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Helping People Help Themselves

Coastal Plain Area EOA Inc. began as a Program Development Grant from the Office of Economic Opportunity. The grant was awarded to the Coastal Plain Area Planning and Development Commission on January 14, 1965. This led to the incorporation of the Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority, Inc. (CPAEOA, Inc.) on April 8, 1966 as a private non-profit corporation serving the ten counties of the coastal plain area of Georgia. The Agency replaced the Area Planning and Development Commission as the Office of Economic Opportunity grantee.

As a human services program for the past 48 years, CPAEOA, Inc. has invested over \$215 million of federal, state and local funds into the ten counties which it serves. This has helped the poor and elderly residents to overcome the hardships and constraints of poverty. The Agency has been instrumental in mobilizing federal, state, local and private resources to keep services in step with community needs, and has provided funding and administrative expertise to numerous other community service organizations and institutions in the coastal plain area.

The goal of CPAEOA, Inc. is to promote the social and economic development of the citizens in the 2nd and 8th U.S. Congressional Districts of the State of Georgia, as they are presently apportioned. Our concern is particularly with respect to those citizens who are impoverished or otherwise depressed or deprived of benefits. We strive to provide general economic stability and well-being in the service area.

In pursuance of this goal, it is the purpose of the Agency to provide services and assistance which are designed to reduce and eliminate poverty and its causes in the coastal plain area. This is done by developing employment opportunities, improving human performance, and being a motivating factor in the lives of those whom we serve. This helps to better the conditions under which people in the service area live, learn and work.

The Executive Director, Bruni Hudson, is employed by the CPAEOA, Inc. Board of Directors and is responsible for directing daily operations and ensuring that accountability for services is maintained. Board oversight makes certain that all counties in the service area have equal opportunity for their voices to be heard.

The four major Agency programs, which define the variety of services provided, are as follows:

- Community Services
- Crisis Intervention
- Housing and Energy
- Child Development

The Agency stands prepared to respond in an effective and timely manner to ongoing needs within the community and in crisis situations such as natural disasters. The combination of non-profit status, experience in administering a variety of service programs, long-standing relations with federal and state funding sources, and ongoing community partnerships enables the Agency to quickly mobilize resources to help those most in need.

Our motto - *“Helping People Help Themselves”* is more than a motto. For 48 years, it has been a way of life.

OUR MISSION

To provide services and resources to assist low-income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency.

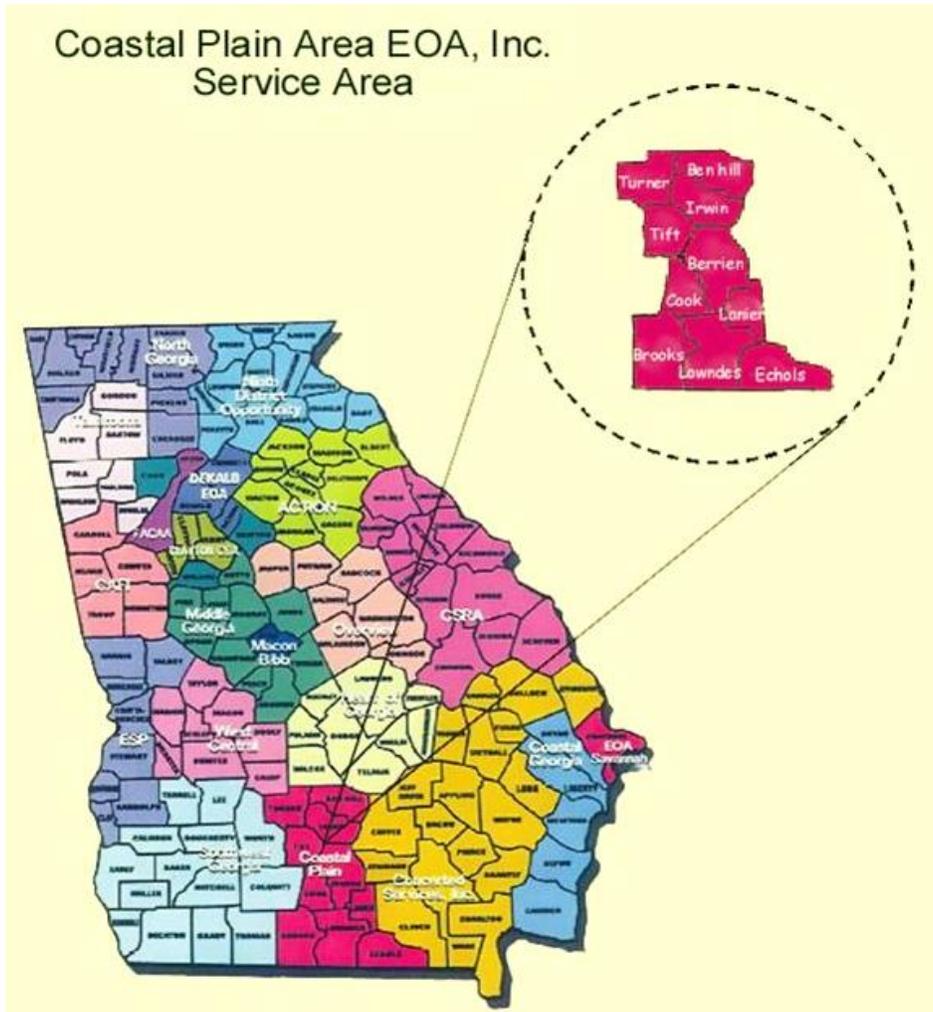


OUR VISION

For all families in South Georgia to be self-sufficient.

Service Area

Coastal Plain Area EOA, Inc.
Service Area



County	Total#	White	Black	Native Am.	Asian	Other	Hispanic
Ben Hill	17,538	62.1%	35.2%	0.6%	0.9%	1.2%	6.0%
Berrien	19,041	86.6%	11.2%	0.4%	0.6%	1.2%	5.0%
Brooks	15,403	63.3%	34.5%	0.4%	0.4%	1.2%	5.4%
Cook	16,923	70.1%	27.6%	0.4%	0.8%	1.1%	5.9%
Irwin	9,600	70.5%	27.8%	0.0%	0.8%	0.9%	3.0%
Lanier	10,400	71.3%	24.2%	0.9%	1.2%	2.4%	5.0%
Lowndes	114,552	58.9%	37.0%	0.5%	1.5%	1.9%	5.2%
Tift	41,064	65.8%	31.2%	0.4%	1.4%	1.3%	10.4%
Turner	8,410	57.8%	40.2%	0.4%	0.7%	0.9%	54.9%
Echols	3,988	89.2%	5.1%	3.5%	0.6%	1.5%	28.4%
*Totals	256,919	69.56%	27.4%	0.75	0.89%	1.36%	12.92%

A Message From..... The Executive Director

Dear Fellow Citizens:

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that I, as the Executive Director of Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority Inc., present the Annual Report for fiscal year 2012-2013. On behalf of the Agency, may I say “Thank You” for a year of positive change as well as a year of overwhelming success.

The Agency is proud to report that even in a time of uncertainty, in the midst of budget cuts and drastic reductions, CPAEOA, Inc. has continued to lend a hand and provide support to those in our service area who are experiencing economic turmoil. CPAEOA, Inc. has not wavered in meeting the challenges that have arisen despite the dismal forecast. We still believe in the mission of the Agency - *“To provide services and resources to assist low-income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency;”* and the vision, which we have never neglected to share, no matter what the climate - *“For all families in South Georgia to be self-sufficient.”* These have been the building blocks of the Agency, and we strive to maintain the integrity of the Agency by never forgetting the purpose for which we were established. As long as there is a CPAEOA, Inc., we will never neglect to hold out the lifeline to the residents in our service area, and provide relief, as needed.

For year ending March, 2013, the independent public accounting firm of Hudson & NeSmith CPA’s completed a financial and compliance audit. They found CPAEOA, Inc. to be financially sound and in compliance with all terms and conditions under which it is funded. The Agency continues to be motivated to uphold and maintain the high standards for which we have become known.

