volunteers of America Los Angeles (VOALA) Children's Services programs base their services on the premise that all parents, expecting either a child or who have children, share common needs, and that low-income families will benefit from a comprehensive services program.

To this end, we collaborate with the entire family as well as community partners to increase awareness; provide resources, education and information that connects families to the community, adapting pro-actively to the rapidly changing economy that affects families served; and build trust and relationships with families and staff that reflect the diversity of the community.

We hold a firm belief in the innate health and unlimited potential of all people. We know that children thrive in a nurturing environment and become more cognitively, socially and emotionally developed when they participate in early education programs.

The skills and confidence gained by children and their families at VOALA Head Start and Early Head Start programs promote a stable home life and ensure a smooth transition for the children into kindergarten and beyond.





PREPARATION FOR KINDERGARTEN

VOALA has established a school readiness plan to prepare children for kindergarten. The agency uses Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP 2015) assessment data of the children to establish school readiness goals that align with the California Early Learning Foundation and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes. The agency uses the Creative Curriculum to plan daily activities in the classroom, allowing children to have choices and learn independently, respect others, and develop social skills. VOALA uses the DRDP 2015 three times a year to identify the progress of growth & development in children. Teachers use data collected from the DRDP 2015 to plan individualized activities for children and to monitor their progress throughout the year. The agency uses the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) twice a year for center-based teachers and the Home Visitors Rating Scale (HOVRS) for home visitors as a professional development tool to promote evidence-based practices for improving preschool classroom teacher-child interactions and teaching practices. The agency conducts transition activities throughout the year. These activities include:

- Kindergarten Coalition Meetings with local Elementary School teachers and administration.
- Spring Parent conference with materials and information on the transition to Kindergarten.
- Transition Backpack with home activities & materials to prepare children for kindergarten.
- Transition Parent Training at the site level to connect families with district personnel and guide them through the process of enrolling children in kindergarten.
- Introduce children to Cafeteria Style Meals so children acquire the needed skills for a smooth transition.
- The agency provides Literacy Backpacks and Classroom Lending Libraries so children will be familiar and be successful utilizing the schools and public libraries.





COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Identification and Priority of Needs

HEALTH

Two priorities from the Community Assessment are dental exams and cavities. From looking at <https://dental.dhcs.ca.gov/>, For the first priority, VOALA determined that there are enough low-cost dental clinics in Los Angeles. We also know that if a child has Medi-Cal then they also have Denti-Cal. 95% of our children have Medi-Cal. Yet, with having both insurance and access to low cost dental clinics, only 72% of our children in all the Head Start programs received a complete dental exam.

This leads into the second priority, cavities. A 2020 UCLA report states that 54% of children will have tooth decay by the time they start kindergarten in Los Angeles County. From our PIR for all three Head Start programs, 15% of children had cavities. Because we are not getting all of the dental exams, we are not getting the complete picture and our cavity rate could be much higher.

NUTRITION

The two topics that appear to need priority nationally and within our community are childhood obesity and food insecurity.

Childhood obesity is an ongoing public health emergency that has trended upwards since the late 1970's until the late 2010's were rates started to trend downwards. Ongoing interventions show great progress in managing and/or prevented childhood obesity with early onset of nutrition and movement education in families which makes our program the perfect place to start!

Food insecurity is also an ongoing public health concern, particularly among families with young children, due to how important good nutrition is to the development of young bodies and minds.



MENTAL HEALTH

Parent Education - Parent education and support are a priority for children's wellness and success. It is even more important if a person (parent) is struggling with mental health issues as this can lead to impact their child's development and the entire family system.

Source: In California, there are 6,169,000 adults living with mental illness—many of which are not receiving treatment and are parents to children under 18 years old (Reinert, Fritze and Nguyen, 2022).

Child Abuse - Child abuse and neglect are a prevalent societal issue needs to be prioritized for providers working with children - especially in the education field. Comprehensive programs like Head Start can help address this issue by providing parents with education, resources, advocacy and early identification of needs. Source: The Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) reports that there were a total of 131, 261 child abuse referrals and a total of 25,672 children receiving child welfare services in the 2022-23 fiscal year (ages 17 and under). Out of the 25,672 children, 7,788 were ages zero to four (Department of Children and Family Services, 2023).

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Employment Services – Recent unemployment crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the Great Recession, hit certain families particularly hard, including parents of color, women, immigrants, less-educated parents, and lower-income families (5, 6). Leaders can prioritize the systemic issues behind these inequities, as well as support programs and policies to meet the needs of these vulnerable families.

In 2018, an estimated 28% of California children living in families had no parent with full-time, year-round employment in the previous 12 months, compared with 26% of children nationwide. At the local level, the percentage of children without secure parental employment ranged from less than 10% to more than 50% across cities, school districts, and counties with at least 10,000 residents in 2014-2018.

California and U.S. unemployment rates, after reaching twenty-year lows in 2019 (4.2% and 3.7%, respectively), more than doubled in 2020, the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. An estimated 1.9 million California workers (10.1%) were unemployed in 2020, with rates across counties ranging from 7% to more than 20.

Services that support the inclusions of fathers – Engaging and involving fathers and other paternal family members is a crucial component to prioritize for family engagement. However, many fathers and paternal family members have been historically overlooked and are less likely to be engaged in support services compared with mothers. In early childhood it is well known that school-aged children with good relationships with their fathers were less likely to experience depression, to exhibit disruptive behavior, or to lie. Overall, they were far more likely to exhibit prosocial behavior.





Summary of Activities to address Community Needs

1. **Health** – Community outreach and parent education to address the importance of dental exams and reducing cavities.
2. **Nutrition** – Provide families resources, consultation, and classes that address child obesity and food insecurity.
3. **Mental Health** – Provide child development and wellness parent education through the Positive Parenting Program and provide effective mental health referrals that can help prevent or mitigate the damage from abuse and neglect.
4. **Family and Community Engagement** – Support families, affected by unemployment, by connecting them to job training, vocational programs, and employment agencies to create opportunities to secure employment. Establish internal programs that can move families towards employment in the child development or family advocacy field.
5. **Safety** – Work with government officials to monitor, reduce, and prevent man-made hazards that could potentially affect the health of children and families in the communities we serve.
6. **Child Enrollment** – Continue to serve the children with the highest need for our program. Pivot towards the age range where children are least likely to be served by a child development program.



OHS SECRETARY'S REPORT

Head Start Grantee, 09CH011692, received a CLASS® Video Pilot review. This review was carried out between January 18th, 2023 to March 4th, 2023. The review summary report was completed on March 23rd, 2023. VOALA received above Quality Threshold scores in all three Domains as shown below.

The Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) include Quality and Competitive thresholds for each CLASS® domain(s). *While scores from observations conducted during the 2022-23 program year for this CLASS® Video Pilot will not be used for DRS purposes, we offer the following information for your program's reference:*

DOMAIN	SCORE	Quality Threshold	Competitive Threshold
Emotional Support*	6.2292	6	5
Classroom Organization	6.2593	6	5
Instructional Support	3.2963	3	2.3**

*To calculate the Emotional Support domain, subtract the Negative Climate score from 8, add the Positive Climate, Teacher Sensitivity, and Regard for Student Perspective scores, then divide by 4.

**The competitive threshold for Instructional Support is 2.3 for CLASS® reviews conducted through July 31, 2025 and then raises to 2.5 for CLASS® reviews conducted on and after August 1, 2025.

