



Le Jardin Community Center



Planting Seeds For The Future

Early Head Start/Head Start 2020-2021 Annual Report



About Le Jardin

Le Jardin is an Early Learning organization with several locations in Homestead / Florida City, Florida. Le Jardin opened in 1986 and since then has grown to 8 Centers and one administration office, employing approximately 300 employees, providing services year-round under Head Start, Early Head Start, Voluntary Pre-k, School Readiness, and Parenting programs. Currently, Le Jardin annually serves over 816 infants, toddlers, preschool, pregnant women, and families. The families come from diverse backgrounds, but all have incomes falling below the Federal Poverty guidelines.

Le Jardin is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation that is governed by an elected board of directors. The board provides strategic leadership and fiduciary oversight as it works to ensure progress towards organizational goals. The objective of Le Jardin is to incorporate a process that provides a vision for growth and sustainability. Our mission is dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and families. To provide high-quality education, recreational and cultural activities, and comprehensive services in a safe, caring, and nurturing environment.

Annual Report

This report is published in accordance with the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. The Act states that: "Each Head Start agency shall make available to the public a report published at least once in each fiscal year that discloses the following information from the recently concluded fiscal year, except that reporting such information shall not reveal personally identifiable information about an individual child or parent:

- A) The total amount of public and private funds received and the amount for each source.
- B) An explanation of budgetary expenditures and proposed budget for the fiscal year.
- C) The total number of children and families served, the average monthly enrollment (as a percentage of funded enrollment), and the percentage of eligible children served.
- D) The results of the most recent review by the Secretary and the financial audit.
- E) The percentage of enrollment children that received medical and dental exam.
- F) Information about parent involvement activities.
- G) The agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten.
- H) Any other information required by the Secretary."





Our Mission

Enriched by the diversity of our community, Le Jardin Community Center, Inc. is dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and families. We provide high-quality educational, recreational, and cultural activities as well as comprehensive services in a safe, caring, and nurturing environment. As a private not-for-profit corporation, Le Jardin seeks opportunities, partnerships, and resources to meet changing community needs.

Our Vision Statement

Le Jardin aspires to improve the quality of life for our children and families, as well as the quality of our School Centers and ongoing engagement with our community stakeholders, through a Culture of Community Support.

Value Statement

As an organization, Le Jardin promotes the following values as our guide in all relationships:

Honesty through integrity, trust, and accountability
Respect and sensitivity to diversity
Open-mindedness
Creativity
Open and clear communications
Professionalism
Caring and understanding

Quality Statement

Le Jardin Community Center, Inc. is composed of a diverse team of professionals who maximize resources to involve parents in a partnership that completes a circle of mutual support and opens the world to the inquisitive minds of children.



MESSAGE FROM MADAM CHAIRWOMAN CHRISTINE MOORE

Dear Friend of Le Jardin,

As a proud Board member of Le Jardin since 2018, I would like to present to you this year's 2020-2021 Annual Report.

For the past two decades, Le Jardin has been at the forefront of the fight against poverty by providing high-quality education and access to comprehensive services.

As the Chairperson for Le Jardin, I have witnessed and firmly believe in the impact this organization has on children and families as well as our ever-changing community. Our commitment to excellence drives us to think out of the box and allows us to thrive.

The reality is that COVID-19 left our families facing extreme poverty, mental and physical trauma, homelessness, and more demand for services. Le Jardin recognized these challenges and embraced the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable children and families.

We are proud to present this report highlighting the invaluable impact of our work. We are grateful and appreciate every teacher, community partner, donor, employee, parent, and friend of Le Jardin.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Moore
Chairwoman



MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EDUARDO BERRONES

Dear Friend of Le Jardin,

As the Executive Director of Le Jardin Community Center, Inc., I am pleased to present the 2020 - 2021 Annual Report.

Le Jardin was established in 1986 and is dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and families. Since those early years, we have taken on a more holistic approach. We seek to achieve a vision of strong learners, engaged families, high-quality comprehensive services, and vibrant communities through education services, partnerships, and advocacy. Le Jardin strives to help families to create healthier, happier, and stronger values.

Le Jardin is committed to excellence and continuous quality improvement. We are committed to working with our community partners to improve and enhance early childhood services in our local community.

Although the aftermath of the pandemic has brought along unprecedented challenges, Le Jardin has received a stellar Federal Review of the EHS Programs. These accomplishments have been the result of tireless work and the ongoing efforts of our Board of Directors, Policy Council, Policy Committee, Staff, Parents, and Stakeholders.

On behalf of Le Jardin, we thank you for your commitment to this effort. Together, we can build stronger children and families in our vibrant community.

Sincerely,
Eduardo Berrones

MESSAGE FROM LE JARDIN'S POLICY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

REYNALDO DEL VALLE

Dear Friend of Le Jardin,

As the Policy Council Chairperson at Le Jardin Community Center, Inc., I am pleased to present the 2020 - 2021 Annual Report.

As a Le Jardin parent, I am committed to my children's education and their well-being. This is my second term serving as Chairperson on the Policy Council and voicing the needs and concerns of other Le Jardin parents.

Le Jardin's Early Head Start and Head Start programs are an invaluable resource and a safe haven for many children and families in the Homestead community. Parents in this program can trust that their child is receiving not only the best possible care but also a wholesome learning experience thanks to the Early Head Start and Head Start program research-based curriculum.



MESSAGE FROM LE JARDIN'S POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

BREANNA ELLIS

Dear Friend of Le Jardin,

As the Policy Committee Chairperson at Le Jardin Community Center, Inc., I am pleased to present the 2020 - 2021 Annual Report.

I can't begin to stress the impact Head Start has had in the life of many children, including my own. I trust the experience and expertise of the Head Start educators and know that my child will transition to kindergarten with school-readiness skills.

Not only does Le Jardin promote and encourage parent involvement, there are endless opportunities for all parents to make a true impact in their child's education. We all have to keep in mind that we are our children's first and lifelong educator's and we must prepare for success.



Honors and Accomplishments

Le Jardin Community Center, Inc. was awarded a 31.5-million-dollar grant. This grant was part of the Early Head Start Expansion Funding Opportunity that was awarded through the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families, Office of Head Start. Le Jardin was 1 of 62 applicants in the United States, 1 of 7 programs awarded in Region 4, and the only program awarded in Florida.

Le Jardin's CFO/COO, Audelia Martinez was featured in Go! Latinos Magazine Women's History Month issue. Ms. Martinez was not only identified as a change initiator in the South Dade community but also recognized for her innumerable volunteer efforts to benefit vulnerable children and families.

