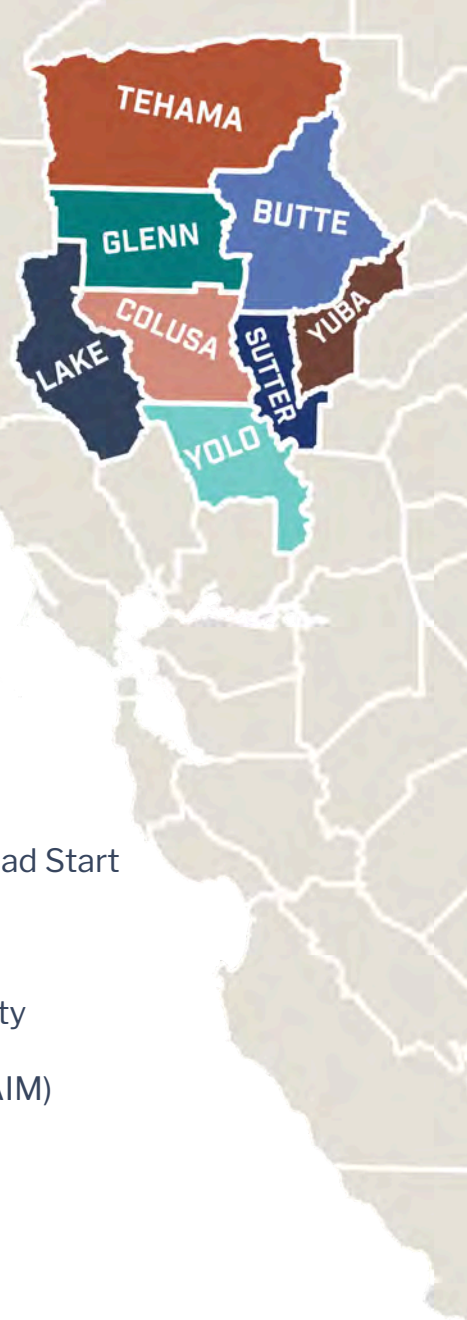


2024 Annual Report

About Us

E Center is a private nonprofit agency founded in 1973. Located in 8 Northern California counties, E Center delivers comprehensive services to children, individuals, and families. The mission and vision is to build healthy communities through education, employment, and environment awareness.

Serving: Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lake, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo and Yuba



Current Programs

- Head Start / Early Head Start
- Migrant & Seasonal Head Start / Migrant Early Head Start
- General Childcare & Development (CCTR)
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC) of Lake County
- California Advancing & Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM)
 - ▶ Community Support
 - ▶ Enhanced Care Management

E Center Board of Directors



Pictured from left to right: Randy Fletcher-Director, Marie Vue-Director, Jennifer LaBadie-Vice-Chairperson, Sharron Zoller- Chairperson, Desiree Lutzweiler-HS/EHS Policy Council Representative, Stacie Gandy- Secretary/Treasurer, Eric Paredes-Director

Not Pictured: Sarah Higgins-Director, Cristal Aquilera - MSHS/MEHS Policy Council Representative

CEO Letter

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

As we navigate through these unprecedented challenges, I find immense hope in our unwavering commitment to the needs of our community's most vulnerable members. While we continue to provide essential services through our E Center WIC and E Center Head Start programs, we remain focused on enhancing the quality of our offerings.

I am pleased to announce the introduction of E Center CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal), a groundbreaking initiative from the California Department of Health Care Services. E Center CalAIM is designed to improve health outcomes and quality of life for vulnerable populations by promoting a more coordinated, person-centered, and equitable health system.

Additionally, I am excited to share that we have successfully launched E Center's Denim Gala fundraising event aimed at generating private funds to enhance our services. Our Annual Gala and future events will be tremendous and will become a staple in our efforts to address the unmet needs of the populations we serve.

As we adapt to these extraordinary times, our team has implemented a comprehensive plan to ensure that our staff provides high-quality learning environments and nutritional support for our children. E Center has fostered meaningful connections among children, caregivers, and program participants, reinforcing our commitment to their well-being.

