

OGLALA LAKOTA COLLEGE
PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM
COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

For
American Indian/Alaskan Native Head Start Programs

2006-2007

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Part 1: Executive Summary/Introduction

Executive Summary

Oglala Lakota College a tribal college on the Pine Ridge Reservation in southwestern South Dakota took over the operation of the Pine Ridge Head Start/Early Head Start Program in August 2005 at the request of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. The service and recruitment areas are identical with the boundaries of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation which encompasses about 7,000 square miles. OLC HS/EHS is funded to serve 100 children and families from ages 0-3 in Early Head Start and 531 children ages 3-5 in Head Start.

The population of the Reservation is over 96% Native American. The Reservation is the third poorest area in America, mostly rural and has a dearth of services since there are 28,787 people spread over an area the size of Connecticut. People live in 9 major towns and the Head Start and Early Head Start Centers as well as Oglala Lakota College Instructional Centers are located for the most part in these towns.

The instability of the Head Start and Early Head Start programs in the years prior to Oglala Lakota College caused many parents to doubt the program and the need for OLC to regain their trust. The lack of good management and supervision of staff caused many of the previous HS/EHS staff to have done things in a certain way and it has taken a year to begin stabilizing staff and procedures. The facilities were in terrible shape with the need for new centers in some areas and the need for fencing, playgrounds and paving in just about all areas. The relations with vendors and collaborating agencies were in a shambles.

We will not just wait to do the Head Start Community Assessment every three years but will use this current document as a blueprint update it as we gain new information. We will work with the OLC Department of Research and Assessment to gather relevant and referenced data and will do family surveys annually with questions relevant to the needs of the children and families and to the improvement of the program.

Our prioritized recommendations and decisions to improve the OLCHS Program include:

1. Upgrade the facilities for health, safety and educational environment.
2. Increase HS/EHS enrollment and attendance.
3. Increase the stability of HS/EHS staff.

We did the Community Assessment during the Fall of 2006. Since the program was in disarray when we took over in 2005 we were focusing on recruitment and retention of students and staff and the upgrading of facilities to provide safe and healthy environments for learning.

Introduction

The Pine Ridge Reservation is situated in southwestern South Dakota on the Nebraska state line, about 50 miles east of the Wyoming border. The area includes over 7,000 square miles contained in mainly three counties; Bennett, Jackson, and Shannon counties in South Dakota. Pine Ridge, Martin, Kyle, and Wanblee are the largest towns on the reservation. Other smaller towns include Manderson, Oglala, Porcupine, Red Shirt, Wounded Knee, Allen and Batesland.

Bennett County is disputed by some but falls in the original boundaries of the Reservation. There are approximately 52 communities which are names and historical homes of tiospaye or linked groups of families. The Reservation is divided into nine political districts each having a population center or centers: Pine Ridge Village, Wakpamni (Batesland), White Clay (Oglala, Red Shirt Village), Porcupine (Porcupine), Medicine Root (Kyle), Wounded Knee (Wounded Knee, Manderson), Pass Creek (Allen), Lacreek (Martin) and Eagle Nest (Wanblee).

The southern and eastern sections of the reservation consist of wide open grassy plains. In the west central section the prairie merges into the small eastern spurs of the Black Hills which are further to the west. The result is an area of rolling pine covered hills and ridges, providing the inspiration for the name Pine Ridge. To the north of the wooded area are badlands characterized by roughly eroded ridges, peaks, and mesas. The badlands are known for their panoramic beauty created by the shapes and colors of the land formations.

The Pine Ridge reservation is home to the Oglala Sioux (Lakota) Tribe. There are 28,787 Lakota's on the Reservation and another 15,000 in Rapid City, SD. The total membership of the Tribe is over 46,000. The Reservation is located in southwestern South Dakota with Fall River and Custer County lines as the western border with the Badlands and Jackson County as the northern border joining the Rosebud Reservation on the northeast corner. The Bennett County line is the eastern boundary and the Nebraska border is the southern boundary of the reservation. The total land area of the Pine Ridge reservation is 61% tribally or individually owned. The land is an integral part of the Lakota culture and the economic base of the reservation.

Pine Ridge Reservation was originally part of the Great Sioux Reservation which was created by treaty with the U.S. Government in 1868. The Great Sioux Reservation included the whole of South Dakota west of the Missouri River. During the years in the 1800's several treaties were entered into between the Sioux and the U.S. Government. With each new treaty the Sioux lost more land until finally, in 1889 the Great Sioux Reservation was reduced to five separate reservations, one was the Pine Ridge Reservation. This reduction of Tribal lands to a reservation with defined boundaries by the U.S. Congress in the Act of March 2, 1889, which identified all the Lakota/Dakota reservations, is known as the Great Sioux Settlement.

Crazy Horse and Red Cloud were Oglala chiefs. Billy Mills, an Oglala, is the only American ever to win an Olympic gold medal in the 10,000 meter run. *Dances with Wolves* tells of Oglala's in the 19th century. *Thunderheart* tells a story of Oglala's in the 20th century. *Black Elk Speaks* tells of the Oglala's at the Little Big Horn and a vision of Oglala holy man, Black Elk. *The Broken Cord* tells the story of an Oglala child with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Wounded Knee and the Badlands are on the Reservation. Rapid City is in the Black Hills.

The 150 year history of the Oglala since contact with the encroaching settlers and gold seekers is a familiar story of wars with the United States, taking of lands, confinement to a reservation, breaking of treaties by the U.S. government and attempts to stamp out Lakota language and culture. U.S. government policies have reduced the Oglala Lakota to the poorest people in the country.

The Oglala Sioux Tribal government maintains jurisdiction within the boundaries of the reservation including all rights-of-way, waterways, watercourses and streams running through any part of the reservation and to such others lands as may hereafter be added to the reservation under the laws of the United States. The Tribal government operates under a constitution consistent with the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and approved by the Tribal membership and Tribal Council of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. The Tribe is governed by an elected body consisting of a 5 member Executive Committee and an 18 member Tribal Council.

The Tribal Council Chairman is the administrative head of the Tribe and is assisted by the Executive Committee which consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fifth Member, and the Sgt. at Arms. The President and Vice-President of the Tribal Council are elected at large and the remainder is elected from their districts by the Tribal membership. The tribal elections are held every two years.

In 2005 the Oglala Sioux Tribe asked the Oglala Lakota College to take over as grantee for the Pine Ridge Reservation Head Start and Early Head Start Program. The OLC Board of Trustees which has a member from each political District as well as representatives of the Tribal President, Tribal Council, Council of Elders and Student Senate agreed. President Thomas Shortbull stated that researchers have found that the first five years of life are the most important to development and that children, or wakanyeja, are sacred to the Lakota.

Oglala Lakota College was founded by the elders of the tribe in 1971 to counter the bleak statistics and to preserve the Lakota identity, culture and values. Until 1983 OLC operated under agreements with the South Dakota University system and offered mostly associates degrees. In 1983 OLC was accredited by the North Central Association at the associate's level, in 1988 at the Bachelors level and in 1993 was allowed to offer a Masters in Lakota Leadership/Management.

With over 1,400 students a semester and 150 graduates a year OLC is making a major difference in the lives of Oglala's. Besides preserving the culture the College is providing trained and educated professionals to begin taking over the educational and economic development of the Tribe.

Oglala Lakota College is **of the community:**

- * started by tribal leaders and chartered by the Oglala Sioux Tribe
- * requires 15-17 hours of Lakota studies in all degrees
- * is working toward Lakota as the official language of the college
- * the campus is the 7,000 square miles Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

Oglala Lakota College is **by the community:**

- * nine Board of Trustees members elected by tribal members by district
- * two Board of Trustees members represent tribal government
- * 45 local board members (five from each district)
- * teaches classes in the nine population centers of the reservation
- * teaches classes in Rapid City which has about 16,000 Indian people
- * has a staff that is 77% Indian with another 10% married to Indians
- * Piya Wiconi Okolakiciye (senate) involves all staff and students

Oglala Lakota College is **for the community:**

- * mission and purposes focus on the tribe and community
- * works with tribe, elders, communities and tribal programs
- * degrees match employment needs on the reservation
- * is the official tribal archives
- * is the reservation's only public library
- * faculty focus on teaching and support staff on counseling

Vision, Mission, Purposes, Values and Student Outcomes

OUR VISION: Learning Lakota ways of life in community—"Wolakolkiciyapi."

MISSION

Oglala Lakota College is chartered by the Oglala Sioux Tribe. Its mission is to provide educational opportunities that enhance Lakota life. These opportunities include: community services; certificates; GED; associate, bachelor, and graduate degrees. Oglala Lakota College provides a framework of excellence for student learning of knowledge, skills, and values toward a piya wiconi—a new beginning for harmony in fulfillment of aspirations and dreams. Oglala

Lakota College is committed to continuous improvement and is creating Oglala Lakota University through outstanding teaching, research, community service and assessment.

As part of its purposes Oglala Lakota College

Tribal : provides the Lakota with outstanding graduates, promotes study and practice of sovereignty, works with tribal entities toward building our nation, and supports graduates in achieving meaningful work and healthy lifestyles.

Community: supports local communities in development and in working with their educational systems, engages people as active, productive members of their tiospaye, communities and global networks, offers frameworks for leadership development in the context of communities and organizations, provides lifelong learning through continuing education and community activities.

Cultural: utilizes Lakota cultural values in all learning frameworks, celebrates Lakota culture including sacred songs and ceremonies, researches, studies and disseminates Lakota language, culture and philosophy, and provides leadership to maintain and revitalize Lakota culture in a diverse and changing environment.

Academic: encourages high student learning expectations through active and collaborative learning frameworks, student-faculty interaction, enriching educational experiences, research and a supportive campus environment., practices open enrollment and supports student success towards graduation, provides knowledge, skills and values for self-fulfillment, civic involvement, and making a living in a diverse world, and works with other institutions and agencies to further College interests.

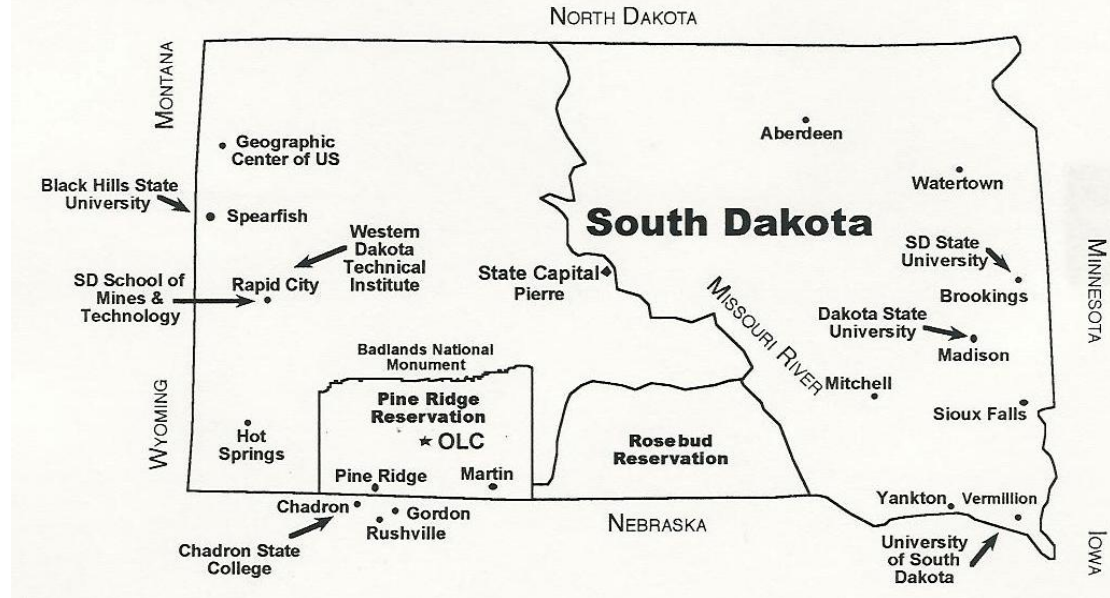
Values

Oglala Lakota College strives to practice and teach the values of traditional Lakota culture: Ohitika (Bravery), Wacantognakapi (Generosity), Wowacintaka (Fortitude), Wokiksuye (Remembrance), Unsihanpi (Humility), Woyuonihan (Respect), Woonspe (Learning), Woslolye (Knowledge), Wookahnige (Understanding) and Woksape (Wisdom).