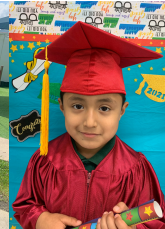
Le Jardin's Board Member, Deana Goldin, Ph.D., DNP, APRN, was recognized by The Florida Nurses Association (FNA) {State of Florida South Region} and awarded the "FNA Advanced Practice Nursing Award" this past June as well as the "FNA {State of Florida} Advanced Practice Nursing Icon Award" for exemplifying excellence in the Advanced Practice Nursing role in August.

Le Jardin's Family Worker, Melissa Santiago-Pagan, received the Woman of the Year award due to her resiliency and commitment to the well-being of Le Jardin families.

Two Le Jardin teachers were recognized by the City of Homestead! Head Start teacher, Suzette Guerrero, received the City of Homestead Champions of Education 2020-2021 Teacher of the Year award while Early Head Start teacher Olga Garcia, received the City of Homestead Champions for Education Rookie Teacher of the Year award. They were both selected based on going above and beyond their responsibilities as Early Head Start/Head Start Teachers, sharing ideas and activities, being team players, encouraging others, and supporting our Le Jardin children and families.

Dadou Joseph, Education Specialist for Le Jardin's Head Start program, received the Above and Beyond Award from the Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department Head Start/Early Head Start Program.

Le Jardin continued its partnership with Farmshare and Mac Edwards Produce well into 2021. Together, over 5,000 boxes of food were distributed to Le Jardin's parents and members of the Homestead/Florida City community.



Leadership



Board of Directors

Christine A. Moore

Chair-Person

Maria-Isabel Olivera

Vice-Chair/ Treasurer

Virginia M. Aponte

Secretary

Members

Karin Gerardin

Gerardin Law Firm PA

Deana Goldin

Family and Psychiatric Mental
Health Nurse Practitioner

Paola Usquelis

Attorney at Law

Jacqueline Lynch

Associate Professor of Literacy

Eugene McAllister

Retired Chief of Police DCPD



Early Head Start

GRANTEE 1 & GRANTEE 2

(INFANTS AND TODDLERS FROM 0-36 MONTHS)

144

TOTAL FUNDED ENROLLMENT FOR GRANTEE 1

160

TOTAL FUNDED ENROLLMENT FOR GRANTEE 2

ENROLLMENT

GRANTEE 1

GRANTEE 2

205 Children Served

210 Children Served

182 Families Served

207 Families Served

FAMILY BACKGROUND

GRANTEE 1

GRANTEE 2

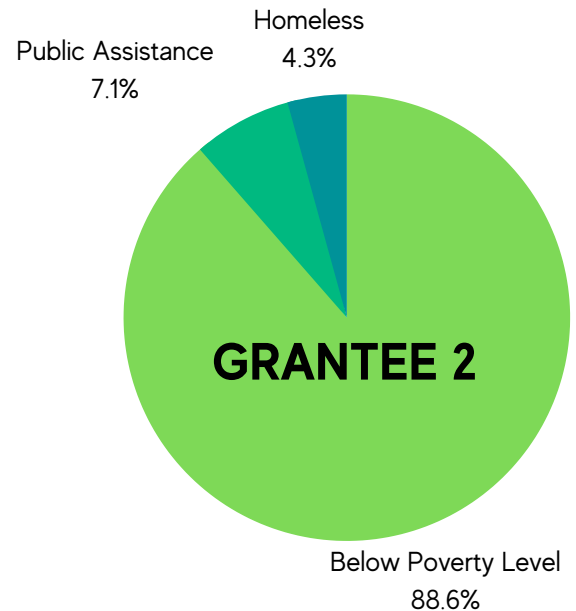
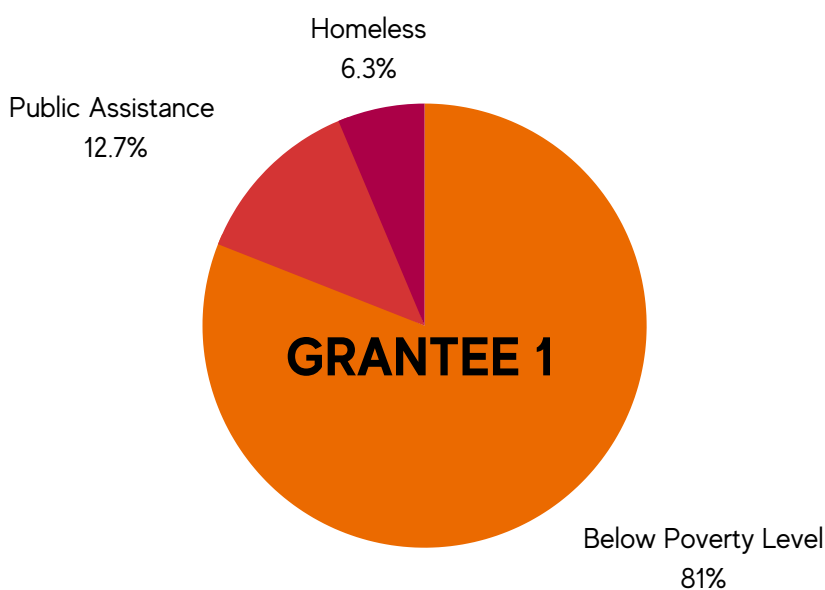
Two-Parent Household **54**

