



2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

VOALA HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START
LOS ANGELES COUNTY • SAN FERNANDO VALLEY • SOUTH LOS ANGELES



NUMBERS

	LOS ANGELES COUNTY			SAN FERNANDO VALLEY		SOUTH L.A.		TOTALS	
	HS	EHS	CCP	HS	EHS	HS	EHS	HS	EHS
Children Served	1,269	552	149	370	101	495	83	2,134	885
Families Served	1,129	408	137	354	86	461	76	1,483	707
Pregnant Women Served (& Total Families)	N/A	35	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	35
Children with Disabilities Served (& Percentage)	263 (21%)	78 (14%)	30 (20%)	96 (25%)	13 (13%)	51 (10%)	17 (21%)	410 (19%)	138 (16%)
% Completed Medical Exams	90%	87%	97%	99%	99%	97%	98%	95%	95%
% Completed Dental Exams	42%	79%	NA	99%	96%	92%	89%	78%	88%
# of Meals Served	41,370*			3392		867		45,692	

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



ENROLLMENT (IMPACTED BY PANDEMIC)**LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEAD START**

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
NA	80.2%	84.1%	75.5%	74.0%	75.6%	75.3%	76.9%	78.5%	78.7%	80.3%	79.5%

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EARLY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
93.3%	94.8%	94.1%	94.5%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99.2%	99.2%	99.2%	99.2%

EHS FAMILY CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
100%	95.7%	85.5%	82.9%	76.9%	70.9%	71.8%	71.8%	72.6%	73.5%	71.8%	59.0%

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
NA	72.9%	72.4%	75.1%	73.4%	75.1%	75.1%	75.1%	76.7%	77.4%	77.9%	77.4%

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY EARLY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
100%	82.2%	83.3%	85.6%	80%	88.9%	84.4%	84.4%	77.8%	77.4%	77.4%	77.4%

SOUTH LOS ANGELES HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
N/A	70.2%	73.0%	67.6%	64.0%	63.4%	64.9%	63.4%	64.5%	66.1%	63.9%	63.0%

SOUTH LOS ANGELES EARLY HEAD START

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
100%	100%	100%	100%	96.9%	98.4%	100%	96.9%	98.4%	98.4%	95.3%	95.3%



ELIGIBLE CHILDREN IN VOALA SERVICE AREAS- Based on ACS 2019 Survey (total of all families with children under 5 at or below 100% FPL by Zip Code) + 10% Over-income availability:

	LOS ANGELES COUNTY	SAN FERNANDO VALLEY	SOUTH LOS ANGELES	CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP
ELIGIBLE CHILDREN	20,527	5,326	6,329	N/A
CHILDREN SERVED	1,821	471	578	N/A
% SERVED	8.9%	8.8%	9.1%	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 *based on the Community Assessment:*

- Child with IEP or IFSP
- Foster child
- Child who is a protective services client
- Child in custody of guardian other than biological parent
- Child who is visibly overweight or obese
- Child with asthma
- Child transitioning from EHS to HS
- Returning student
- Teenage mother
- Pregnant mother
- “High-risk” pregnancy
- Single parent
- US Military Families
- Family with issues related to disabilities
- Family with issues related to mental well being
- Family with literacy needs
- Family learning ESL
- Family on public assistance
- Homeless family
- Undocumented family
- “High-risk” family (conviction; recent job loss; recent divorce/separation; terminal illness in immediate family; other crisis if kindergarten is not appropriate or available)



2020/2021 EXPENSES

	LOS ANGELES COUNTY		SAN FERNANDO VALLEY		SOUTH LOS ANGELES	
	HS	EHS	HS	EHS	HS	EHS
Personnel	9,383,513	3,887,819	3,365,654	737,849	4,716,385	414,302
Fringe Benefits	2,783,020	1,193,528	1,043,688	220,948	1,426,222	116,874
Travel						
Equipment	146,879	127,055	37,976		209,951	
Supplies	991,801	187,270	362,019	104,981	603,155	75,355
Contractual	33,923	13,832	27,782	2,555	17,807	1,928
Other			722,772			
Direct Charges	2,986,637	1,145,013	969,330	197,770	1,723,425	117,886
Indirect Costs	16,325,773	6,554,517	6,529,221	1,264,103	8,696,945	726,345
Totals	2,039,675	784,774	751,401	162,024	1,076,288	95,877

*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 2020/2021, as shown in the audit completed in November 2021 by Simpson & Simpson, CPAs. The complete audited consolidated financial statements of VOALA for FY 2021 may be obtained by contacting VOALA at 3600 Wilshire Blvd, #1500, Los Angeles, CA 90010.