As you read this Annual Report, remember that our clients are struggling to overcome adverse conditions over which they have no control. Remember the dedicated service of the members of the Board of Directors, the Head Start Policy Council, the dedicated staff, the community partners and the volunteers who have striven together to ensure that CPAEOA, Inc. is that safe haven which provides a refuge for so many. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bruni Hudson
Executive Director

CPAEOA Board of Directors

Janice Jarvis - Chairperson

Randy Lane	Berrien
Samuel Brown	Turner
Terry Benjamin	Hahira
Cam Jordon	Ben Hill
James Maxwell	Brooks
Joann Jackson	Berrien
Tina Fountain	Lanier
Johnny Terrell, Jr.	Tifton
Kathy Roberts	Irwin
Samuel Wilson	Cook
Earl Eady	Berrien
Clayton Knight	Cook
Patricia Hargress	Turner
Tyrone Smith	Irwin
Yontonia Hudson	Turner
Terry Cole	Ben Hill
Calvin Bryant	Brooks
Charlotte Middlebrooks	Irwin
Samuel Wilson	Brooks
Marianne Wells	Lowndes
John Pruitt	Lanier
Willie F. Mathis	Lanier
Annette Cole-Watson	Tifton
Steve Holman	Ben Hill
Betty Willis	Tifton
Becky Ratts	Cook
Mary Lee Green	Berrien
John Croley, Esquire	Ben Hill
Toni Sawyer, Esquire	Ben Hill

** Board meetings are held at the Tifton Neighborhood Center at 7:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday in the months of February, April, June, August, October and December.

Greetings from Board of Directors Chairperson Janice Jarvis



Dear Friends:

As the elected Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority, Inc., I would like to extend accolades to the Agency for another year of dedicated service. CPAEOA, Inc. has provided a continuum of service for 48 years - and has been a beacon of light to those in the areas which we serve.

This 2012-2013 Annual Report is presented to you with pride as we share the accomplishments of the past year. The Agency has continued to provide outstanding and necessary services to help the citizens of South Georgia to become self-sufficient. This report will highlight the efforts taken to ensure the success of this fiscal year.

Additionally, we are encouraged by the fact that the auditing firm of Hudson & NeSmith CPA's has found that CPAEOA, Inc. is one of the most efficiently managed service delivery models in the State of Georgia. The Agency has not retreated from its goal of providing superior service.

As you review this report, it is my hope that you will look at the accomplishments of each Program, and see how they have managed to grant aid to those who are less fortunate in our society. The Programs have continued to "Help people help themselves" and to gain a measure of self-sufficiency.

Finally, I would like to thank the counties that have appointed the current Board members who have served their areas with dignity; the Head Start Policy Council for their excellence in shared governance of the Head Start Program; the staff, the local businesses, churches, other organizations and individuals for your support of CPAEOA, Inc. Without all of you, this Agency would not have been able to be in existence for the past 48 years, nor would we have been empowered to provide outstanding services for the communities. You are all to be congratulated - and the Board says "Thank You."

Sincerely,

Janis Jarvis
Board Chairperson

Management Team



Bruni Hudson
Executive Director



Sylvia Johnson
CSBG Director



Scott Blankenship
Weatherization
Director



Tanya Thomas
Head Start Director



Natalie Ceasar
Executive Secretary

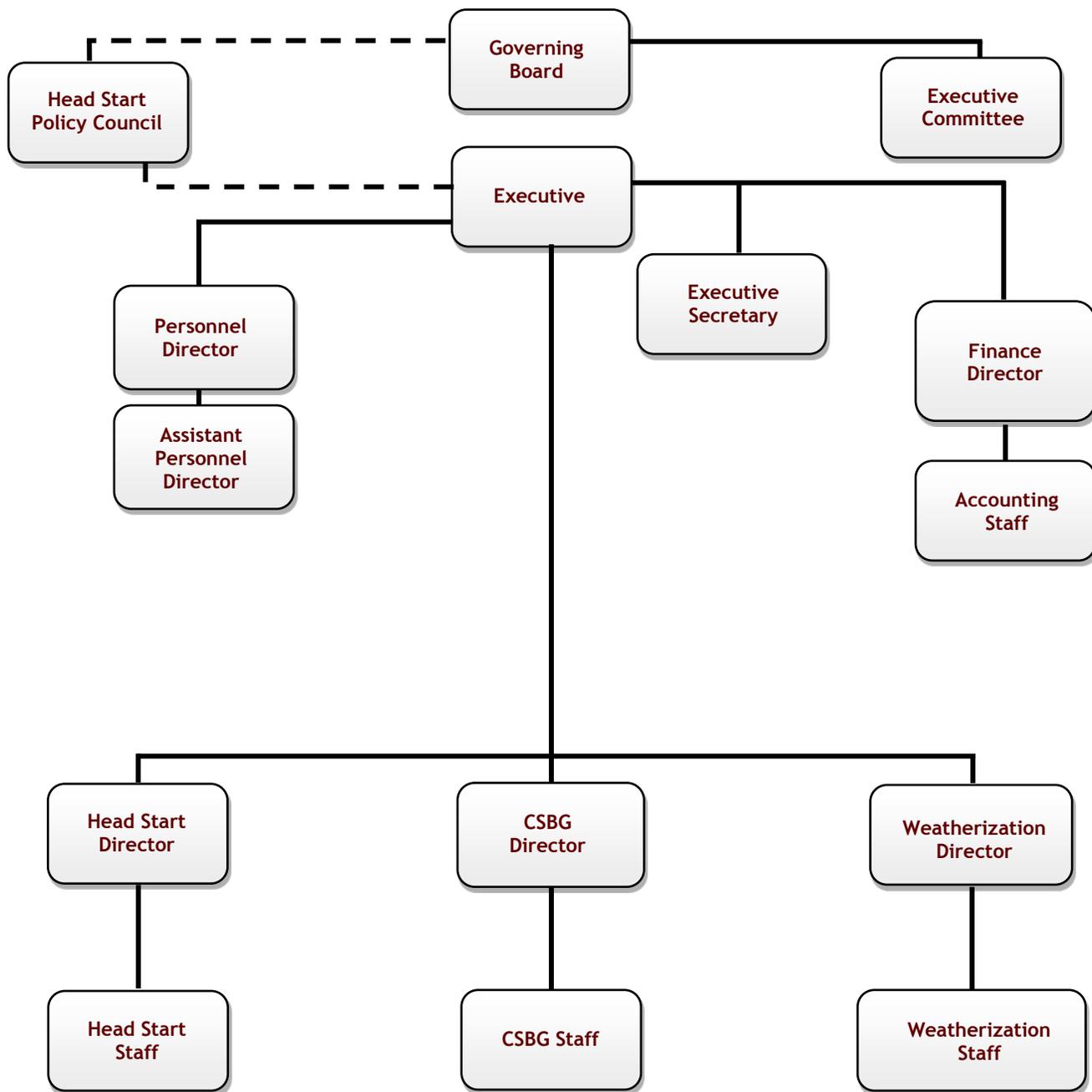


Rose Ann Hudson
Personnel Director



Tanita Daniels
Finance Director

Organizational Chart



The Organizational Chart defines the reporting relationships within CPAEOA, Inc. Solid lines indicate direct reporting relationships; dotted lines indicate indirect reporting relationships. The Head Start Policy Council represents an approval/disapproval relationship regarding specific decisions made within the Agency. Decision specifics are described in 45 CFR Part 1304.50

Community Service Centers

All direct services other than Head Start services are provided through a network of ten Community Service Centers (CSC). CSC's are located in each of the ten counties within the Agency's primary service area (refer to the map on page 5). Each CSC is an active part of the local community, and provides a variety of community services for individuals of all ages.

A major strength of the CSC's is that no two are alike. Each one provides its own array of services to meet the specific needs that are unique to each county in the service area. With primary funding through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), services range from job skills training to management counseling and crisis intervention.

Advocacy: A priority for all CSC's is to provide advocacy. The CSC's serve as advocates on local public health issues such as affordable housing, utility rates, and health care. Assistance is also provided to low-income residents who are not Medicare-eligible, to help them to apply for discount prescription medication programs.

Direct Client Benefits

Benefit Payments made through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG), to vendors and clients.