The Mission of the OLC Head Start Program is to provide a full range of services to meet the needs of Lakota children from 0-5 and their families on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation addressing cognitive, emotional, physical, nutritional, mental health, and Lakota language and culture development of the children and the development needs of families.

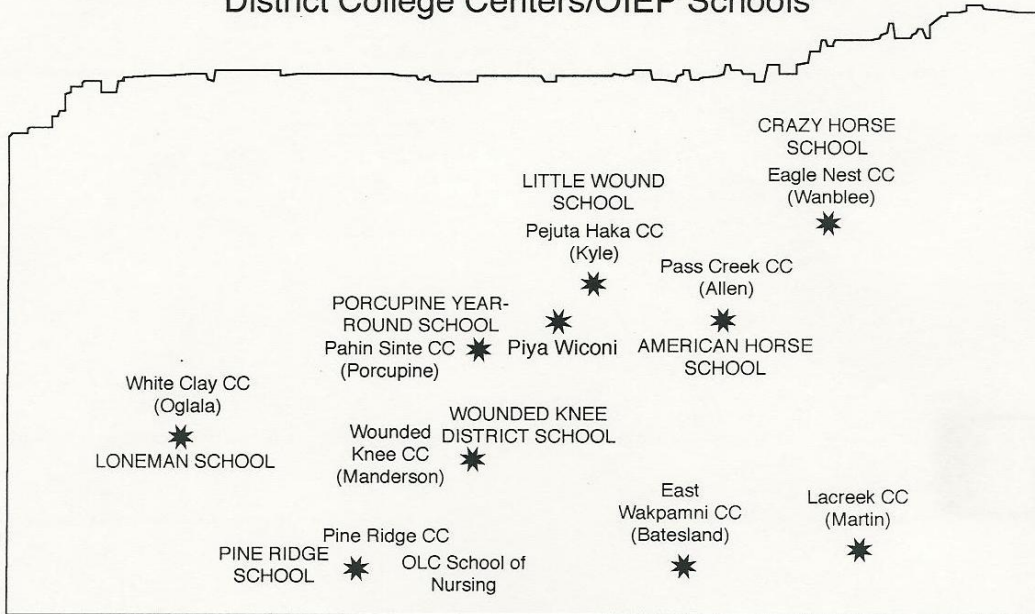
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Pine Ridge Indian Reservation District College Centers/OIEP Schools



This map shows the towns on the Reservation and the table on page 20 lists where there are Head Start and Early Head Start Centers. There is an Indian Health Service Hospital in Pine Ridge and HIS Clinics in Wanblee and Kyle. There is a community clinic in Porcupine and a community hospital in Martin. Schools are shown. The BIA offices and most services are in the town of Pine Ridge.

Part 2: Methodology — The Process of Conducting the Community Assessment

The OLC HS/EHS program serves children who meet the Head Start eligible guidelines who live within the boundaries of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

The OLC Early Head Start/ Head Start program had the overall responsibility for the Community Assessment. The Community Assessment was accomplished through a parent survey, a community survey, agencies, and staff survey. The Assistant Director was responsible for compiling data and information from the agencies and staff surveys. The Family Helpers and OLC College Center Directors were responsible for compiling data and information from the parent and community survey. The Mental Health/Disability Coordinator was responsible for obtaining data from the Early Childhood Intervention program specific to identified children (ages 0 to 5) with developmental delays.

We also looked at data from the US Census 2000, Indian Health Service Reports, the Oglala Sioux Tribe program reports and the OLC CASE statement.

The data was reviewed and analyzed and use to make projections and predictions on Section 9.

We did the following Surveys in the Spring of 2006:

OLC Head Start/Early Head Start Staff		N = 48
Community Partners		N = 35
OST Commodities	= 6	OST CAP Office = 3
OST Public Safety	= 4	Schools = 2
State Social Services	= 4	OST CHR Program = 6
Indian Health Service	= 5	Local Businesses = 5
Child Care Partners		N = 24
OST Child Care	= 18	
Private Day Care	= 5	
State Licensed Day Care	= 1	
Family Partners		N = 177

Head Start Staff completed surveys that pertained to the program and what they describe as their needs for their specific center and or classroom. The Community Partners were the agencies that provide services and resources to families on the reservation. Child Care surveys were specific in the type of care or facility in which the program offered to families of the reservation. The Family Partners surveys were focused directly on the families of the Head Start children, the needs, and affects on their lives.

Part 3: Service Area Data

The Service and Recruitment Areas of the OLC EHS/HS Program are both the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota.

Geographic

Part of the problems of the Reservation stem from the Allotment Act of 1888 by which the government tried to reduce the Reservation and tribal power by giving each adult Indian 160 acres of land that had been owned by them anyway as a tribe as designated by treaty. This resulted in the reservation being broken up and the un-allotted land was made available to homesteaders. It is not surprising that most of the leftover land was in the eastern section (now Bennett County) where the best farmland was.

The land on the reservation is checkerboarded in terms of ownership: 25% tribal, 38% allotted to individual Indian landowners in trust, less than 1% government and 36% fee or owned by individuals out of trust. The tribally owned land is 5% agricultural, 77% grazing and 18% forestry. The reservation contains portions of the Badlands National Park and the site of the Wounded Knee Massacre. These combined with the culture of the Oglala form the basis for a developing reservation tourism industry.

The Service Area/Recruitment Area of the OLC HS/EHS Program is the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation including all of Shannon and Bennett Counties and part of Jackson and the key towns of Martin, Allen, Wanblee, Kyle, Porcupine, Wounded Knee, Manderson, Batesland, Oglala, Red Shirt and Pine Ridge.

Economic

The Oglala Sioux Tribe's major economic occupation is cattle ranching and farming for tribal operators. The Tribe operates a large Parks and Recreation Department, guided hunting for small game, big game, including buffalo and elk and the Cedar Pass Lodge which includes a motel, restaurant and gift shop. The Tribe also operates the Prairie Wind Casino including black jack, poker, and slot machines.

Commercial business by private operators includes grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations, Laundromat, video arcades, fast food shops, and arts and handcrafts.

The majority of employment is provided by the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Oglala Lakota College, Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Service, Prairie Winds Casino and the 22 schools. There is a beginning private sector as evidenced by the Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce membership of over 150 businesses. These are mostly bed and breakfasts, convenience store/gas stations and small construction contractors.

In June 1997 *The New York Times* said of the Pine Ridge Reservation: "It is as poor as America gets. A visit to Pine Ridge is a striking reminder that most reservations remain places of bone-crushing poverty. And things are likely to get worse as the government cuts some of its welfare payments that are crucial to their economies."

ABC News called the Pine Ridge Reservation "the ground zero of poverty in America" when President Clinton visited in 1999 to proclaim Pine Ridge the first Indian Reservation Empowerment Zone.

Statistics show the hard life of the reservation: alcohol related arrests = 90% of all arrests, people on food stamps = 22%, people on food commodities = 20% and the high school dropout rate = 64%. (OLC CASE Statement).

The Pine Ridge Reservation pervasive poverty and social problems affect all aspects of life. Substance abuse and related crime affects nearly every family on the reservation. Most of

the population and reservation land are in Shannon County one of the poorest in the United States.

Welfare reform has negatively affected a large number of mothers with small children. Infant mortality is three times the national average for all races.

The 1980 US Census and 1990 US Census showed that Shannon County which makes up the majority of the reservation had the lowest per capita income in the U.S, and the 2000 US Census showed it as the third lowest.

The US Census reports for 2000 puts the Per Capita Income for the Reservation at \$6,286 vs. the rate for the US of \$21,587. It also states that 52.3 % of the residents are below the poverty level vs. 12.4% for the US.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Labor Force Report for 2003 (which is the latest available) gives the unemployment rate for the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation as 86% with 19% of those who are employed still being below the poverty line.

Other statistics from the Census and State are:

- 25% of the adult male population in SD Corrections Facilities is Native American
- 19% of children receiving TANF in South Dakota reside in Shannon County
- 16% of families receiving TANF in South Dakota reside in Shannon County

Demographic

Pine Ridge reservation population is at 28,787 with 52.3% of the people living below poverty level. The basis for the population figure is Dr. Kathleen Pickering's 2005 Workforce Study that has been accepted by HUD. It uses Indian Health Service statistics. The 2000 Census estimate of 10.9% of the population in Shannon County being 5 and under and the 1997 US Census estimate of 42.9% of children in Shannon County being in poverty this being in accordance with Indian Health Service statistics. We are funded to serve 100 Early Head Start and 531 Head Start children.

	Total	Children under 5 (11%)	Children in Poverty (43%)
Wakpamni/includes Pine Ridge	9273	1020	439
Medicine Root	4223	465	200
Wounded Knee/Manderson	2671	294	126
Porcupine	2442	269	116
Eagle Nest	3857	424	182
Lacreek	853	94	40
Pass Creek	1044	115	49
Oglala	4424	487	209
TOTAL	28787	3168	1361

Education

The schools on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation are spread out over the entire reservation. Four high schools and twelve elementary schools serve approximately 5,347 students who are of predominantly Native American decent. More than three-quarters of the children attending Pine Ridge reservation schools travel to and from school by bus. The Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Indian Education Programs is the primary funding source for the majority of schools.

The following table shows the schools and students on the Reservation:

Name	Grades	Town	Students	Staff
Little Wound	Pre-12	Kyle, SD	903	204
Crazy Horse	K-12	Wamblee, SD	390	95
Porcupine	K-8	Porcupine, SD	143	41
Pine Ridge	K-12	Pine Ridge, SD	1,023	143
Loneman	K-8	Oglala, SD	316	123
American Horse	K-8	Allen, SD	219	124
Wounded Knee	K-8	Manderson, SD	172	52
Bennett County	K-12	Martin, SD	634	200
Shannon County	K-8	Batesland, SD	847	249
Red Cloud	K-12	Pine Ridge/Porcupine	700	--
Total			5,347	

The status of the OIEP funded schools on the Reservation in terms of Adequate Yearly Progress for *No Child Left Behind* in 2005-2006 does not look good: American Horse, Alert; Little Wound School, School Improvement Year 2, Wounded Knee District, Restructuring; Loneman, School Improvement Year 2 ; Pine Ridge, School Improvement Year 2; Porcupine, Restructuring; and Crazy Horse, 2nd Year of Corrective Action.

The following show what effect reservation conditions have on academic achievement on based on percentages of students Proficient or Advanced on standardized test scores in Spring 2004:

School	Reading	Math
American Horse	38%	49%
Crazy Horse	38%	39%
Little Wound	35%	40%
Loneman	28%	33%
Pine Ridge	46%	46%
Porcupine	37%	34%
Wounded Knee	33%	41%

Education problems stem from rural isolation, reservation conditions, student needs such as lack of academic achievement resulting from these conditions and language and culture differences. The Pine Ridge Reservation is home to the Oglala Lakota (Sioux) people who have significant obstacles to overcome because of the rural isolation, poverty, prevalence of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and Fetal Alcohol Effect (FAE) and the cultural and linguistic differences. The Oglala are one of the poorest people economically but one of the richest spiritually and culturally.

Oglala Lakota College offers over 25 degrees from AA to Master of Arts in Lakota Leadership/Management, seven Bachelors degrees including Elementary Education and 17 Associates degrees. Oglala Lakota College is one of the four tribal colleges in the country which has the authority to grant our own baccalaureate degrees. We had our first Bachelors in

Elementary Education graduate in 1978 under an agreement with Black Hills State University. Since 1983 we have been authorized by the North Central Association to offer our own accredited Bachelors in Elementary Education which is also recognized by the state of South Dakota for teacher certification. We have graduated over 120 Lakota school principals.

OLC offers an AA in Early Childhood Education that folds the CDA into it. It also offers Bachelors in Early Childhood Ed and degrees in the social services areas that could help Head Start staff. The Masters in Lakota Leadership/Management: Educational Administration could have a focus on early childhood.

