



Annual Report FY 2014

In fulfillment of the requirements of the
Preparing Head Start for School Readiness
Act of 2007
(644(a)(2)(B))

Copies of this report are available
to community members upon request

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Introduction

This report is prepared to comply with the reauthorized Head Start Act of 2007. This Act, specifically Section 644(a)(2)(B), and states:

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 most 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 from 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 enrolled children that received medical and dental exams.
- F. Information about parent involvement activities.
- G. The agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten.
- H. Any other information required by the Secretary.

**AROOSTOOK BAND OF MICMACS
Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start**

Mission and Philosophy

Mission Statement

Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start was established to promote the importance of education, as well as the parents' involvement in their families' continued educational and social experience while incorporating the Micmac culture and beliefs.

Program Philosophy

The philosophy of the Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start Program was developed in the beginning years of the project. Our philosophy maintains that children from an economically deprived background need an environment that provides them with the opportunity to develop to their maximum potential.

The Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start Program is an instrumental component for our Micmac children to learn more about their language, traditions and culture, essential for the continued survival of the Micmac First Nation, while learning the basics of education to prepare them for the public school environment. As the program provides structure, it enhances growth and development skills for the child and parent.

Funding

FISCAL YEAR ENDING 2014	
Report Publish Date:	January 20, 2015
Public Funds Received:	\$251,264
Source of Public Funds:	US DHHS Administration for Children and Families
CACFP Reimbursements Received	\$12,000
Source of CACFP Reimbursements	Maine Child and Adult Care Food Program

Budget Expenditures/Proposed Budget for FY 2015

Categories	Totals
Head Start Grant	
Personnel	\$157,333.00
Fringe Benefits	\$44,806.00
Expenses	\$40,618
Indirect Cost	0
TOTAL	\$ 242,757.00
Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA)	\$8,507
TOTAL	\$251,264.00

Additional Funding

Child and Adult Care Food Program	
Salaries/Fringe	\$21,731.15
Food/Non-Food	\$13,550.00
TOTAL	\$35,281.15

Number of Children and Families Served

Our Children

Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start is funded through the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start. Our funded enrollment is 20 children. Children who leave the program are replaced by those on a waiting list. Our Average Daily Attendance for 2014 was 18. We served 20 families.

Our Families

Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Starts served 20 families. 10 are single-parent families; 10 are two-parent families.

Eligibility of Families Served

Eligible (0 - 100%) 20
Foster Child 0
101 - 130% 2
Over Inc (> 130%) 0
Public Assistance 6
% Micmac or other Native 70%

Administration for Children and Families Monitoring Review and Financial Audit

On December 8th, 2014, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted an on-site monitoring review of the Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start Program, Specifically, the Environmental Health and Safety Portion. As of January 20th, 2015 we have not received the results from the review.

A financial audit was performed on October 10th 2014 There were no findings specific to the Head Start Program.

Medical and Dental

Medical Homes

100% of enrolled children have an ongoing source of continuous, accessible health care. 70% are eligible to receive medical services through Indian Health Service.

95% (19 of 20 children) are enrolled in MaineCare (Medicaid). 5% (1 child) is enrolled in private health insurance plans.

Head Start works cooperatively through the Micmac Service Unit to perform heights, weights, blood pressures, dental screenings and fluoride varnish, blood lead screenings, and review of immunization records.

Dental Exams

100% enrolled children have continuous, accessible dental care.

Parent Involvement

Parent Involvement Activities

Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start strongly encourages parent participation. Parents are their child's first teachers, and are the key to the design and success. Parents participate, and are encouraged to participate, in a variety of activities, including:

- Parents' Night (parent/staff meetings and trainings)
- Policy Council meetings
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Home Visits
- Special program events celebrating holidays
- Field trips
- Classroom volunteer
- Parent/Staff Trainings held monthly

The program provides weekly newsletters and a monthly calendar flyer to parents that include upcoming events. They are also provided the weekly, breakfast, lunch and snack menus, classroom news, and other items of interest

Transitioning to Kindergarten

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

10 of 20 children transitioned to Kindergarten in May 2015. Transition meetings are held in April of every year to assist parents of children who are moving on to kindergarten. A tour of the local public school is scheduled to familiarize the families of the setting and routines; parents are given opportunities to ask questions of kindergarten teachers. The transition packet would contain all health, developmental and educational information.

Micmac Cultural Preservation

Culture and Curriculum

We incorporate Micmac Culture into our curriculum (Creative Curriculum), by teaching numbers (counting) and colors in Micmac. Our Cultural Director comes bi-weekly to do

storytelling and drumming, and our Micmac Women's Drum Group (Mawita'jig E'pijig) drums for our children.