Energy Assistance	\$1,989,616.52	99.59%
Rental Assistance	\$8,334.97	0.41%
<hr/>		
Total Direct Assistance	\$1,997,951.49	



Community Service Locations



Ben Hill County
116 N. Johnston St.
Fitzgerald, GA 31750-0408



Berrien County
402 Hazel Avenue
Nashville, GA 3139-2581



Brooks County
400 Courtland Avenue
Quitman, GA 31643-2922



Cook County
303 S. College St
Sparks, GA 31647-9687



Echols County
170 Church of God St.
Statenville, GA 31648-2114



Irwin County
311 VoTech Road
Ocilla, GA 31774-1809



Lanier County
810 S. Oak Street
Lakeland, GA 31635-11718



Lowndes County
900 S. Troupe St
Valdosta, GA 31601



Tift County
2737 S. Central Ave Suite 4
Tifton, GA 31794-4023



Turner County
124 E. College Street
Ashburn, GA 31714-0191

Crisis Intervention Services



Crisis Intervention Services are provided to assist with payment of utility bills and/or deposits, purchase of food and clothing, prevention of utility disconnections, to minimize malnutrition, and to circumvent incidents of eviction. Funding is provided through a Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Low-Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

CSC personnel are trained to provide practical case management services for families receiving emergency services. We seek to assist clients in recognizing and strengthening any life skill weaknesses that contribute to their emergency situations. This is done so the family will not be in a state of ongoing crisis, and so the family may attain self-sufficiency. Depending on the family's needs, case management may range from assisting in the development of a family budget to housing relocation and job search or job retention.

Low-Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) was provided to more than 5,570 families. This program assists clients with electric and gas bills. Seniors and homebound clients receive assistance during the month of November and the general public during the month of December. The total amount expended on this program was \$1,905,355.00



Emergency Utility Assistance (non-LIHEAP related) was provided to more than 593 families. This assistance involved case management and provided up to a \$200.00 benefit for families in crisis. The total amount expended on this program was \$47,413.49.

There were 49 applications processed and approved for the SCANA Regulated Marketer Referral Program (RMRP). This program allows income eligible individuals to receive natural gas from SCANA at a fixed rather than a variable rate.



The Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program (EF&S) which is funded through FEMA, is administered in eight counties. Local Boards select organizations to receive funding and to determine service priorities based on the particular needs of their county. Board composition must be in compliance with the guidelines which have been established by EF&S. Homeless or formerly homeless individuals or a homeless advocate must be included on the Boards.

Through the guidance of these Boards, assistance in the amount of \$45,183 was dispersed to 356 families to help with utilities, rental assistance, and emergency food.

Minor Home Repair Program

The goal of the Minor Home Repairs Program is to help the elderly and disabled home owners to be safe in their homes, and that they have easier access. Repairs include the installation of handicapped toilets and grab bars, construction of steps and front porches, installation of wood doors, replacement of faucets and sinks, repairing of holes in floors, doors, walls and ceilings, and other repairs which may be needed. A conscious effort is made to ensure that clients in all ten counties benefit from this Program.

From April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013, 10 families received services through this Program. More than \$16,368.23 from the CSBG Program was expended to purchase construction materials to complete repairs on these homes, ensuring the safety of the homes.



Energy Assistance Services



With funding from the Department of Human Services, the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is able to assist low income families in offsetting the increased costs of energy for home heating during the winter months. Priority is given to households comprised of those who are 65 years or older, those who are home bound, and other disabled clients. Funding is also set aside for those with life-threatening medical conditions. Although this service is for energy costs during the winter months, in some cases, the Federal Government will release funds to assist the elderly and those who are homebound with cooling assistance.

Some of the benefits from this energy program are as follows:

- Reduces the incidents of health problems attributable to winter cold;
- Enables the elderly and those with life threatening medical conditions to maintain independence while maintaining a state of well-being;
- Helps to keep fuel costs from rising by reducing billing write-offs for energy suppliers;
- Circumvents energy cut-offs for homebound, elderly and other low-income households;
- Stimulates the local economy through funds put into circulation for the payment of energy bills;



COUNTY	BENEFITS EXPENDED	HOUSEHOLDS SERVED
Ben Hill	\$151,670.00	441
Berrien	\$142,610.00	419
Brooks	\$136,685.00	401
Cook	\$134,080.00	396
Echols	\$33,670.00	101
Irwin	\$75,520.00	220
Lanier	\$65,490.00	191
Lowndes	\$731,540.00	2,134
Tift	\$329,720.00	964
Turner	\$104,370.00	303
Total	\$1,905,355.00	5,570

Weatherization

Mission Statement

“To reduce energy costs for low-income families, particularly for the elderly, people with disabilities, and children, by improving the energy efficiency of their homes while ensuring their health and safety.”

History

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) was created in 1976 in order to assist low-income families who lacked resources to invest in energy efficiency. Today, funds are used to improve the energy efficiency of homes by using the most advanced technologies and testing protocols available in the housing industry. This conservation of energy helps our country to reduce its dependence on foreign oil and decreases the cost of energy for families in our service area.

Reducing Whole House Energy Usage

The Weatherization Program determines the cost-effective energy efficiency measures for low-income households. The entire house is assessed in order to provide a wide variety of energy savings measures which address the heating and cooling systems, electrical, walls, attics and energy-consuming appliances. These analyses take the whole house approach, which maximizes energy savings and reduces energy costs for clients.

Base Load Reduction

Cleaning, repairing or replacing appliances in the home with energy star rated high-efficiency products helps to reduce the utility consumption in the homes. A load monitor is used to determine if an electric appliance is using too many kilowatts based on a one-year usage. By using the load chart to determine optimal usage, it is determined whether cleaning, tune -up, or replacement is necessary.

Health and Safety

All gas systems are tested for carbon monoxide spillage. Carbon monoxide poses a serious health risk for our clients. All unvented space heaters are removed from the client’s home, and primary heat is replaced with vented forced draft space heaters or condensing furnace systems and new duct work. All appliances exhibiting dangerous levels of carbon monoxide are repaired or replaced.

Moisture and Mold

Exhaust fans are installed in the homes in order to prevent moisture and mold buildup. All exhaust fans are vented to the outside of the housing structure, and new energy efficient exhaust fans are installed and vented in homes which do not have them.

Weatherization

Weatherization Households Completed

April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013

<u>County</u>	<u>Units Completed</u>	<u>Total Occupants</u>
Ben Hill	8	9
Berrien	11	23
Brooks	12	28
Cook	32	79
Echols	13	25
Irwin	9	20
Lanier	15	39
Lowndes	104	221
Tift	34	63
Turner	2	2
Total	240	509



Head Start

What is Head Start



Head Start is a comprehensive child development program designed for pre-school children age 3-5 years old. Funding for Head Start is provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through the Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

Coastal Plain became a Head Start grantee in 1966 and began with an enrollment of approximately 100 children. The Agency is funded to provide Head Start services in nine counties to 912 preschool children and their families. Head Start services are provided by means of a network of 13 Child Development Centers.



Head Start programs serve families who have an income at or below the federal poverty level. The overall program is inclusive of two entities: Head Start, which serves preschool children and their families, and Early Head Start, which was established in 1994 and serves children prenatal to age 3, and pregnant women and their families.

The Federal Government provides 80% of the annual cost to operate these programs, and the remaining 20% comes from a local match or in-kind contributions. These contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, donations of goods and/or services, or volunteer hours.



Head Start Education Goals



Coastal Plain Area E.O.A., Inc. Head Start makes it a priority to achieve success for our children by preparing them for kindergarten. The Agency ensures that qualified staff members are hired to reach this goal. Teachers and Teacher Assistants must have the necessary credentials in order to be a part of the teaching staff. The classrooms are monitored on a monthly basis to ensure that proper instruction and age-appropriate activities are being used throughout all thirteen Centers. Education Advisory Committee meetings are held quarterly to encourage collaboration between the Agency, public schools, community partners and the Head Start parents.

