

2020 MID-YEAR REPORT FOR OUTCOME PROGRESS

Reporting for: July 1 – November 30 of the current year!

Agency Name: ACPC

Program Name: Daycare-Infant

Brief Description of Program: ACPC is an Early Learning and Childcare center serving children 18 months through 5th grade in eight locations throughout Ames. We provide services for children aged 18 months to 5 years at our main center typically from 7am-6pm (now 7:30-4:30 at our Main Center) Monday through Friday and are open year-round. We also provide before and after school care at seven elementary schools in Ames, and during breaks and days of non-attendance offer families full-day care for their school-aged children. ASSET funding allows us to provide families who qualify a reduced tuition fee. Since September of 2019, our reduced fee structure has changed again from the previous year with three reduced fee options available to families based on family size and income. Families who are also students at Iowa State can receive an additional monthly discount.

- 1. Program/ Service Outcome (Change/ Benefit to Clients/ Community) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on program/ service outcome from July 1 to date:** Our Main Center has been continuing to work towards meeting qualifications for accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), we look forward to continuing to improve the quality of programming we are able to provide to the community. We are in our third year of implementing Teaching Strategies GOLD which we utilize for observation and assessment of all children in our program. We utilize the observational data to partner with families during conferences to make goals, discuss successes and areas that need attention for each child's individual development. This year, we continued the second of a three-year journey with program wide Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) in partnership with the Iowa Department of Education.
- 2. Measurement Used (How Often, Tools Used) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on measurement used from July 1 to date:** All families complete the ASQ-SE (ages and stages questionnaire – social emotional) annually and the standard ASQ (ages and stages questionnaire) initially upon enrollment. Teachers utilize Teaching Strategies GOLD (TSG) as a year-round assessment tool to measure each child's development, inform their lesson planning, and for keeping parents up to date.
- 3. Measurement Update (Please provide update on measurement data collected based on the ABF 5(O) from July 1 to date):** The teachers perform ASQ screenings for new students within 30 days of enrollment, and annually all families complete the ASQ-SE for their child. As mentioned above, TSG is used for all children in our program year-round. Conferences with families are held

in Fall, Winter, and again in Spring, this year they are done virtually. During these meetings, teachers share the child's report card with a summary of the previous months' observations in relation to where they fall on the continuum of child development. Parents and teachers work together using this information along with feedback from parents about home and create goals for the upcoming months, as well as celebrating strengths and identifying areas of opportunity for additional support.

4. **Outcomes Achieved (Result to Clients/ Community) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on the outcomes achieved from July 1 to date:** 50% of our families in this category receive reduced tuition through the sliding fee scale. A rise from 17% the previous year. Teachers continue to utilize information gleaned through the child assessment in Teaching Strategies GOLD to inform their areas of instruction, bolstering some and revamping others.
5. **Barriers Encountered (please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on the barriers encountered from July 1 to date):** If I were to write a complete summary of barriers encountered by our organization within the last six months it would take several pages of writing. In a much-abbreviated version, the pandemic has required us to provide services differently to keep all parties safe. These changes have caused increased costs due to such things as higher staff to child ratios, additional supplies, paid leave, back-up subs for unexpected leaves. We have reduced enrollment, having nearly all waitlist families defer enrollment due to COVID. Lastly, we have an increased population of families who fall into lower tuition categories needing care causing our ASSET funding to deplete at a greater rate and subsequently further reduce tuition. Families have not been allowed in the building since we reopened in June which means teachers need to think differently about how to build and maintain those relationships and stay connected, we host family events and conferences virtually. Lastly, maintaining a forward trajectory on any professional development or quality improvement projects has been difficult. Unexpected derailing happens at a moment's notice when a classroom moves to quarantine, and two weeks is long enough to typically provide some setback.
6. **Clients Served (please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5 Service Statistics and provide an update on number of clients served from July 1 to date):** We currently have 9 children in this program, which is only one classroom. The classroom capacity is 12.
7. **Have you had to turn any clients away that desire to participate in this program? If so, why? If so, how many? If so, when?** We have not had to turn away any clients since July.
8. **Comments:** Despite all the barriers listed above, we are proud of the program we have been able to sustain in the past six months. Our children are happy, engaged, and learning. We have been able to sustain an admirable measure of consistency for children, families, and staff in a time where consistency is difficult to come across. We look forward to the day we return to "typical" operation but will take with us the lessons we have learned.