OLC serves over 1,400 students a year as shown by numbers for the past five semesters:

	FA02	FA03	FA04	FA05	FA06
Enrolled	1,264	1,441	1,438	1,286	1,485
Indian Students	1,109(88%)	1,128 (85%)	1,243(86%)	1,162 (90%)	1,351(91%)
Male	386(31%)	434 (30%)	420 (29%)	386 (30%)	472 (32%)
Female	878(69%)	1,007 (70%)	1,018 (71%)	900 (70%)	1,013 (68%)
Full Time Equivalent	1,008	1,128	1,101	1,021	1,137
Entering Freshmen	133	200	198	166	244
Seniors	227	243	232	221	231
Graduate Students	52	61	63	55	44
Average Age	32	30	31	31	30

OLC has had the following number of graduates over the past eleven years:

	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06
MA	7	2	1	0	1	3	2	2	18	8	8
BS/BA	45	38	33	27	40	57	43	46	42	36	43
AA/AAS	99	82	100	90	89	73	85	99	98	87	106
Degrees	166	135	134	117	130	133	130	147	158	131	157
Certificates/ Endorsements	6	2	23	17	19	36	35	19	49	42	16
Graduates (Head Count)	137	111	134	110	132	140	147	142	180	152	166

We have had the following number of graduates in education over the past 6 years:

Education	00-05	06
AA Early Childhood Education	28	4
AA Elementary Education	53	20
BS K-8 Elementary Education	58	16
BS Lakota Studies K-12 Education*	0	1
BS Business Education	1	
Certificates K-12 Special Ed	12	4
Endorsement in Ech Sped	1	

OLC has a Head Start TCUP training grant to train Early Childhood staff. Now that the large turnover of staff has subsided after taking over from the Tribe we are in the process of doing individual professional development plans for staff. OLC EHS/HS staff has the opportunity to obtain an AA in Early Childhood (with the Child Development Associate built in) and to go one for Bachelors degrees offered by OLC.

Health

The Pine Ridge Reservation is larger than Connecticut. Oglala's are both a minority and rural people who mirror the health disparities of the underserved, minority and rural communities in this country (1990 U.S. Census; IHS, 1992, USA Today, 1997). The following statistics speak to the health needs of the Oglala people of the Pine Ridge Reservation:

- The Oglala Lakota people have the lowest life expectancy in the Western Hemisphere, except for Haiti;
- The rate of tuberculosis is eight (8) times higher than the national average;
- The highest rate of alcoholism in the U.S. exists here;
- The diabetes rate is twice the national norm, and
- The suicide rate of teens is six (6) times the national average.

The data described above is characteristic to many third world countries. In relation to these statistics, the President of the United States declared the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation as an Empowerment Zone in 1999.

The Indian Health Service Hospital has 44 beds to serve the entire reservation of 38,000 people and no nursing home beds. When combined with multi-leveled health care disparities, an increased number of skilled health care providers are required to begin meeting the goals of Healthy People 2010.

Limited access to health care services is a major problem, with the federal Indian Health Service (IHS) the only source of health care coverage for 75% of Indians. However, IHS funding for personal health services is inadequate. A recent study found IHS funding at only 60% of that provided by mainstream employer-provider health plans. The area has no major employer to provide jobs and therefore the unemployment rate at 86% is very high. The lack of sufficient income impacts the entire reservation because it directly impacts the services that are available for the residents. There is no public transportation on the reservation, so residents must have cars or walk to travel an area of over 2 million acres.

Well over 75% of the Pine Ridge residents use IHS services for their health care provider. IHS simply is not well funded. The service provides care to diabetics at a cost of \$1,578 per patient when the average cost to provide care to diabetics for private health care insurers is \$5,000-\$9,000 per patient per year. Patients of the IHS do not have this level of resources to help to manage their disease and therefore they suffer at much higher rates. Because of the lack of transportation, travel off the reservation to regular doctors' appointments makes it very difficult for Pine Ridge residents to travel. Without jobs, transportation and insurance, private health care is virtually impossible for many residents to secure.

There are some cultural issues impacting health care delivery to the Pine Ridge reservation as well. As referenced in the Healthy People 2010 initiative, health care disparities based on ethnicity is a major problem in our country. The origin of these disparities is not known, but is believed to be a combination of factors, many of them already addressed in this statement. Poverty, isolation, access to health care and cultural differences all play a significant role in the way certain diseases affect ethnic minorities in our nation.

The Lakota people are definitely adversely affected by many of the issues. The 150 year history of the Lakota since contact with the encroaching settlers and gold seekers is a familiar story of wars with the United States, the taking of lands, the confinement to a

reservation, the breaking of treaties by the U.S. government and attempts to stamp out Lakota language and culture. The legacy of U.S. government policies has reduced the Oglala Lakota to the poorest people in the country. These and other factors impact the way services are provided and interpreted by the parties involved, and must be acknowledged and addressed in a way that recognizes all of the impact they have had on this society.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe Diabetes Program lists 2,400 diagnosed diabetics. These conditions further affect the health needs of EHS/HS eligible children. Many conditions affect the health needs of the Early Head Start and Head Start children.

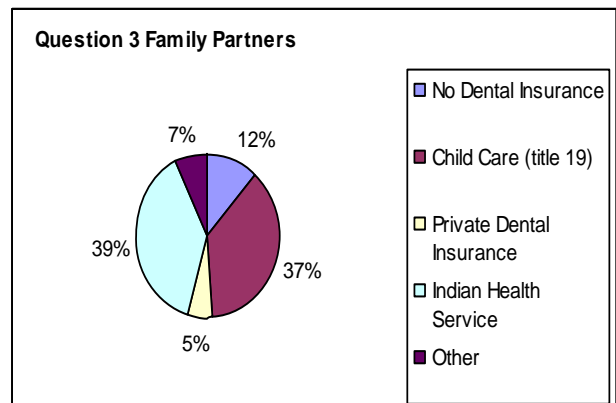
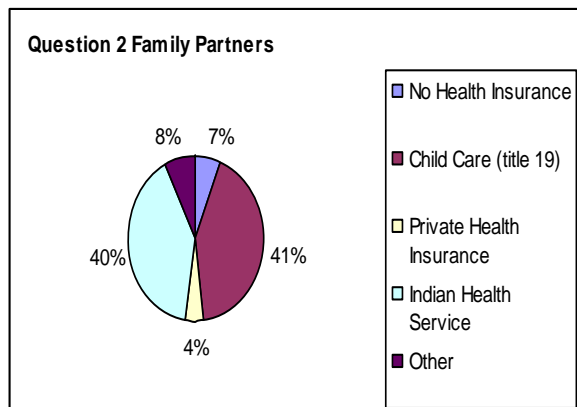
- Child deaths in Shannon County are twice the South Dakota rate—77 per 100,000 vs. 32 per 100,000 (Annie E. Casey Foundation—Kids Count 2004)
- Births to single teens in Shannon County are twice the South Dakota rate—22% vs. 10 % (Annie E. Casey Foundation—Kids Count 2004)
- Infant Mortality in Shannon County is almost twice the South Dakota rate—15 per 1000 live births vs. 8 per 1,000 live births (Annie E. Casey Foundation—Kids Count 2004)
- 57 % of children under age 5 live in poverty compared to 19 % in SD (Annie E. Casey Foundation—Kids Count 2004)

Dental, vision, hearing, and physicals are completed at the Pine Ridge hospital for the Children in EHS and HS. The children have to travel an area of 7,000 square miles in some instances to get the physical, vision and hearing completed. The dental department has made concessions to go to the centers to get the screenings done.

Dental and health services were tabulated according to the information received from families. The health component shows IHS and Title IX as the source insurance for families. The dental is also similar in the data.

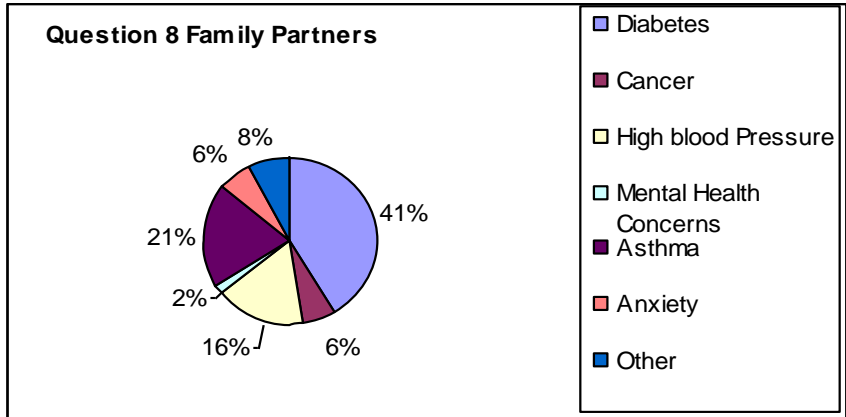
What type of health insurance does your enrolled child (ren) have?

What type of dental insurance does your enrolled child (ren) have?



The following data shows the different types of health related issues that have affected the families on the reservation.

Has your family experienced any of the following health issues?



Mental Health:

The following statistics address the mental health needs of the Oglala people of the Pine Reservation.

- The highest rate of alcoholism in the U.S. exists here;
- The suicide rate of teens is six times the national average.

Alcoholism affects nearly every family on the Pine Ridge reservation. Poverty, isolation, access to mental health care and cultural differences all play a significant role in the way mental health affects people on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

There are programs available that help families with the alcohol problem. There are two treatment centers: one at Pine Ridge village and the other at Kyle; Cangleska, a women against violence program; the Tribal Court and tribal police which has a program that works with children in the schools; and Child Protection Services. Also, IHS has two facilities that employ psychologists, but while they are certified to handle adult cases, they are not qualified for children.

The children are referred from Oglala Lakota College Head Start to Oglala Sioux Early Intervention Program which in turn referrals are sent to Children’s Care at Rapid City for a comprehensive evaluation. When the evaluation is completed then Children’s Care providers come to the Oglala Lakota College Head Start Center to provide services. A fairly new program called Wakanyeja Pawicayapi, (The Children First), has opened its doors to helping children. It is a tribally chartered American Indian non-profit corporation dedicated to “Restoring the Lakota life ways and laws so that the Lakota people will once again flourish.” Schools are to make referrals and also encouraged to do memorandum of understandings with them. Oglala Lakota College Head Start Program is in the process of doing a memorandum with Wakanyeja Pawicayapi.

The only social services are the State Social Services in Pine Ridge. There are no transportation services.

Nutrition

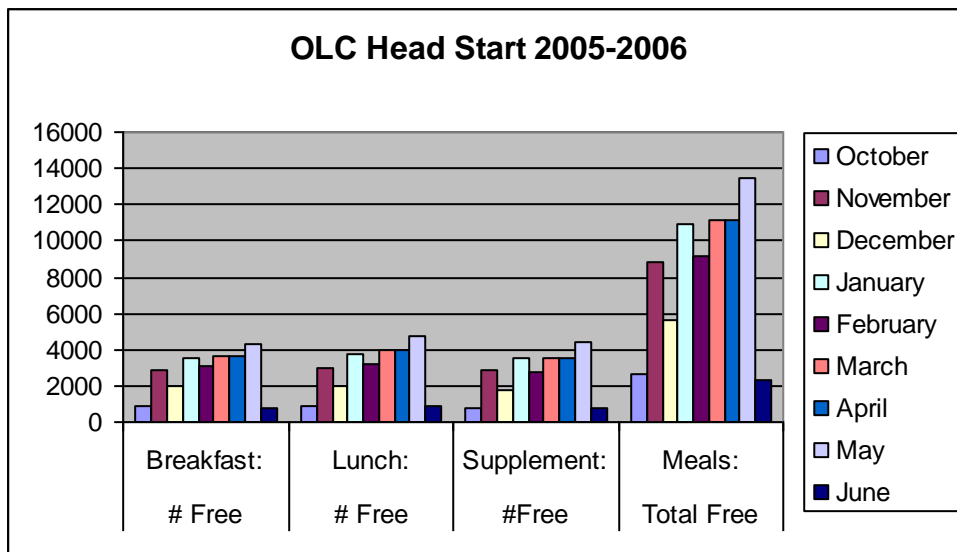
The total number of families receiving services under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is 361.

Schools on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation report a very high free and reduced lunch rate. Nearly all K-12 school on the Pine Ridge Reservation reports a free and reduced lunch population of over 90%. The chart below demonstrates very high levels of free and reduced lunch population that exists in the Oglala Lakota College Head Start service area.

The students and families that are served by the Oglala Lakota College EHS/HS program have little access to quality nutrition on a regular basis. Research indicates that malnutrition during infancy and early childhood has an impact on the cognitive development of children. Studies relate early malnutrition to poor cognitive abilities in the school-age years. Evidence suggests that improving the health and nutrition of young children can improve their subsequent chances of attending school and can improve the performance of children once at school.

The value of the nutrition program at the Oglala Lakota College EHS/HS cannot be understated. The children that are served are coming from homes where consistent and healthy meals are not a regular event. A key to successfully implementing the educational mission of the Oglala Lakota College Head Start is to ensure that the students have well balanced and consistent nutritional meals.