Head Start

Pre Screening Tool

The Dial-4 is the pre-screening tool for children as it allows both three and four year olds to be screened. This tool is a baseline screening tool for identifying strengths and weaknesses of the children in cognitive, motor, and language skills. Parental consent must be given before the screening is administered. The Dial-4 is completed 7-10 days after the students' enrollment date. Based on the results, the teaching staff is able to determine the needs of each child, and to form a general plan as well as individualized education plans for each child which will build on their strengths, and to help to strengthen their weaknesses.



Head Start

Curriculum

The Head Start curriculum of choice is the Creative Curriculum. This curriculum has indicators which are in conjunction with the Head Start Outcome Framework, and ensures that school readiness skills are implemented. The Head Start Outcome Framework represents the structure initiated by federal mandates by which student performance is monitored and assessed. The framework assesses eleven domains, which are critical to childhood learning and development. The domains are:

- Language Development
- Early Literacy
- Mathematics
- Science
- Creative Arts
- Social and Emotional Development
- Approaches to Learning
- Physical Health and Development
- Logic and Reasoning
- Social Studies Knowledge and Skills
- English Language Development



The students are assessed in the fall, winter and spring of each reporting period. Data is entered individually by class and per Center, and then summarized across the 13 Centers using the ChildPlus Data Engine.

As a result of the assessment data collections and analysis, parent conferences are held to share the information. These conferences provide an avenue for the parents to see just how their children are progressing. Monthly parent bulletins are also provided which includes ideas for parents to help prepare their children for school readiness. These eleven domains will continue to enhance the children's education while at Head Start, and ensure that they are ready for the transition to Kindergarten.

School Readiness

School readiness is a top priority for preparing Head Start Children to transition to Kindergarten. The Office of Head Start defines school readiness as children ready for school, families ready to support their child's learning, and schools ready for Head Start children. Coastal Plain Area E.O.A., Inc. has established school readiness goals for preparing children for Kindergarten across the required domains.

Head Start

Collaboration Between Service Areas

All service areas collaborate with the parents to ensure that the children are internalizing educational concepts, and to ensure a successful transition to public school. Field trips to the public schools allow the children to tour the schools, sit in on the Kindergarten classrooms, and to eat lunch in the school cafeteria. When it is time for Kindergarten screening, public school representatives are invited to the Centers in order to administer the required Kindergarten screenings. There is a two-fold advantage to having the representatives come to the Centers. First, the children are tested in their Head Start environment, which has become familiar to them, and where they feel a certain level of comfort; secondly, the parents do not have to miss time from work in order to take the children to the public school to be tested.

At the end of the year, the children who will transition from Head Start to Kindergarten are given a transition packet. The packet includes materials which the children have learned during the school year and which parents can use to help the children maintain their skills during the summer vacation.



Head Start Facilities



Ben Hill Head Start
410 E. Altamaha St.
Fitzgerald, GA 31750
(229) 423-3191



Lanier Head Start
810 South Oak St.
Lakeland, GA 31635
(229) 428-3467



Nashville Head Start
204 A Hazel Avenue
Nashville, GA 31639
(229) 686-3085



Lowndes 1 Head Start
1613 Ulmer Avenue
Valdosta, GA 31601
(229) 244-6300



Brooks County Head Start
1301 N. MLK Dr.
Quitman, GA 31643
(229) 263-5662



Hallmark Heights
605 Hightower St.
Valdosta, GA 31601
(229) 244-7773



Alapaha Head Start
Highway 82 East
Alapaha, GA 31622
(228) 532-5222



Hahira Head Start
403 Main Street
Hahira, GA 31632
(229) 794-3310



Cook County Head Start
504 W. First Street
Adel, GA 31620
(229) 896-7322



RL Mack Head Start
64 Tifton Eldorado
Tifton, GA 31794
(229) 382-5110



Irwin County Head Start
311 Vo-Tech Rd.
Ocilla, GA 31774
(229) 468-5712



Turner County Head Start
524 Martin Luther King Dr.
Ashburn, GA 31715
(229) 567-0233



Head Start Main Office
2110 N Patterson St Ste B
Valdosta, GA 31602
(229) 244-5883



B. W. Lester
2522 Copeland Road
Valdosta, GA 31601
(229) 247-9750

The Head Start service area is comprised of nine counties. There are thirteen (13) educational facilities with fifty-two (52) classrooms. Nine of the thirteen Centers are licensed through Bright From The Start, Georgia Dept. of Early Care and Learning. The remaining Centers are in the licensing process and should be completed this calendar year.

Facilities

Head Start educational facilities are comprised of thirteen centers, with 52 classrooms, located in nine counties. Eleven of the thirteen centers are licensed through Bright from the Start, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning. Hahira is going through the process of licensing while Irwin County will not be licensed due to a conflict in the sites current location. During the past fiscal year, numerous upgrades to the facilities and playgrounds were made ranging from upgrading the building security lighting, installation of security cameras, upgrading of kitchen equipment, installation of a metal roof, installation of resilient material on playgrounds for fall protection, and installation of new play structures.



Facilities/Security

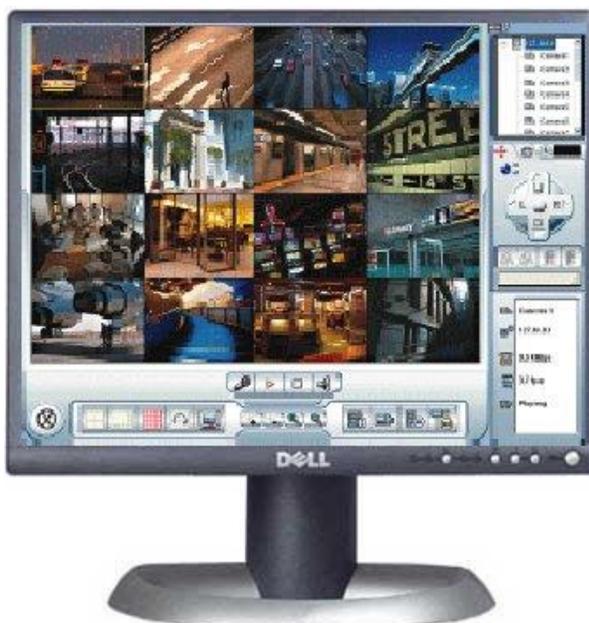


The safety of the children is insured due to the installations of cameras in key locations.

Security

Safety of the children and staff is taken very seriously. Head Start currently has cameras throughout the Center buildings and playgrounds. Center Supervisors can monitor activities from their desk using a computer monitor.

Cameras are monitored on a consistent basis.



Facilities/Playgrounds



Lanier County Playground



Alapaha Playground



Cook County Playground

Facilities/Playgrounds



BW Lester Playground

Nashville Playground



Hallmark Heights Playground

Facilities/Playgrounds



Tifton Playground



Ben Hill Playground



Lowndes 1 Playground

Facilities/Playgrounds



Hahira Playground



Turner Playground

Nutrition and Health

Coastal Plain Head Start has thirteen (13) Centers in nine (9) counties, covering a total of 3,495 square miles. Nine of the Centers have commercial kitchens with trained staff who provide meals for all thirteen Centers. Meals are provided through the use of food delivery vehicles which are equipped with heating and refrigeration units. The direct benefit and positive outcome of having these vehicles is the provision of quality meal service for the Head Start children and staff located in the four sites which are not equipped with commercial kitchens.

The nutritional needs and requirements of the children are met on a day-to-day basis. By controlling the nutritional value of each meal, we are better able to ensure that the individual needs of each child are met. This also ensures that Head Start is in compliance with the Head Start Performance Standards, which state that meals must be high in nutrients, and low in fat, sugar and sodium.

This service area continues to seek out new ideas to help battle against childhood obesity. A weekly Nutrition Curriculum is taught each week in the classroom, and on Tuesday morning, there is a nutrition lesson. Every Thursday, the children enjoy a cooking activity which is linked to the lesson themes taught on Tuesday. These lessons coincide with other activities which are taught in the classrooms.

Head Start children are provided meals through Child/Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which is federally-funded.



Head Start walk-in coolers and freezers allow us to keep the products purchased from vendors at their correct temperature and capacity and a place for the food to be stored after being cooked.

