



Annual Report FY 2011

In fulfillment of the requirements of the
Preparing Head Start for School Readiness
Act of 2007
(644(a)(2)(B))

Copies of this report are available
to community members upon request

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Mission, Philosophy	4
Funding.....	6
Number of Children and Families Served.....	9
Eligibility	10
Monitoring and Fiscal Review	11
Medical Homes	12
Dental Homes	13
Parent Involvement Activities	14
Preparing Children for Kindergarten.....	15
Micmac Cultural Preservation	18

Introduction

This report is prepared to comply with the reauthorized Head Start Act of 2007. This Act, specifically Section 644(a)(2)(B), and states:

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 most 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.

**AROOSTOOK BAND OF MICMACS
Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start**

Mission and Philosophy

Mission Statement

Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start was established to promote the importance of education, as well as the parents' involvement in their families' continued educational and social experience while incorporating the Micmac culture and beliefs.

Program Philosophy

The philosophy of the Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start Program was developed in the beginning years of the project. Our philosophy maintains that children from an economically deprived background need an environment that provides them with the opportunity to develop to their maximum potential.

The Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start Program is an instrumental component for our Micmac children to learn more about their language, traditions and culture, essential for the continued survival of the Micmac First Nation, while learning the basics of education to prepare them for the public school environment. As the program provides structure, it enhances growth and development skills for the child and parent.

Funding

FISCAL YEAR ENDING 2011	
Report Publish Date:	_____, 2012
Public Funds Received:	\$246,436
Source of Public Funds:	US DHHS Administration for Children and Families
CACFP Reimbursements Received	\$10,264.75
Source of CACFP Reimbursements	Maine Child and Adult Care Food Program

Budget Expenditures/Proposed Budget for FY 2012

Categories	Totals
Head Start Grant	
Personnel	\$157,625
Fringe Benefits	\$47,288
Expenses	\$33,016
Indirect Cost	0
TOTAL	\$237,929
Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA)	\$8,507
TOTAL	\$246,436

Additional Funding

Child and Adult Care Food Program	
Salaries/Fringe	\$21,832
Food/Non-Food	\$10,900
TOTAL	\$32,732

Number of Children and Families Served

Our Children

Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start is funded through the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start. Our funded enrollment is 20 children. Children who leave the program are replaced by those on a waiting list. Our Average Daily Attendance for 2011 was 19. We served 17 families.

Our Families

Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Starts served 17 families. Six are single-parent families; 11 are two-parent families.

Eligibility of Families Served

Eligible (0 - 100%) 17
 Foster Child 0
 101 - 130% 1
 Over Inc (> 130%)..... 2
 Public Assistance..... 12
 % Micmac or other Native 68%

Monitoring Review and Fiscal Audit

From March 29, 2010 to April 1, 2010, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted an on-site follow-up monitoring review of the Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start Program. Based on the information gathered in the review, it was established that Pi'gunji'jg/Little Feathers Head Start corrected findings from the 2009 Triennial. The next review is scheduled in 2012.

In audit letter dated February 16, 2011, ACF requested a letter of clarification that Tribal Council submit a debt elimination plan. A resolution was submitted and will be reviewed at next audit.

Medical and Dental

Medical Homes

100% of enrolled children have an ongoing source of continuous, accessible health care. 53% are eligible to receive medical services through Indian Health Service.

90% (18 of 20 children) are enrolled in MaineCare (Medicaid). 10% (2 children) are enrolled in private health insurance plans.

Head Start works cooperatively through the Micmac Service Unit to perform heights, weights, blood pressures, dental screenings and fluoride varnish, blood lead screenings, and review of immunization records.

Dental Exams

100% enrolled children have continuous, accessible dental care.

Parent Involvement

Parent Involvement Activities

Pi'gunji'jig/Little Feathers Head Start strongly encourages parent participation. Parents are their child's first teachers, and are the key to the design and success. Parents participate, and are encouraged to participate, in a variety of activities, including:

- Parents' Night (parent/staff meetings and trainings)
- Policy Council meetings
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Home Visits
- Special program events celebrating holidays
- Field trips
- Classroom volunteer
- Parent/Staff Trainings held monthly

The program provides weekly newsletters and a monthly calendar flyer to parents that include upcoming events. They are also provided the weekly, breakfast, lunch and snack menus, classroom news, and other items of interest

Transitioning to Kindergarten

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

12 of 20 children transitioned to Kindergarten in May 2011. Transition meetings are held in April of every year to assist parents of children who are moving on to kindergarten. A tour of the local public school is scheduled to familiarize the families of the setting and routines; parents are given opportunities to ask questions of kindergarten teachers. The transition packet would contain all health, developmental and educational information.

Micmac Cultural Preservation

Culture and Curriculum

We incorporate Micmac Culture into our curriculum (Creative Curriculum), by teaching numbers (counting) and colors in Micmac. Our Cultural Director comes by weekly to do storytelling and drumming, and our Micmac Women's Drum Group (Mawita'jig E'pjjig) drums for our children.