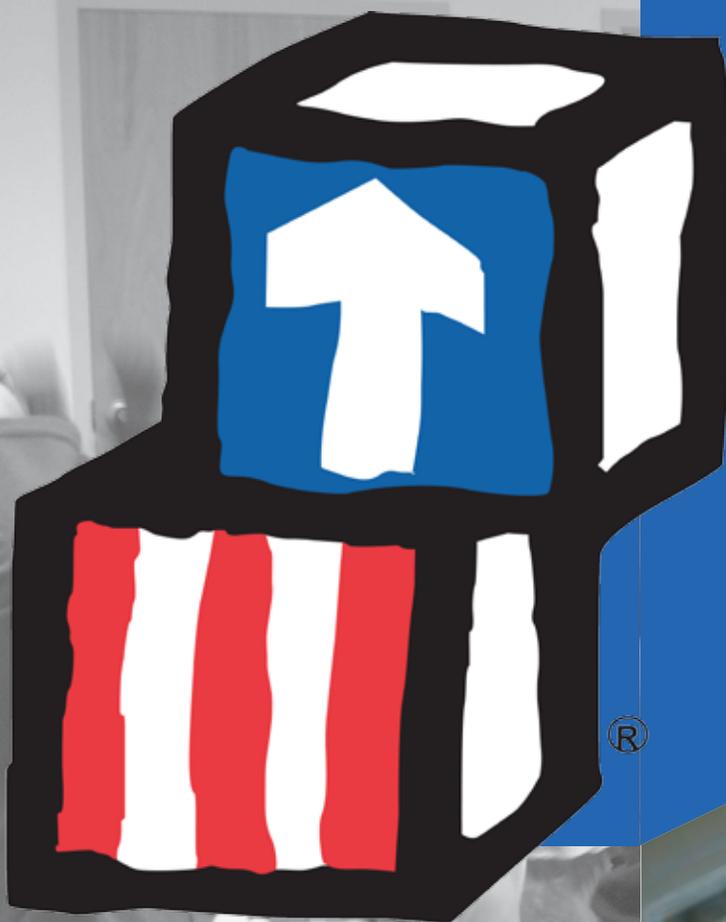


**2009-
2010**

East Baton Rouge Parish
Head Start

**Annual
Report**



A Message from the Program Administrator



This Annual Report demonstrates the accomplishments of the East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start for the 2009-2010 school year. I take pride in reporting the outcomes of our work, not only to show our successes, but to demonstrate our accountability to the citizens of East Baton Rouge Parish.

Guided by our strategic plan and community needs assessments, we monitor and measure the impact and effectiveness of our services regularly, to ensure we are responsive to the needs of the community. Through educational programming, community partnerships, and family services, Head Start has been a leader in meeting the holistic needs of children and families for decades.

Our educational programs prepare children for Kindergarten and beyond. Our disability, mental and physical health, and nutritional programs keep children healthy. Most uniquely, our wrap around family services empower parents to become self-sufficient and better parents to their child(ren).

No other early childcare model in the country can replicate and accomplish what Head Start has built over the past 45 years. Head Start serves children and families through full-day educational programming, professionally trained staff, and evidenced based teaching and learning methodologies in child development that includes individual education plans, indoor-outdoor activities, formal and informal learning, and individual and group activities.

One of our greatest accomplishments for the 2009-2010 school year was the launch of our Early Head Start program. Research has proven that the earlier learning begins, the more probable a child will be successful through their academic years. We identified the opportunity to establish Early Head Start, and moved forward expeditiously to providing this new service for pregnant mothers, infants, and toddlers. We received grant funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in the amount of \$667,350 and to 996,061 to begin an Early Head Start Program to serve a total of 72 infants and Toddlers, and pregnant mothers, which included forty-eight (48) infants and toddlers, and twenty-four (24) pregnant mothers

In 2009 we also ended a four year crisis response program where we received additional funding to accommodate those displaced as a result of Hurricane Katrina. The program was awarded 1.7 million in 2006, 1.5 million in 2007, 1.8 million in 2008, and 1.4 million for 2009 to expand and enhance our educational services to children, and family services to parents displaced by the storm. We used these additional monies to expand our speech and mental health services, purchase new technology, train and hire new staff, provide additional nurs-

ing services for children with special needs, and hire additional bus drivers to accommodate new routes. We also used this additional funding to implement mitigation measures such as new heating and air in centers for future emergency situations.