Oglala Lakota College Head Start operates food service at 19 sites across the Pine Ridge Reservation. The nutritional department of the Oglala Lakota College Head Start operates a CANS program and receives reimbursements for the healthy meals that are served to the students. Reimbursements are made by thru the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) as operated by the South Dakota Child and Adult Nutrition Services (CANS) is responsible for administering the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA). Oglala Lakota College Head Start does not recoup all costs associated with operating nutritional program. Additional costs associated with operating the food programs are paid with funds through Oglala Lakota College and Oglala Lakota College Head Start program. Oglala Lakota College Head Start feels it is critical to the educational development of the students with healthy and nutritional meals.



Housing

Public housing on the reservation is managed by the Oglala Sioux (Lakota) Housing. The OSLH has constructed housing for approximately 43% of the approximately 2,787 families on the reservation. OSLH manages housing units in the communities on scattered rural sites through HUD Low Rent and Mutual Help home ownership housing programs. Other housing is available through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service for their employees. Private housing stock is limited. Homes are at 40% substandard and 20% lack indoor plumbing.

The housing has been apportioned to the nine (9) districts by population and need. The Housing Authority is working on reducing the backlog of substandard housing and also to construct houses for approximately 4% of the families that do not have any housing of their own.

US Census 2000 Housing Units (Years Built)

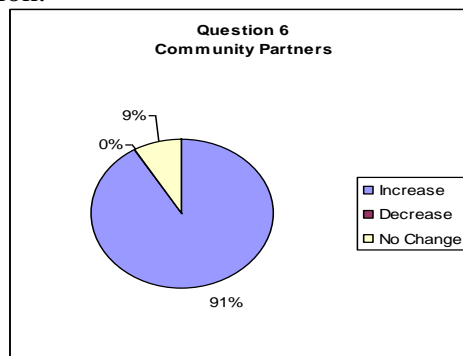
1999-2000	211	1970-1979	1218	
1995-1999	418	1960-1969	646	
1990-1994	301	1940-1959	338	
1980-1989	580	1939 or earlier	207	Total 3504

US Census 2000 Value of Housing Units

\$less than 50k	436	200-299	18	
50-99,999k	123	300-499	0	
100-149k	31	500-999,999	7	
150-199k	8	1 million	8	Median \$ 25,900

Data from the Agencies show the over whelming homelessness that the families have here on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

Homelessness



Child Care

The OST Child Care program currently operates six licensed Learning Centers on the reservation. The OST Child Care and Development Program is a subsistence program to assist parents that are low income working, in an education program, or in a work experience program to access high quality child care for their children. The Tribe believes that the children are a vital link to the survival of our culture and language. The OST Child Care Program strives to meet

and improve affordability and quality of child care services. OST centers are located in the villages Pine Ridge, Kyle, Wanblee, Allen, Manderson, and Porcupine South Dakota.

The OST Child Care and Development Program offer extensive training to all in home Child Care Providers and Learning Center Staff. All providers must pass an annual physical exam, be CPR/First Aid certified, attend Food Service training and childhood illness training. Providers may also receive small business training, business budgeting training, Literacy training, childhood fitness training and safety training. Child Care on the reservation is also provided by in home care providers, such as family.

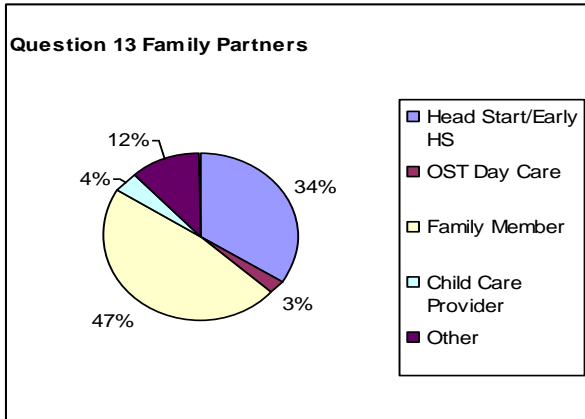
Other Child Development Programs serving Head Start Eligible Children on the Reservation include:

Program	# of children	Age	Area	Type
Badlands Head Start	75	3-5	Shannon Bennett	Home-based
Oglala Sioux Tribe Child Care	460	0-12	Pine Ridge Kyle Porcupine Wounded Knee Oglala	Center/Home 30 / 100 25 / 80 15 / 60 15 / 60 15 / 60
FACE/BIA	20	3-5	Kyle	Center-based

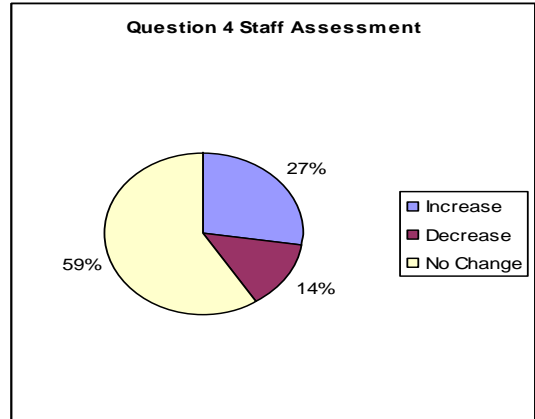
There is also the Red Cloud Montessori program at Red Cloud Indian School outside Pine Ridge and the Batesland School Pre-School Program in Batesland, SD. There is also a program under Bureau of Indian Affairs Social Services called Bright Start.

The following information shows the different entities that families utilize for the needs of their children and the percentages show that Head Start is the second highest, with the first being a family member. Staff have shown according to the data that there is no change in child care providers.

Who cares for your child (ren) when you are at work or school?

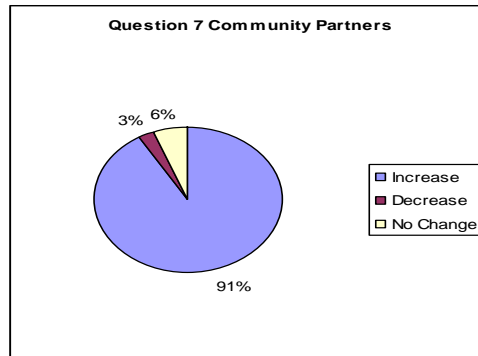


Number of licensed child care providers in the community?



Distance, weather conditions, and the lack of automobiles are the major deterrents to access at Pine Ridge. There is no public transportation on the reservation. Almost all travel is by private car. However, not all residents have access to a car and must depend upon friends or relatives for rides. Many people walk to reach their destination, but the distance between communities and weather conditions limits this activity. Consequently, a combination of hitchhiking and walking has become common. Data retrieved from the agency surveys show that transportation issues are highly significant in Indian Territory.

Transportation needs/issues



Highway 18 travels across the reservation from east to northwest and is the major artery. Other paved major all-weather roads include S.D. 87, 29, and 75, and BIA 2, 27, 28, 40, and 41. Isolated homes and communities are serviced by gravel roads. Most homes on the reservation are inaccessible during periods of blizzards or heavy rain. There is an approved paved landing strip near the Pine Ridge community.

Pine Ridge community, in the southwestern corner of the reservation, is the administrative headquarters for the Service Unit, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Tribal Government, and state agencies. Kyle, the approximate geographic center of the reservation, is the second largest community and the headquarters for the Community College system. The third

major community is Wanblee in the extreme northeast corner of the reservation. Numerous small villages and settlements are scattered throughout the reservation.

The only major city within a couple hours driving distance from Pine Ridge is Rapid City, population 57,700. Chadron, Gordon and Rushville, NE are all within driving distance, but none have a population over 5,000.

The time it takes to travel from one site to another is based upon where an individual is at to where their destination is. It takes approximately one to two hours of travel from one side of the reservation to another, and this is only one way. Other variances also take part in the time allotted due to road conditions.

Communication

KILI Radio (pronounced "KEE-lee") is the largest Indian-owned and operated public radio station in America. They broadcast in English and Lakota 22 hours each day to homes on three reservations in the Black Hills. The listeners are spread out over 10,000 square miles, an area larger than the state of Connecticut. Since 1983, KILI has been a life-line of information for the Lakota people. They have covered every tribal, state and federal election with live debates and in-depth reviews. Now, KILI broadcasts live public hearings on important issues *with Lakota interpreters* so that everyone can understand the impact of these issues on their lives. Amidst all the poverty and despair here on the Pine Ridge Reservation, KILI is a ray of hope and a tool of change for our people who are struggling to build new, healthy and productive futures. KILI Radio is a means of communication since 20% of the homes on the reservation lack phone service.

There is a local paper *The Lakota Country Times* that covers happenings on the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservation. Many people get the *Rapid City Journal* in the mail or at the local stores. Cell phones have increased the number of people on the reservation with access to phones but there are still many areas of the reservation with no or poor cell phone reception.

On most areas of the reservation broadcast TV is limited to 2 or 3 channels. Most of the towns have cable TV. The other people have satellite dishes if they can afford it. OLC has begun broadcasting an education channel over some of the cable providers. KOLC-TV is a locally run cable TV station of Oglala Lakota College on the Golden West Cable Network. KOLC-TV reaches the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and is capable of reaching other reservations throughout South Dakota.

Locations of Centers

	Square Feet Open Space	Maximum Enrollment (class)	
Head Start -- 35 square feet required per child			
1.	Allen	701	20
2.	Calico	800	Closed
3.	Kyle I	780	20
4.	Kyle II	680	19
5.	Manderson I	600	17
6.	Manderson II	600	17
7.	Martin I	498	14
8.	Martin II	817	20
9.	Oglala I	800	20
10.	Oglala II	800	20
11.	Pine Ridge I	750	20
12.	Pine Ridge II	750	20
13.	Pine Ridge III	750	20
14.	Pine Ridge IV	1600	20
15.	Pine Ridge V	750	20
16.	Pine Ridge VI	1350	20
17.	Pine Ridge VII	750	20
18.	Pine Ridge VIII	700	20
19.	Pine Ridge IX	750	20
20.	Porcupine I	1054	20
21.	Porcupine II	1054	20
22.	Red Shirt	800	20
23.	Wakpamni	600	17
24.	Wanblee I	957	20
25.	Wanblee II	890	20
26.	Wounded Knee I	790	16
27.	Wounded Knee II	790	16

Early Head Start 75 square feet required

1.	Kyle	644	13
2.	Manderson	1042	20
3.	Oglala	500	10
4.	Pine Ridge	1271	16
5.	Porcupine	1063	17

Part 4: Racial and Ethnic Composition, Culture and Language(s) Data

The racial, ethnic, cultural and linguistic composition the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is 96% Native American according to the US Census 2000. In the major areas of the Reservation the population is 99% Native American and the children are 100% Native American as the enrollment data from the schools show. The people are predominantly English speakers but are influenced by many Lakota speakers who are mostly over the age of 50. The vast majority of these are Oglala Lakota. Oglala denotes a band of the Teton Lakota. Lakota is a designation of language. There are three designations: Lakota, Dakota and Nakota.

The local schools do have some sort of cultural academia within their curriculum. The emphasis is determined within each administration of the school. The Lakota language is a language that all the reservation schools are doing their best in revitalizing to save our language and preserve it through the children, as so is the Head Start Program. Oglala Lakota College Lakota Studies Department is of the highest regard within the communities of the reservation. The experience and knowledge that the instructional staff of the department provides to the students, staff and families across the reservation is one of perseverance and acknowledgement. The department is an asset for the Head Start Program and is available for a resource of expertise.

Part 5: Children with Disabilities Data

The Oglala Lakota College Head Start (OLCHS) Program in partnership with Oglala Sioux Tribe Early Intervention Program (OSTEI) and Shannon County Early Intervention coordinate efforts to service children in the area.

Children with disabilities from the different centers are screened and documented through Early Intervention and OLCHS. Data shown gives the district centers and the totals of the children whom are identified with a disability, there was 32 children identified.

Centers	Speech/Lang	Sp/lang/LD	Multi Disabilitiy
Wanblee	4		
Manderson	1		
Oglala	4	1	
Red Shirt			1
Pine Ridge	7		
Wakpamni	4		
Kyle	2		1
Porcupine	1		
Martin	6		
Total	29	1	2

The OSTEI program contracts Children’s Care Rehab & Development Center from Rapid City to refer and evaluate children ages 3-5 in the Head Start program. Shannon County Early Intervention has evaluators at their school. Other local agencies that provide services to children with disabilities are the Indian Health Services (IHS) which provides developmental screenings for hearing, vision, dental and physicals. Also, Wakanyeja Pawicayapi (Children First), a tribally

chartered American Indian non-profit corporation. Wakanyeja Pawicayapi has created a mental health model based on traditional Oglala Lakota belief systems and values.