Two-Parent Household **70**

Single-Parent Household **128**

Single-Parent Household **137**

ELIGIBILITY



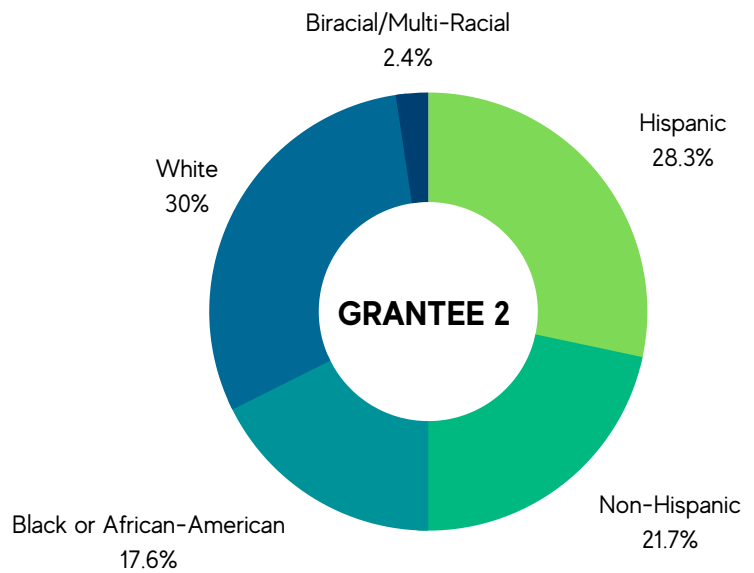
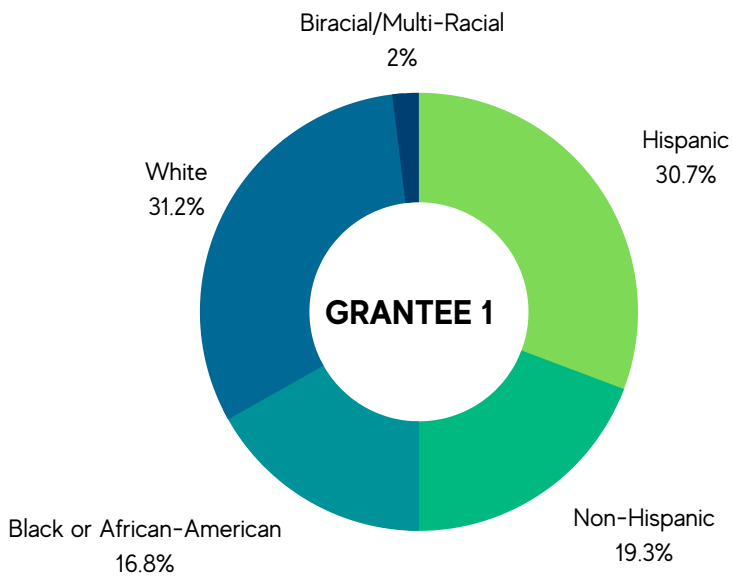


Early Head Start

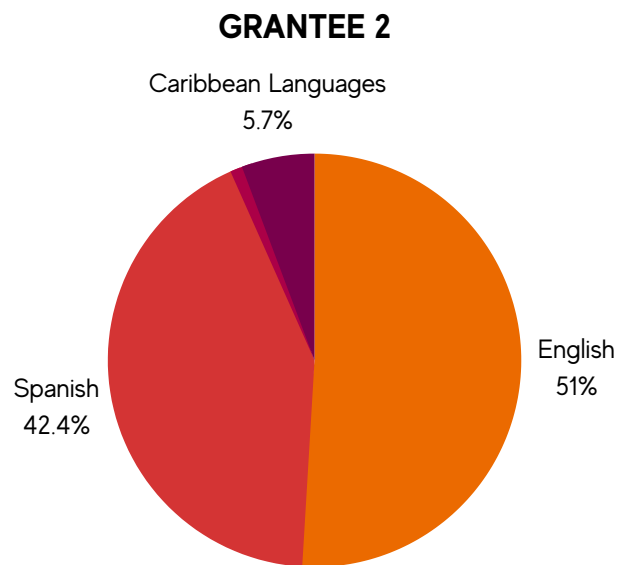
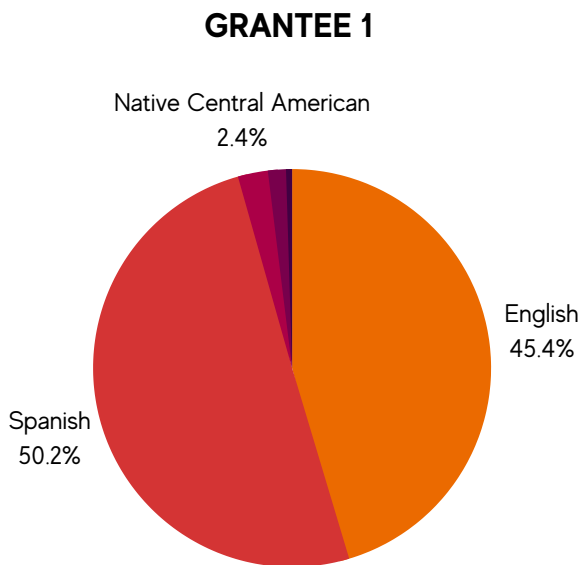
GRANTEE 1 & GRANTEE 2

(INFANTS AND TODDLERS FROM 0-36 MONTHS)

RACE AND ETHNICITY



LANGUAGES





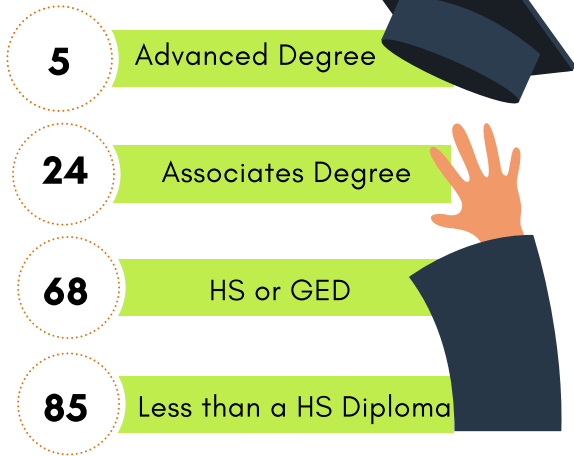
Early Head Start

GRANTEE 1 & GRANTEE 2

(INFANTS AND TODDLERS FROM 0-36 MONTHS)