I am very thankful to the City of Baton Rouge Mayor President, the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Council, the Head Start Policy Council, and the over 1,800 volunteers who supported Head Start during the 2009-2010 school year.

In closing, the 2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the City of Baton Rouge East Baton Rouge Parish revealed that East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start contributed 2.1 Million Dollars of in-kind services to the City budget revenue. The audit findings have led to new and innovative ways of calculating volunteer hours to ensure that the City Parish meets its non-federal share requirements in a manner that complies with all grant regulations. The East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start had no other findings or recommendations mentioned in the 2009 Annual Financial Report.

Rebecca Ferguson

Rebecca Ferguson,
Program Administrator,
**East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start/
Early Head Start**



Office of the Mayor-President
Division of Human Development and Services

City of Baton Rouge
Parish of East Baton Rouge
4523 Plank Road
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70805
Phone: (225) 358-4561
Fax: (225) 358-4513

Paula Merrick-Roddy
DHDS Director

Sylvia M. Andrews
Assistant Director

The Honorable Melvin L. "Kip" Holden
Mayor-President
City of Baton Rouge/Parish of East Baton Rouge

Dear Mayor Holden:

It is my honor to present the Division of Human Development and Services East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start program annual report for 2010 to the Mayor-President and Metropolitan Council members.

The East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start program was established to assist children and families to become responsible, self-directed, lifelong learners with the skills necessary to live successfully in a global society. The Head Start program continues to play a key role in the transformation of education in America. Our program has a long record of success in working with the most challenging children and family situations. We provide partnerships with our families and those in the community to ensure that all children and families have the opportunity to succeed.

Our program is family-centered and follows the tenets that children develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents are respected as the primary educators and nurturers of their children. We strive to always offer excellent and appropriate services for our children and families to move them forward in their educational journey.

Sincerely,

Paula Merrick Roddy
DHDS Director



Mayor Kip Holden

The East Baton Rouge Head Start/ Early Head Start Policy Council consists of parent representatives and two representatives from the Baton Rouge Metro Council. The purpose and responsibilities of the Policy Council is to ensure that the Head Start/Early Head Start program meets all federal fiscal management and programmatic guidelines, student performance standards, recruits and hires qualified staff, and develops and conducts an annual self assessment, community assessment, and strategic plan.

Policy Council Members 2009-2010 School Year

Marvin K. York, II, Chairperson
Bernadette Baudy, Vice Chairperson
Orlean Wilkinson, Secretary
Lewis Johnson, Parliamentarian
Sharon Terrance, Chaplain

Rebecca Anthony	Tamara Raby	Emma Howard
Kenyana Coates	Tynika Greensberry	Susie King
Herman Thomas	Danielle Burton	Shelia Firmin
Robyn Jackson	Lisa Paul	Kedra Pitre
Henry Umeama	Bianca King	Lachandra Harris
	Aneesha Cockerham	

Shirley Lolis, Community Representative
Tara Wicker, Community Representative
Donna Collins-Lewis, Community Representative

Head Start Mission: *The mission of the East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start program is to provide high-quality, comprehensive programs relating to health, disabilities, education, and family services to eligible low-income children and their families.*

Head Start Program Services

Education Program

Our education program is designed to be responsive and appropriate to a variety of children's needs and strengths, and to stimulate learning across all domains of development: social, emotional, cognitive and physical.

Nutrition

The child nutrition program primarily focuses on promoting wellness of the child and family. Head Start children are served a balanced breakfast, lunch, and a nutritious snack daily. The children and parents are offered the opportunity to receive special dietary services from the staff dietitian, as well as other nutrition consultations for specific diets.

Physical Health:

East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start partners with medical providers to provide physicals, dental exams, vision exams, speech testing, and hearing screenings. We also provide special medical referrals to meet the physical health and well-being needs of children with physical disabilities.

Family Services

Head Start Family Services offers opportunities and support for family self-sufficiency, so that needs, interests and strengths are identified. Our objective is to support parents as they identify and meet their own goals.