Furthermore, Children’s Care has a lending library program for children on an IEP. These include educational toys and books. Other services available are the Public Health Nurses who go out to the Centers to give training to staff and families that need to care for children with multiple needs.

The OLCHS children receive their developmental assessment from the Family Helpers and teachers using the DIAL 3 for the 3-5 year olds and OSTEI uses the Denver II screening for the birth-3 year olds. A speech delay can be identified through the DIAL 3 screening or at the time of the physical. The DIAL 3 screening is completed by the Head Start staff and the physical is completed by a pediatrician. The hearing and vision screening are completed by IHS and if a problem is noted the child receives a comprehensive hearing and vision assessment at the same facility.

The Oglala Lakota College Head Start (OLCHS) Program located on the Pine Ridge Reservation provides all appropriate services to children with disabilities. According to the Oglala Sioux Tribe Early (OSTEI) Intervention Program there are 48 children on Individual Family Service Plans and 32 on Individual Education Plan (IEP) during 2005-2006. This year concentrated tracking will be followed to identify children who are need of services.

The OSTEI program partners with OLCHS and Children’s Care Rehab & Development Center to refer and identify children that are in need of an evaluation. Other local agencies that provide services to children with disabilities are the Local Area Agencies, Indian Health Services (IHS) and Wakanyeja Pawicayapi a tribally chartered American Indian non-profit corporation.

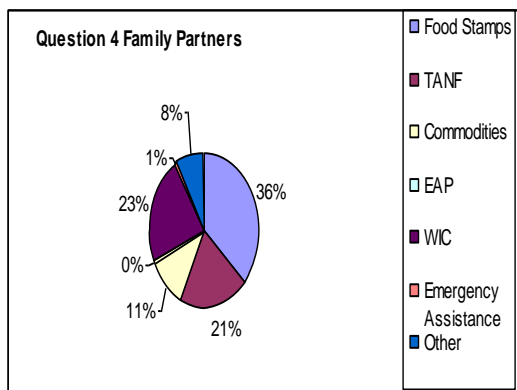
Children’s Care has a lending equipment program for children on an IEP. Other services available are Public Health Nurses that go out to the Centers to give training to staff and families that need to care for children with multiple needs.

The OLC Department of Nursing will be trained to do the vision assessment this school year, because the optometrists have been reassigned to a different state.

Part 6: Community Resources to meet the Needs of American Indian/Alaskan Native HS/EHS Eligible Children and Families Data

The resources in which parents documented by data given in the surveys show that Food Stamps, TANF, and WIC are highly utilized by families.

What services does your family currently receive?



Part 7: Strengths and Needs of AIAN Head Start/Early Head Start Eligible Children and their Families Data

The Oglala Lakota College Head Start/Early Head Start Program Children and Families have the following Strengths:

Strengths

1. There is a strong cultural heritage based on Oglala Lakota traditions.
2. There is a Lakota language base. Although it was in danger of fading away there is a movement to reassert the language and there are still a great number of speakers. The K-12 schools and Oglala Lakota College have set language preservation as a priority.
3. The Oglala Lakota have a land base on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation which will help to insure their survival as a group.

Needs

1. More jobs

The unemployment rate is estimated from 60% to 80% depending on the source. We know the poverty statistics are high. Pine Ridge is the third poorest area in America according to the 2000 Census with about 52% of the people living in poverty.

2. Upgraded transportation systems (70% have lack of transportation)

The children and families are spread over 7,000 square miles which is an area larger than the state of Connecticut. There is no public transportation system and summers and winters have extremes of temperature and weather including thunder, hail storms, blizzards and black ice. Most families do not have a dependable car and there are no car repair facilities in most of the reservation communities.

3. Collaboration of education systems from pre-school through college to prepare people for the next level of education

Research shows that socio-economic status is the greatest predictor of educational achievement. Since the Pine Ridge Reservation is the 3rd poorest area in American according to the 2000 US Census we know that education is a challenge. Every child needs to have access to pre-school. Achievement rates at each school level need to be improved for math and reading so that the students are ready for the next level. Over 90% of reservation high school graduates have to take remedial math or reading when they start postsecondary education.

4. Better preventive wellness and health care programs

The population has over 50% in poverty, and over 67% use tobacco, and over 67% use alcohol. The Harvard study 2004 shows the people of Pine Ridge have the lowest life expectancy in the Western hemisphere except for Haiti.

5. Emphasis on healthy male/female relationships and family

Statistics show early onset of sexual activity (55%), domestic violence (30%), sexual molestation (18%) and the lack of nuclear families show the dysfunctional relationships between males and females on the reservation. The stresses of poverty and the lack of role models have contributed to the breakdown of the family. There is a need for family and parenting education at every level from preschool through adulthood. Some blame the boarding schools but whatever the root cause we need to rebuild the family based on health male/female relationships and responsible child bearing and rearing.

6. Need for housing.

Housing statistics show poor and overcrowded housing with many units being inhabited by two or three families and 10 to 15 people.

7. Better facilities to serve the Head Start and Early Head Start children and staff

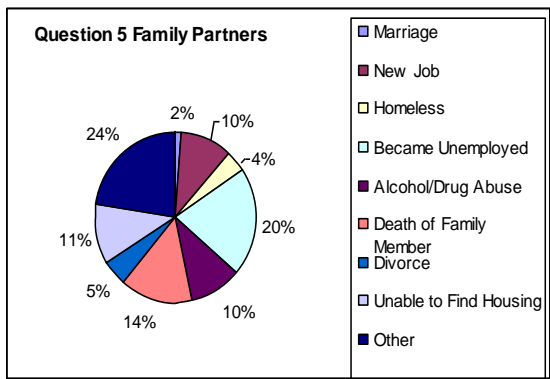
A total of 492 non-critical and critical deficiencies were documented by the Office of Environmental Health through the Indian Health Service in 2005. These deficiencies noted for the safety and health of the staff and children. We need to rebuild the entire infrastructure of facilities for the Head Start/Early Head Start program. There are 5 HS/EHS centers that are moderately new and 2 combined centers in Porcupine, SD that is brand new. The other 11 facilities are in need of renovations.

8. Language

The preservation of the Lakota language is something that is and will be emphasized within the centers.

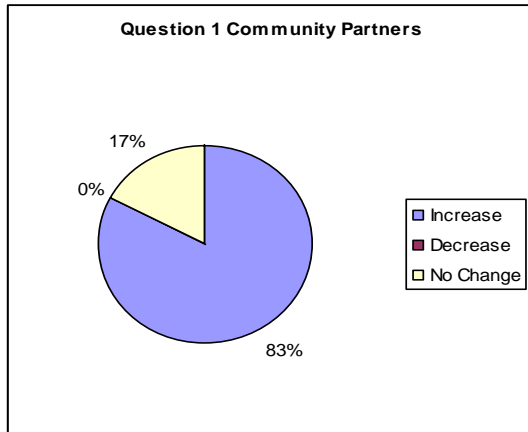
The problems parents have shown in the data that have affected any resources or availability for their families is showing unemployment and housing as highly rated.

What events have affected your family in the last year?

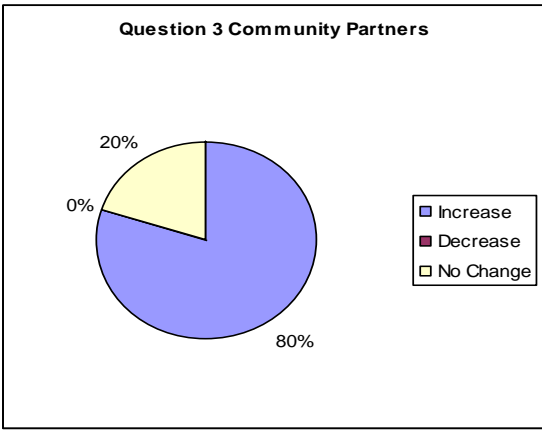


Agencies on the reservation have provided resources and services to families on the reservation and with the data showing the percentage of low income families contacting agencies there is positive strengths within the resources available.

Number of low income families contacting your agency.



Number of multi-generational families you serve



High School students at a percentage of 52.6% achieve 2.6 grades which are below the national average. Statistics from OST Healthy Start

Part 8: Data Analysis of AIAN Specific Information

At the end of the school year 2005-2006 the enrollment according to the PIR was 422.

	Head Start	337	Early Head Start Classrooms	65	Prenatal	20				
			Eligible	HS	EHS	Other	Need			
1. Allen			49	18			31			
2. Kyle			200	30	17	110	43			
3. Martin			40	27			13			
4. Pine Ridge/Wakpamni			439	127	16	170	131			
5. Manderson/Wounded Knee			126	44	13	60	11			
6. Porcupine			116	34	11	60	11			
7. Oglala/Red Shirt			209	53	8	70	90			
8. Wanblee			182	28			154			
Prenatal					20					
			1361	361	85	470	525			

Eligible are children 0-5 who meet the HS/EHS guidelines. We have shown the children currently being served by the OLC under Head Start or Early Head Start. Other includes Oglala Sioux Tribe Day Care, school Family and Child Education, etc. Need is the number of children not being served by any preschool program.

The average daily attendance for Head Start for the school year 2005-2006 was 111. The average daily attendance for the school year 2005-2006 for Early Head Start was 99.

Part 9: Recommendations and Decisions

The Community Assessment has revealed a need for other centers in the districts. Wanblee will be getting an Early Head Start Center based on the total of 0-3 year olds from the Wanblee Health center. There are 274 prenatal and children under the age of 3 year old. Pine Ridge is being surveyed to add an additional Early Head Start center to accommodate the need. Allen is showing a need for a larger center to accommodate the need in the district.

School supplies are essential for the kids to develop in the areas of mobility, comprehension, social, and learning abilities. We currently have provided supplies for each of the classrooms that were in need to accomplish the academia in which is being implemented for the children of the Pine Ridge Reservation.

The centers are kept open daily and for a period of up to 6 hours. Closures are only based upon the federally recognized Holidays and weather. We do follow Indian Health Service recommendations when the safety and health is imminent to the children on a center to center basis.

Creative Curriculum has been acquired for each of the 31 classrooms for the Head Start and Early Head Start centers. The curriculum is being implemented now and will continue to be reinforced through out the reservation.

The instability of the Head Start and Early Head Start programs in the years prior to Oglala Lakota College caused many parents to doubt the program and the need for OLC to regain their trust. The lack of good management and supervision of staff caused many of the previous HS/EHS staff to have done things in a certain way and it has taken a year to begin stabilizing staff and procedures. The facilities were in terrible shape with the need for new centers in some areas and the need for fencing, playgrounds and paving in just about all areas. The relations with vendors and collaborating agencies were in a shambles.

Our prioritized recommendations and decisions to improve the OLCCHS Program include:

1. Upgrade the facilities for health, safety and educational environment.

- | | | |
|---|---------------|------|
| Renovate the Pine Ridge Building | \$1.2 million | 8/07 |
| Replace the Wakpamni Lake Center with a Center at Batesland | | 8/07 |
| Replace the Wanblee Centers with 2 new ones. | | 8/07 |
| Upgrade playground equipment at 16 sites. | | |
| Provide adequate fencing at 16 sites. | | |
| Pave and fence parking areas at 16 sites. | | |
| Upgrade educational environment at 16 sites. | | |

2. Increase HS/EHS enrollment and attendance.

Do major recruitment drives to get HS enrollment to 511

EHS enrollment to 100

Upgrade communication with parents to assure they get program info

e.g. KILI, phone trees, internet, collaboration with schools

3. Increase the stability of HS/EHS staff.

Focus EHS/HS training and technical assistance funds on attaining the Associate of Arts in Early Childhood (which includes the Child Development Associate)

Utilize OLC Partnership funds to upgrade 72 staff with 68 credits or more.

