



Start Young. Involve Parents.

Early Head
Start Annual
Report

2020-2021
School Year

Introduction

This report has been prepared to comply 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 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

Parent Education includes the following four components:

- **Personal Visits:** A trained Parent Educator is assigned to each family in the program making home visits every week. Parent educators share age-appropriate child development information while helping moms and dads put into practice techniques for language development, exercise, discipline, and fun with their children.
- **Socializations:** Group socializations are planned jointly with families, conducted with both child and parent participation, occur in a classroom, community facility, home or field trip setting as appropriate. Group socializations must be structured to provide age-appropriate activities for participating children that are intentionally aligned with school readiness goals, Early Head Start’s Early Learning Outcomes Framework and the home-based curriculum. Additionally, socializations encourage parents to share experiences related to their child’s development with other parents to strengthen parent-child relationships and to help promote parents understanding of child development.

- **Screening:** In addition to increasing parent knowledge of child development, the Parent Educators perform screenings for early identification of developmental delays and health, vision, and hearing problems. If developmental problems are found, families are referred to community services, which specialize in the area of concern.
- **Resource Network:** Family Advocates help families identify and connect with needed resources. This may include instructions on how to access resources at the local library or how to fill out “CHIP” and Medicaid applications.

Our Mission

Lumin Bachman Lake Community School’s mission is to create nurturing environments that foster the child’s creativity, independence, and love of learning. We see parents as the first and best teacher of their children.

From the youngest baby learning to smile to the three-year-old helping mom and dad with the daily chores, our at-home visits from parent educators have challenged parents to see their children as eager learners, able to respond and mimic activities.

Parents build their confidence as teachers, and their children respond to each new lesson with pleasure. Along the way, parents are empowered in their own homes and communities, while the children thrive—their minds open and hungry for learning.

Children, even infants, respond to their parents’ love and leadership. At Lumin Bachman Lake Community School (BLCS), we collaborate with families to set goals for positive, healthy child development. Children’s mental, emotional, social, and physical wellbeing are all taken into account as our parent educators assist each family with a plan they are eager to execute.

We put tools and resources into the hands of low-income parents so that these families can achieve their number one goal –educational success and a better life for their children.

Home Visits are the core of the Lumin BLCS program. With weekly one-on-one visits from a parent educator, parents are taught principles based on the Parents as Teachers curriculum and the Montessori Method of instruction. Parents take the lead in the development of language skills, motor skills, and social interaction – all vital to school readiness.

Lumin BLCS employs many enrichment programs to give parents and kids ways to interact with each other and with their local community. Field trips to the Perot Science Museum and the Dallas Arboretum feed a child’s natural curiosity and creativity. Their senses respond to every aspect of the trip—from riding a bus to the interaction with new children, to seeing the flowers from a picture book come to life in the natural world.

News from Lumin BLCS

The past year has been a busy and productive one for the dedicated staff and parents of Lumin Bachman Lake Community School.

Parent Engagement

Due to COVID-19, we saw a decrease in parental involvement. Parents traditionally volunteer their time to do additional educational activities with their children between Parent Educator visits. Parents volunteer to serve on the Lumin Bachman Lake Community School’s Policy Council, a key component of our program’s governance structure. Parents are active in the parent meetings which are similar to PTA meetings. Parents take turns doing the classroom laundry. Lumin Bachman Lake Community School parent volunteer time decreased from 300 hours to 269 hours per month.

Children are Making Progress toward School Readiness Goals

The parent educators used the Galileo Child Assessment as the ongoing child assessment instrument during the 2020-2021 year. The charts below show at what level the children’s school readiness skills were at the start and end of the year. There is notable progress in all age groups.