Fatherhood Initiative

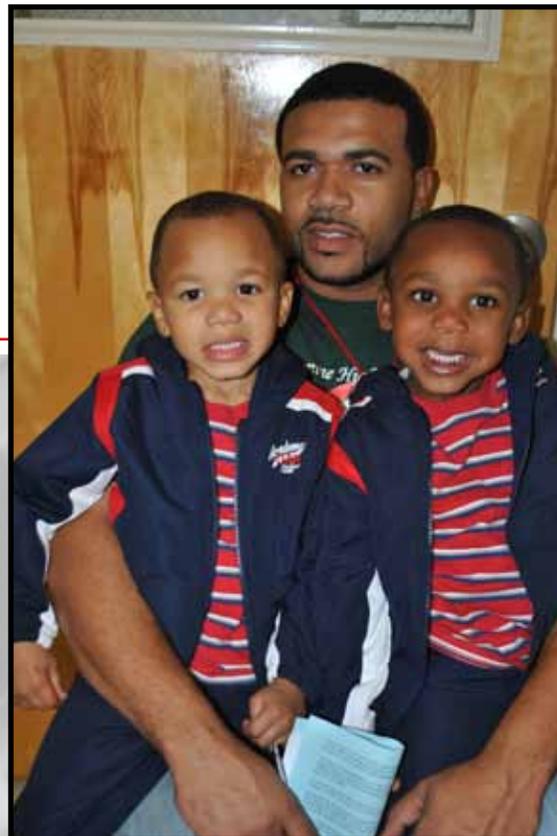
Head Start has developed a special fatherhood initiative to support and strengthen the role of fathers in families. The initiative is guided by the following principles:

All fathers can be important contributors to the well-being of their children.

Men should receive the education and support necessary to prepare them for the responsibility of parenthood.

The roles fathers play in families is diverse and related to cultural and community norms.

Eight hundred and seventy (870) fathers or father figures were engaged in Head Start or Early Head Start programs in 2009.



Parental Empowerment

We strive to nurture the development of Head Start children in the context of family and to be advocates in communities that are supportive of children and families of all cultures. The building of trust by parents and staff allows for parental empowerment with emphasis on relationship building.



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group initiative provides grandparents with the opportunity to interact and learn from each other. In addition, the initiative shares information regarding family relations counseling, types of custody, negotiating systems in social services, and managing legal issues to Grand Parents who have difficulty serving as guardians of their grandchildren.



Disabilities Services

All children, including those with disabilities, receive the full range of Head Start developmental services. Head Start staff works closely with community agencies to provide services that meet the special needs of children with disabilities.

Through our Response to Intervention (RTI) Process, a system we use to document and track disabilities, we ended the 2009-2010 school year serving 160 children with documented disabilities that included autism, speech and language disabilities, hearing disabilities, and motor delays.

Transportation:

East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start offers transportation to all of the enrolled children either directly or through a formal contractual agreement with a transportation provider.

“Our Education Program is designed to be responsive and appropriate to a variety of children’s needs and strengths...”

The Creative Curriculum

The Creative Curriculum is an evidenced based research curriculum that demonstrates how to implement developmentally appropriate practice in the preschool classroom. Developmentally appropriate practice means teaching in ways that match the way children develop and learn. The Creative Curriculum has a Developmental Continuum to measure and monitor developmental progress in each of the following developmental phases:

- Social /Emotional Development categorizes the sense of self, responsibility for self and others, and pro-social or interpersonal behavior.
- Physical Development groups the gross motor and fine motor skills. Gross Motor skills refer to activities using the large muscles of the body (e.g., running, jumping, lifting objects with arms, etc.). Fine Motor skills refer to the functions of smaller muscle groups (e.g. hand eye coordination).
- Cognitive Development classifies ancillary mental activities. Learning and Problem Solving, Logical Thinking, and Representation and Symbolic Thinking are functions of cognitive development.
- Language Development includes Listening and Speaking, Reading and Writing.