The needs of residents in our eight-county service area are more pressing than ever, revealing significant opportunities for positive change. Daily, we witness the profound impact of our efforts, laying the foundation for lasting transformation that requires time and dedication. With the support of federal and state funding, community partners, and individual donors, we are empowered to carry out this vital mission that will shape the future for generations to come. Our commitment to building healthy communities will create a legacy of change that endures.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to all our donors, nonprofit partners, advisors, and supporters who have graciously included us in their philanthropic initiatives. On behalf of our dedicated Board and talented staff, I sincerely thank you for your inspiration and support as we work together to cultivate healthy communities through education, employment, and environmental stewardship.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Steve Ly

President / Chief Executive Officer / E Center



Human Resources



Adapting to the ever-changing work environment post-Pandemic, E Center Human Resources team has focused on impacting health and wellness.



Throughout the year, weekly motivational messages have been shared with staff. These messages are designed to focus on not only physical health, but mental wellness opportunities. The E Center is participating with Uprise Health to provide Employee Assistance for those needing a hand with the challenges of everyday life. The first 3 visits are free for the employee and do not require the employee to be signed up for health benefits.

The Human Resources Department is moving full steam ahead and is committed to the employees of E Center. We will continue to focus on compensation, retirement, selecting great candidates, and leveraging technology to take the Agency into the future.

Information Technology

The Information Technology Department at E Center is committed to safeguarding the network by implementing a robust multilayered security approach. This includes deploying antivirus software to detect and neutralize malware, utilizing a firewall to monitor and control network traffic, and providing cybersecurity training through **KnowBe4** to educate employees on best practices. Additionally, the department fosters a security-conscious culture by raising awareness of cyber threats among staff, enforcing multifactor authentication to enhance login security, and implementing role-based file system access to ensure employees only access data relevant to their duties, collectively strengthening the organization's defenses against cyber risks.

CalAIM

(California Advancing & Innovating Medi-Cal)



In late 2024, the E Center CalAIM Community Supports (CS) Program launched across the 8 counties, marking a significant step forward in addressing the social determinants of health for our communities. This program provides critical services such as housing support, food security, and transportation, helping individuals overcome barriers that impact their overall well-being. Building on the foundation of Community Supports, we are now in the process of implementing the E Center CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) Program, which will offer person-centered care coordination for individuals with complex health needs. By combining these 2 programs, E Center is committed to improving health outcomes and fostering a more integrated, equitable healthcare system. As we move forward, our efforts will continue to enhance access to care and strengthen the support structures that benefit our communities, ensuring a more holistic approach to health and wellness for those we serve.



Community Supports Services

- Housing Support
- Food Security
- Transportation



Child Development Head Start



Welcome to E Center Head Start, E Center Early Head Start, E Center Migrant Seasonal and E Center Migrant Early Head Start

Program Highlights

E Center receives federal funding from the office of Head Start to operate 4 Head Start grants including: Migrant Seasonal Head Start, Migrant Early Head Start, Head Start, and Early Head Start. Services are provided in 8 Northern California counties for children ages 0-5. Pregnant women are served in the Early Head Start program in Butte, Sutter, and Yuba Counties. Our operation season varies based on community need and funding availability. Our services are provided in center base settings and home base settings.

Throughout this report, information and data related to our services are provided and include school readiness, family engagement, children's health, mental health, and adult and child interactions. Another focus is supporting the mental health and wellness of children, school readiness activities, and working collaboratively with local school districts to support kindergarten transition activities.

E Center prides itself on its learning environments both indoors, outdoors, and on our buses. For many of our locations, we provide bus transportation to support access to services. We firmly believe that children learn best through play and through rich learning environments utilizing Frog Street Curriculum and Partners for Healthy Babies. Environments provide opportunities for engaged, fun, inquisitive learning for the children, stretching their imaginations and expanding their math, science, language skills and social and emotional growth. Staff participate in professional development opportunities enhancing their skill in the classroom. In addition, E Center welcomes student teachers looking for work experience while in pursuit of an Early Childhood Education degree.