Center staff also encourage physical movement weekly by leading the children in two days of structured outdoor play. The activities chosen are not only healthy for the children and staff, but are fun for all. We understand that if a child is having fun, they will want to repeat the activity outside of Head Start and hopefully encourage their families and friends to engage in the activities.

Nutrition and Health

Health

Realizing that good health is incumbent upon good nutrition, the Center staff encourages physical exercise by leading the children in structured outdoor play. The activities which are selected are not only healthy for the children and staff, but fun for all. We understand that if children are having fun, they will want to show their families and friends what they have learned thereby (hopefully) influencing them to better health and nutrition.

Included in the Nutrition/Health Service Area are physical and dental exams, vision or hearing exams, lead monitoring, children with asthma, anemia and obesity . These areas are addressed to ensure that the children will receive proper medical treatment



Coastal Plain Head Start has thirteen Centers in nine counties covering 3,495 square miles. Nine of the Centers have commercial kitchens which provide meals for all thirteen Centers. This is achieved through the use of food delivery vehicles which are equipped with heating and refrigeration units.

The direct benefit and positive outcome of having these vehicles is the provision of quality meal service for the Head Start children and staff located in the Centers which do not have commercial kitchens (four sites).

Disabilities and Mental Health

Disabilities

Serving nine (9) different counties, the Disability and Mental Health Manager collaborates with the local education agencies to train the Center staff on the procedures for implementing the Response to Intervention (RTI) for each specific county. Due to the changes in the Federal Education Laws, the State Dept. of Education decided to change the referral and testing processes. When the screenings are completed and areas of concerns are identified, teachers must record the results on the required data sheet and select a research-based intervention plan. If the child does not make progress with the RTI, a referral for an evaluation must be made.

Mental Health

Some of the children who enter Head Start sometimes have difficulty transitioning to a new environment; as a result, Mental Health Services are a crucial service which we provide to children and families. The Mental Health Provider is an integral necessity in providing on-site training to the staff as well as parents on how to address these behavioral issues. Calendars are dispersed to each Center on a monthly basis with important information with regard to behavioral issues, and ways to circumvent these issues.

Collaborative Partners

Head Start is concerned with addressing the needs of all children, and providing relevant services and resources to those children with identified disabilities. Our collaborative partners, along with a description of each, are as follows:

Babies Can't Wait

Services are for children from birth to the age three. A child's individual needs are considered, and services are based on their needs. Public and private providers service these children. The services include, but are not limited to hearing services, home visits, eye care, nutrition, occupational and physical therapy, psychological needs, social work services, special instruction, speech/language, nursing, medical/diagnostic, family training and counseling. Babies Can't Wait will continue to serve children from all nine counties. Babies Can't Wait increased the total number of children who were served this year. A total of 331 children were identified this year and a documented Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP) was put in place for the family. Babies Can't Wait Service Coordinators increased their caseloads due to an increase in children born with significant delays. Doctors are referring these children in order for them to receive necessary services.



Disabilities and Mental Health

Bright From The Start



Administers the nationally known Georgia Pre-K Program. This partner is the licensing agency for professional as well as home-based child care centers. They administer Federal Nutrition Programs, manage the Quality Enhancement Program, house the Head Start Collaboration Office, distribute federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and work collaboratively with child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state of Georgia in order to enhance early care and education.

Children's Medical Services (CMS)

Provide services for children and individuals from birth to 21 years of age. Services include physical assessments, diagnostic testing, development of a medical plan, corrective surgery, health education, social work assistance, nutrition services, financial assistance, and ongoing health care supervision.



Easter Seals



Easter Seals provide family support for families with children ages 3 and older. The family support includes both staff provided and purchased goods and services including respite care, personal support, day habilitation, personal living benefits, dental services, medical care, specialized clothing and diagnostic services, recreational/alternative activities, environmental modifications, specialized equipment, therapeutic services, counseling services, specialized nutrition supplies, as well as other services.

Child Care and Referral Agency

This Agency maintains the most current Information about child care options in South Central Georgia. It provides parents with a list of child care providers who meet their Individual needs. The program also assists those who are interested in becoming registered child care providers, as well as conducting training sessions and workshops to enhance provider services. For those individuals who are already providers, the Agency provides resources materials and serves as a "toy lending library."



Disabilities and Mental Health

Local Education Agencies (LEA's)

Local Educational Agencies give specialized instruction and/or speech and language services in facilities, homes or communities, or a combination of all.

Interagency Collaborative Council (ICC)

The ICC serves as a steering committee for agencies which are responsible for serving young children in the local community. This is done by exchanging information among agencies, broadening public awareness of community programs, and assisting with the collection of data. The ICC also ensures that services are not duplicated in any way so that all services are effectively provided.

Parent to Parent of Georgia, Inc.

Parent to Parent is a statewide network which provides support and information for parents with children who have disabilities or chronic illnesses. The Agency has printed disability information on over 1,000 disabilities or chronic conditions. Volunteer opportunities and training on how to become a Supporting Parent is available within this Agency.



Children First

This Agency links children from birth to 4 years old to primary care providers and/or agencies that can meet their health and developmental needs.

Local Public Health Departments

Local Public Health Departments serve all ages with services including physical evaluations and Denver II screening for children from birth to 4 years old. Health check assessments are also provided for Medicaid clients ages birth to 21 years old. WIC, immunizations, vision and hearing screenings, as well as other services, are also provided.



Transition and Literacy

Transition

Transition to Kindergarten is an exciting time for Head Start children and their families. Head Start takes a team approach to ensure a smooth delivery of services. Our goal is to make sure parents and children have the support as well as the information needed to make a successful transition to school. All service area plays a vital role in this process.



The children take field trips to the school which allows them to tour the schools and to participate in a Kindergarten class. This gives them a real experience of a day in Kindergarten. Public school representatives are invited to the Head Start Centers to administer the required Kindergarten screenings. This is helpful to the parents since they don't have to miss a day at work to take their children to the public schools for testing. It also ensures that the children are in familiar surroundings when they are tested. The children also receive end-of-the-year transition backpacks, which include supplies and resources needed to continue literacy and language skills that have been learned throughout the academic year. Parents are also provided a transition bag to increase their knowledge of parenting strategies. A monthly Transition/Literacy Calendar is provided to families in order to enhance phonics, letter knowledge, fine motor skills, math, nutrition, and social skills.



Literacy

Head Start addresses the literacy needs of the children and families. At each Head Start site, a Literacy Center is available to support emergent literacy. Head Start promotes family literacy, as well. We encourage the family members to return to school to obtain their GED's and to further their education by attending vocational schools or colleges.

Head Start has also participated in reading initiatives over the years. This includes Jump Start's Read for the Record and Georgia Read Aloud. Children in various counties have been recipients of the books from Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy, the Chamber of Commerce, and Valdosta Rotary Club Foundation.

Child Outcomes Assessments

The Head Start Outcome Framework represents the structure with which student performance is monitored and assessed. The framework assesses eleven domains that are critical to childhood learning and development, as supported by federal guidelines. They are: (1) language development, (2) early literacy, (3) mathematics, (4) logic and reasoning, (5) science, (6) creative arts, (7) social and emotional development, (8) social studies, (9) approaches to learning and (10) physical health and development. The eleventh domain applies only to children who speak a language other than English at home. These children are our dual language learners.

Students are assessed in the fall, winter, and spring of each reporting period. Data is entered individually, by class, by center, and then summarized across the thirteen centers, using the ChildPlus assessment system.

Analysis of data for this report period is aggregated. Below is a chart showing the final placement of students for the 2012-2013 school year. All thirteen centers are represented.

DOMAIN	% Below	% Meeting	% Exceeding
Language Development	10%	70%	20%
Early Literacy	8%	62%	32%
Mathematics	14%	65%	21%
Logic and Reasoning	10%	64%	26%
Science	7%	45%	48%
Creative Arts	2%	22%	76%
Social and Emotional Development	10%	57%	33%
Social Studies	12%	72%	16%
Approaches to Learning	10%	58%	32%
Physical Health and Development	9%	74%	17%
GRAND TOTAL	9%	59%	32%

The data provided for this analysis does not disaggregate by age or ethnicity; therefore, it is not possible to determine if these factors influenced the data.

Analysis concludes that for the 2012-2013 school year, target goals were met or even exceeded. Teaching Strategies Gold has been implemented and overall we are seeing a greater ability to aggregate and analyze child outcomes which in turn is greatly improving overall performance and assessment.

Fatherhood Program

The role of a responsible and loving father is strengthened and emphasized in Head Start programs. Head Start's belief is that if you build strong fathers, you will build a strong family. The Fatherhood Program has always been one of the initiatives that our Agency has promoted. Many Center activities took place during the year which resulted in family males participating in a positive manner. This year, the Policy Council decided to make the Fatherhood Initiative one of their projects.



During the 2011-2012 school year, male members of the Policy Council, with the assistance of a Community Representative held a meeting with fathers and other interested males who had children enrolled in the Head Start Program. This also included any significant other and role models from the community. One meeting was held in the South and one was held in the North.



The meetings were held to discuss with the fathers and the importance of them playing a role in their child's education. Other issues and concerns that fathers discussed were child support, visitation rights, communicating with the moms, and assistance with paying child support when not working.

More activities for the fathers are being planned for the summer and upcoming school year. The fathers will also be working together to plan activities for the children during this school year.



Parent Involvement

We strongly encourage and provide opportunities for parental involvement in the education of children. Fatherhood/male involvement is an initiative that provides opportunities for and encourages fathers to become involved in their child's everyday life and education. Some of the activities that completed during the school year are: Fun times with Dad, Teaching children about Black History, What it means to be a father, Gingerbread houses, Family Collages, Game night with Dad, Handprints with Dad, Carving pumpkins with Dad, and field trips with Dad.



Employment

36. Of the number of two-parent families, the number of families in which:	
a. Both parents/guardians are employed	43
b. One parent/guardian is employed	134
c. Both parents/guardians are not working (i.e. unemployed, retired, or disabled)	45
37. Of the number of single-parent families, the number of families in which:	
a. The parent/guardian is employed	337
b. The parent/guardian is not working (unemployed, retired, disabled)	437
38. The number of all families in which at least one parent/guardian is a member of United States military	15

Federal or other assistance

39. The number of families receiving any cash benefits or other services under the Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program	59
40. Total number families receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	79
41. Total number of families receiving services under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	503
42. Total number of families receiving services under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly referred to as Food Stamps	557

Parent Involvement

Job training/school

43. Of the number of two-parent families, the number of families in which:	
a. Both parents/guardians are in job training or school	4
b. One parent/guardian is in job training or school	32
c. Neither parent/guardian is in job training or school	186
44. Of the number of single-parent families, the number of families in which:	
a. The parents/guardian is in job training or school	64
b. The parent/guardian is not in job training or school	710

Parent guardian education

45. Of the total number of families, the highest level of education obtained by the child's parent(s) / guardian(s)	
a. An advanced degree or baccalaureate degree	10
b. An associate degree, vocational school, or some college	249
c. High school graduate or GED	352
d. Less than high school graduate	385

Family Services

	Number of families that received services through Head Start/Early Head Start or through referrals
46. The number of families who received the following services since last year's PIR was reported:	
a. Emergency/crisis intervention such as meeting immediate needs for food, clothing, or shelter	47
b. Housing assistance such as subsidies, utilities, repairs, etc.	15
c. Mental health services	143
d. English as a second language (ESL) training	12
e. Adult education such as GED programs and college selection	116
f. Job training	24
g. Substance abuse prevention	1
h. Substance abuse treatment	1
i. Child abuse and neglect services	4
j. Domestic violence services	2
k. Child support assistance	23
l. Health education	28
m. Assistance to families of incarcerated individuals	1
n. Parenting education	124
o. Marriage education	3
47. Of these, the number that received at least one of the services listed above	278

Transportation

Reliable and safe transportation is always our first priority in meeting the needs of the Head Start children and families. A fleet of 22 Head Start school buses provide transportation service for children to and from the Head Start Centers and on field trips. We are collaborated with Irwin , Tift , Turner , and the Valdosta City school system to provide transportation for our students. This coordinated transportation involved ten school buses. On behalf of the Coastal Plain Area E.O.A. Inc. and the Board of Directors, we give special thanks to these Boards of Education for agreeing to provide services for our students with special needs and students in the rural areas.



Five food service vehicles are used to deliver food to 4 centers and out of area field trips.



Fourteen staff vehicles are used to transport staff over the 9 county service area and to out-of-area conferences and trainings.



Information Technology

The Information Technology Department (IT) has the distinct privilege of working with every aspect and division of the Agency. IT is responsible for setting up new employees and computers on the network; monitoring hardware/software security; configuring internet firewalls and VPNs; inventory and asset database management; managing telephone lines and phones; configuring and maintaining domain controllers, mail servers, and web servers, and maintaining our ubiquitous ChildPlus.net system. We continue to make improvements throughout the school year to ensure that staff and students have state of the art equipment in the office and classroom and that we monitor this equipment via remote management to anticipate problems/needs before they.



Staff and student productivity increase as system downtime decreases. There has been a greater focus on professional development this year. IT researched and implemented different technologies which ensures that the staff and children are kept up to date with the latest patches, anti-virus updates and fixes to keep everyone's focus on productivity and learning instead of technological maintenance.

In the interest of staff development and continuity, vendors were brought in on projects such as web development, telephone installation, and remote computer management. IT focuses on the specifics of the technology, and improving the usability of equipment across all departments. Information technology plays a prominent role in Head Start curriculum and is vital throughout the domain areas and classroom ages. Teachers often find the instructional technology tools such as touch screens, video games, and cooperative learning programs, extremely beneficial.



Students also benefit from the interactive component, which increases interest, as well as transfer and retention of the material being learned.

STAFF AND PARENT OF THE YEAR 2012-2013

Olif Dave – Staff of the Year



Casey Roland – Parent of the Year



Professional Development

Coastal Plain Area EOA, Inc. recognizes the importance of professional development and skills enhancement for its employees. The Agency includes ongoing training opportunities for staff to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to implement the content of the Head Start Performance Standards.

Staff Development Training



Lesson Plan Training



Policy Council Training



Annual Strategic Planning

Ongoing Training

Stress Management

Classroom Management

CPR/First Aid

Nutrition

CLASS

Health Advisory

Education

Advisory

Bus Monitor

Bus Driver

Child Abuse

Disease Control

Fire Safety

Curriculum

ERSEA

Licensing

Self Assessment

Computer Management

A Pictorial View

“Head Start In Focus”