Program Name: Daycare-Child

Brief Description of Program: ACPC is an Early Learning and Childcare center serving children 18 months through 5th grade in eight locations throughout Ames. We provide services for children aged 18 months to 5 years at our main center typically from 7am-6pm (now 7:30-4:30 at our Main Center) Monday through Friday and are open year-round. We also provide before and after school care at seven elementary schools in Ames, and during breaks and days of non-attendance offer families full-day care for their school-aged children. ASSET funding allows us to provide families who qualify a reduced tuition fee. Since September of 2019, our reduced fee structure has changed again from the previous year with three reduced fee options available to families based on family size and income. Families who are also students at Iowa State can receive an additional monthly discount.

- 1. Program/ Service Outcome (Change/ Benefit to Clients/ Community) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on program/ service outcome from July 1 to date:** Our Main Center has been continuing to work towards meeting qualifications for accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), we look forward to continuing to improve the quality of programming we are able to provide to the community. We are in our third year of implementing Teaching Strategies GOLD which we utilize for observation and assessment of all children in our program. We utilize the observational data to partner with families during conferences to make goals, discuss successes and areas that need attention for each child’s individual development. This year, we continued the second of a three-year journey with program wide Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) in partnership with the Iowa Department of Education
- 2. Measurement Used (How Often, Tools Used) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on measurement used from July 1 to date:** All families complete the ASQ-SE (ages and stages questionnaire – social emotional) annually and the standard ASQ (ages and stages questionnaire) initially upon enrollment. Teachers utilize Teaching Strategies GOLD (TSG) as a year-round assessment tool to measure each child’s development, inform their lesson planning, and for keeping parents up to date.
- 3. Measurement Update (Please provide update on measurement data collected based on the ABF 5(O) from July 1 to date):** The teachers perform ASQ screenings for new students within 30 days of enrollment, and annually all families complete the ASQ-SE for their child. As mentioned above, TSG is used for all children in our program year-round. Conferences with families are held in Fall, Winter, and again in Spring, this year they are done virtually. During these meetings, teachers share the child’s report card with a summary of the previous months’ observations in relation to where they fall on the continuum of child development. Parents and teachers work together

using this information along with feedback from parents about home and create goals for the upcoming months, as well as celebrating strengths and identifying areas of opportunity for additional support.

4. **Outcomes Achieved (Result to Clients/ Community) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on the outcomes achieved from July 1 to date:** 39% of our families in this category access sliding fee scale tuition the percentage of families is similar to last year however the levels have shifted slightly with more families this year needing the lower tuition tiers with greater discounts. Teachers have been using the information gleaned through the child assessment in Teaching Strategies GOLD to inform their areas of instruction, bolstering some and revamping others.
5. **Barriers Encountered (please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on the barriers encountered from July 1 to date):** If I were to write a complete summary of barriers encountered by our organization within the last six months it would take several pages of writing. In a much-abbreviated version, the pandemic has required us to provide services differently to keep all parties safe. These changes have caused increased costs due to such things as higher staff to child ratios, additional supplies, paid leave, back-up subs for unexpected leaves. We have reduced enrollment, having nearly all waitlist families defer enrollment due to COVID. Lastly, we have an increased population of families who fall into lower tuition categories needing care causing our ASSET funding to deplete at a greater rate and subsequently further reduce tuition. Families have not been allowed in the building since we reopened in June which means teachers need to think differently about how to build and maintain those relationships and stay connected, we host family events and conferences virtually. Lastly, maintaining a forward trajectory on any professional development or quality improvement projects has been difficult. Unexpected derailing happens at a moment's notice when a classroom moves to quarantine, and two weeks is long enough to typically provide some setback.
6. **Clients Served (please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5 Service Statistics and provide an update on number of clients served from July 1 to date):** We currently have 61 children ages two to five enrolled at the center, about 2/3 of our typical enrollment for this age group.
7. **Have you had to turn any clients away that desire to participate in this program? If so, why? If so, how many? If so, when?** We have not had to turn away any clients since July.
8. **Comments:** Despite all the barriers listed above, we are proud of the program we have been able to sustain in the past six months. Our children are happy, engaged, and learning. We have been able to sustain an admirable measure of consistency for children, families, and staff in a time where consistency is difficult to come across. We look forward to the day we return to "typical" operation but will take with us the lessons we have learned.

