# 2021 Community Assessment Update



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## 2021 Community Assessment Update Summary

Kids Are First Inc. is dedicated to quality services to low-income families and children. The program provides high-quality education, disability, dental, health, safety, mental health, and nutrition family services to all eligible children. In addition, the program continues to offer family support services, including parent engagement activities and leadership, promotion of cultural diversity, self-sufficiency, and opportunities to assess community resources. Head Start grantees are required to conduct community assessments every five years and community assessment updates annually, to better serve and meet local needs for Early Head Start and Head Start services.

#### Purpose

The updated Community Assessment provides the most recent information relevant and Helpful in planning for the program that will be responsive to the needs of the children and families in the services area. The updated information will assist the program in determining the availability and accessibility of community resources and analyze the needs for additional or advocacy issues, including the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Collaboration with input from community partners, parents, and staff, including surveys and website/links, was used to obtain pertinent information to complete the community assessment update.

## Changes within the Demographics

The table below reflects a slight decrease in population according to the US Census Bureau data in the counties of Dimmit and La Salle. The low reduction of -0.4 for Dimmit County and -0.5 for La Salle County were recorded in 2018, and the trend continues for both counties as of 2020. Maverick County had an increase of 0.4, and Frio County had an increase of 1.3 since 2018.4

Changes in Population and Children under the Age of 5

County	Dimmit	Frio	La Salle	Maverick
Population				
2018	10,308	18,816	7531	58,485
2019	10,176	20,199	7546	58,357
2020	9,925	20,379	7,500	58,378
Children < age of 5				
2018	975	1,486	596	6,385
2019	896	1,487	546	6,069
2020	Not available			

(Kids Count Data Center, US Census Bureau, Texas Population)

The projected influx of undocumented immigrants from other countries seeking asylum entering through the border of Texas continues at alarming rates along the 1,954-mile border. Federal officials are warning communities of an increase in the release of migrants in their communities. According to media reports, undocumented immigrants continue to cross in alarming numbers into our communities. Eagle Pass, which borders Mexico, is seeing as many as 100 migrants arriving daily. The US Department of Health and Human Services has opened the temporary Influx Care Facility (ICF) in Carrizo Springs, Texas, to place and care for undocumented children as necessary and required by law. On February 22, 2021, the first undocumented children arrived safely at the facility. The Carrizo Springs ICF capacity is available for children (age 2-17).<sub>25</sub> KAF's four-county service area continues to be affected by the crisis of the undocumented immigrants, and our neighboring communities of Uvalde, Crystal City, Del Rio, Laredo, and San Antonio as the migrants are traveling through to their next destinations. Many businesses, as well as residents, worry about the safety of their businesses and their family's well-being (New York Times, 2021).5

#### **Social Economic Factors**

The Coronavirus Pandemic has taken a significant toll on the US labor market. Since the Pandemic, more than 86 million claims of unemployment insurance have been filed nationally (Poverty Measure Dashboard US Census Bureau). In the chart below, the annual unemployment rate for the State of Texas in 2020 is at 7.6 percent. Maverick county continues to have unemployment rates higher than the state at 15 percent, nearly double compared to the 7.6 percent for the State of Texas.

In 2019, the Texas state poverty rate was at 13.9 %. Reflective in the table below, the poverty rate for all four counties continues to be higher than the State of Texas poverty rate. Nationally 9% of young children live in deep poverty (National Head Start Association, 2021).8 In the State of Texas, 19.9% of children under the age of 18 live in poverty, and 30 percent of children under the age of five live in hard-to-count communities at high risk of being missed during the counts of the 2020 Census. Poverty rates for families with children headed by single mothers (38 percent) are twice as high as they are for families with children headed by single fathers (19 percent) (Center for Public Policy Priorities, 2018).10

#### **Poverty Rates of Four County Area**

County	State of Texas	Dimmit	Frio	La Salle	Maverick
<b>Percent in Poverty</b>					
2018		35.8	33.9	35.5	35.0
2019	13.9	25.3	27.7	26.6	26.9

COVID-19 Pandemic has continued to affect communities and the world, with devastating impacts on children and families across the globe and in our communities. Families lost jobs due to the many challenges during COVID-19. Social distancing, supply shortages, schools, and

daycares closing to reduce the risks of transmission were difficult decisions to make in deciding to return or not to work for the safety of the families and children. As parents balancing working from home and ensuring children were participating in the education, parents worry about the children's emotional and mental health well-being.

