



vantage

Early Head Start

# Annual Report

2023



vantage

Discover. Develop. Impact.

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**Total funded enrollment:**

- **148 Home-based**
- **66 Child Care Partnerships**

**DDI Vantage Early Head Start (EHS) delivers Comprehensive early education services to income-eligible families in Salt Lake, Tooele, and Grantsville, Utah.**

EHS is tailored to serve pregnant women, infants and toddlers. Children are able to participate in the program until the age of three. Children in the EHS Program are supported with cognitive, social emotional, and physical development throughout their learning experience.

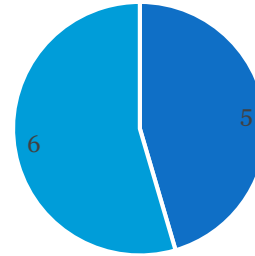
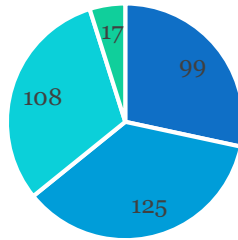
Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships (EHS-CCP) is an effort to expand high-quality education and early early learning to children in a child care setting.



# Enrollment

Total cumulative Enrollment = 349

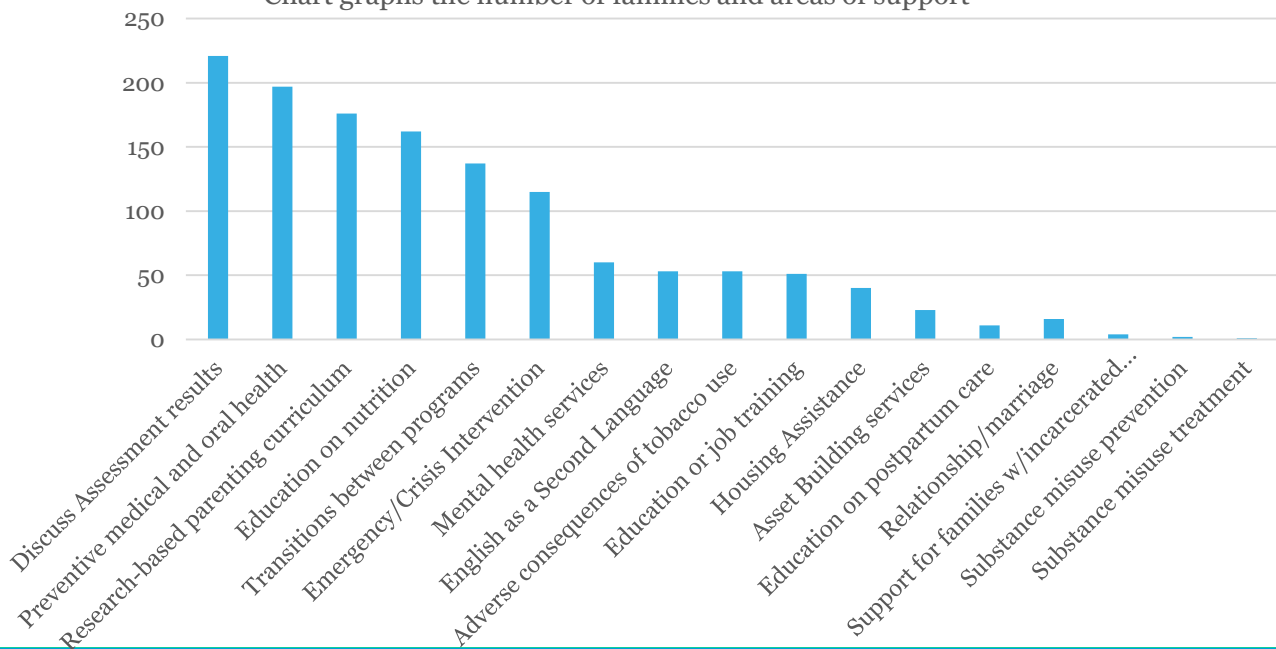
Enrollment of expectant mothers = 11  
6 of which were high risk pregnancies



■ Under 1 year old ■ 1 year old ■ 2 years old ■ 3 years old

■ 2nd Trimester ■ 3rd Trimester

All DDI Vantage EHS families received education and social services support in 2023  
\*Chart graphs the number of families and areas of support



## DDI Vantage Mission Statement

*Empowering vulnerable children, adults and families to reach their full potential.*

## Health Services

Previous year data showed the need to prioritize dental care for children enrolled in the EHS program. DDI Vantage EHS partnered with Healthy Smiles Dental Hygiene LLC, and Dr. David Stewart, DDS to provide dental exams, preventive dental care and other needed dental services in easy to access DDI Vantage locations. The results have been positive.



