



# EARLY HEAD START

*Annual 2019-2020 Report*

*Helping rural parents make the most of their child's early years*



## About Us

EWU Early Head Start is a \$2 million per year, federally-funded program that promotes early learning and brain development for children under age 3. This program partners federal resources with local and regional expertise to assist underserved and impoverished communities to better prepare children for success in school. EWU has offered the Early Head Start program for over 20 years.

EWU Early Head Start continued to focus on the strategic plan to ignite generational transformation, to embrace equity and social justice, to drive innovation and to transform the communities in our region despite COVID-19 impacts. Early Head Start supports this strategic plan by operating an innovative early learning and brain development program that brings educational opportunities into family homes in Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille Counties of northeast Washington, three of the state's poorest and least resourced counties. Services prevailed this year during the pandemic through safe virtual home-visits and technology upgrades to meet the needs of families and children.

**To learn more about EWU Early Head Start, connect with us:**  
<https://inside.ewu.edu/earlyheadstart/>

## What is Early Head Start Home Visiting?

EWU Early Head Start operates a weekly home-visiting services model that provides early education, health and developmental services to pregnant women, infants and toddlers under the age of 3 all year round. EWU Parent Child Educators partner with rural parents to plan and carry-out high quality, evidence-based early learning, health and developmental experiences with their child to lay lasting foundations for success in school and in later life. In addition to weekly home-visits in a typical year not impacted by COVID-19, EWU offers twice-monthly parent-child socialization experiences, called Play and Learns. These take place at state-of-the-art early learning classrooms in Newport and Colville, Washington.

**"I feel supported in my parenting because of EHS"**

**– Katie**

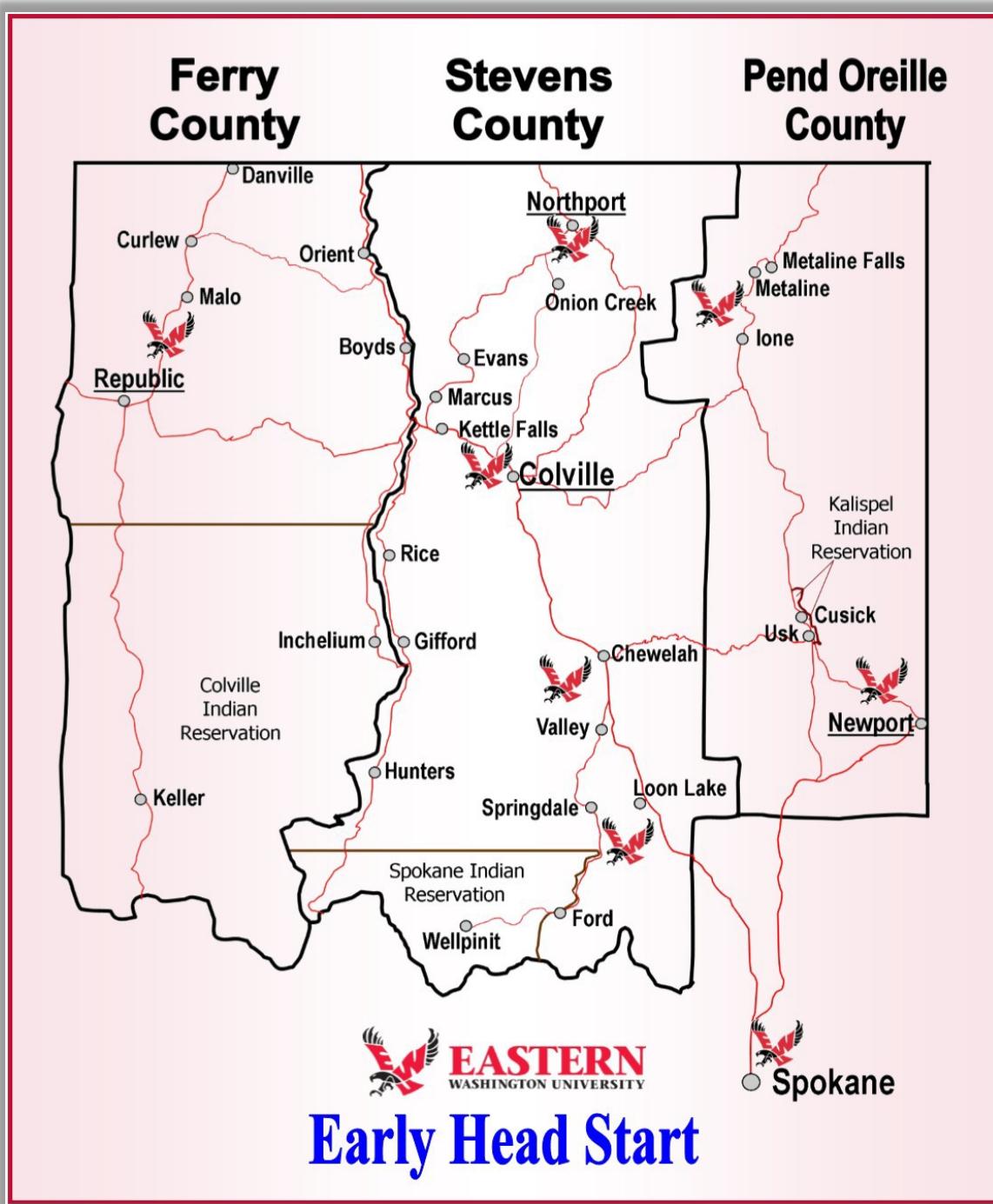
### What services does EWU EHS provide?