School Readiness - beginning of the year				
	0-8	8-18	18-24	24-36
Beginning	53%	57%	80%	80%
Intermediate	18%	23%	10%	20%
Advanced	29%	20%	10%	0%
School Readiness - end of year				
	0-8	8-18	18-24	24-36
Beginning	6%	3%	30%	20%
Intermediate	12%	14%	30%	30%
Advanced	82%	83%	40%	50%

Early Identification of Children with Developmental Delays

We administer the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, a developmental screening tool, multiple times a year based on the child's age. The Ages & Stages Questionnaire pinpoints developmental progress in children between the ages of one month to 5 ½ years. It is vital that delays and disabilities are identified as early as possible so children can receive the benefits of early detection and intervention. Scientific research consistently shows that the first three years of life are critical for the development of brain structure and functioning. Because developmental screening is a process that selects those children who will receive the benefits of more intensive evaluation, or of treatment, all infants and children should be screened for developmental disabilities, otherwise some may be denied access to needed care. (AAP, 1994)

- At least 10% of the population we serve represents children with disabilities.
- During the 2020-2021 program year, we had 18 children with Individualized Family Service Plans through our Early Intervention service provider. Thirteen of the 18 were identified after enrollment via the ASQ screening process.

Lumin Education

2020-21 Budget for Bachman Lake

**2020 - 2021
Approved Budget**

Revenue

Federal Revenue	1,772,906
Federal Breakfast Program	-
State Revenue	256,084
Donations - Fundraising Goal	226,245
In Kind Donations	216,982
Revenue Deferred from Prior Years	515,940
Paycheck Protect Program (PPP)	-
Tuition and Fees	-
Investment Income	-
Rental and Other Income	-
Total Revenue	2,988,157

Expenditures

Salaries	1,838,499
Taxes & Benefits	588,313
Professional Services	133,402
Food	28,600
Supplies	45,899
Staff Training	57,903
Repair & Maintenance	22,684
Telephone & Utilities	161,830
Insurance	10,903
Dues & Fees	8,399
Printing & Postage	2,709
Computer Services & Equipment	62,906
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses	26,110
Total Expenditures	2,988,157

Our Services

Home Visits

Lumin Bachman Lake Community School is funded to serve 124 children and pregnant women from pregnancy to 3 years of age in the home visiting program. Our focus is on supporting the parent in becoming their child's first and most important teacher.

On a typical weekly home visit, the Parent Educator will provide the parents information on their child's development – helping them understand the connection between activities offered and brain development and its impact on language, discuss any concerns or questions they have about their children and connect them to resources to help their family wellbeing.

Essentially, every visit, every conversation, every interaction the Parent Educator has with the parent and child builds the foundation for learning and preparedness for school.

In addition, we have a committee in place that helps develop school readiness goals related to the five domains—Social Emotional, Approaches Toward Learning, Language Development, Cognition, and Motor Development.

Through the use of strong PAT and Montessori curricula, our weekly home visits are aimed at developing secure attachment, curious exploration, vocabulary, sensorial investigation, and discovery of movement.

Center-Based

Lumin Bachman Lake Community School Center Based program is funded to serve 16 children in two classrooms. Children attend the classroom 5 days a week for 6.5 hours per day. Families also receive a home visit with one of their classroom teachers two times per year. Parent conferences are held two times per year. Due to the lack of quality early education programs in our service area, we have a long waiting list of parents wanting their children in this program.

The Center Based program uses a research-based Montessori curriculum, which aligns

with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes framework. Teachers develop lesson plans that will provide children with opportunities to learn through experimentation, inquiry, play and exploration. Lesson plans for young toddlers are individualized. Teachers set developmental/school readiness goals for the children in partnership with the parents and customize classroom activities that promote the child's development to work in the classroom. These goals are family driven or set by assessment results and tracking of the child's milestones in each one of the developmental/school readiness domains; language, motor, social-emotional, cognitive and approaches to learning. For children with special needs, the Teacher requests the IFSP of the child if there is one and works in conjunction with the early childhood intervention agency to ensure the child is receiving the best possible service.

Maternal Care

Pregnant women receive linkage to prenatal health care, prenatal education on fetal development, information on the benefits of breast feeding, substance abuse prevention, and linkage to post- partum health care. We served 20 pregnant women during the 2020-2021 program year.