PROGRAM REVENUE SOURCES

PUBLIC FUNDS RECEIVED 2020-2021

HEAD START	L.A. COUNTY	SAN FERNANDO	SOUTH L.A.	OTHER	TOTALS
BASIC	17,741,290	6,083,271	9,317,741		33,142,302
SUPPLEMENTAL	615,778	1,178,476	432,622		2,226,876
T&TA	8,380	18,875	22,870		50,125

EARLY HEAD START

BASIC	7,327,674	1,426,127	822,222		9,576,023
SUPPLEMENTAL					-
T&TA	11,617				11,617

CA DEPT. OF EDUCATION

State Preschool	813,576	231,539	85,122		1,130,237
CACFP	109,132	9,472	2,418	37,810	158,832
Child Development				1,473,160	1,473,160

OTHER FUNDING

Other Program Grants				133,980,205	133,980,205
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TOTAL PUBLIC FUNDS	26,627,447	8,947,760	10,682,995	135,491,175	181,749,377
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VOALA REVENUE SOURCES

PRIVATE FUNDS RECEIVED

Individuals	112,439
On-line giving	6,642
Corporations	95,160
Foundations	831,337
Bequests	17,640
Contributions, In-kind	3,627
United Way	580,511
VOA, Inc.	1,055,000
TOTAL	2,702,356

OTHER REVENUE FROM OPERATIONS

Government Fees: Direct Federal	83,108,413
State	20,158,205
Local	78,482,759
Other Revenue: Program Fees	8,078,722
Rental Income	65,944
Other Operating Revenue	615,377
TOTAL	190,509,420

OTHER REVENUE FROM NON- OPERATIONS

Investment Earnings	2,022,160
Loss of Disposition of Fixed Assets	(2,943)
Realized / Unrealized Gains on Investments	26,689,872
Other	(273,595)
TOTAL Non-operating gains (losses)	28,435,494

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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	67,534.50
EARLY HEAD START	31,469

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

HEAD START	25,539
EARLY HEAD START	11,941

SOUTH LOS ANGELES

HEAD START	30,913.50
EARLY HEAD START	12,564

*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	
Domestic violence training	Financial Empowerment Workshops	Male Involvement activities 1. STEAM. 2. Self Esteem. 3. Literacy 4. Saturday Meet-Ups. 5. Sports Day
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 Food Giveaway	Parent's Guide to Special Education	Parent and Child Intervention Summer Program
Growing Great Kids	Read Across America Week	COVID-19 Safety Training
Ages and Stages: Developmental Milestones	Be A Hero Day – Take Your Child to School	211 Services
Lending Libraries		Food Banks



2021/2022 PROPOSED BUDGET

	LOS ANGELES COUNTY		SAN FERNANDO VALLEY		SOUTH LOS ANGELES	
	HS	EHS	HS	EHS	HS	EHS
Personnel	10,588,948	4,849,397	3,529,720	868,710	5,600,738	618,095
Fringe Benefits	3,091,000	1,216,000	923,000	243,000	1,680,000	159,000
Travel	19,700	21,590	10,280	7,230	20,705	4,180
Equipment	-	-	-	-	35,000	-
Supplies	503,820	317,994	128,679	56,663	409,912	36,378
Contractual	46,000	544,150	14,000	3,000	22,500	2,000
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	3,095,848	1,124,072	904,506	217,971	1,951,061	148,904
Direct Charges	17,345,316	8,073,203	5,510,185	1,396,574	9,719,916	968,557
Indirect Costs	2,082,323	900,219	716,088	179,420	1,258,510	124,358
Totals	19,427,639	8,973,422	6,226,273	1,575,994	10,978,426	1,092,915





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.

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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:

- Walking field trips to home schools for children to visit kindergarten classroom and playground.
- 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.

The safety of children, family and the staff is our first priority. VOALA follows all Federal, State, Public Health Department and Licensing guidelines and regulations applicable to childcare. The Education Team has embedded Distance Learning in the program curriculum to enhance and meet children's educational needs. The Distance Learning model supports and encourages families to interact and assist in developing cognitive, language, physical and social emotional skills for children to succeed in Kindergarten and beyond.