- Health and developmental screenings
- Ongoing developmental assessments
- Hearing and vision screening
- High quality curricula and experiences
- Prenatal and postpartum mental health and nutrition consultation
- Coordination, support and integration for children with disabilities
- Resource and referral for a variety of child and family needs



## Where does EHS provide services?

The EWU Early Head Start service area covers 6,000 square miles of Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties in northeast Washington State. The area is bordered to the north by Canada and to the east by the Idaho panhandle. These counties are federally designated frontier areas and medically underserved areas. Only five towns have populations over 1,000 and none of the communities in the Tri-Counties have a population of more than 5,000 citizens.



## 2019 Community Assessment Highlights



**Ferry, Steven and Pend Oreille Counties (The Tri-Counties)** Rural and Remote Communities  
Rugged Mountains and Forests Limited Infrastructure and Services  
Abundant Natural Beauty

**Residents 18 or younger without health insurance (2019)**

**29** Ferry  
**78** Pend Oreille  
**407** Stevens



**Educational Attainment (2019)**  
**89%** High School Graduates  
**18%** Bachelor Degree or higher

**Tri-County Population (2019)**

**7,627** Ferry  
**13,724** Pend Oreille  
**45,723** Stevens  
  
**67,074** Total Population

**Children Under 5 Years Old in Poverty (2019)**

**18.8%** Ferry  
**15.3%** Pend Oreille  
**15.6%** Stevens

**13.1%** National Average

**Unemployment Rate (2019)**

**Ferry 8.2%**  
**Pend Oreille 9%**  
**Stevens 7.2%**

**Washington State 6%**

**Languages Spoken by Tri-County Citizens (2019)**

**95.7%** English  
**1.5%** Spanish  
**.6%** Russian

**Licensed Child Care & Family Child Care (2020)**

**Ferry 2**  
**Pend Oreille 3**  
**Stevens 16**

**Median Projected Household Income (2019)**

**\$50,591** Ferry  
**\$50,591** Pend Oreille  
**\$51,775** Stevens

**\$73,775** Washington State

**Tri-County Federal Designations**

Office of Rural Health Policy  
Frontier and Remote (FAR) Areas  
Medically Underserved Areas  
Primary Health Care, Dental Care and Mental Health Care Provider Shortage Areas

**Early Education Enrollment**  
(3 Counties, 23 School Districts)

**593** Kindergarten Enrollees  
**126** Head Start (Pre-K) Slots  
**114** ECEAP (Pre-K) Slots  
**116** Early Head Start (0-3) Slots

**Largest Employers**

Government, with increasing:  
Border Patrol  
Forest Service (Fire Fighting)  
Education  
Healthcare and Long-term Care  
Manufacturing and Extraction  
Tribal Businesses and Industry

**Public and Tribal Lands**

Kalispel Reservation Colville Reservation Spokane Reservation Colville National Forest Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge

**Ethnicity of (2019) Tri-County Kindergarten Children**

**3.2%** Other or Not Provided  
**3.6%** Hispanic/Latino  
**4%** Two or more races  
**6.7%** Amer. Indian/Alaska Native  
**82.5%** White

