

**Santa Rosa County Schools Head Start Programs
Annual Self-Assessment
Information Report**

According to Head Start Performance Standard 1304.51(i)(1), every Head Start Program will conduct a self-assessment. The self-assessment is used as a method to measure agency accomplishments, strengths, and weaknesses. The self-assessment allows for the following:

- ▶ Continuous improvement of program plans and service delivery methods;
- ▶ Enhancement of program quality and timely responses to issues that arise in the community, the program, and among enrolled families; and,
- ▶ Provides an opportunity for involving parents and community stakeholders.

Santa Rosa County District Schools Head Start Pre-K Programs conducted their annual self-assessment on September 24, 2013. The self-assessment team consisted of community members and partners, parents, staff, and the local education agency. The role of the assessment team is to collect information about program practices as compared to goals and objectives established in program plans and with the Head Start Performance Standards. The next step is to develop and implement an action plan to identify the specific steps to build on program strengths and to implement the changes necessary to address areas of challenge. We continue to evaluate and self-assess to ensure that the results of the changes are beneficial to the program, and the children and families that we serve.

Some of the strengths and challenges that were identified in the self-assessment were as follows:

Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, & Attendance (ERSEA)

- ✚ **Strength:** Good procedures for recruiting students with disabilities.
- ✚ **Challenge:** Keep an income-eligible wait-list for Head Start Students.

Education and Assessment

- ✚ **Strength:** Readiness Goals are aligned with the Local Education Agency, the Child Development Early Learning Framework, Common Core and Florida Early Learning Standards.
- ✚ **Challenge:** Instructors become more adept in asking text-specific questions for comprehension.

Family and Student Services

- ✚ **Strength:** Great collaboration with outside agencies to provide health screenings for students and staff.
- ✚ **Challenge:** More dental providers are needed that can serve young children.

Social Emotional, Mental Health and Disabilities

- ✚ **Strength:** Identifying and referring students for special services is handled in a timely manner.
- ✚ **Challenge:** Parents do not take advantage of mental health services that are available to them within the program.

Parent, Family, & Community Engagement (PFCE)

- ✚ **Strength:** The *Family Needs Assessment* has been updated to align with the PFCE Framework Outcomes.
- ✚ **Challenge:** More male participation to provide positive male role models for students.

Fiscal Management

- ✚ **Strength:** Policies and procedures are supported by the Santa Rosa County District School System.
- ✚ **Challenge:** More non-federal share contributions need to be generated.

Program Design and Management

- ✚ **Strength:** Many services are available to students and families through the Local Education Agency and community resources.
- ✚ **Challenge:** Parents do not fully take advantage of services provided through the Local Education Agency and the community.