Early Head Start

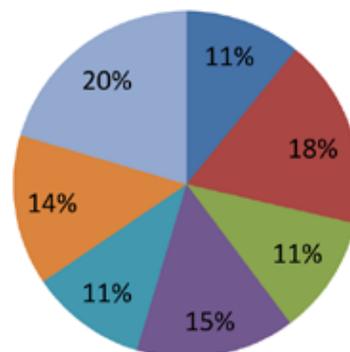
The Early Head Start program operates year round, five days per week, for forty-eight (48) weeks. Children range from 6 months to 3 years of age, and pregnant mothers and infants range from birth to 6 months.

The East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start Program uses a variety of teaching strategies and teaching resources that contain materials to analyze children's progress, demonstrate program results, and plan improvements to ensure the development of children ages 3-5. The Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum Assessment Summary is an assessment system that allows teachers to record by scale children's development individually and by class. The following charts demonstrate the developmental

growth of our children. Developing Skills Checklist (DSC) – Pre Test and Post-Test Four hundred and fifty two (452) of Head Start's four year old students were administered the Developing Skills Checklist (DSC) at the beginning and end of the 2009-2010 school year and test results demonstrate improvement from pre and post tests for students program wide. The graph below demonstrates the increase in children mastery based on pre and post developmental skills checklist.

2009-2010 Developing Skills Checklist Pre-Post Test Percentage Increase

■ Math Concepts ■ Language ■ Memory ■ Visual ■ Auditory ■ Print Concepts ■ Pre-Reading

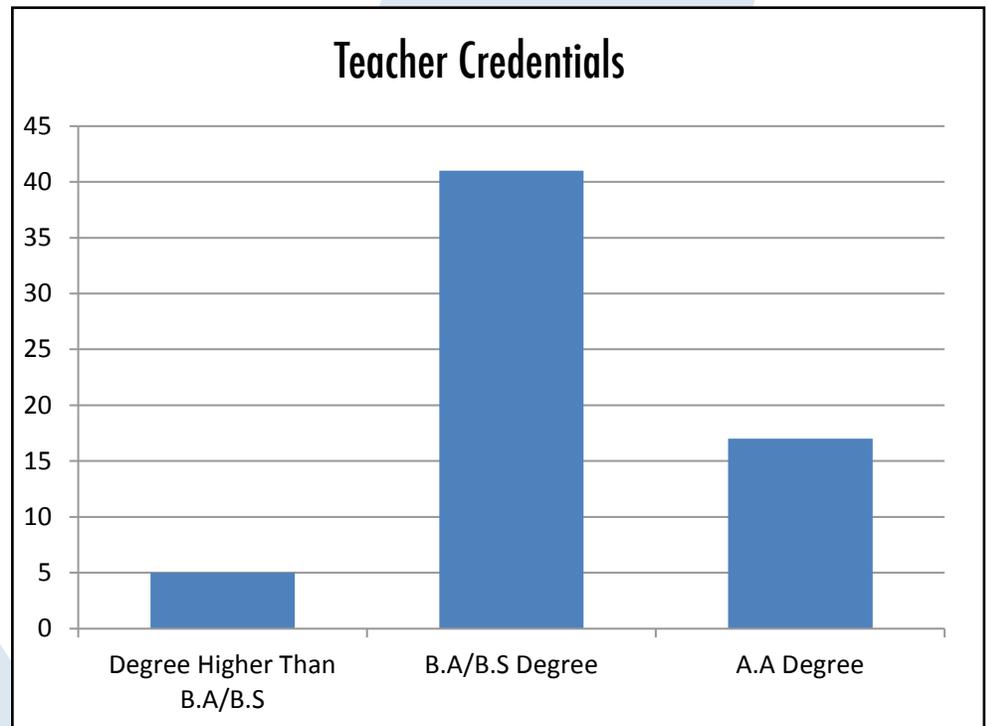


Staff Training and Development

In 2009, the East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start offered an array of training and development opportunities for staff. East Baton Rouge Parish prides itself as a learning organization, with many of our staff continuously pursuing advanced degrees in fields of child development and administration. The following is a snapshot of training provided to staff in 2009.

- *Literacy Initiative Training*
- *Parent Involvement Training*
- *Financial Literacy and Self-sufficiency Training*
- *Supporting Children with Challenging Behaviors*
- *Best Practices in Health and Safety*
- *Supervision & Interaction: Preparing for Continued Success*
- *Smart Discipline: Management Techniques*
- *Classroom Assessment Scoring System*
- *Team Building*

East Baton Rouge Head Start seeks the best and most competent and qualified staff to teach our children and we are evaluated on the credentials of our teachers and staff. In 2009, three (3) teachers held Masters Degrees, forty (40) teachers held Bachelor Degrees, and twenty-five (25) teachers held Associate Degrees.