Children are supervised at all times by qualified teaching staff throughout their time in our classrooms. If interested, request a tour of a site or classroom.



Child Development CCTR



Welcome to E Center CCTR, state funded childcare

Program Highlights



E Center received funding in July 2021 from the California Department of Social Services to operate a childcare program for infants and toddlers ages 4-weeks to 3 years of age. Services are provided in Butte, Sutter, Yuba Counties. In Butte County, centers are located in Oroville and Chico. In Sutter County, we have a site located in Yuba City. In Yuba County, centers are located in Marysville and Olivehurst.

Services are provided in center base settings for working families that require care for at least 6 hours per day, and 5 days per week. Fees for services are based on family income. Family fees were waived during this reporting period.

E Center's focus is on providing high-quality care while preparing children for their educational journey through nurturing adult/child interaction and age appropriate learning environments. We firmly believe that children learn best through play with teachers that support social and emotional well-being while providing developmentally appropriate activities for child engagement.

Children are supervised at all times by qualified teaching staff throughout their time in our classrooms. If interested, request a tour of a site or classroom. We also have plenty of opportunity for community volunteer activities.

Nutrition



237,809

Meals Served to Children Enrolled



Breakfast



Lunch











Snack

TOTAL

	Head Start	Early Head Start	Migrant Seasonal Head Start	Migrant Early Head Start
Breakfast	39,224	13,655	23,975	1,914
Lunch	44,697	15,793	24,964	1,971
Snack	33,202	13,386	23,232	1,796
TOTAL	117,123	42,834	72,171	5,681

Head Start Programs Indicators

1,101 Families Served

	Head Start	Early Head Start	Migrant Seasonal Head Start	Migrant Early Head Start
 Number of Families Served	476	310	286	29
 % Families with at Least One Direct Service	88%	85%	94%	
 Funded Enrollment	443	240	442	31
 % Average Daily Attendance	82%	77%	89%	88%
 % Children Receiving Medical Exams	91%	87%	93%	84%
 % Children Receiving Dental Exams	73%	NA	78%	NA
 Families Experiencing Homelessness	35	39	15	3
 % Children Served with IEP or IFSP	19%	12%	10%	