### Health Care

- Number and % of children with a Medical Home
  - 328 (94%)
- Children who are up to date on the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Services
  - 129 (38%) \*
- Pregnant mothers with health insurance coverage
  - 9 (82%)
- Children with health insurance coverage
  - 337 (97%) \*

### Dental/Oral Care

- Number and % of children with a Dental Home
  - 238 (68%) \*
- Children who are up to date on EPSDT
  - 157 (45%) \*

### Immunizations

- Children who are up to date
  - 285 (82%) \*

\*Indicates increase from previous year

The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) is a program for children ages birth through twenty who qualify for Medicaid. It provides preventative medical and dental care for children enrolled in Medicaid. Medicaid ensures that each child has access to necessary check-ups.

Benefits include preventative physicals, hearing and vision screenings, mental health care, as well as access to all necessary immunizations.

EPSDT dental provides preventative care. This includes two dental examinations per year, x-rays, sealants, fluoride and necessary restoration work.

[[medicaid.utah.gov](http://medicaid.utah.gov)]

DDI Vantage EHS educates all enrolled families on the importance of being up to date on their EPSDT by having their child attend all necessary medical and dental check-ups.

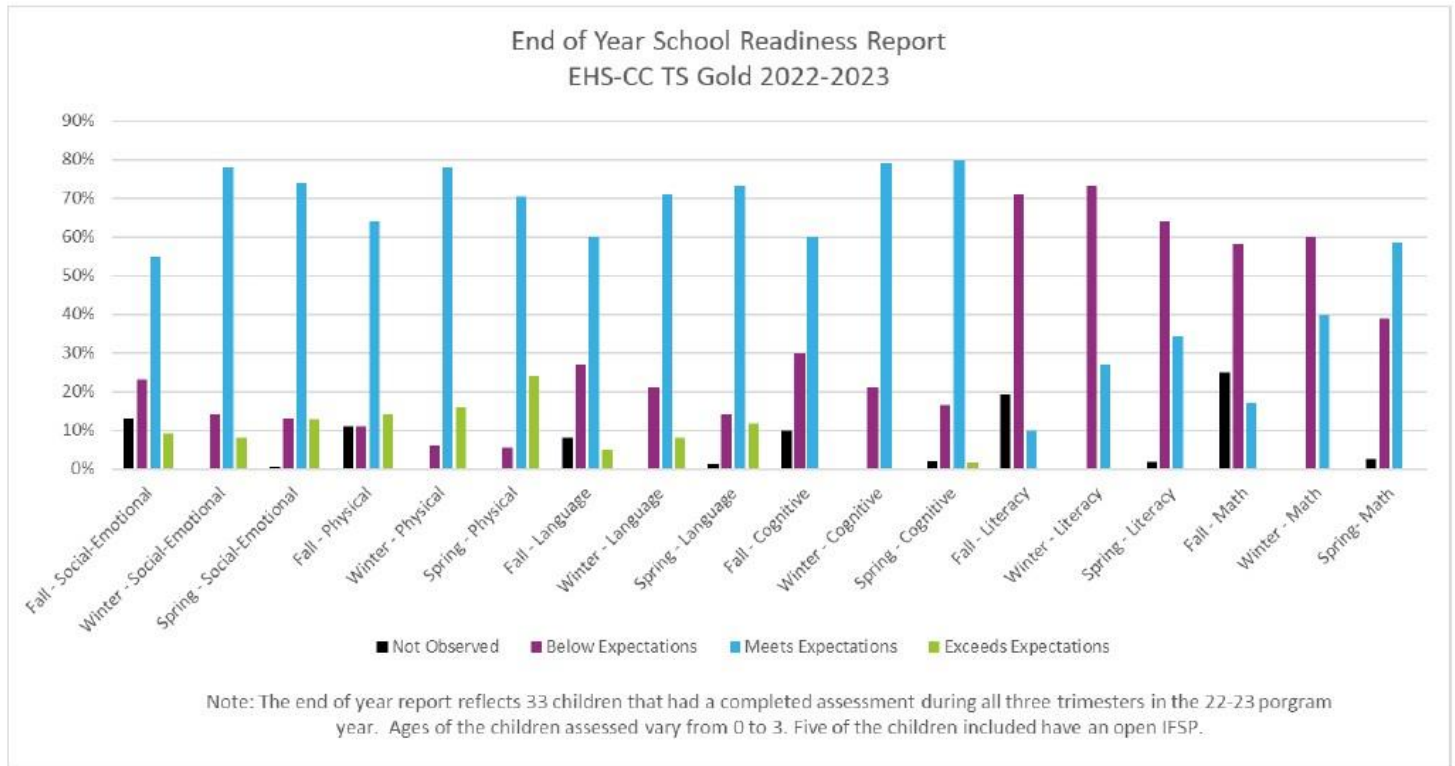
# EHS-CCP: School Readiness

DDI Vantage EHS-CCP works to prepare children for School Readiness with the goal that children will test at age-appropriate levels in all areas of development by 36 months. The Teaching Strategies GOLD® (TS Gold) assessment tool provides a method for observing the development of children functioning in the birth to 36-month age range and corresponds with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five (ELOF). TS Gold contains 38 research-based objectives in 10 different areas of development (social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, mathematics, science and technology, social studies, the arts, and English language acquisition).

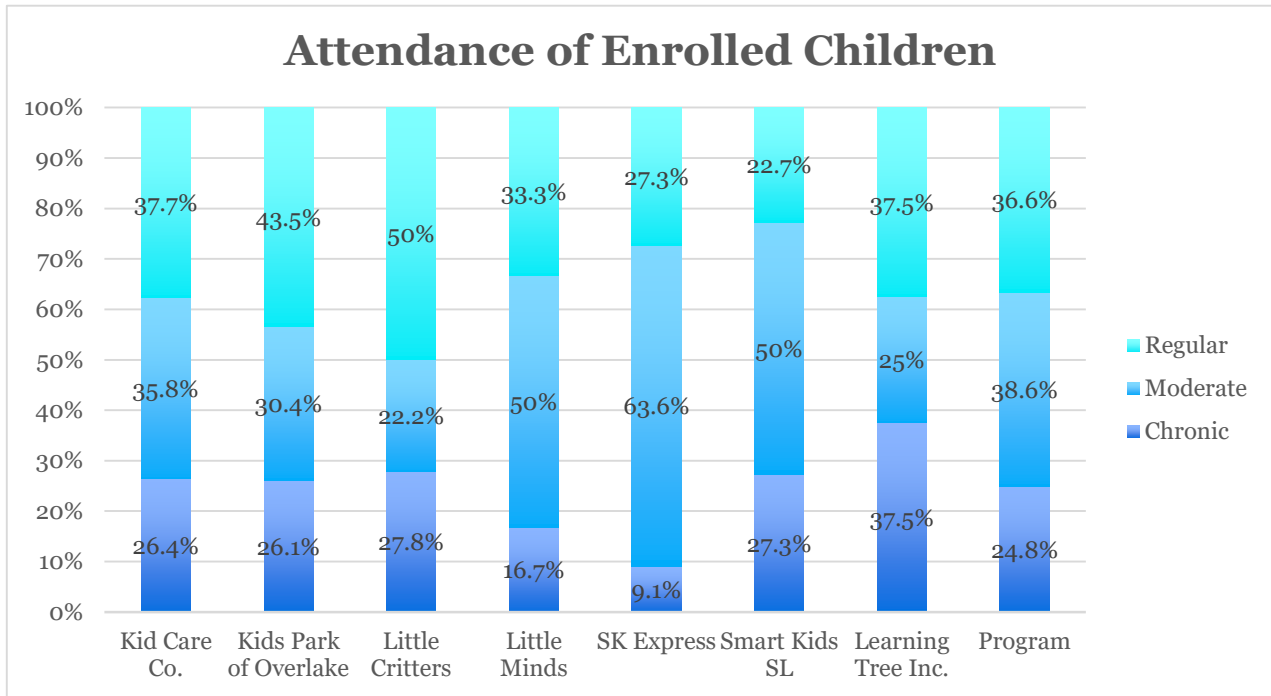
## Assessment Instruments Aligning with Early Learning Outcomes Framework

<u>TS GOLD® Domain</u>	<u>ELOF</u>
1. Physical	Physical Development and Health
2. Cognitive and Mathematics	Cognition and General Knowledge
3. Language and Literacy	Language and Literacy
4. Social/Emotional	Social and Emotional Development

This graph summarizes the assessment results of 33 children, 0-3 years of age, from 7 privately-owned child care center partners. These 33 children completed the assessment all three trimesters of 2022-2023, Fall, Winter and Spring. All age groups are represented in the graph. It is important to note the TS Gold Assessment does not record children’s Math and Literacy skills until they are over 2 years old. Therefore, not all children are assessed in these two domains and the graph reflects this. The overall observation from the assessment data is that children are meeting developmental expectations and increasing their developmental skills over time.

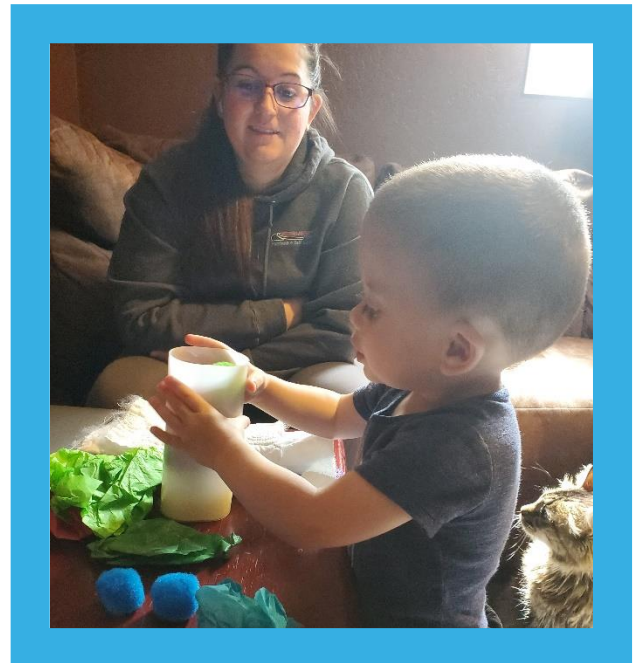


## *EHS-CCP: Attendance*



*Children from low-income families are more likely to be chronically absent in the early grades and less likely to have access to needed resources to make up for missed time in school. Establishing good early attendance habits supports children’s learning and leads to success in school and in life. [ATTENDANCEWORKS.ORG]*

*DDI Vantage and the Child Care Center are required to follow up on every unexplained absence within one hour of the program start time. If a child is in danger of becoming chronically absent, the DDIV Family Advocate works with the family to create an attendance improvement plan to provide support, remove barriers, and increase attendance.*



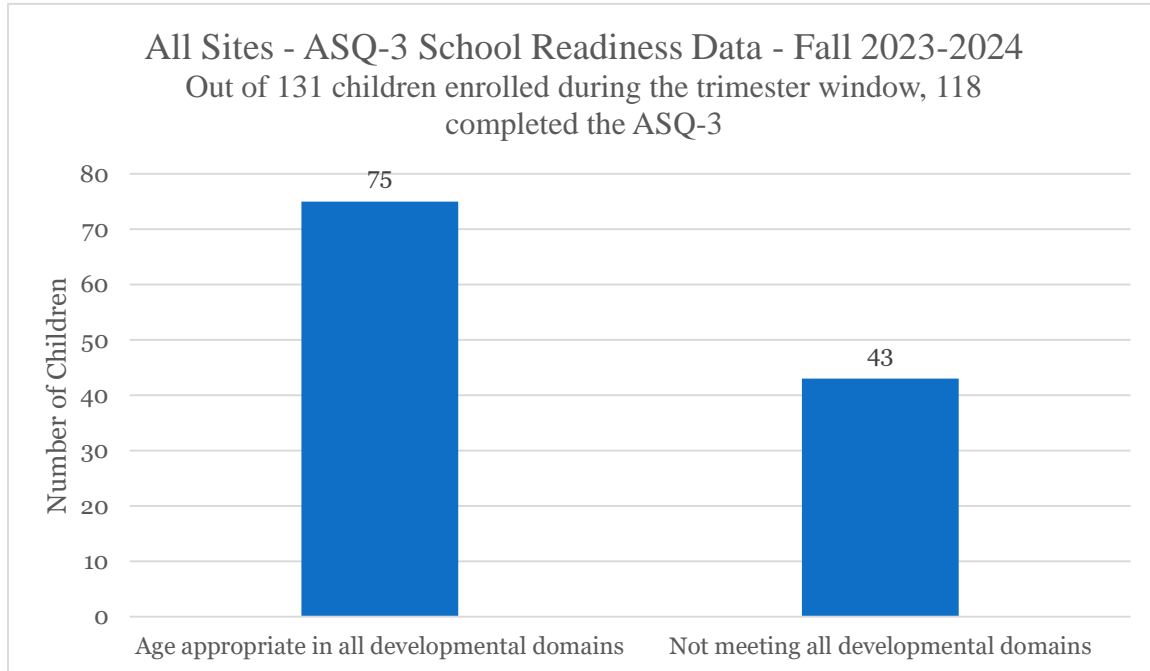
## Home-based: School Readiness

As mentioned, DDI Vantage EHS works to prepare children for School Readiness with the goal that children will test at age-appropriate levels in all areas of development by 36 months. We also value and support the role of parents as their child's best teacher and advocate for learning. These facts in combination with additional concerns spurred DDIV EHS to reconsider the tool that is used to assess the children in the home-based program. With the support of the Policy Council (PC) and Board of Trustees, DDIV EHS leadership set out to talk to parents, staff, other Early Head Start programs, the School Readiness committee, and EHS Region staff to determine if a change was warranted. The result of this work concluded with the July 2023 PC meeting and the decision to stop using the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) and begin using the Early Learning Accomplishment Profile (E-LAP) in April 2024. Until that point, the program is using the Ages and Stages questionnaire (ASQ) to monitor child development and identify areas that need additional support.

The following graph shows the number of children testing at and below age appropriate level of development when using the ASQ. The time period is the Fall 2023-2024 trimester.

Follow up provided to the children depicted on this graph that are not meeting all of the developmental domains is as follows: 34 already have an IFSP in-place, 2 have transitioned to special ed. preschool, 1 has been referred to Early Intervention (EI), 1 family declined EI services, and 1 aged out and will be tested again at preschool, and 4 follow up is being determined.

Due to transitions out of the program during the Fall 2023-2024 trimester not all 148 children had an ASQ completed.



## Home-based: Socializations & Parent Activities



38 families turned in 133 reading cards for a total of 414 hours of reading time

127 children supported through an IFSP

DDIV Early Head Start understands that parents are a child's first and most important teacher. Enrolled families participate in opportunities to build their skills through engagement in-home visits, socializations, parenting curriculum lessons, and take-home activities. Parents also participate in leadership and decision-making roles to ensure that DDIV EHS provides exemplary services. Their voice directly impacts the themes, activities and direction the program takes as data reveals the program's strengths and potential areas for growth. Above, is a sample of the themes and activities that parents helped plan for the 2023 year. Many parents volunteered and provided their own books and skills to lead an activity during the socialization. Socializations provide opportunities for staff to model and parents to practice ways to engage their child in learning. Each socialization includes activities that support music and movement, developmental growth, arts and crafts, a family-style meal, and a book reading demonstration.



*Fiscal*

**Results of  
the Annual  
Single Audit**

The fiscal year 2023 annual single audit of DDI VANTAGE, Inc. and affiliated programs found the agency to be compliant with all requirements of the funding entities. The report contained no findings and all expenses were reasonable, allowable and allocable, with no questioned costs, exceptions, or comments. Internal controls were found to be in place and operations across all programs were sound.

**Budget**

Personnel  
• \$1,333,459

Fringe Benefits  
• \$625,943

Travel (out of state)  
• \$24,993

Equipment  
• None

Supplies  
• \$61,584

Other  
• \$877,890

Total Direct Cost  
• \$2,923,869

Indirect Cost  
• \$277,700

Total Approved Budget  
• \$3,201,569

**Actual**

Personnel  
• \$1,310,804

Fringe Benefits  
• \$564,115

Travel (out of state)  
• \$24,117

Equipment  
• None

Supplies  
• \$93,058

Other  
• \$959,736

Total Direct Cost  
• \$2,951,829

Indirect Cost  
• \$249,740

Total Approved Budget  
• \$3,201,569

25% Required Non-Federal Match Amount  
Total needed: \$761,469-\$100,000 Waiver

\$661,469