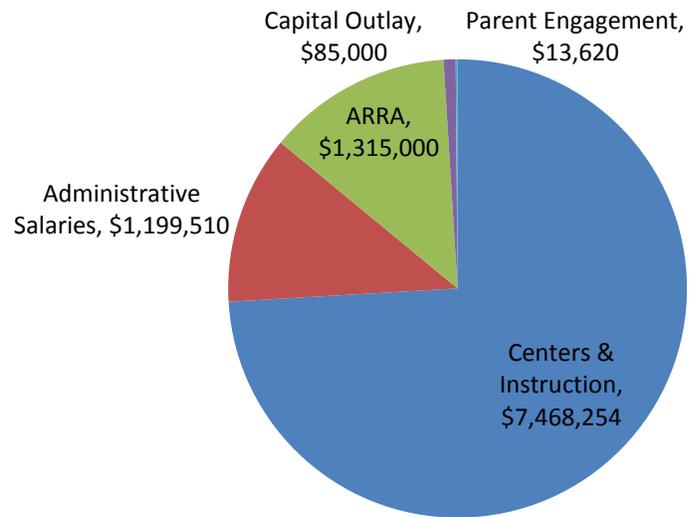
By the Numbers

East Baton Rouge Head Start Budget

Economic Impact on East Baton Rouge Parish:

East Baton Rouge Head Start is not only about the business of educating children and supporting families, we also provide support to the economy of East Baton Rouge Parish. In 2009, East Baton Rouge Parish had an annual payroll of \$4,252,693.7. Our employees also enjoyed a match of \$548,677.04 to their employer health benefits.

East Baton Rouge Head Start also received a first time award of \$1,300,000, in 2009 to construct two 4 classroom facilities to be located at 1919 North Christy Dr., the LaBelle Aire Head Start and the New Horizon Head Start, located at 1111 North 28th St.



East Baton Rouge Head Start Budget

Primary Language of Family	Number of Children
ENGLISH	2,066
SPANISH	24
AFRICAN LANGUAGES	4

Education and Experience of Management Staff		
POSITION	EDUCATION LEVEL	YEARS IN POSITION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	ADVANCED DEGREE	6
PROGRAM DIRECTOR	ADVANCED DEGREE	8
CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION MANAGER	ADVANCED DEGREE	10
HEALTH SERVICES MANAGER	ADVANCED DEGREE	1
FAMILY & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS MANAGER	ADVANCED DEGREE	2
FISCAL OFFICER	ADVANCED DEGREE	10

Demographic	Number of Children
DEMOGRAPHIC	NUMBER OF CHILDREN
ACF FUNDED ENROLLMENT	1,362
TOTAL CUMULATIVE ENROLLMENT	2094

Primary Type of Eligibility	Number of Children
INCOME BELOW 100% OF FEDERAL POVERTY LINE	1,461
RECEIPT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SUCH AS TANF, SSI	552
STATUS AS A FOSTER CHILD - (NUMBER OF CHILDREN ONLY)	4
STATUS AS HOMELESS	7
OVER INCOME	15
INCOME BETWEEN 100% AND 130% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE	55

Ethnicity and Race	Number of Children
HISPANIC OR LATIN ORIGIN	24
NON-HISPANIC OF NON- LATINO ORIGIN	2,070
AMERICAN INDIAN OF ALASKA NATIVE	3
ASIAN	12
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN	2,028
NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER	0
WHITE	11
BIRACIAL/ MULTI-RACIAL	12
OTHER	28

Alumni Making an Impact



Aneisha London

Aneisha is currently employed with Exxon-Mobil Company - Houston Texas as a Senior Systems Analyst in the IT Organization. She has been with ExxonMobil for the last 13 years.

Aneisha London is a proud graduate of East Baton Rouge Parish Head Start. She graduated from Robert E. Lee High School, Baton Rouge, LA in May 1994 – within the top 10 percent of her class. Throughout high school, she was actively involved in various activities/organizations such as Senior class Vice President, Beta Club, and National Honor Society.