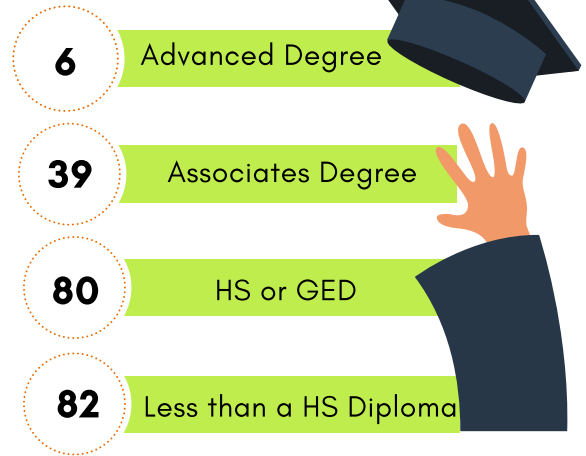
PARENT EDUCATION

GRANTEE 1

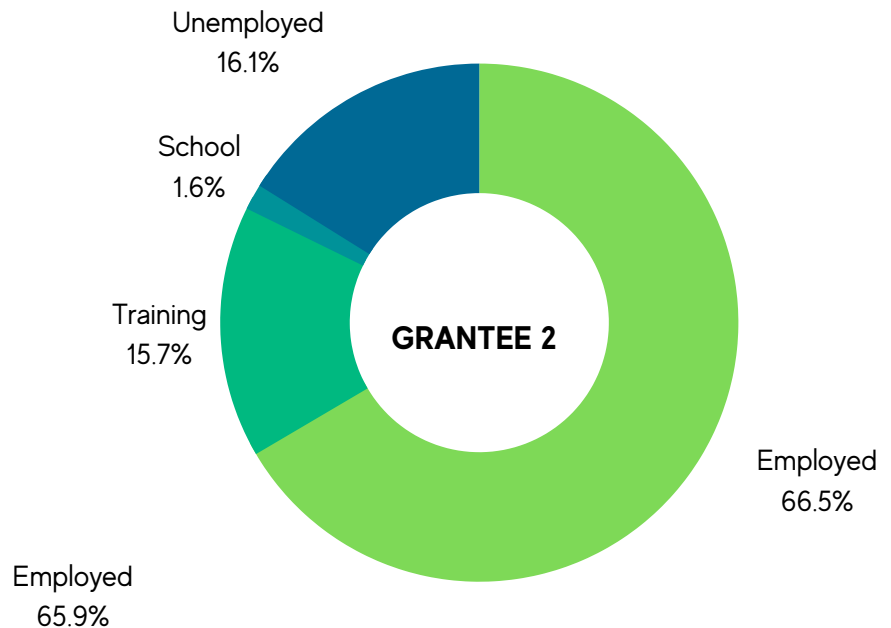
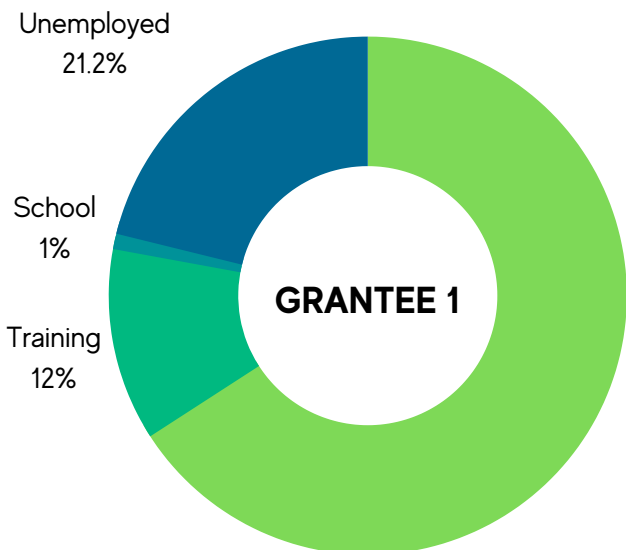


PARENT EDUCATION

GRANTEE 2



EMPLOYMENT





Head Start

DELEGATE PROGRAM

(3-4 YEAR-OLDS)