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COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Identification and Priority of Needs

In late 2017, to determine the size or seriousness of a problem, population, economic and health indicators from each of VOALA's three Grantee service areas, staff identified zip codes and measured them against Los Angeles County benchmark data. When service area zip code data were not available, staff made comparisons using data from Los Angeles County's Service Planning Areas (SPAs). Additionally, VOALA asked primary data sources to identify community and health issues based on the perceived size or seriousness of a problem.

After reviewing primary and secondary data sources, VOALA identified the following needs (listed in alphabetical order) as highly relevant to the Grantees' Head Start/Early Head Start children, families and pregnant women, and require consideration:

Access to health care · Access to healthy foods · **Access to child care** · Air quality · Awareness of available health/social services · Binge drinking · **Child abuse and neglect rates** · Chronic diseases (including asthma, heart disease, HIV/AIDS, maternal and infant health) · Cultural and linguistic barriers · **Dental care access** · Disease management · Early childhood development · **Economic security** · Healthy behaviors (including nutrition and physical activity) · Housing · Mental health · **Neighborhood Safety** · Overweight and obesity · **Single mothers (mental health)** · Preventative health care · Teen birth rate.

There are six areas of need listed above formatted in **bold**: These areas signify the following top six priorities for the Grantees' consideration

Based on the VOALA 2020 Community Assessment update, VOALA is focused on the following considerations, and six priorities:

Community Assessment Considerations and Covid-19

Kindergarten Availability - Although Kindergarten is readily available to most children in Los Angeles County, many parents are holding off on Kindergarten until their child is vaccinated, and children must be 5 years or older to be allowed to get the vaccination against Covid. During September 1, 2020-March 31, 2021, 105,577 Covid cases among children and adolescents aged 5-17 years were reported in Los Angeles County (CDC MMWR 8/27/21).

Rates of Homelessness - Although the rate of homelessness is still high, and a new count was not completed for 2021, LAHSA found that the LA region's shelter capacity on any given night was 24,616 beds, a 57% increase over the last





COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY cont'd

Identification and Priority of Needs

three years. The agency also reported 33,592 permanent housing options, an increase of 16% over the same time period.

Demographic Changes - There has been no major shift in demographics. There is a relationship between lower birth rates and unemployment affecting the Latino population over time.

Community Assessment Priorities

Priority 1

Child abuse remains an issue, but as an added challenge, the stress brought on by the Covid related events makes managing a household difficult. Parents have faced the loss of income, the death of a loved one, social isolation, no in-person learning at a school or childcare, and little outside interaction..

Priority 2

Food Insecurity is now a major concern, so this priority has shifted. Since the pandemic began, the number of people receiving food each month from the [Los Angeles Regional Food Bank](#) has tripled from 300,000 to more than 900,000. The food bank estimates that 1 in 4 people in Los Angeles County experience food insecurity.

Priority 3

The pandemic has unequally affected high and low-wage workers. High-wage workers in Los Angeles County experienced a 12.6 percent decline in employment compared to January 2020 levels. By contrast, low-wage employment had declined by 37.6 percent. We continue to help families with their economic security.

Priority 4

There has been a spike in murder rates and violent crime while other crimes have remained steady or decreased. Killings hit a decade high after many years of lowering. Robberies fell likely because more people were at home. It is difficult to understand specifically what is driving the swings in crime rates, but Covid has been the main exacerbator.

Priority 5

Securing childcare is even more challenging when one considers price and the fact that many childcare programs have completely shut their doors due to the economic impact of the pandemic.

Priority 6

Statewide, close to 40% of single-women households, even with no children, can barely make ends meet. Women are struggling and those struggles affect mental health.





OHS SECRETARY'S REPORT

Grantees 09CH9136, 09CH010486, and 09CHP0003 From January 13, 2020 to January 17, 2020 received an unannounced Focus Area Two OHS Monitoring Review. OHS found a number of Program Areas demonstrating quality. They include Program Management, Education and Child Development, Family and Community Engagement, Fiscal, and ERSEA. The one finding, that VOALA has since corrected, was ensuring proper monitoring and keeping timely information on a child's health status and source of health care, preventative care, and follow-up.

We did not receive a review during the 2020-2021 Program Year due to the Pandemic. We expect to have an FA2 Review for our San Fernando and CCP Programs in Program Year 2021-2022.