Medical and Dental

The medical and dental health of children continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The families expressed fears of contracting COVID and were hesitant to take their children in for well child checks, immunizations, and dental checks. However, we have seen an increase in well child checks and immunizations from last year. At the end of the 2020-2021 program year, 97% of children served had health insurance with 77% up to date on well child checks. Ninety percent had an ongoing source of continuous, accessible health care, and 95% were up to date on immunizations appropriate for their age. Eighty-eight percent of children had an ongoing source of continuous, accessible oral health care with 38% up to date on dental exams.

Socializations

Parent Educators and their families spend time together monthly in group meetings focusing on topics such as:

Community Pediatrics
Discovering Nature
Language and Literacy

Domestic Violence
Immigration
Perot Museum Field Trip

Cognitive Development
CPR
Well Child Check Ups

This is also a time for families to connect with other families whose children are enrolled in Lumin Bachman Lake Community School. By getting to know each other, they are able to support one another with transportation, job options, and childcare. We have 22 group socializations per year. With the advent of virtual socializations, we saw a dramatic increase in attendance. Average attendance went from 20 per session to 40 per session.

Number of People Served

During the 2020-2021 year, we served 195 children 0-3 years of age and pregnant women in 180 families. The average monthly enrollment was 138, which is 98.5% of our funded enrollment.

Social Services

Lumin Bachman Lake Community School has a holistic, comprehensive approach to working with families. Our Family Advocates help link families to external resources that will improve overall family functioning. As Sandra Huerta and Heather Sandstrom with the Urban Institute noted in the *The Negative Effects of Instability on Child Development: A Research Synthesis*, “Achieving school readiness among children enrolled in a prekindergarten program is difficult without first ensuring children have safe and secure housing, proper nutrition and medical care, and stable and supportive parents who can foster regular school attendance”.

During this program year, we linked

- 69% of families to an emergency or crisis intervention service;
- 14% of families to rent and utilities assistance;
- 51% to ESL classes;
- 27% to an education or job training program; and
- 11% to mental health services.

Family functioning was measured using the Florida Family Outcomes Matrix administered two times during the year. Seventy-one percent of families made gains in family functioning.

The Family Outcomes Matrix measures family functioning on a scale from 1-5: (1) In-crisis, (2) Vulnerable, (3) Stable, (4) Building Capacity and (5) Empowered.

	Pre-test	Post-test
In Crisis	0%	0%
Vulnerable	9%	2%
Stable	58%	49%
Building Capacity	29%	45%
Empowered	3%	4%

Results of the Most Recent Review by the Secretary and the Financial Audit

From July 26, 2021 to July 30, 2021, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a Focus Area One (FA1) monitoring review of the Lumin Education Early Head Start program. Based on the information gathered during this review, the program was found to have met the requirements of all applicable Head Start Program Performance Standards, law, regulations, and policy requirements.

A Few of Our Partners

The Warren Center, our partner in Early Childhood Intervention

- The Warren Center’s mission is to assure that children with developmental differences or disabilities, and their families, receive the resources and support they need to reach their

full potential. The Warren Center's ECI program provides an initial evaluation (to determine eligibility) at NO COST to the family.

- Once a child is determined eligible, an individualized family service plan is created.
- Services include:
 - Screenings & Assessment
 - Occupational & Physical Therapy
 - Speech/Language Therapy
 - Feeding & Nutrition Therapy
 - Developmental Therapy
 - Transition Assistance to Additional Services. (all the above take off their website)+

Dallas Area Interfaith (DAI), our partner in parent engagement

- DAI is instrumental in teaching our parents how to address community issues and organize groups to make changes for the common good.

Bachman Lake Together

- The Zero to Five Funders Collaborative was founded in 2008 by like-minded funders to ensure children in low-income neighborhoods are physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually ready for school by age five. In response to the commitment of Bachman Lake families and to help them sustain their progress long-term, the Collaborative opened the Bachman Lake Together Family Center in May of 2016. Bachman Lake Together is now its own 501c3 and the Family Center houses staff from Lumin Bachman Lake Community School, Catholic Charities, and The Community Action Network.
- In addition to being a safe, central location where families can gather and access early learning resources, the center offers services to help low-income families deal with financial, health and other stressors that can negatively impact children's development. Resources are selected based on the needs and requests of parents in the community. Working together under one roof, not only is school readiness promoted, but also strong, healthy families.