Curriculum



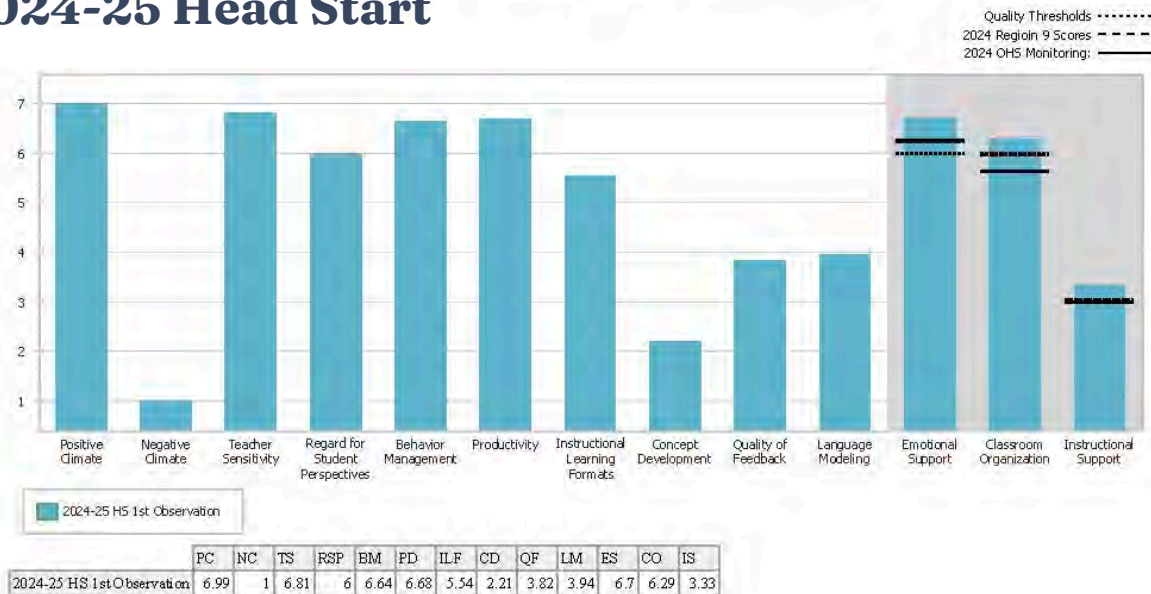
Frog Street

E Center continues to implement the Frog Street curriculum on a 0-5 continuum for our MSHS/MEHS, HS, and 0-3 child development programs. Frog Street curriculum aligns with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, California Learning Foundations, and the Desired Results Developmental Profile. Frog Street curriculum supports child outcomes through the scope and sequence of the implementation of Conscious Discipline, the Pyramid Model, and S.T.E.A.M.

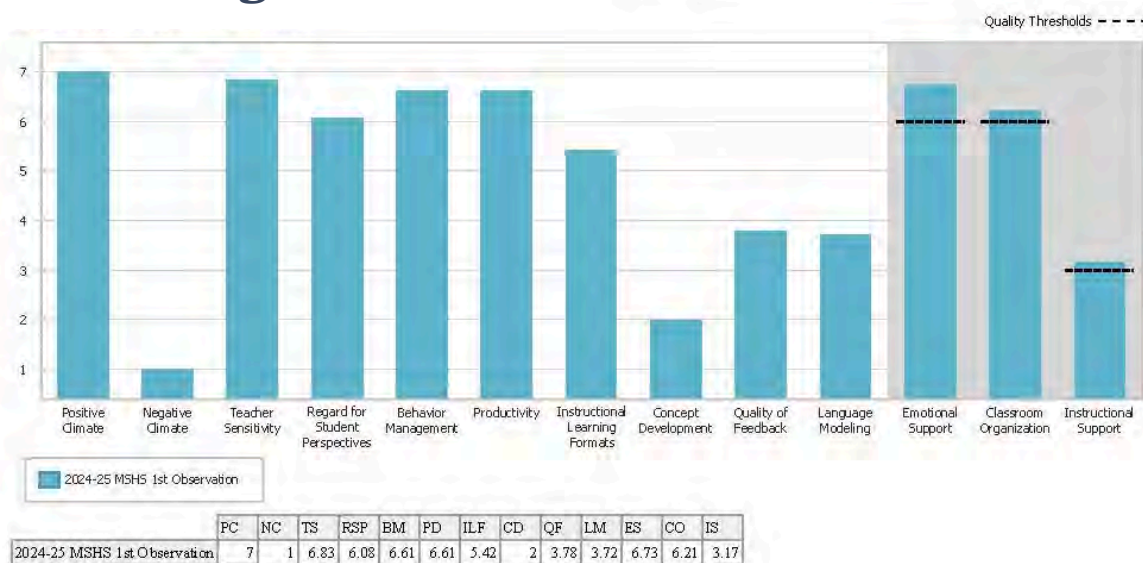
CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System)

E Center continues to implement a systemic process identifying and maintaining above average school readiness results through CLASS Observations and Child Outcomes. CLASS uses a **7-point scale**, from low to high. The scores are utilized to create current and relevant professional development opportunities for staff in support of Kindergarten readiness. CLASS focuses on three key domains: **Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support**.

2024-25 Head Start



2024-25 Migrant & Seasonal Head Start



Federal Review

E Center received no areas of concern or non-compliant ratings during the Focus Area I Federal Review for all four Head Start grants event in July 2024.

Head Start Services



E Center Programs Offered:

- Center Based - Classroom Setting
- Home Based - Home Visitation
- Migrant and Seasonal Program - Services to families working in Agriculture

Head Start	Early Head Start	Migrant Seasonal Head Start	Migrant Early Head Start
3-5 year-olds	0-3 year-olds	0-5 year-olds	0-3 year-olds

Head Start Facts

Head Start In Our Communities

When Head Start and schools partner, children succeed! Compared to their peers, Head Start Children are more like to graduate high school, attend college, have a job, and enjoy good health.