480

FUNDED ENROLLMENT FOR THE DELEGATE PROGRAM

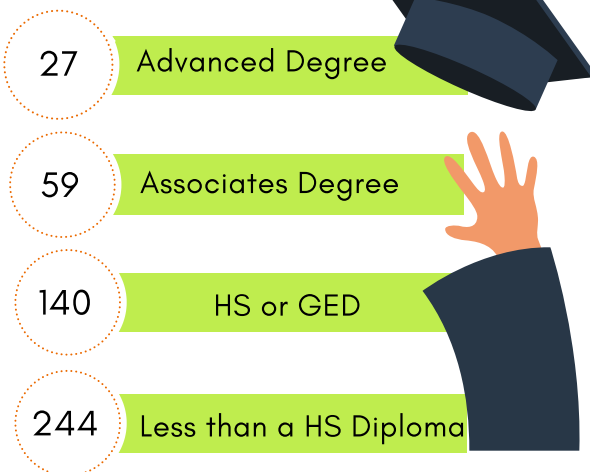
ENROLLMENT



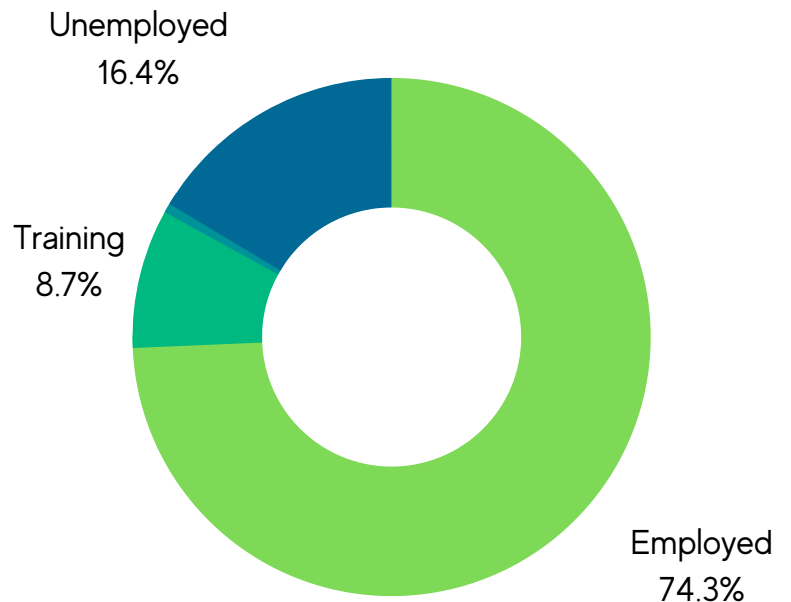
FAMILY BACKGROUND



PARENT EDUCATION



EMPLOYMENT STATUS



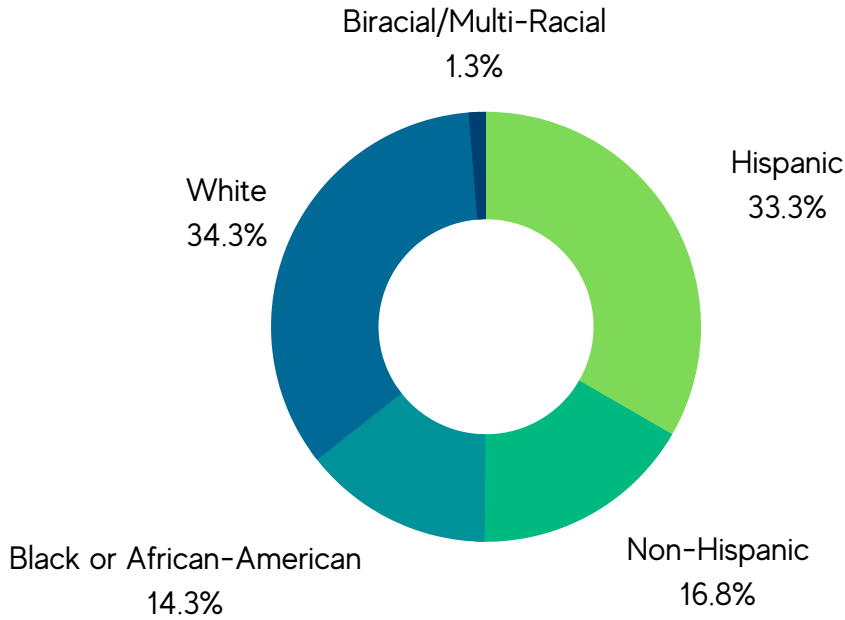


Head Start

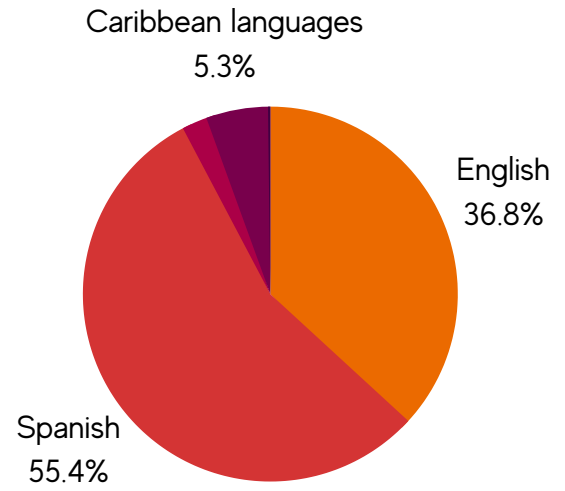
DELEGATE PROGRAM

(3-4 YEAR-OLDS)

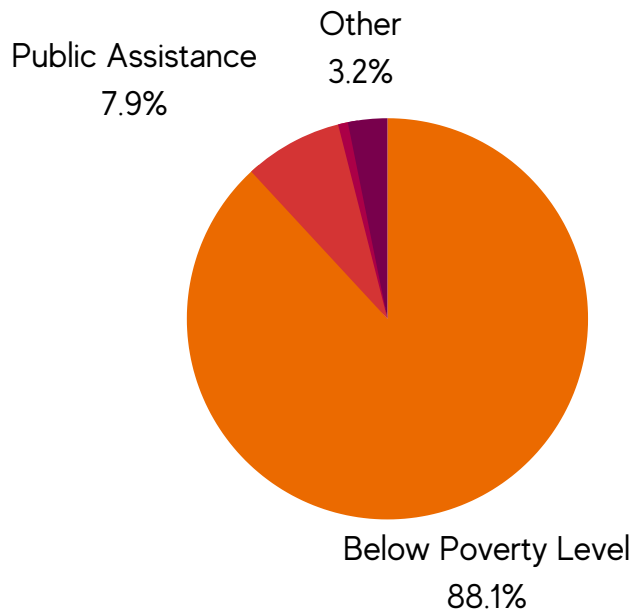
ETHNICITY & RACE



LANGUAGE



ELIGIBILITY

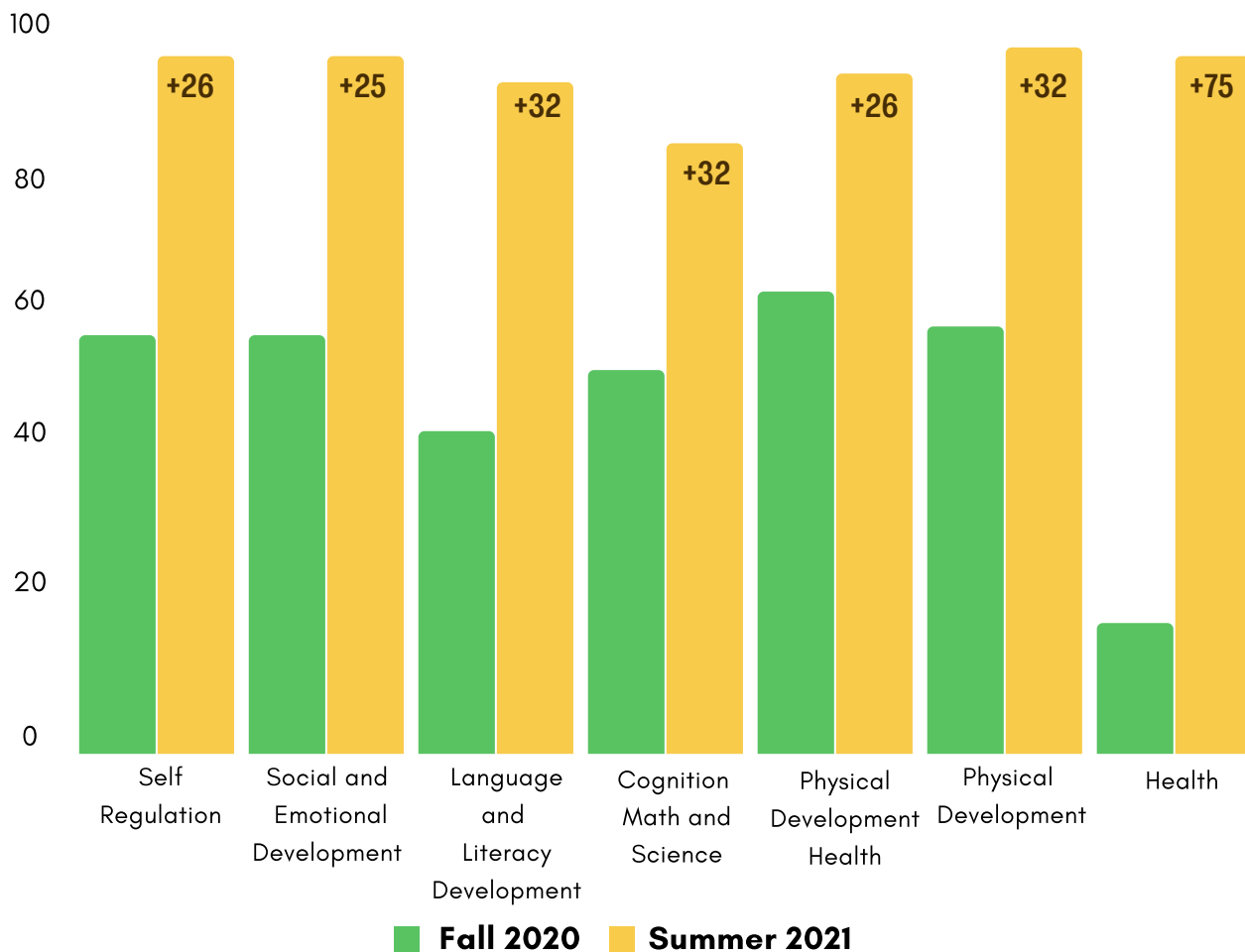




Education

GRANTEE 1 & GRANTEE 2

(INFANTS AND TODDLERS FROM 0-36 MONTHS)



Student developmental learning gains are assessed regularly to determine progress. These results demonstrate our impact on learning gains between 2020 and 2021.