Following High School, Aneisha attended Southern University and A&M College, Baton Rouge LA. While there, she continued to maintain membership in various activities/organizations such as Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), and Golden Key National Honor Society. She also interned with Xerox in Rochester, NY and ExxonMobil in Baton Rouge, LA. In the Fall of 1998, she obtained her Bachelors of Science degree with honors (Magna Cum Laude) in the area of Computer Science.

She believes Head Start is valuable because it provides the foundational environment for preparing us for future success.

"It allowed me to obtain a "HEAD START" on learning by equipping me with basic skills (both academically and socially). It also focuses on family involvement and education for parents. My mother started as a volunteer and was able to obtain gainful employment because of the volunteering that she was allowed to do. Head Start not only provided a "HEAD START" for me, but for my family as well. I am very blessed that I was afforded the opportunity to attend Head Start."

-Aneisha London



HEAD START CENTERS

Alsen Head Start
393 Old Rafe Mayer Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70807

Banks Head Start
2305 72nd Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70807

**Progress Road Head Start &
Progress Road Head Start
Campus - 2 (Annex)**
1881 Progress Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70807

New Horizon Head Start
1111 North 28th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Baker Heights Head Start
3750 Harding Street
Baker, LA 70714
(225) 357-7548

Charlie Thomas Head Start
8686 Pecan Tree Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70810
(225) 761-4436

Creative Head Start
3165 Victoria Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70805
(225) 356-3993

Discovery Head Start
9700 Scenic Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70807
(225) 387-8531

**Freeman-Matthews
Head Start**
1383 Napoleon Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225) 387-8531

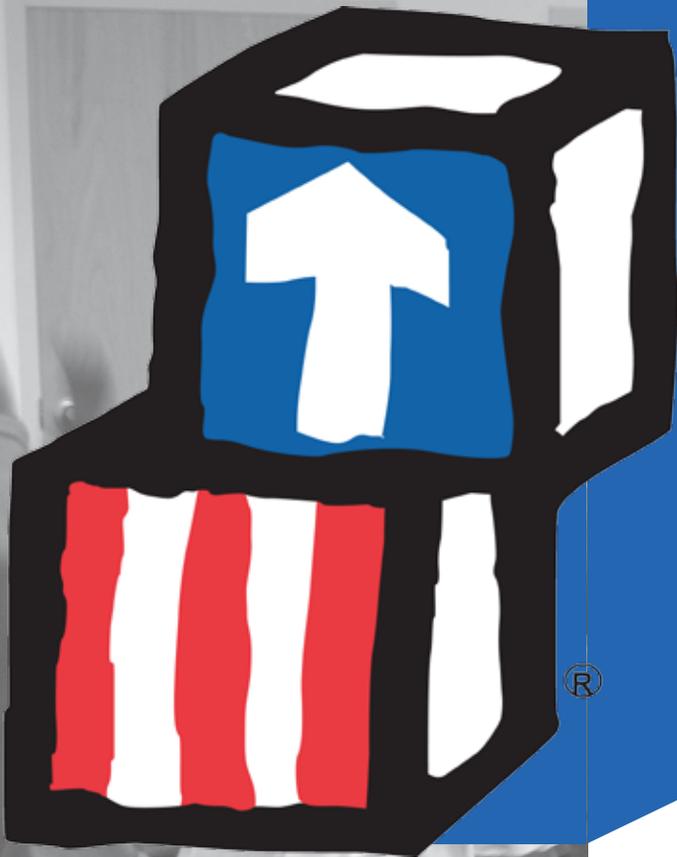
Labelle Aire Head Start
1919 North Cristy Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70815
(225) 275-0426

**Southern University Head Start
Building 132**
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
(225) 774-8755

Wonderland Head Start
1500 Oleander Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225) 346-0677

2009- 2010

Annual Report



Applications are available at Head Start Centers
Or Head Start Central Office
4523 Plank Road
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70805
(225) 358-4504

Applications are accepted year-round

Head Start Enrollment Requirements:

- Child must reside in East Baton Rouge Parish
- Child must be age 3
(on or before September 30) or age 4
- Family must meet income eligibility requirements