Terrell Haliberton
Policy Council Chair



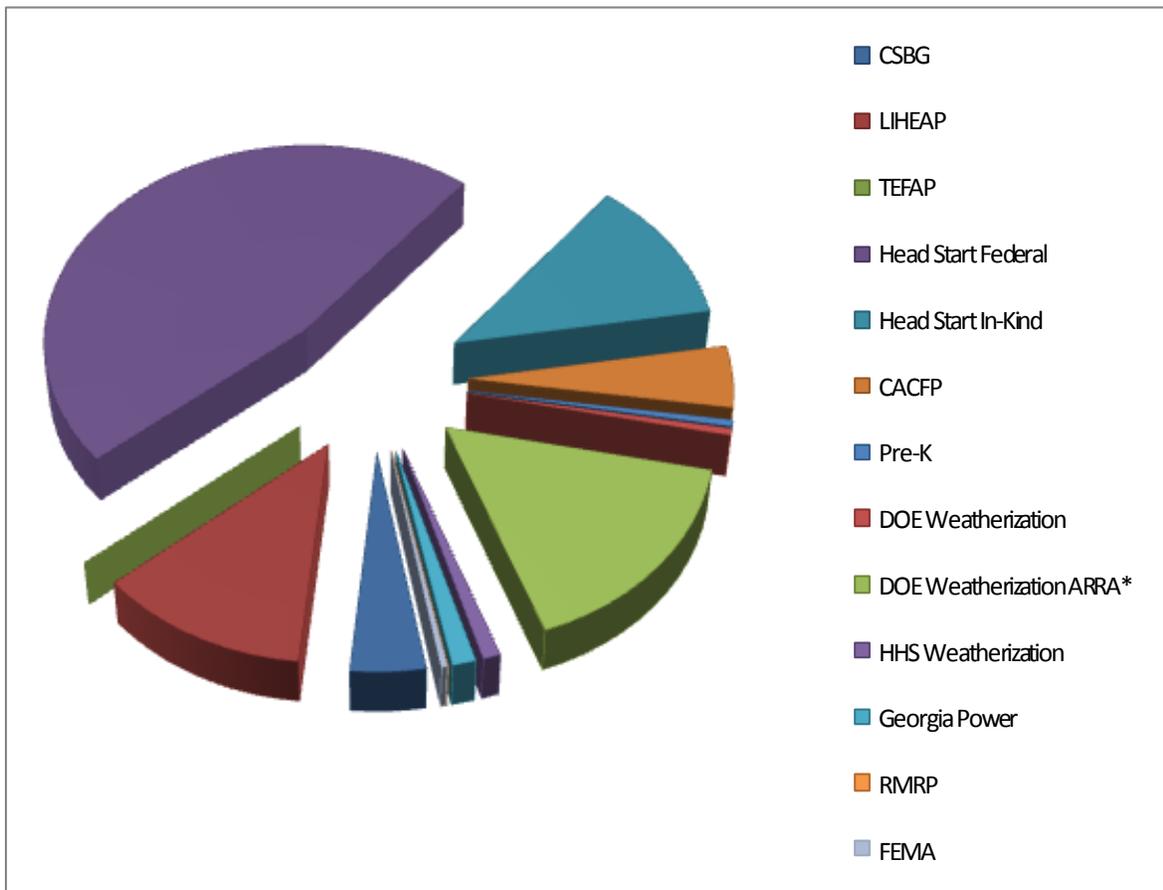
Head Start Staff at St. Simon

Funding Analysis

Fiscal Year 2012 Funding

Department of Human Services	CSBG	\$ 615,552
	LIHEAP	\$ 1,905,355
US Department of Health and Human Services	Head Start Federal	\$ 6,632,367.00
	Head Start In-Kind	\$ 1,658,092.00
Bright from the Start	CACFP	\$ 702,974.05
	Pre-K	\$ 70,359.72
U.S. Department of Energy	DOE Weatherization	\$ 74,467.96
	DOE Weatherization ARRA*	\$ 2,295,475.34
	HHS Weatherization	\$ 145,109.23
	Georgia Power	\$ 192,088.75
	RMRP	\$ 784.00
Federal Emergency Management Agency	FEMA	\$ 45,183
	Total Funding Fiscal Year 2013	\$ 14,337,808.05

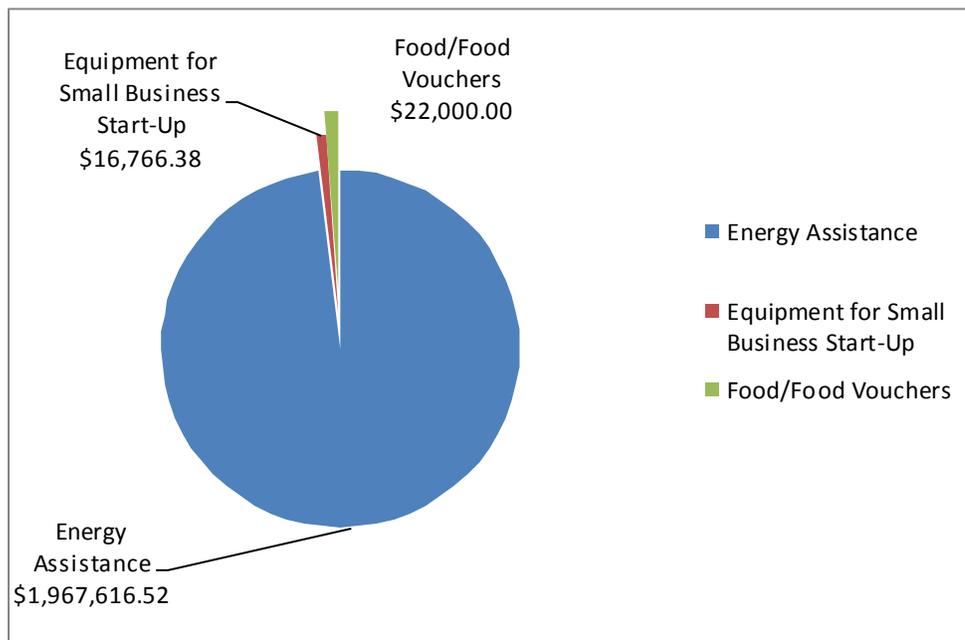
* American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)



Funding Analysis

Benefit Payments made through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG), to vendors and clients.

Energy Assistance	\$	1,967,616.52	98.06%
Equipment for Small Business Start-Up	\$	16,766.38	.83%
Food/Food Vouchers	\$	22,000.00	1.1%
Total Direct Assistance	\$	2,006,382.90	

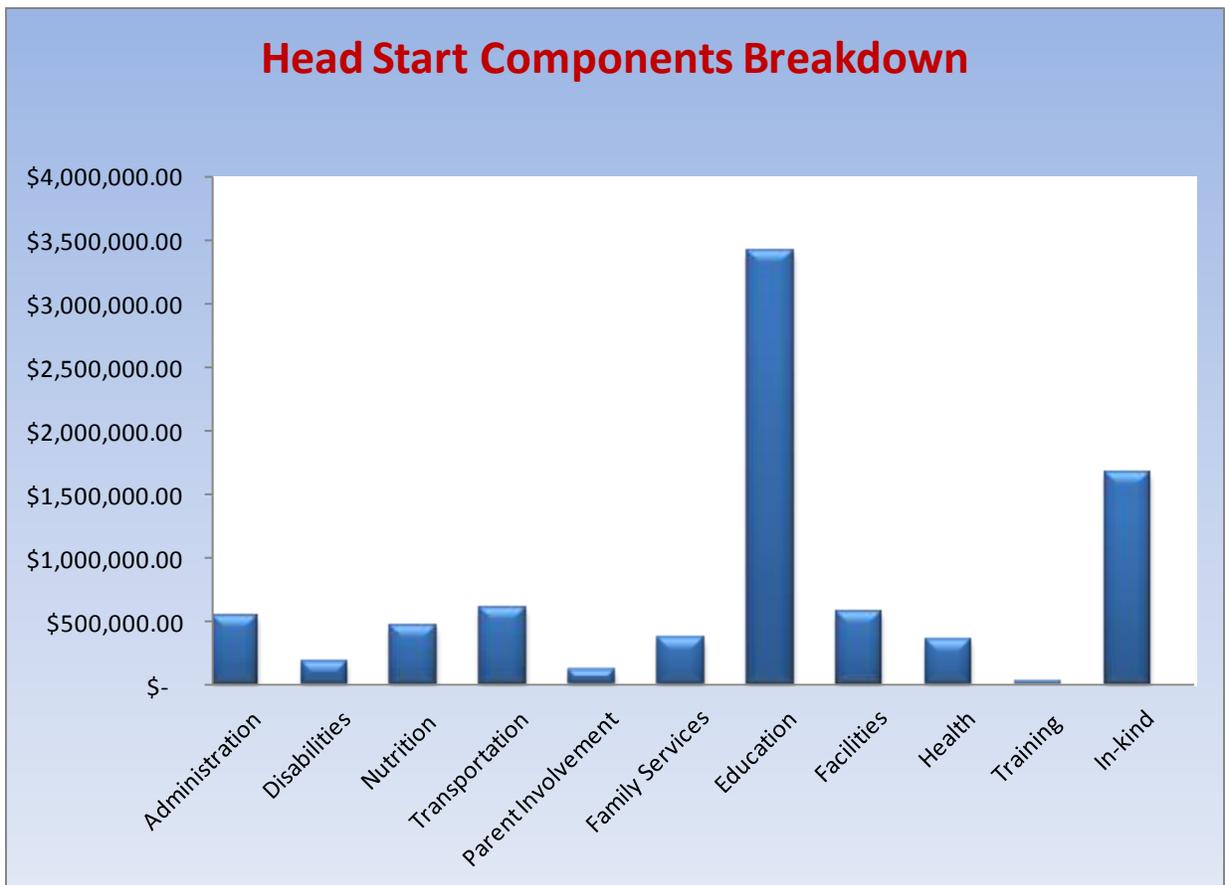


Funding Analysis

Head Start Components Breakdown

Administration	\$	531,978.76	6.48%
Disabilities	\$	168,236.20	2.05%
Nutrition	\$	459,608.40	5.59%
Transportation	\$	602,461.92	7.33%
Parent Involvement	\$	104,936.34	1.28%
Family Services	\$	357,018.07	4.35%
Education	\$	3,408,158.34	41.49%
Facilities	\$	559,583.09	6.81%
Health	\$	343,641.48	4.18%
Training	\$	20,934.40	0.25%
In-kind	\$	1,658,092.00	20.18%
Total	\$	8,214,649.00	