ATTACHMENTS

OLC HS/EHS PARTICIPANT STATISTICS 2005-2006

Head Start

General – Family Composition

Total number of Head Start or Early Head Start families served: **339**

Of the total number of families (C38), the number of two-parent families: **187**

Of the total number of families (C38), the number of single-parent families: **152**

WIC Participation:

Total number of families receiving services under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): **299**

Child Care Services for Enrolled Families

The number of Head Start or Early Head Start children for whom full-year and/or full-day child care is needed: **183**

Received care at a child care center or classroom: **15**

Received care at home or at another home with a relative or unrelated adult: **142**

Other (Comments Required): **26**

Comments: **Not specified by parents**

Early Head Start

General – Family Composition

Total number of Head Start or Early Head Start families served: **73**

Of the total number of families (C38), the number of two-parent families: **33**

Of the total number of families (C38), the number of single-parent families: **40**

WIC Participation:

Total number of families receiving services under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): **62**

Child Care Services for Enrolled Families

The number of Head Start or Early Head Start children for whom full-year and/or full-day child care is needed: **43**

Received care at home or at another home with a relative or unrelated adult: **43**

OLC HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START STAFF STATISTICS 05-06

Oglala Lakota College Head Start/Early Head Start Administration staff totaled seven positions. Facility/Maintenance Position was vacant until June 2006; temporary hires were in place until permanent hire was completed.

Information from PIR report

Early Head Start Staff

<i>Teacher Turnover Rate:</i>	66.67%
<i>Full Enrollment:</i>	91.67%
<i>Classroom Teachers With An ECE or Related Degree:</i>	8.33%

Head Start Staff

<i>Teacher Turnover Rate:</i>	86.96%
<i>Full Enrollment:</i>	61.27%
<i>Classroom Teachers With An ECE or Related Degree:</i>	47.83%
<i>Assistant Teachers With An ECE or Related Degree:</i>	0.00%

Total number of teachers who left the program during the year: **20**

Of the teachers who left the program, the number who left for the following reasons:

- a. Higher compensation/benefits package in the same field (left to school system, etc.): **0**
- b. Change in job field: **0**
- c. Other (Comments Required): **20**

Comments:

Due To Drug Testing ; Personal Problems

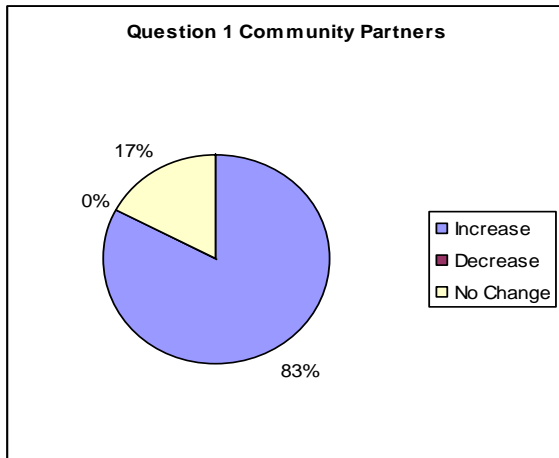
Number of teacher vacancies that remained unfilled for a period of 3 months or longer: **7**

Number of teachers hired during the year due to turnover: **20**

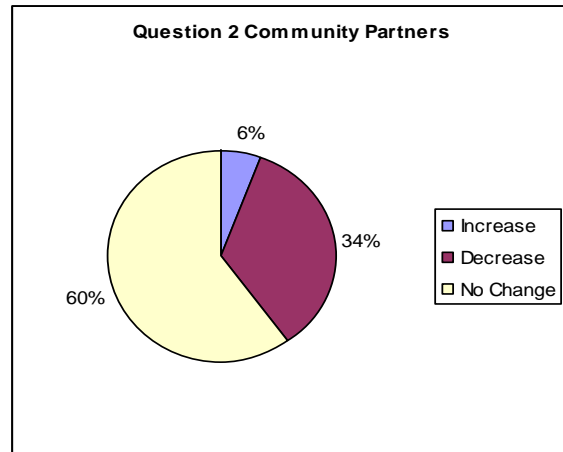
SURVEY RESULTS 2005 - 2006

Community (Agency) Surveys

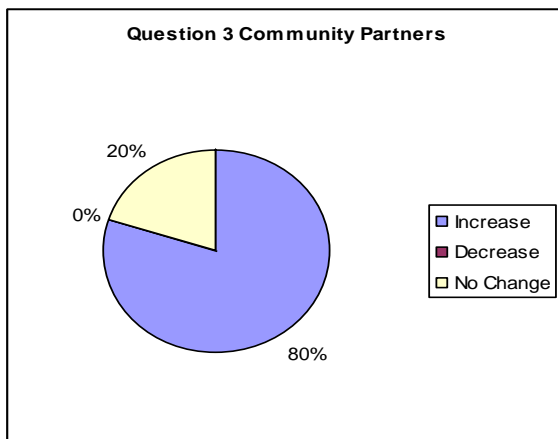
Number of low income families contacting your agency.



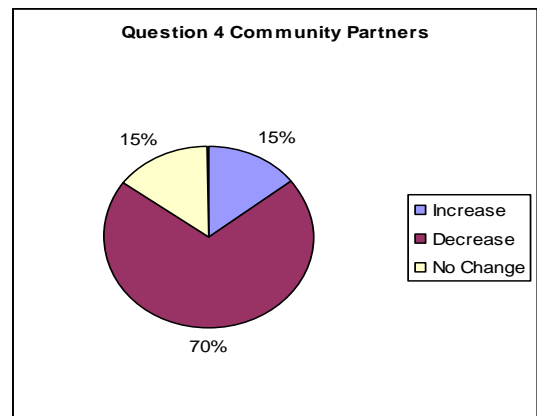
Number of individuals or families slightly over your income guidelines



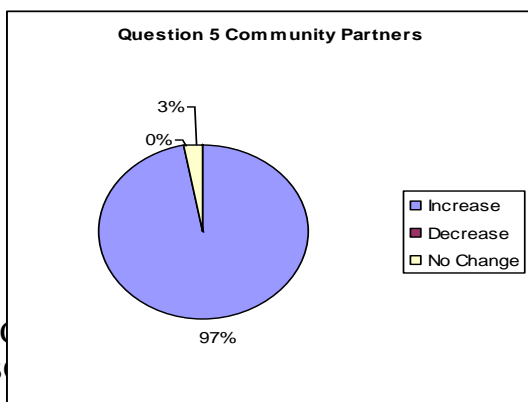
Number of multi-generational families you serve



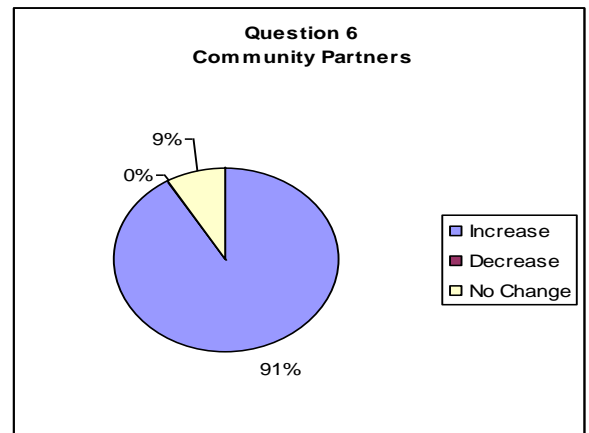
Job availability across the Pine Ridge Indian



Alcohol abuse/drug abuse across the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

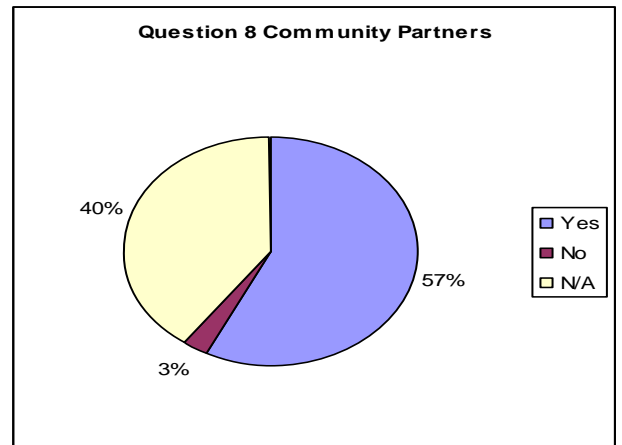
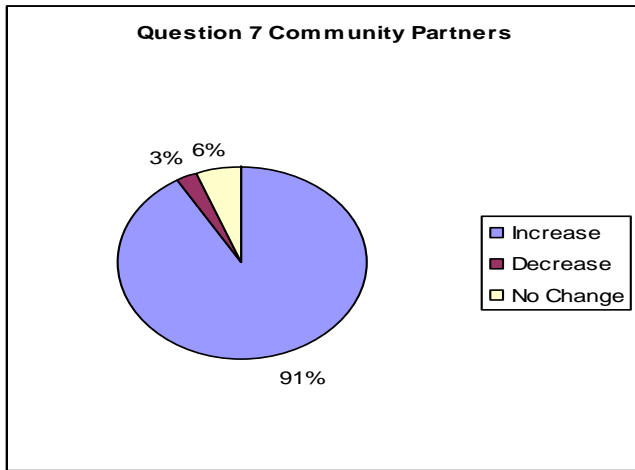


Homelessness



Transportation needs/issues

Are the services offered by your agency free or fees based on income?



The following comments were received from the Child Care, Indian Health Service, Reservation CAP offices, CHR Program, Department of SS, OST Public Safety, Badlands Head Start, ONTRAC and Commodity Program

9. What are your agencies strengths when working with families across the Reservation?

Helpful Staff that work in the office, provide nutritious foods for families with no income, work with the elderly, keep families together, being able to know the district geographic, a strong EAP office, our program has guidelines and regulations that are followed, a need for more child care, our program provides resources, we provide education awareness and our office is open every day. A single comment is that the program has no strengths.

10. What are your agencies obstacles when working with families across the Reservation?

Transportation, drugs, alcohol, politics, employment, co Tribal court hearings, gang violence, to much administration change, dishonesty, budget cuts, nepotism, gossip, suspicion, qualified nurses, not enough information given, and the attendance in school.

11. What do you feel are the main issues affecting families across the Reservation?

No Transportation, drugs, alcohol, no jobs, no Tribal court hearings, no place for the youth to go in the districts, gang violence, politics, teen pregnancy, housing, Law Enforcement, and nepotism.

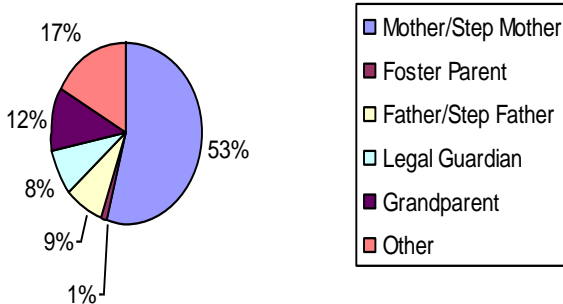
12. Additional comments: Please add any additional comments you wish to make.

Glad that Head Start is open, educate HS about drugs and alcohol, jobs for the youth, nothing for the youth/kids, teen alcohol and drug abuse, educate people on everything going on, and glad that Head Start teachers came to the school to understand what child is expected to know when reaching kindergarten.

Family Partnership Surveys

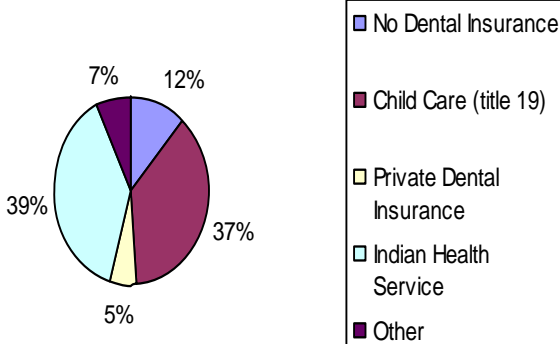
As the parent/guardian completing this questionnaire, what is your relationship to the child (ren) enrolled with OLC Head Start/ Early Head Start?

Question 1 Family Partners



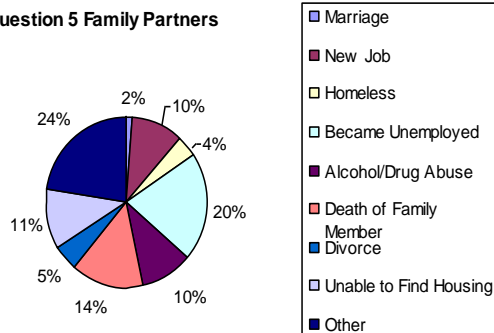
What type of dental insurance does your enrolled child (ren) have?

Question 3 Family Partners



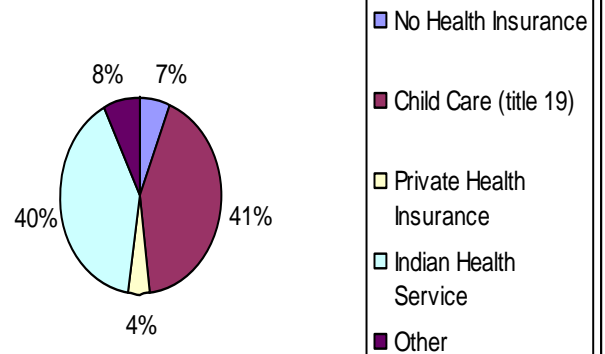
What events have affected your family in the last year?

Question 5 Family Partners



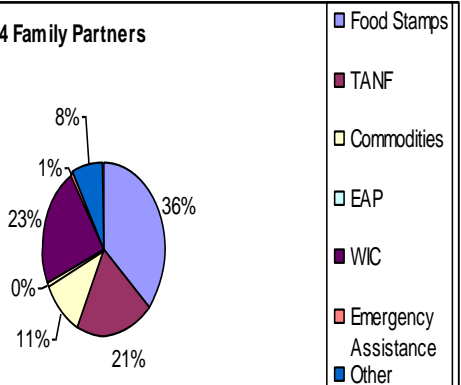
What type of health insurance does your enrolled child (ren) have?

Question 2 Family Partners



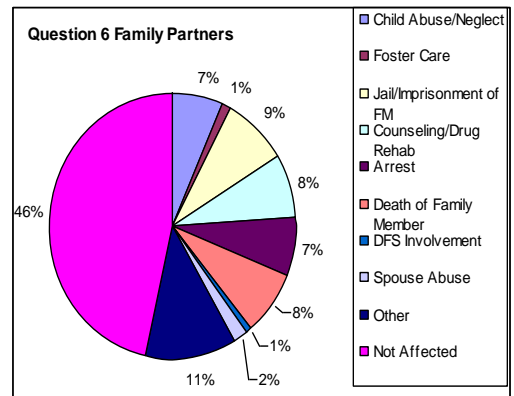
What services does your family currently receive?

Question 4 Family Partners

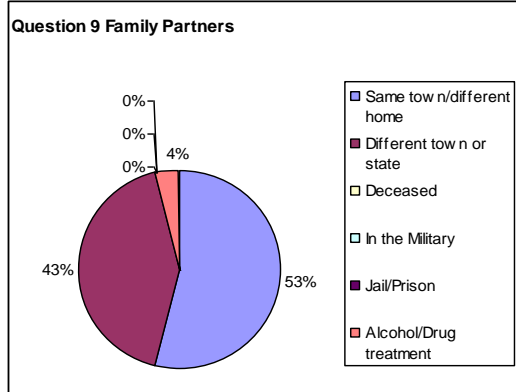


What has affected your family due to alcohol or drug abuse?

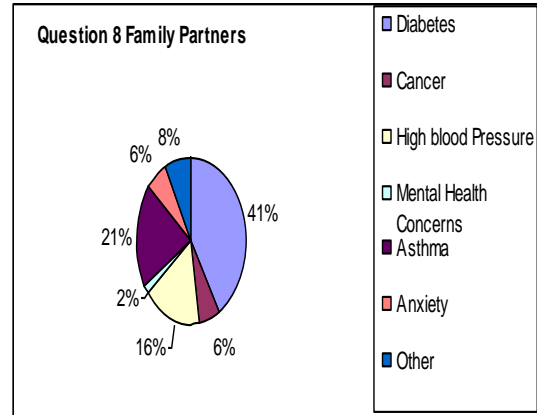
Question 6 Family Partners



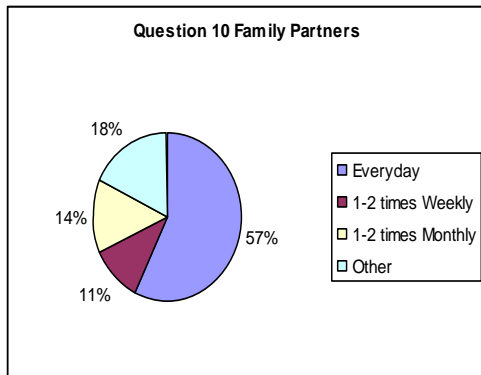
If the child (ren) do not live with the parent(s) where does the father live?



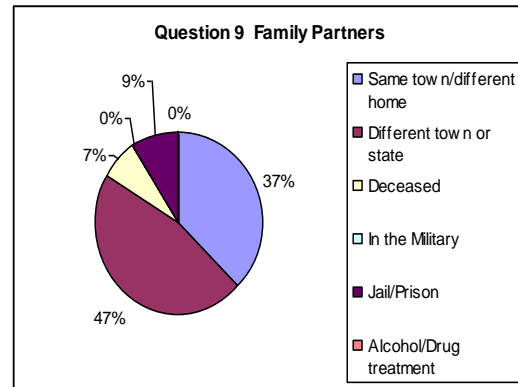
Has your family experienced any of the following health issues?



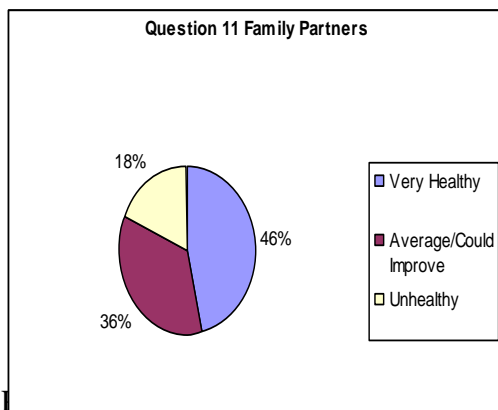
How often does the mother visit the child (ren)?



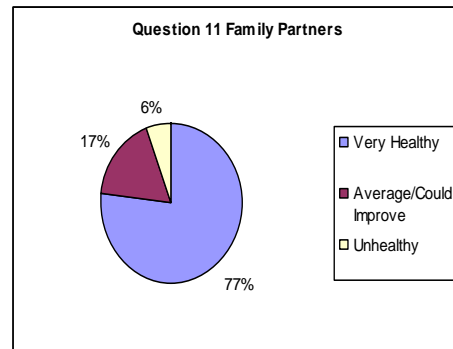
If the child (ren) do not live with the parent(s) where does the father live?



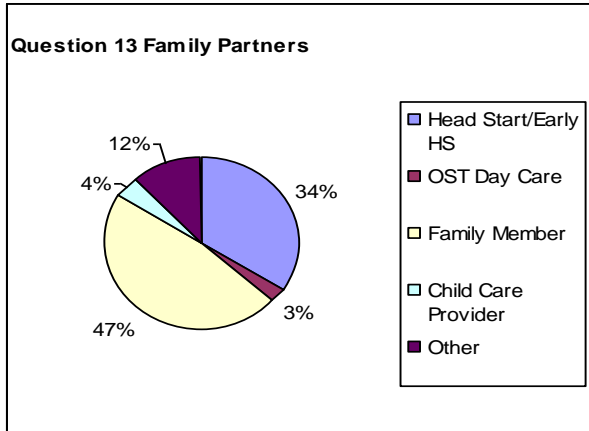
In your opinion how healthy is the child's relationship with the father?



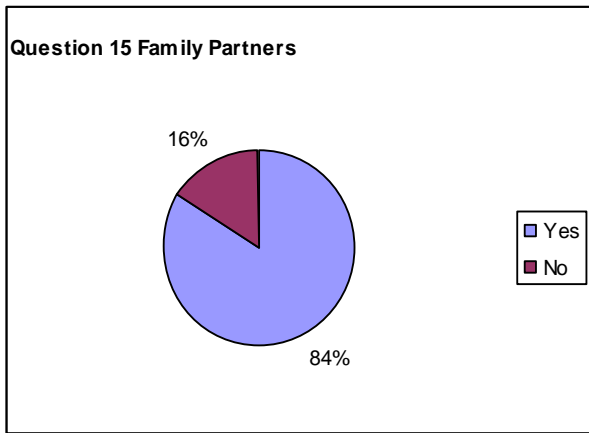
In your opinion how healthy is the child's relationship with the mother?



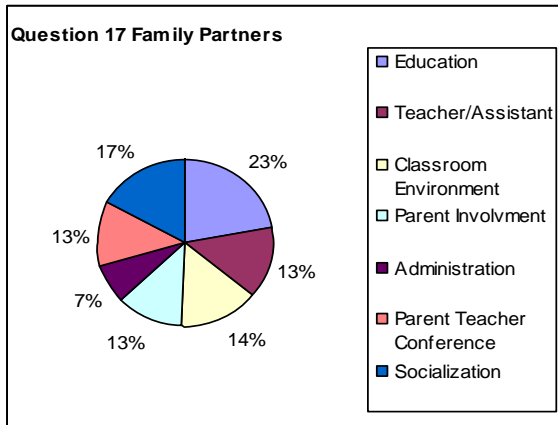
Who cares for your child (ren) when you are at work or school?



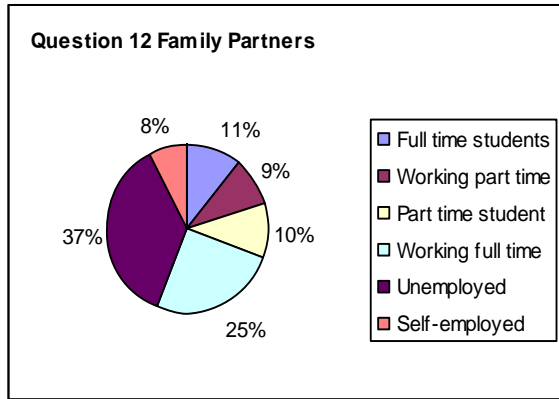
Do you believe that the specific services received were appropriate?



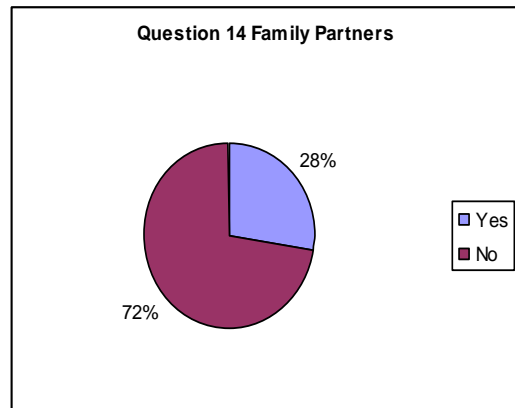
What aspects of OLC Head Start/Early Head Start program are important?



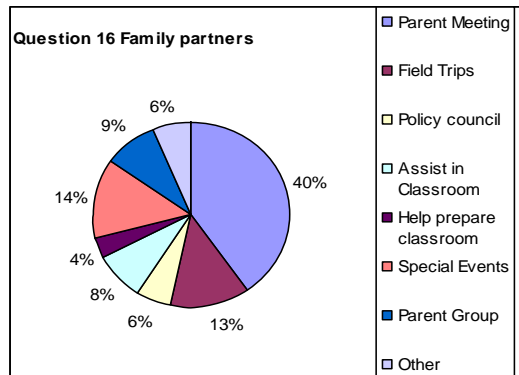
Are you a student or employed? If so part time or full time?



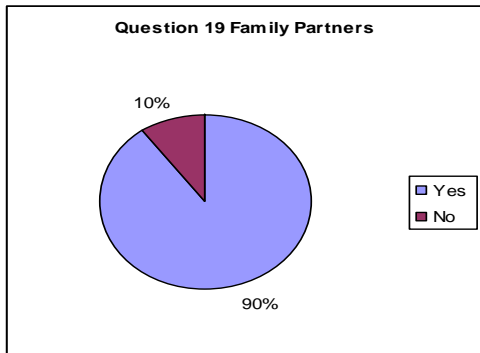
Has your child received specific services from OLC Head Start/Early Head Start such as Nutrition, occupational/physical therapy, special education, mental health, etc...?



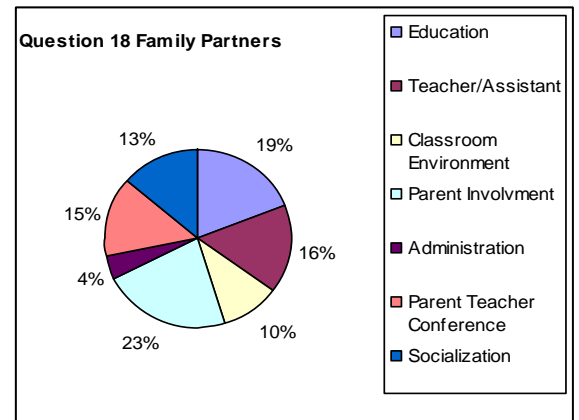
How have you volunteered in your enrolled child's OLC Head Start/early Head Start program?



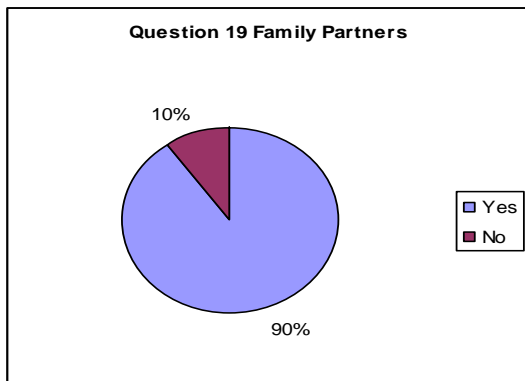
Overall satisfaction with the services provided by OLC Head Start/Early Head Start.



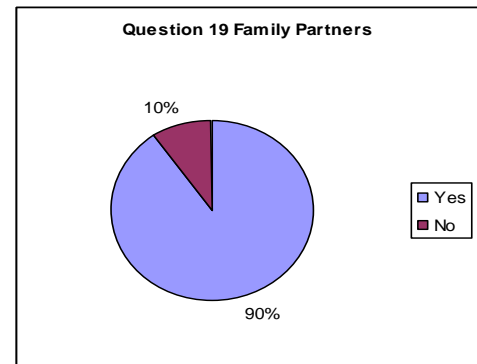
What aspects could be improved?



Overall satisfaction with the education that your child



Overall satisfaction with the number of days per week.



Family Partnership Surveys Narrative:

19. What suggestions do you have that would help improve the program?

The bus runs are to long, fundraising for graduation and field trips, parent volunteers and involvement, follow procedures and don't bend the rules, keep kids in school, out with old staff and in with new staff, communicate with parents on kids learning abilities, educate kids, parent visits, teach Lakota language, staff need to get along, hire teachers and aides from community, need busses, need bus drivers, friendlier greetings from staff, staff need to Head start Bureau policies and procedures, more district and Administration qualified in education, offer the parents college courses, hire non drug users, school supplies, and Head Start is doing great as it is.

21. What additional services do you believe that OLC Head Start/Early Head Start could offer in your community to better meet the needs of families living on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation?

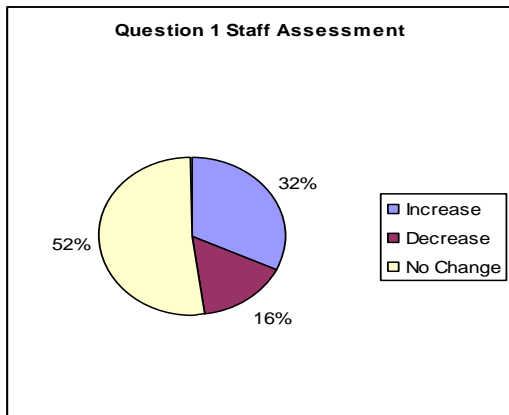
Fatherhood education, better living on the reservation, hospitals to do physicals at the centers, like the schools on the reservation, need parent trainings, keep Head Start open, keep kids in school, send information on how the kids are doing in school, parent visits in the homes, children to speak Lakota, more supervision in the districts, reliable/regular staff, regular school days, need playgrounds, different school hours (earlier or later), Field trips, dance club, drum group, EAP for staff, more parent activities, Administration, staff and parent communication, nutrition/not enough food, and Head Start is doing a great job.

22. Additional comments: Please add any additional comments you wish to make.

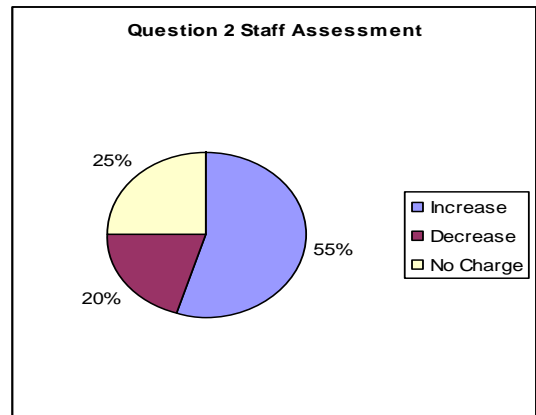
More school supplies, more jobs, more supervision in districts, educate personnel, staff need to work together.

Staff Surveys

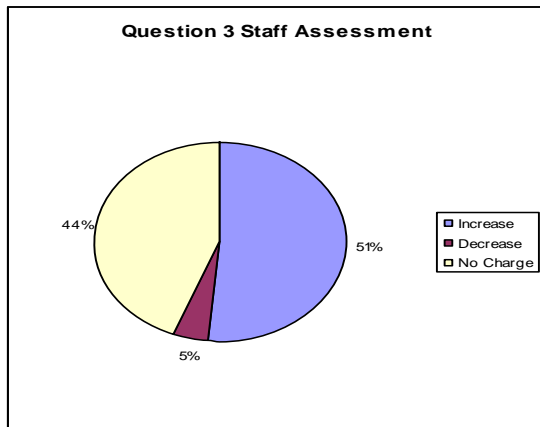
Number of low income families contacting OLC Head Start/ Early Head Start?



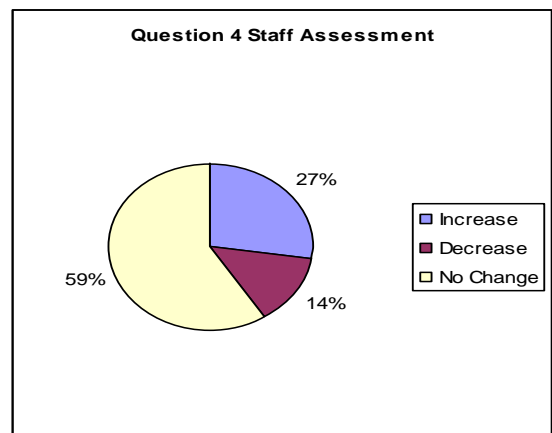
Number of multi-generational families involved?



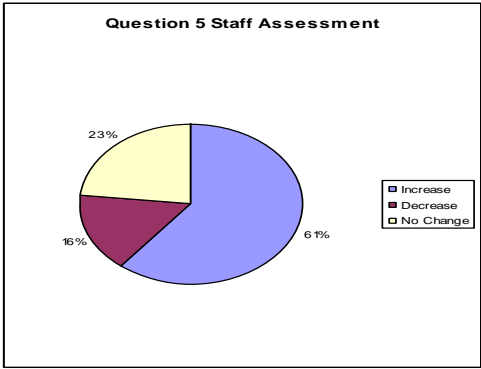
Number of teen pregnancies?



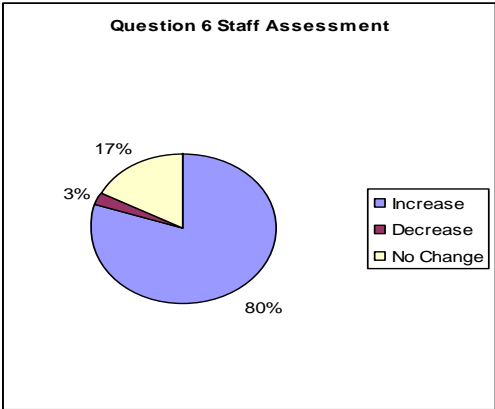
Number of licensed child care providers in the community?



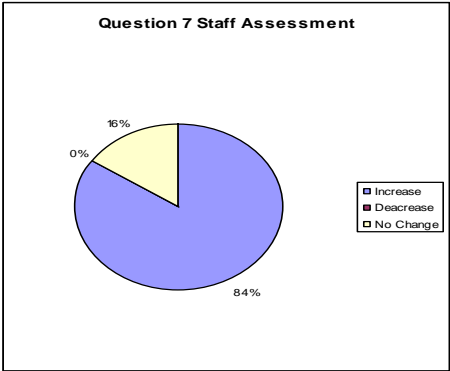
Unemployment?



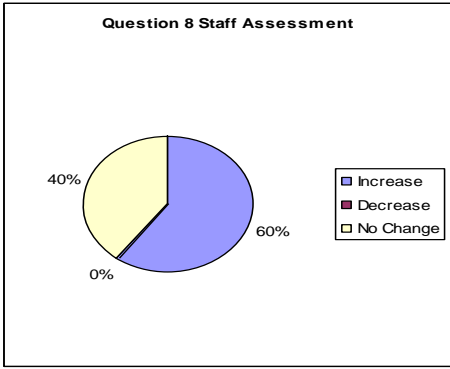
Drug Abuse in the community?



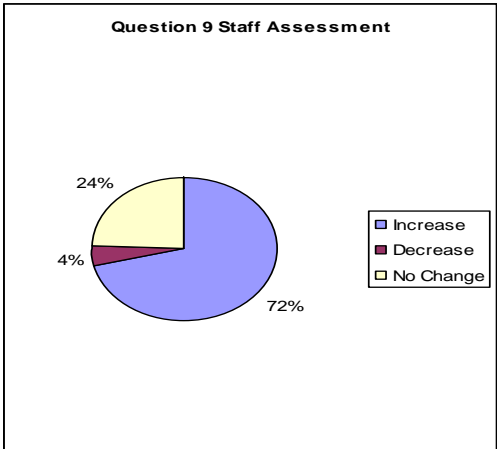
Alcohol Abuse in the community?



Homelessness?



Transportation needs/ issues?



Staff Surveys Narrative:

1. Number of low income families contacting OLC Head Start/Early Head Start?

We have to make contact, younger parents, and parents unsure about program, competition and I don't know.

2. Number of multi-generational families involved?

Never have that issue, have a couple of them, more younger parents, and Parent involvement is always low.

3. Number of teen pregnancies?

It is about the same every year, have no teen pregnancies in center, more and younger girls, more awareness about Birth control for young age groups, and I don't know.

4. Number of licensed child care providers in the community?

Would like to see more on the reservation, can't find any teachers, OST child care is providing funds so there is a lot out there, and I don't know.

5. Unemployment?

No jobs for families or young people, no employment, and nepotism.

6. Drug Abuse in the community?

We still have pushers and users, younger adults and adults, and there is more meth and labs on the reservation.

7. Alcohol Abuse in the community?

More alcohol it's never going to change because no one cares and younger kids are starting to use alcohol.

8. Homelessness?

There are 2 or 3 families living in 1 house, a family lives in a tent in the housing, and there is no housing.

9. Transportation needs/issues?

10. When working with children & families, what do you believe are OLC Head Start/Early Head Start strengths?

Work/talk with families about their kids, educating the kids, providing education to Prenatal, strengthening family awareness, keeping kids in school, good communication, more involvement between EHS/HS, not working together, being there for the kids instead of a paycheck, committed staff, somewhere for the kids to go, and district staff need to be involved in decision making.

11. What do you believe are OLC Head Start/Early Head Start biggest obstacles when Working with families?

Parent and family involvement, following up with parents, communication between staff, OST mentality, competition, dates/times changing constantly, bus drivers, cell phone #'s change all the time, how to work with upset parents, school supplies, and there are no obstacles.

12. What other programs/services do you believe that this program could offer to better serve enrolled families?

We are doing fine, there is none, fatherhood training and classes, more parent activities (picnics) and involvement with the kids, a lot more family participation, transportation, daycare, provide 1 big end of the year picnic (parents, staff, kids), bring in the B.E.A.R., EAP counseling, special education, increase home visits, parents to attend Child Care, Oral Health, Baby Face, Early Intervention, staff training with other programs.

13. Additional comments: Please add any additional comments you wish to make.

More classroom supplies, pot luck and door prizes for parents, playground equipment, end of the year gathering, BEAR – kids curriculum to keeps kids in school, parenting/communication skills at centers, educate staff in Early Child Hood, more tracking/transition documentation, bus drivers more pay 0 bigger role is safety to and from home, procedures to deal with upset parents, parents to know this is OLC and not OST, go to school year around, OLC to donate something toward graduation (money, material), and thanks OLC for taking Head Start need to get the trust back from the community.