Grantee 1

Education Credentials
Teaching Staff and Professional Staff

- Master's Degree **1**
- Bachelor's **4**
- Child Development Associate **31**

Grantee 2

Education Credentials
Teaching Staff and Professional Staff

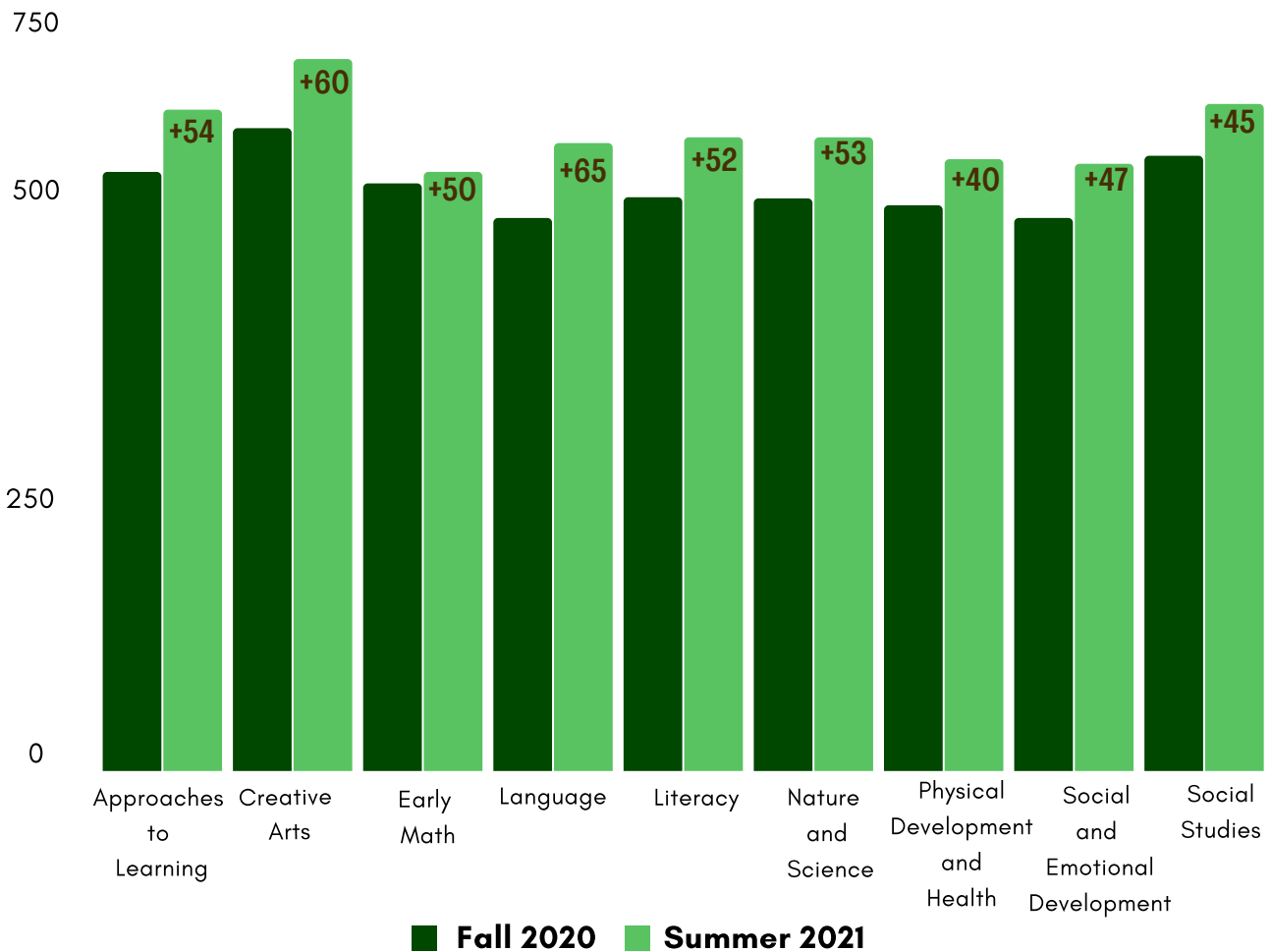
- Bachelor's **3**
- Associates Degree **1**
- Child Development Associate **36**



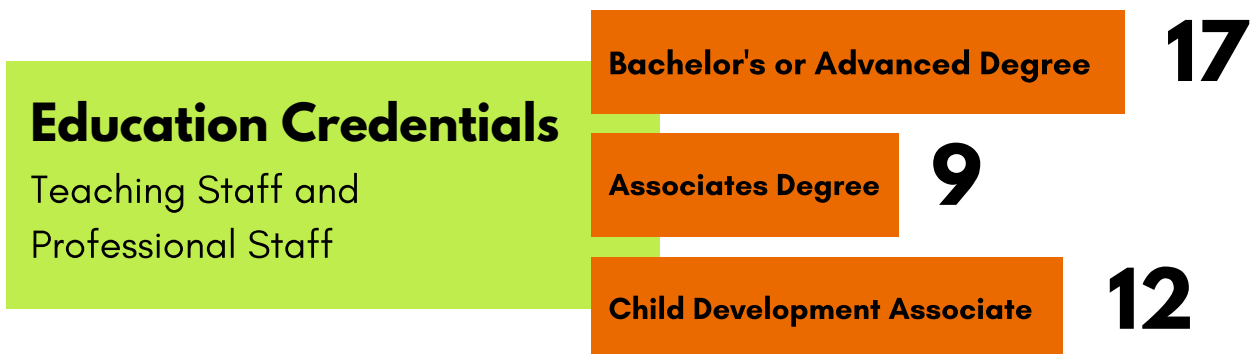
Education

DELEGATE PROGRAM

(3-4 YEAR-OLDS)



Student developmental learning gains are assessed regularly to determine progress. These results demonstrate our impact on learning gains between 2020 and 2021.



Education Credentials

Teaching Staff and Professional Staff



Health and Nutrition

GRANTEE 1,2 & DELEGATE

WELLNESS AND NUTRITION

GRANTEE 1



GRANTEE 2



DELEGATE



HEALTH

HEALTH INSURANCE



STUDENTS WITH
HEALTH INSURANCE

GRANTEE 1 GRANTEE 2 DELEGATE

DENTAL HOME



STUDENTS WITH
DENTAL HOME

GRANTEE 1 GRANTEE 2 DELEGATE

MEDICAL HOME



STUDENTS WITH
MEDICAL HOME

GRANTEE 1 GRANTEE 2 DELEGATE



Mental Health and Disability

GRANTEE 1,2 & DELEGATE

MENTAL HEALTH

GRANTEE 1



Staff Consults



Parent/Staff Consults



Children Referred to MH Services



Children who Received MH services

GRANTEE 2



Staff Consults



Parent/Staff Consults



Children Referred to MH Services



Children who Received MH services

DELEGATE



Staff Consults



Parent/Staff Consults



Children Referred to MH Services



Children who Received MH services

DISABILITY



GRANTEE 1

Number of students with an Individualized Family Service Plan



GRANTEE 2

Number of students with an Individualized Family Service Plan



DELEGATE

Number of students with an Individualized Education Plan



Prenatal Academy

The Prenatal Academy's number one goal is to service, educate, and equip expectant mothers with the tools necessary to raise strong and healthy children in a safe environment.

46 PREGNANT WOMEN SERVED

93% ARE BELOW POVERTY LINE

60% ARE HISPANIC

INSURANCE

38 MEDICAID

8 State-Only Funded Insurance

FAMILY BACKGROUND

31 Single Parent Household

15 Two-Parent Household

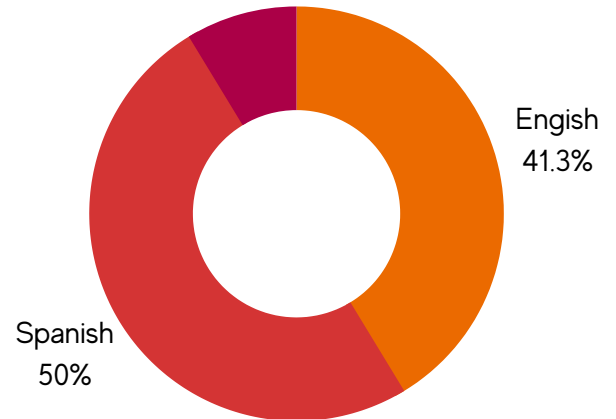
BIRTHS

32 Prenatal Academy Births

30 Average Age Women Enrolled

LANGUAGE

Native Central American 8.7%



EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Unemployed 16.7%

Training 4.2%

Employed 79.2%

1 Advanced Degree

7 Associates Degree

26 HS or GED

12 Less than a HS Diploma



PARENT EDUCATION



Positive Parenting Program

Le Jardin Community Center's Parenting Program is funded by the Children's Trust - a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County.

Triple P gives parents simple and practical strategies to help them build strong, healthy relationships, confidently manage their children's behavior, and prevent problems from developing.

Cohorts are constructed through an analysis of family structure and stressors. Single moms, fathers, pregnant women, and immigrant families are typical cohorts. The parenting curriculum involves a Parent Pre- Post Assessment, (Incredible Years) Parent Practices Interview and Pre-Post Assessment (SDQ) Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire.

At the end of the Triple P Program, parents have learned a total of seventeen strategies in which they continue to use in High-Risk Situations.





Information Technology

1,200

Assistance Requests Resolved

An IT ticketing system was created to help the IT team document and quickly resolve any technical difficulties. This system also allows IT to record data for workload purposes and identify areas to create new Staff training.

120

VoIP System Telephone Lines Installed

One line was installed in each classroom. VoIP allows for staff to be connected in case of emergencies and eliminated the need for cellphones as it can be accessed through an app.

224

**New Laptops
Purchased**

40

Average Amount of Minutes
saved per Task/Tickets Using
TeamViewer

80%

Tickets Resolved Remotely
through TeamViewer/
HelpDesk

54

**Laptops
Replaced**

Parent Involvement

Building Relationships with Families

Parent and family engagement in Head Start and Early Head Start is about nurturing relationships with families. We strive to provide continuous support and encourage family well-being, relationships between parents and their children, and ongoing learning and development.

Le Jardin families are essential stakeholders in their children's education and participate in the program's decision-making process through Center Parent Committees and the Policy Council. We work with parents to ensure that they advance their educational and career goals as well as provide leadership opportunities to develop their interpersonal skills. Parents are offered adult education classes, training, and linked to helpful community resources.

Parent Involvement Activities

- Monthly Parent Meetings
- Center Open House Events
- Lending Library Activities
- Home Visits
- Policy Council Meetings
- Parent Committee Meetings
- Transition Activities
- Parent Conferences
- Health Fairs
- Story Time Activities
- Parent/Child Take-Home Activities
- Classroom Volunteer Opportunities

Parent Education and Planning

- Career Planning
- Financial Planning Seminars
- Job Readiness Seminars
- General Equivalency Diploma (GED)
- English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes
- Child Development Associate (CDA) Classes
- Marriage Matters Workshops
- Nutrition Workshops
- Triple P Parenting Program
- Health and Safety

Parent Volunteers

Families are provided with opportunities to actively engage as volunteers in the classroom. As volunteers, they take on many roles and responsibilities. For the 2020-2021 school year Head Start and Early Head Start volunteers contributed over **62,233** volunteer hours.



Fiscal Review

Le Jardin Community Center, Inc. believes in fiscal transparency. For Several years Le Jardin has received clean fiscal audits and is considered a low-risk auditee. Le Jardin Community Center, Inc. prides itself on having well-planned fiscal systems with strong internal controls that are tested each year through our financial audit, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and Uniform Guidance.

Le Jardin's audit was done by Verdeja & De Armas, LLP through the period December 31, 2020. An unqualified opinion was issued on the financial audit and there were no findings on the single audit, with Le Jardin continuing to be considered a low-risk auditee. Copies of both Le Jardin's year-end audit and IRS form 990 are available for review on our website: lejardincinc.org and Guide Star.

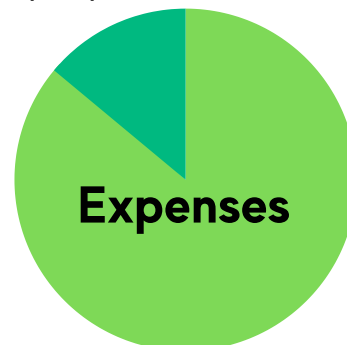
Financial Review Fiscal Year 2020

Head Start	3,260,921
Head Start COVID	292,119
Early Head Start: CAHSD	242,786
Early Head Start: Grantee 067	2,241,512
Early Head Start: Grantee 067 COVID	40,857
Early Head Start: Grantee 167	2,545,776
Early Head Start: Grantee 167 COVID	126,663
InKind Contributions	348,720
SBA	210,503
Voluntary PRE-K	452,371
USDA CACFP	394,701
Childrens Trust	78,377
Miscellaneous Revenue	151,396

**Total Revenue and
Public Support**
\$10,386,699

Management and General, supporting service
1,440,836

- Child Care, Program Service
- Management and General, supporting service



Child Care, Program Service
8,882,362

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$10,323,198

NET CHANGE IN ASSETS
\$63,501

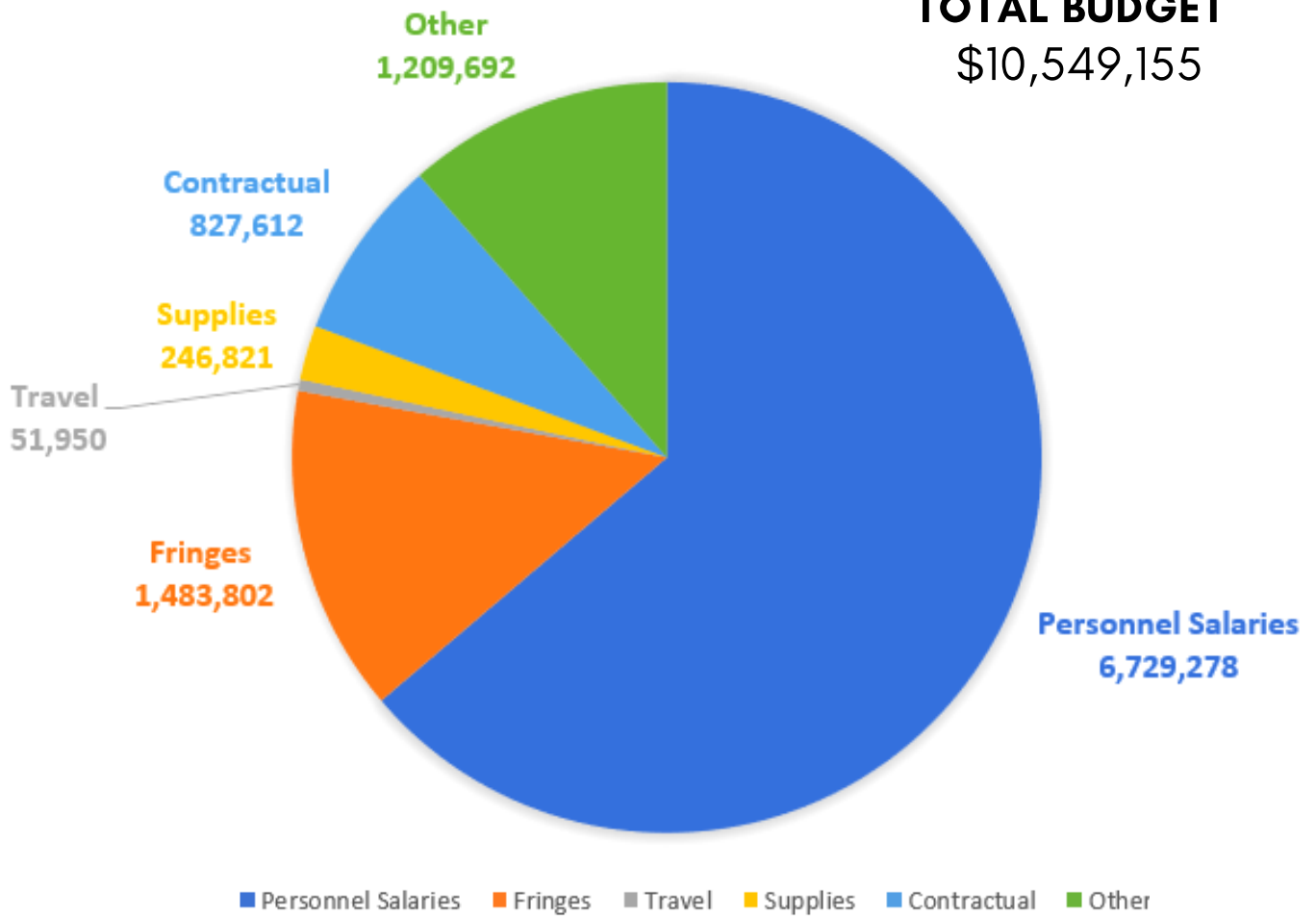


Fiscal Review



Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Budget By Category

TOTAL BUDGET
\$10,549,155





7TH ANNUAL VIRTUAL

ART & JAZZ UNDER THE STARS

SPONSORS 2021



AMERANT



RICK SANCHEZ. FINANCIAL
ADVISOR



SALOMON. KANNER,
DAMIAN & RODRIGUEZ. P.A



Ron Dorris Architects
ARCHITECTURE PLANNING INTERIORS

Laurie Lane



Thank you for your support!



Le Jardin Community Center

Planting Seeds for the Future

Members of the EHS Grantee Policy Council

Reynaldo del Valle, President/Board Representative
Elizabeth Caba, Vice-Chairperson
Samantha Sanchez, Secretary
Dorothy Chery, Treasurer
Ashley Favela, Grievance
Sherika Gibbs, Policy Facilitator

Members of the Head Start Policy Committee

Brenda Banda, President/Board Representative
Shantrell Bridges, Vice-Chairperson
Natali Lopez, Secretary
Olga Bautista, Treasurer
Candelaria Chamorro, Assistant Secretary
Malvina Bautista, Parliamentary

Executive Team

Eduardo Berrones, Executive Director
Audelia Martinez, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Financial Officer
Heather Garcia, Director of Human Resources
Abdon Martinez, Facilities Manager
Maria Motta, Early Head Start Program Manager
Maria Rossiter, Head Start Program Manager
Hernan Hernandez, Office Manager
Jeissy Useche, Information Technology Specialist
Glenda Gonzalez- Pino, Special Projects Administrator