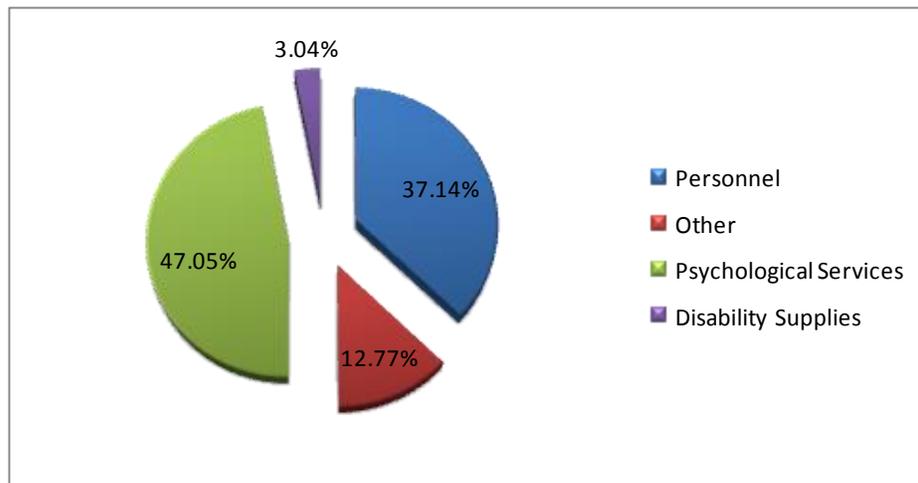
Head Start Components Breakdown



Funding Analysis

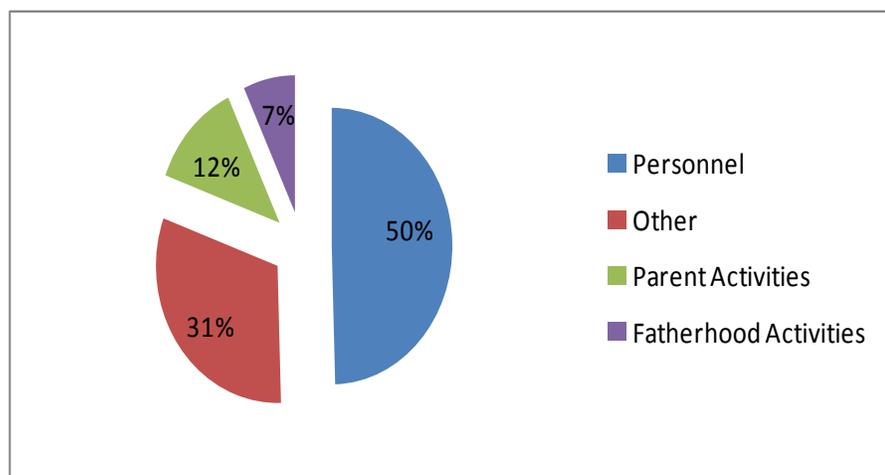
Head Start Disabilities Component

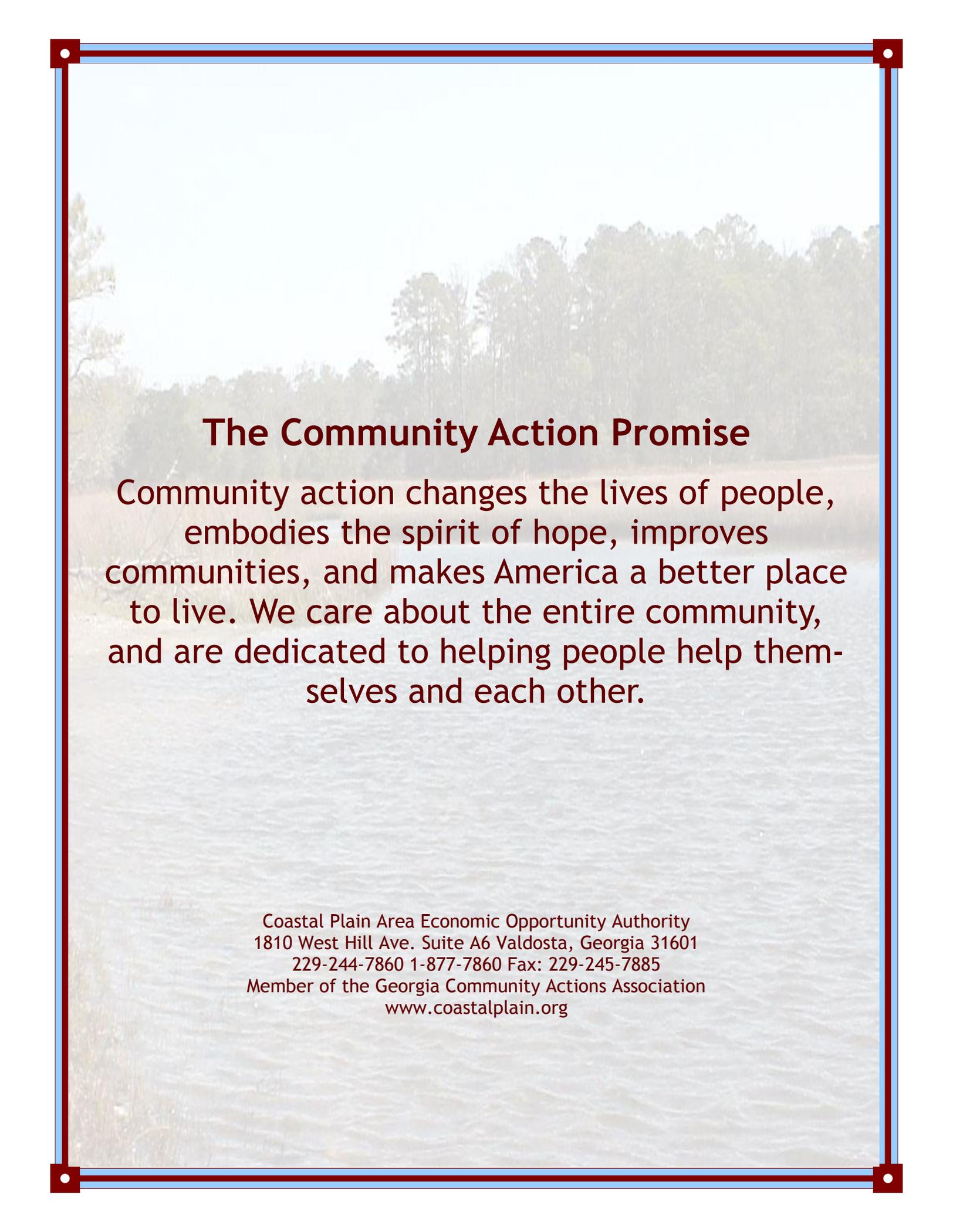
Personnel	\$	62,487.10	37.14%
Other	\$	21,479.69	12.77%
Psychological Services	\$	79,150.80	47.05%
Disability Supplies	\$	5,118.61	3.04%
Total	\$	168,236.20	



Head Start Parent Involvement Component

Personnel	\$	51,995.24	49.55%
Other	\$	32,569.92	31.04%
Parent Activities	\$	13,083.37	12.47%
Fatherhood Activities	\$	7,287.81	6.94%
Total	\$	104,936.34	





The Community Action Promise

Community action changes the lives of people, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

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Member of the Georgia Community Actions Association
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