#### **Births**

The chart below illustrates the number of babies born in the four-county area between the years 2018 through 2020. Maverick County continues to have the highest number of births, historically because it borders Mexico, a significant number of children born are from non-US citizens who have traditionally crossed the border in the early stages of labor to have the children born as US citizens. A decrease in the Maverick County total births could reflect the effects of COVID-19 and non-US mothers unable to cross the US border for the delivery of the child due to closures of the international port of entry.

The chart below depicts the number of childbirths provided by the hospitals in the four-county service area. 27

Baby Births 2018 through 2020

County	Total Births 2018	Total Births 2019	Total Births 2020
Dimmit	155	145	146
Frio	242	97	102
La Salle	104	Not Available	Not Available
Maverick	1,150	1,069	969

The children born with low birth weight have remained consistent as per the data from 2016-2017 for the served counties. La Salle County has the highest percentage rate of the four counties. The graph below represents the number and percent of infants born weighing under 5.5 pounds (2,500 grams).

Low Birth Weight 2016 through 2017

Location	Data Type	2016	2017
Dimmit	Number	LNE	13
	Percent	LNE	10.8%
Frio	Number	25	26
	Percent	10%	10.9%
La Salle	Number	LNE	15
	Percent	LNE	16.5%
Maverick	Number	80	89
	Percent	7.4%	8.3%

**Footnotes:** "LNE" (Low Number Event) indicates between 1 and 9 low-birthweight births in a county. Percentages are not available (NA) for counties with between 1 and 9 low-birthweight births.

 $\frac{https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/3134-low-birthweight-births-2500-grams\#detailed/5/6578,6596,6656,6676/false/871,870/any/8205,8206}{\text{constant}}$ 

#### KAF Content Areas

#### **ERSEA**

2020-2021 Update our communities have recently shared an influx of immigrant facilities that are being housed in the Eagle Ford Shale oilfield houses /facilities. The rate of pay for Teachers for children in our area rise due increase and demand for teachers and Case Workers in local and surrounding areas. Staffing companies are hiring Bilingual job openings with starting hourly rate of \$17 - \$45 per hour. Employees are also provided with housing, transportation, per diem and higher salaries.

#### Recruitment

KAF Head Start / Early Head Start Program actively recruits and seeks out families in need of Head Start and Early Head Start services. Recruitment efforts are on-going throughout the year and include publicizing in the four-county service area to enhance the likelihood of reaching all eligible families to apply for the program. Due to COVID-19, the program has implemented electronic strategies including social media and on-line applications for family's accessibility. Other strategies include canvassing neighborhoods with recruitment flyers, recruiting at local food distributions, distributing flyers to all partnering agencies providing services to families and children including homeless families and their children. The recruitment challenges KAF Head Start / Early Head Start continues to foresee are due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic and House Bill -3 Pre-K signed into law on June 11, 2019.

#### **Human Resources**

The tables below reflect the unemployment rate by State and Counties served from 2019 to 2020. Maverick County continues to be the only County unemployment rate is above the State unemployment rate for 2019 and 2020. This causes the remaining counties of Dimmit, LaSalle, and Frio to be difficult to recruit qualified applicants for vacant positions. Wages are not an issue as KAF wage comparability study reflects that our pay is within the range of the Migrant Head and Indian Head Start is the communities we serve. The LEA's offer dual enrollment with Southwest Texas Community College that allows 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders to enroll and earn college credit while in High School for free. Many students take advantage of these opportunities and attain their Associates Degree at the same time as their High School Diploma. The Associates Degree is basic and not in Child Development that would assist the number of potential applicants for vacant teacher positions.

#### **Unemployment rate in Texas from 2019 to 2020**

Year	State Unemployment rate
2019	3.5
2020	7.6

#### **Unemployment rate by Year and County**

Year	Area	Employment	Civilian Labor Force	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
2019	Dimmit	7,254	7,443	189	2.5
2019	Frio	10,160	10,433	273	2.6
2019	La Salle	4,282	4,388	106	2.4
2019	Maverick	21,849	23,641	1,792	7.6

2020	Dimmit	6,074	6,487	413	6.4
2020	Frio	8,996	9,537	541	5.7
2020	La Salle	3,442	3,693	251	6.8
2020	Maverick	20,821	24,494	3,673	15

The table below reflects KAF Staff Turnover for 2018 through 2020. As noted, KAF there continues to decline each year, noting that the smallest rate was in 2020 due to the pandemic and the opportunity for staff to work remotely.

#### **KAF Staff Turnover**

Year	Agency turnover rate
2018	48%
2019	27.5%
2020	15.4%

## **Education/Child Development**

At the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the school districts of Pearsall, Carrizo Springs, Cotulla, and Eagle Pass remained closed for the safety and well-being of the students and staff as per the Governor's orders. The school districts provided an array of electronics to students to use for educational purposes. Two of the five school districts reported in the Child Care/ISD surveys that they encountered a challenge with students' attendance and academic achievement. The challenge to motivate the students to academically perform while at home was also expressed. Each school's reopening plans followed specific protocols to follow wearing of masks, institute sanitation procedures, screening procedures, and social distancing. Daycares in Eagle Pass and Carrizo Springs had low enrollment due to parents losing their employment and not being able to

afford childcare. One daycare had to close their business due to positive cases affected by Covid-19.5

Kids Are First, Inc., also followed the guidance provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention 13 and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. 12 KAF provided Educational services virtually, remotely, and in person to families and children. When stay-athome orders were in place, the virtual component of the services included using the Teaching Strategies Gold website and holding bi-weekly Zoom video conferencing meetings for parents having internet access. Parents who did not have internet access were provided with hard copies of activities that parents could work with their children remotely. The partnership with parents grew stronger as teaching staff relied on parents' input on what the children were learning at home from the provided activities. When the agency was able to provide in-classroom instruction to children, the number of participants was reduced. The agency followed the recommendations by said entities, which was to have no more than ten children in a classroom and practice social distancing. Mixing of children and teachers from classroom to classroom was not allowed. This was done to reduce the number of contacts between children and adults, thus reducing the possibility of contracting the virus. Various strategies were conducted to promote physical distancing and the overall health and safety of children. The children were provided with caddy's that contained material for individual use; limiting the number of children sitting at a table when eating or conducting activities was also practiced.

#### **Disabilities**

The Local Education Agencies reports the highest number of children receiving services in the category of Learning Disabilities. Both the Pearsall ISD and Carrizo Springs Consolidated ISD had fewer children diagnosed with disabilities in four of the disability codes for the year 2019-

2020 compared to the previous year. Those codes were Intellectual Disability, Emotional Disturbance, Learning Disability, and Speech Impairment.<sub>15</sub>

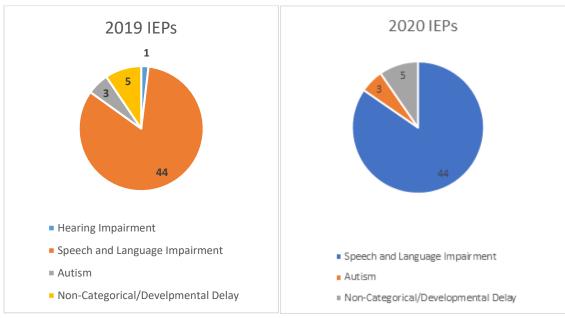
The following chart reflects the number of children receiving services from Early Childhood Intervention. ECI reports that both Dimmit and Frio County served a smaller number of children each year from 2017 through 2019. Both La Salle and Maverick Counties have had an increase in the number of children receiving comprehensive services since 2017. 16 A report from the Texans Care for Children 14 reported in November of 2020 that the ECI program was underenrolling infant and toddler with disabilities and developmental delays as state funding for the program continued to lag behind previous funding. It also reported that COVID-19 Pandemic had created new costs and challenges for community organizations that provide ECI services since they transitioned to Telehealth during the Pandemic. ECI providers faced additional Pandemic-related costs, such as technology for Telehealth and personal protective equipment for their staff.

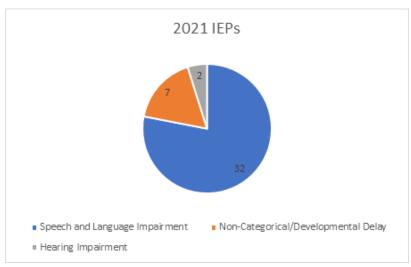
Dep	Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Division for ECI Services					
Data Source	Data Source for Children served: TKIDS, FY 2019					
	Birth-to-3	Children	Children	Total	Percent of	Percent of
	Population	Served:	Served:	Served	Population	Population
		Comprehensive	Follow		served:	Served:
		Services	Along		Comp	Total
Statewide	1,686,451	60,596	1,429	62,025	3.59%	3.68%
Dimmit	843	59		59	7%	7%
County						
Frio	1,092	89		89	8%	8%
County						
La Salle	471	24		24	5%	5%
County						
Maverick	4,250	320		320	8%	8%
County						
Data Source	Data Source for Children served: TKIDS, FY 2018					
Statewide	1,661,923	57,485	1,524	59,009	3.46%	3.55%

Dimmit	823	63		63	8%	7.65%
County						
Frio	1,075	101		101,	9%	9.4%
County						
Las Salle	456	25		25	5%	5.48%
County						
Maverick	4,240	275		275	6%	6.49%
County						
Data Source	for Children	served: TKIDS, F	Y 2017			
Statewide	1,664,667	53,077	1538	54,615	3.18%	3.28%
Dimmit	689	77		77	11.18%	11.18%
County						
Frio	1,080	100		100	9.26%	9.26%
County						
La Salle	441	22		22	4.99%	4.99%
County						
Maverick	4,679	298		298	6.37%	6.37%
County						

The Individual Education Plans and Individual Family Service Plans depicted initial evaluation for many of the children with disabilities were conducted via Zoom platform or Telehealth instead of in-person. The slight decrease in the years 2020 and 2021 could be attributed to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Many of the annual reviews were held in a teleconference with the parent. The services provided directly to the children were conducted via Zoom. In the school year 2020-2021, KAF met the 10% mandate for disabilities. However, KAF overcame obstacles in meeting the numbers by using different strategies, including families following up with the LEAs and ECIs to acquire needed documents to develop the IEPs and IFSPs for their children. The charts below depict the accrual children with a disability diagnosis for the agency. The number of children with a diagnosed disability has dropped each year since 2019, both for children with IFSPs and children with IEPs. 9

	Children with IFSPs	Children with IEP's	Total # of Children receiving
	(ECI)	(ISD)	services
2021	32	42	74
2020	35	52	87
2019	46	53	99





#### Health

The COVID-19 Pandemic has affected many Americans' lives both socially and economically. Mayerick County has been reported nationally two times in the New York Times as being the hot spot for COVID-19 cases. The stay-at-home requirements given in mid-March in 2020 lead to many restrictions and changes in the workplaces and educational environments. 13 Through conversation with families, they stated they reduced the frequency of medical attention or care. Parents expressed their fear of having contact with persons that were not part of their immediate household. KAF experienced a decrease in the number of children receiving medical, dental hearing, vision screenings, immunizations, and follow-up treatments through their medical provider. In order to maintain the CDC and Health Department mandates safety guidelines limiting the number of children participating in classroom instruction were followed. The screenings for hearing and vision were conducted by the center staff to the children who attended in-classroom instruction. KAF continues to conduct evidence base hearing and vision screenings at all seven centers in the program.9 Families and children continue to receive services; however, many of the services are conducted via telehealth services. Early data has allowed us to see that telehealth services have increased. 22 The Families First Coronavirus Response Act became law and took effect on the same day as it was signed (March 18, 2020). This law provided economic aid to those affected by the Pandemic. The act included access to free coronavirus testing, extended paid sick leave, and increased benefits for food stamp funding.26

The chart below represents the data found on children uninsured through the year 2018. This is the most recent updated information<sub>3</sub>. Dimmit county reflects an increase in comparison with the remaining three counties in the service area for uninsured children.

Ranking of Percentage of Uninsured Children by County 17

Location	Data Type	2017	2018
Dimmit	Number	278	298
	Percent	8.8%	9.8%
Frio	Number	504	483
	Percent	10.6%	10.2%
La Salle	Number	116	110
	Percent	7.5%	7.3%
Maverick	Number	2,420	2,229
	Percent	12.8%	11.8%

The website kidscount.org provides data that defines the number and percent of children that do not have health coverage through either private (e.g., private purchase or employer-sponsored) or public (e.g., Medicaid or CHIP) insurance according to the Small Area Health Insurance Estimates.21

The chart below depicts the most updated data available through 2019 of children enrolled in Medicaid. 18

**Medicaid Enrollment (0-18)** 

Location	Data Type	2018	2019
Dimmit	Number	1,847	1,863
	Percent	58.4%	58.9%
Frio	Number	2,600	2,527
	Percent	54.6%	51.5%
La Salle	Number	981	941
	Percent	62.6%	60.1%
Maverick	Number	11,255	11,153
	Percent	61.4%	60.9%

The chart below shows the most recent update data available through 2019 found on children enrolled in CHIP. 19

CHIP enrollment (0-18)

Location	Data Type	2018	2019
Dimmit	Number	210	132
	Percent	6.6%	4.2%
Frio	Number	263	230
	Percent	5.4%	4.7%
La Salle	Number	84	100
	Percent	5.4%	6.4%
Maverick	Number	1,201	1,109
	Percent	6.6%	6.1%

The following information represents the data obtained from parent and community partners surreys in the area of health. As per the parent surveys, the data shows that only 10.74% of parents identify Health/ Dental needs as a concern, and 11.5% identify Mental Health needs as a concern. In the community partner surveys, it was expressed that COVID-19 impacted the delivery of services for children and families. These factors included families not feeling safe going to the different locations, face-to-face visits not being available, and the changes from inperson to curbside/virtual services.<sub>2</sub>

#### Mental Health

Mental health care, treatment services, and social-emotional wellness continues for children, families, and staff and more so now with the Pandemic. In an interview with the Camino Real Clinic Manager, she stated that they experienced an increase (25%) in demand for Mental Health Services in all four counties that KAF serves.<sub>29</sub>

As per the website U.S. News &world report the following information base on: Mental Health, Deaths of Despair: Reflects the rate of deaths due to suicide, alcohol-related disease, and drug overdoses per 100,000 population. (2011-2017; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

Medicare Beneficiaries with Depression: Reflects the percentage of Medicare beneficiaries with depression. (2017; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services). Poor Mental Health Days per Month: Reflects the average number of days per month that mental health is "not good," according to self-reported survey responses among adults. (2016; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, via University of Wisconsin County Health Rankings & Roadmaps)

The chart below shows the most recent updated mental health data for the four counties KAF served.

County	County – Metric	Score	County	US	Peer Group	State
Dimmit	Deaths of Despair /100k Medicare	55	62.6	42.0	46.6	34.7
	Beneficiaries with Depression Poor Mental Health Days per Month		15.0% 3.9	17.0% 3.9	17.0% 4.4	18.2% 3.0
Frio	Deaths of Despair /100k Medicare Beneficiaries with Depression Poor Mental Health Days per Month	75	39.0 13.0% 3.6	42.0 17.0% 3.9	46.6 17.0% 4.4	34.7 18.2% 3.6
La Salle	Deaths of Despair /100k Medicare Beneficiaries with Depression Poor Mental Health Days per Month	76	N/A 14.0% 3.7	42.0 17.0% 3.9	42.8 17.0% 3.6	34.7 18.2% 3.6

Maverick	Deaths of Despair	76	36.1	42.0	43.9	34.7
	/100k					
	Medicare		12.0%	17.0%	18.0%	18.2%
	Beneficiaries with		3.9	3.9	4.2	3.6
	Depression					
	Poor Mental					
	Health Days per					
	Month					

A county's overall score was calculated using the average of category scores as weighted in collaboration with population health and well-being experts. The final rankings of the 500 Healthiest Communities in the US are based on this overall score.

According to the information obtained through the parent and partner surveys, these are the outcomes regarding mental health. Data shows that 93.79% of the parent surveys agreed that their child's social-emotional development needs were delivered in a timely manner, 96.27% of the surveys agreed that services were found to be useful and successful, and 97.52% agreed that the services provided were supportive of their family values. The data from the parent surveys showed that only 3.13% of parents who responded consider Medical/Dental health a major stressor, and 9.38% considered mental health as a major stressor during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The community partner survey reflects that one of the issues affecting our four-county program service area is the lack of resources for substance abuse and mental health issues.

The responses given in the community partner surveys reflect an increase in comparison to last year of numbers of children with special needs such as ADHD, autism, and mental health concerns.2

## Family And Community Partnerships

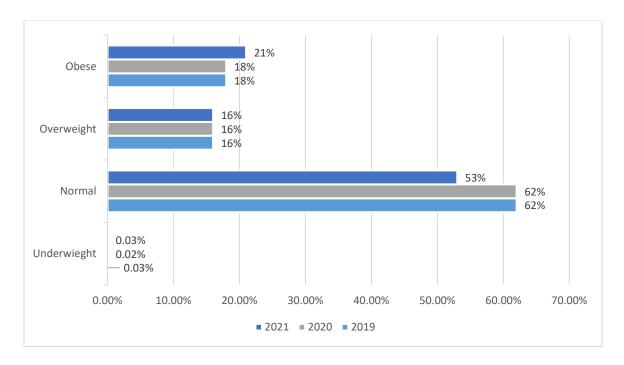
The community partner surveys also expressed being affected by COVID-19 and faced challenges, including stressors as expressed. Some of the challenges identified included forced office closures, keeping services going due to being an essential service, having to provide remote services, over-the-phone services, and the identification of providing fewer quality services.

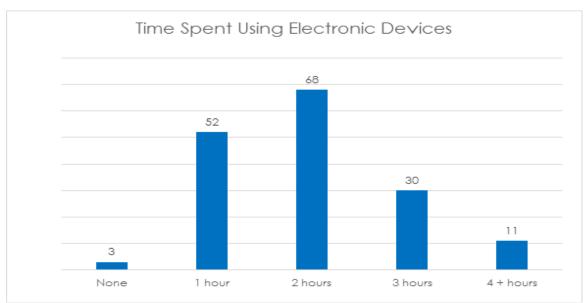
KAF, Inc. HS/EHS continues to be well known and supported by many Community Partners. The mutual collaboration through memorandums of understanding and partnership agreements, including the local school districts and resources in the four-county service area, continue with the mutual goal to work together to empower families. The number and variety of resources are limited in our rural service area. Due to COVID-19, many agencies were limited in face-to-face services, and few allowed clients into their facilities by appointment to ensure the safety of all by following safety requirements. Health Advisory School Readiness Meeting, staff, parent meeting/training, and parent/staff conferences took place by utilizing different virtual platforms, Through surveys collected from the community partner's and parent's surveys, families continue to identify needs and stressors in the areas of Virtual Studies for their children 53.91%, Financial Needs 44.53%, and Job Loss / Employment at 39.84%, Lack of Internet at 23.44%, Education / Job Training 16.03%, Marital / Personal Relationships 10.69% including Mental Health 7.63%. Other services families continue to receive and support their children include Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) 70.13%, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) 76.62%, Medicaid / Children Health Insurance Program (CHIPS) 71.43%. Families also addressed through the parent surveys the need for transportation for children to the program centers with a 41.3 % response from parents. Community Partners surveys also identified an increasing need in the area of transportation services for families and children. The local school districts in our service area are also providing transportation to all children adding to our program's challenge of meeting full enrollment.

KAF's focus is to continue providing training and information on the positive preventive outcomes of practicing healthy eating and physical activities. KAF and community partners collaborate to share nutritional and physical activity awareness. Community partners add the additional support and allow parents to become more engaged and subsequently foster the recommendations and become more active in community wellness events. Although the COVID-19 Pandemic has reduced face-to-face contact, it has opened new avenues of sharing pertinent information through technology, such as communicating information via websites, emails, text, and virtual training. As noted in the Annual Review of Public Health Report (Seligman & Berkowitz, 2019), the alignment of nutritional programs and policies to simultaneously prevent health disparities and food insecurity by improving diet quality in the interest of helping improve the health outcomes. These types of alignment aid SNAP, WIC NSLP, CACFP, and other programs to provide the essential nutrients to sustain and enhance the quality of life for all ages and populations.

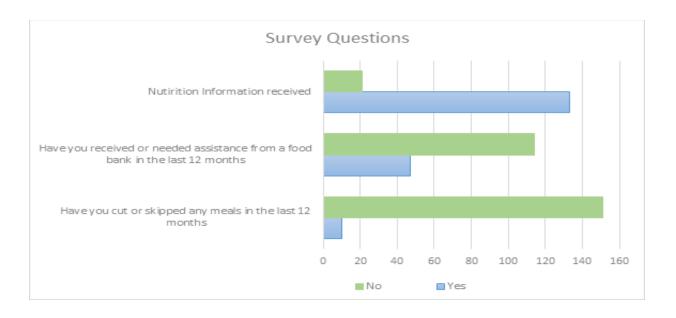
Obesity and COVID-19 have negatively impacted the health and well-being of children. As illustrated below, KAF has identified the following: there has been a three percent increase of obese children at our centers.

## Source: MyHeadStart Data





Source: Parent Survey 2021



Source: Community Partner Survey 2021

Some attributing factors are screen time and decreased extracurricular activities due to the Pandemic, such as watching television, playing video games, or virtual classrooms. Since these were already an interest of our young and very young children, the amounts of time spent on screen have increased as illustrated above. Children should not spend more than 1 hour of screen time in a day. These activities are all considered sedentary. Therefore, if the intake of calories is not reduced, the children will gain weight due to immobility. Other attributions engulfing our children are their eating habits, mainly unhealthy foods, skipping meals, or not having enough food available. The chart below demonstrates how parents answered our survey. There has been a minor decrease, although it will remain a concern because obesity is due to sedentary activities and eating habits.

## **Community Needs and Priorities**

- 1. The Community Partner and Family survey expressed a need for transportation for families to access services. KAF will seek to collaborate with local community partners as well as available funding sources to meet the needs of families who lack transportation for their children to attend Early Head Start/ Head Start services.
- 2. KAF will continue to seek additional efforts and methods to promote and encourage parents to integrate the physical activities in their families' daily routines. KAF will continue to utilize its teaching staff to encourage nutritional and physical education in the classroom weekly through the lesson and continue to have a yearly parent-child nutritional and physical activity and there will be two parent-child center events to increase the opportunities for all families to participate in a Center learning and physical activity to include collaborations with local, State and other community partners.
- 3. KAF will seek additional avenues to recruit and retain qualified staff in the areas of Dimmit, Frio, and La Salle Counties where the unemployment rate is below the State average.

## **Community Sources**

## **Community Resources Table**

Contact Type	Name of Contact/Source	Source Number
Discussion	Health Services Advisory School Readiness Committee Meeting	1
Groups/		
Meeting		
<b>Participants</b>		
Surveys	Parent and Community Partners Surveys	2
	Child Care/ISD Survey	
Links/	Kids Count Data Center	3
Resources	https://datacenter.kidscount.org	
	US Census Bureau	4
	https://txcip.org	
	New York Times	5
	https://nytimes.com	
	The Washington Post	6
	May 2021	
	The County Information Program, Texas Association of Counties	7
	Census Bureau	
	National Head Start Association	8
	The Deep Poverty Crisis Demands an Expansion of Head	
	https://natlheadstart.medium.com > the-deep-poverty-cr	
	My HeadStart	9
	https://myheadstart.cleverex.com/mobile/Home.aspx?Stamp=1622829122997	
	Center for Public Policy Priorities	10
	November 2018	
	Texas Population by Race & Groups	11
	Texas Department of Family and Protective Services	12
	https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/docs/opentx/2021/ChildCareCenters.	
	pdf Center for Disease Control	13
	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-	13
	childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html#anchor_1613684758754	
	Texas Cares for Children	14
	https://txchildren.org/posts/2020/11/10/report-tx-eci-funding-amp-	1 7
	enrollment-lagging-for-toddlers-with-disabilities	
	Texas Education Agency	15
	https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/cgi/sas/broker?_service=marykay&_program=ad	
	hoc.std_driver1.sas&RptClass=SpecEd&_debug=0&SchoolYr=21&report=St	
	ateCounty&format=html	
	Texas Health and Human Services	16

	https://www.hhs.texas.gov/doing-business-hhs/provider-portals/assistive-	
	services-providers/early-childhood-intervention-programs/eci-data-reports	
	Kids Count	17
	https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/3185-uninsured-children-0-	
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