Program Name: Daycare-School Age

Brief Description of Program: ACPC is an Early Learning and Childcare center serving children 18 months through 5th grade in eight locations throughout Ames. We provide services for children aged 18 months to 5 years at our main center typically from 7am-6pm (now 7:30-4:30 at our Main Center) Monday through Friday and are open year-round. We also provide before and after school care at seven elementary schools in Ames, and during breaks and days of non-attendance offer families full-day care for their school-aged children. ASSET funding allows us to provide families who qualify a reduced tuition fee. Since September of 2019, our reduced fee structure has changed again from the previous year with three reduced fee options available to families based on family size and income. Families who are also students at Iowa State can receive an additional monthly discount.

- 1. Program/ Service Outcome (Change/ Benefit to Clients/ Community) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on program/ service outcome from July 1 to date:** We have maintained our onsite programming at each elementary school and were able to offer a full summer school age program. With the ever-changing school delivery model in light of the pandemic, families have been able to rely on us as a constant presence to support before and after school programming for typical hours during days of onsite attendance as well as additional remote learning support held in five classrooms, four of which we repurposed at the beginning of the school year from office spaces, meeting rooms, and multipurpose space. Our programs have been able to consistently flex without delay for all the changes the school year has brought.
- 2. Measurement Used (How Often, Tools Used) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on measurement used from July 1 to date:** Each year we track the returning enrollments, and the number of families utilizing the reduced tuition scale provide by ASSET.
- 3. Measurement Update (Please provide update on measurement data collected based on the ABF 5(O) from July 1 to date):** We have utilized parent survey as an additional measure of program efficacy in partnership with feedback from district partners. We use leveled readers as a part of our programming, have provided virtual “field trips” and strive to partner with teachers, service providers, and parents as much as possible.
- 4. Outcomes Achieved (Result to Clients/ Community) – please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on the outcomes achieved from July 1 to date:** 13.5% of our school-age families utilize the reduced tuition fees we are able to provide using ASSET funds, this is similar to the percent utilization from years before but due to the unusual need for more full

day programming, funds are depleting more rapidly. Three families receive an additional Iowa State Student discount to their tuition. Our programs' enrollment has stayed fairly consistent through the year with some families changing needs or schedules with delivery models and others choosing to keep their child home over the extended Iowa State Break.

5. **Barriers Encountered (please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5(O) and provide an update on the barriers encountered from July 1 to date):** If I were to write a complete summary of barriers encountered by our organization within the last six months it would take several pages of writing. In a much-abbreviated version, the pandemic has required us to provide services differently to keep all parties safe. These changes have caused increased costs due to such things as higher staff to child ratios, additional supplies, paid leave, back-up subs for unexpected leaves. We have reduced enrollment in before and after school programming. Lastly, we have more reduced tuition full day programming causing our ASSET funding to deplete at a greater rate and subsequently further reduce tuition. Staff at our school age sites have faced temporary reduction in hours and in some cases, temporary layoff during times of 100% online instruction. Our before and after school staff are majority students at Iowa State and all part-time which creates unique challenges in bringing them back from any extended absence. We have had increased unexpected staff departures in our before and after school program this semester.

6. **Clients Served (please refer back to the corresponding ABF 5 Service Statistics and provide an update on number of clients served from July 1 to date):** We currently serve 166 children in our before and after school program throughout seven sites. We have 85 school age children enrolled in our full day programming.

7. **Have you had to turn any clients away that desire to participate in this program? If so, why? If so, how many? If so, when?** We have not had to turn away any clients since July.

8. **Comments:** Despite all the barriers listed above, we are proud of the program we have been able to sustain in the past six months. Our children are happy, engaged, and learning. We have been able to sustain an admirable measure of consistency for children, families, and staff in a time where consistency is difficult to come across. We look forward to the day we return to "typical" operation but will take with us the lessons we have learned.

Staff Use Only:

Change/ Benefits demonstrated for client/ community?

Yes No

Quantifiable Outcome Measures?

Yes No