

# Letter from the Director



It is with great pleasure that I share with you our Annual Report for 2016 - 17. It captures our activities and accomplishments that support a child's learning for school readiness and a lifetime of academic success. Research shows that children who receive high quality early learning experiences, coupled with parent and family support, are far more likely to succeed in school and through their life.

Our Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) Head Start/Early Head Start Program prepares children with the skills they need to have a successful transition into kindergarten and beyond. We achieve this by establishing school readiness goals that are age and developmentally appropriate. These efforts are aligned with SCCOE's goal to "improve student equity and access to high quality education."

These goals are centered in social/emotions development, cognition, language and literacy, physical health and motor development. Our highly trained professionals are dedicated to providing a quality program for students and families. This has been further validated and confirmed by federal reviewers who gave the program numerous commendations. These commendations are a measure of 100% compliance in all program areas for nine consecutive years. This is primarily due to the staff's expertise, innovative practices and long history of striving for excellence.

In order for us to deliver the best quality services, we partner with school districts and community agencies. In partnership, we align our efforts and systems to benefit and support a child's wellbeing. We are very proud to work collaboratively with East Side Union High School District, Kidango, Inc., Mountain View Whisman School District, San Jose Unified School District, SCCOE State Preschool, and SJB Child Development Centers.

Above all else, we recognize that our greatest asset is embracing family engagement as the cornerstone of our success. Our staff builds positive and trusting relationships with families to facilitate their engagement in their children's development and learning by involving them in establishing school readiness goals for their children. We respect our parent's role as their child's primary nurturers, teachers, and advocates.

Please take time to learn about the great work the Head Start staff are doing for children and families in Santa Clara and San Benito counties. You may access this annual report and other information including the Head Start enrollment application at [www.myheadstart.org](http://www.myheadstart.org).

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ana M. Trujillo". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ana M. Trujillo, Director