**Limited Tax Base to Finance Infrastructure and Services**

Small populations  
Low number of private employers  
Low private land ownership  
Limited internet access  
Limited transportation routes

## **Partnering with Parents to Make a Difference in their Child's Lives!**

Early Head Start helps parents prepare their infant or toddler for success in school and in life by ensuring each child is making progress toward fulfilling their developmental potential by:

- Partnering with parents in assessing their child's developmental progress in 5 essential domains
- Engaging parents in planning and carrying out individualized learning experiences with their child;
- Empowering families to obtain early intervention services; and
- Equipping parents to advocate for their child's health and developmental needs.



**"My husband joins us for home visits now so the whole family is involved"**  
– Ashleigh



**"My home visitor helped me know that my child's behavior was normal for his age"**  
– Colleen

## EHS Families in 2019- 2020



**Children Served 2019-2020:** 178

**Families Served 2019-2020:** 148

**Pregnant Women Served 2019-2020:** 20

**Parent Time Implementing Home-based Early Head Start Learning Experiences:**

**Over 30,000 hours**

**Single-parent households served this year:**  
**22% of families**

**Two-parent households served this year:**  
**78% of families**

**Percentage of EHS children that were *homeless* this year:** **10% of enrolled children**

Children involved with Child Protective Services this year: **17% of enrolled children**

Children with a diagnosed ***developmental delay or disability***: **13% of enrolled children**

Children in ***foster care*** or placed with a legal guardian this year: **17% of enrolled children**

Total enrolled children who ***graduated*** from the program: **29%**

Percentage of eligible applicants served in 2019-2020: **93%**

Average monthly enrollment: **116 pregnant women, infants and toddlers**

Children that received ***Well Child Exams***: **69%\***

Children Up-To-Date as Possible on ***Immunizations***: **69%\***

Children that had a ***Dental Exam*** with a dentist or an ***Oral Screening*** from their doctor: **123\*\***

\*Reported figures are artificially low due incomplete data capture during a database system transition in March – June 2019. COVID-19 also had a significant impact on families' ability to access health care and immunizations during the first peak of the pandemic.

\*\*The federal EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment) exam schedule recommends a first visit with a dentist upon the eruption of the first tooth or at age one, but it does not require a visit with a dentist until age 3.

## **EWU Early Head Start is Partnering with Parents and Laying Lasting Foundations for Child Success in Kindergarten and Beyond!**

1. Completed over 4,000 home visits throughout the 6000 square mile service area
2. Traveled over 120,000 miles to provide home-based services in remote areas
3. Planned and implemented individualized data-informed home-based learning experiences
4. Coordinated and aligned services with Individualized Family Services Plans for children with disabilities (13% of EHS children)
5. Continued transition to ChildPlus web-based data system to allow for real-time data
6. Utilized self-assessment data and ongoing developmental assessment data to plan new 5-year goals for the 2019-2024 grant application
7. Conducted Policy Council, staff, and board member interviews regarding WA Kids data and implications for the next 5-year program and school readiness goals
8. Selected the HELP® Strands 0 – 3 ongoing developmental assessment tools for implementation in year one of the new grant to provide more accurate and precise observational data to use for individualization of child services

### **Early Head Start Funding Sources for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020**

**\$2,022,346** DHHS, ACF Early Head Start Award

**\$ 505,012** Non-federal share contributions

Budget Category	Approved Budget	Actual Expenditures
Personnel	\$934,651	\$923,121
Fringe Benefits	\$416,334	\$381,500
Travel	\$15,550	\$16,322
Equipment	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$101,295	\$147,684
Contractual	\$0	\$0
Facilities/Construction	\$0	\$0
Other	\$364,281	\$330,920
Direct Costs	\$1,838,496	\$1,799,550
Indirect Costs	\$183,850	\$179,585
Total	\$2,022,346	\$1,979,135

Administrative Costs: 14.2% Non-federal share provided: \$496,215

**No Audit Findings.** The *State of Washington Single Audit Report for FY 20* does not include any findings or questioned costs for Eastern Washington University. [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)

**Head Start Compliance.** Eastern Washington University Early Head Start did have a federal monitoring review in FY 20 and meets compliance with the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS).