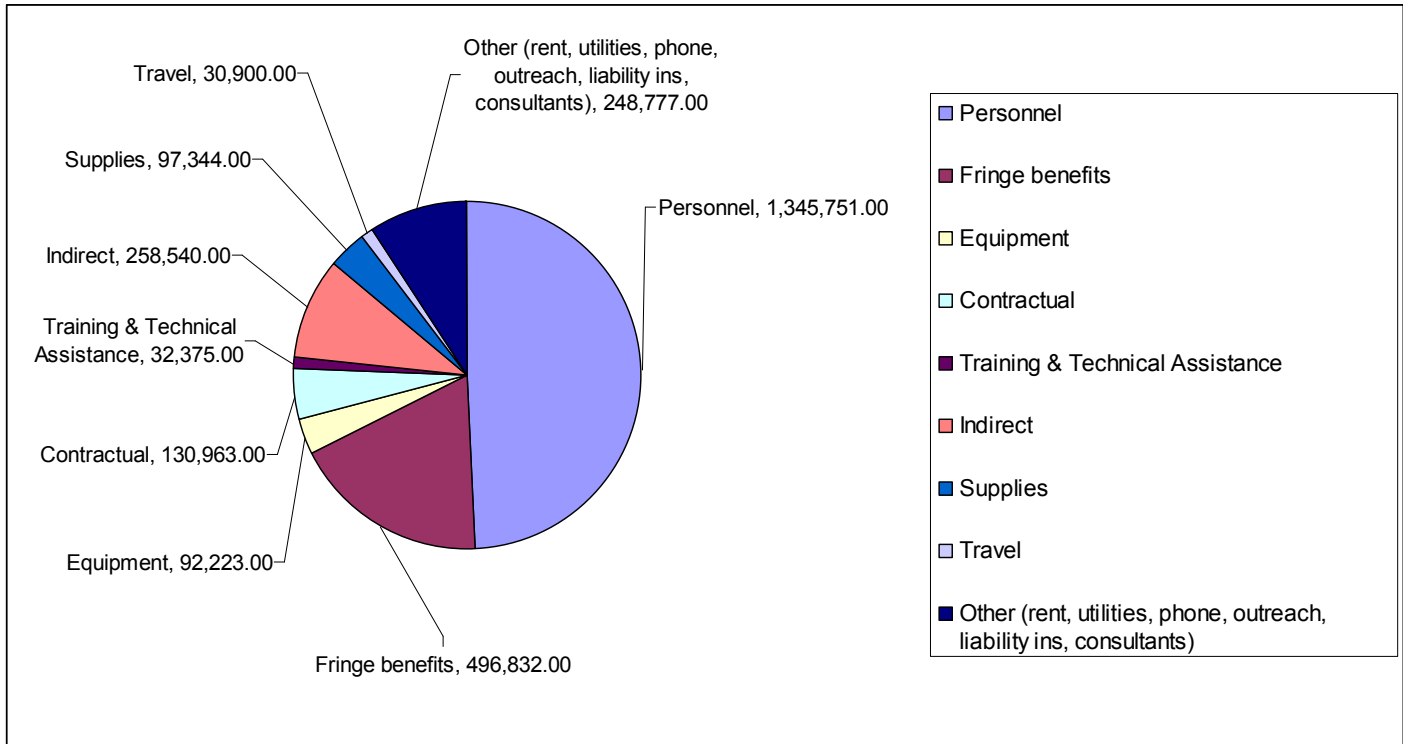


Champlain Valley Head Start – Annual Public Report

- **Head Start**: Head Start is a national preschool program which provides educational and social opportunities to nurture the healthy development of children. Champlain Valley Head Start (CVHS) offers preschool and childcare services at various locations to over 325 children and their families throughout Franklin, Grand Isle, Chittenden and Addison Counties.
- **Early Head Start**: In December 2009, the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, awarded funding to CVHS, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, for the implementation of an Early Head Start (EHS) program. CVHS was one of nine existing Head Start grantees in New England to receive an EHS award. The new EHS program serves 30 pregnant women, infants, toddlers and their families throughout Franklin, Grand Isle, Chittenden and Addison counties as follows: 10 home based placements in collaboration with Lund Family Center in Burlington; 10 home based placements throughout Franklin county; center-based programming with 5 EHS placements in collaboration with Champlain Islands Parent Child Center in South Hero and 5 EHS placements in collaboration with Bristol Family Center. Objectives of the EHS program are: 1) to enhance children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development; 2) to promote healthy prenatal outcomes for pregnant women; 3) to strengthen parents as the primary nurturers of their children; and 4) to help parents move toward self-sufficiency.
- **Funding**: For FY09, CVHS received \$2,690,462 in federal Head Start funding from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and \$39,040 in state funding from VT Department of Education.
- **Total number of children and families served**: For the 2008-2009 program year, CVHS served 378 children and families throughout northwest Vermont.
- **Enrollment**: CVHS maintained an average monthly enrollment of 327, consistently meeting or in some cases exceeding 100% of ACF funded enrollment. Approximately 91.3% of children served were from income-eligible families.
- **Results of most recent Federal review**: In May 2009, CVHS went through our most recent triennial Federal review, and CVHS received tremendous accolades for operating an exemplary, high quality program for children and families. To assure full compliance with regulations, reviewers noted that the composition of the CVOEO Board of Directors must include a licensed attorney.
- **Results of most recent financial audit**: The most recent financial audit for CVOEO contained no findings or non-compliances for Champlain Valley Head Start.
- **Percentage of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams**: During the 2008-2009 program year, over 96% of enrolled children received physical exams, and over 89% of children received dental exams.
- **Information about parent involvement activities**: Parent involvement in CVHS occurs most commonly through home visits or as parents spend time in Head Start classrooms. Parents are also involved in activities such as: Group socializations; Local Parent Committee Meetings; Parent-Teacher conferences; Open House or classroom orientation sessions; Program committees; Policy Council meetings; CVHS interview teams to hire new staff; the CVHS Self-Assessment process; attending advocacy events such as VT Early Childhood Legislative Day and meetings of the VT Head Start Association; and attending conferences such as the New England Head Start Association Conference.
- **CVHS efforts to prepare children for kindergarten**: The CVHS Curriculum outlines goals in the areas of social emotional development, approaches to learning, literacy, language development, math, science, creative arts, and physical health and development, and guides staff in the provision of materials and activities to prepare children for kindergarten. Experiences are provided to meet the child's individual needs and stimulate learning, with strong emphasis on language/cognitive skills, early literacy skills, and the development of positive social skills. Health educational activities include daily tooth brushing and monthly nutrition activities. Staff utilize an individualized observation and planning process for each child/family. Staff assess, with the parent, the child's developmental strengths and needs. Information is obtained through informal interviews with the parent, observations of the child, developmental screenings,

and the Child Outcomes Assessment. This information is then used to individualize services for children and families. CVHS also provides information to parents of children with special needs, such as articles describing the special education process, individualized education plans, 504 plans, and parents' rights in special education. CVHS staff, parents and collaborating agencies plan activities to support children's transition to kindergarten. Such opportunities may include use of the playground and rest rooms, accessing school meal programs, attending school functions or libraries, going on classroom visits, meeting with kindergarten teachers, principals and special educators, and attending school-sponsored "transition fairs".

● **Budgetary expenditures FY09:**



● **Proposed budget FY10:**