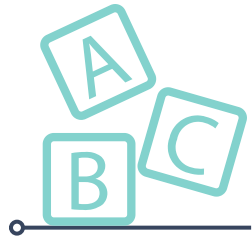
1,321

Children **Enrolled** In Head Start



83

Locally-Run **Classrooms**



68%

Entering **Kindergarten** in 2 Years



54%

Are **Dual Language** Learners



12

Collaborations with Programs & Schools



22%

Enrolled Children Receive Services From **IDEA** (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)

Farmer's Coalition



3rd Annual Farmer's Coalition

This year, we proudly hosted our 3rd Annual Farmer's Coalition across 3 counties: Sutter, Tehama and Yolo. Each location saw a successful turnout, allowing us to share information about our services and highlight the essential role we play in supporting agricultural families.

Through these events, we established new community connections and strengthened partnerships to better serve farm-working families by providing vital resources and support.

Overall, it was a highly successful event, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration to uplift and assist our agricultural communities.

Budget

In accordance with Government Auditing, WIPFLI, an Independent Auditor, issued a report dated November 15, 2024, on their consideration of E Center's internal control over financial reporting and its test of our compliance with appropriate laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. It is the opinion of WIPFLI, E Center complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024.



E Center Funds (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

	Funds Received	Funds Expensed
Other	\$60,767	\$60,767
Women, Infants & Children	\$866,088	\$866,088
Migrant Seasonal Head Start	\$10,840,230	\$10,840,230
Migrant Early Head Start	\$12,896,842	\$12,896,842
Head Start	\$11,754,288	\$11,754,288
Early Head Start	\$6,788,808	\$6,788,808
Child & Adult Care Food Program	\$76,9437	\$76,9437
CA General Child Care & Development (CCTR)	\$1,718,000	\$1,718,000
Farm & Food Worker Relief	\$3,922	\$2,919



E Center Operating Budget (2023 - 2024)

Head Start Programs	\$12,896,842
General Child Care & Development (CCTR)	\$2,243,318
Child & Adult Care Food Program	\$971,488
Women, Infants & Children	\$978,170
Donations, Fee-for-Services, Other Revenue	\$65,000



WIC In Our Communities

We are proud to report E Center WIC participates in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program, to support our local farmers and provide families with fresh local fruit and vegetable options. During our Farmers Market we were able to complete 100% issuance of all our vouchers/ funds.



2,210

Families on Average Served Monthly



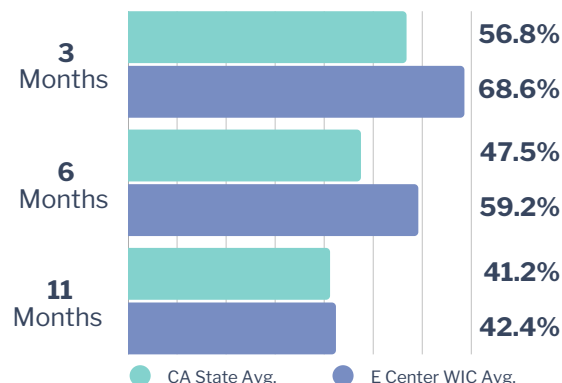
Monthly Average Participation



Monthly participation increase of **▲120**



Participants Breastfeeding





Celebrating 50 years of growing healthy families!



50
YEARS

2024 marks WIC's 50th year!

Since the first clinic opened in 1974, E Center WIC has improved the health and well-being of millions of pregnant and postpartum women, infants, children, and families, championing access to healthy food, providing nutrition education and breastfeeding support, completing health screenings, and providing referrals. Flash forward to 2024, and E Center WIC proudly supported 6.5 million women, infants, and children, including 40% of all U.S. infants.

E Center WIC is a member of both the National and California WIC Associations, and is proud to support the Lake County community, serving an average of 2,210 participants, as well as being active in the community, participating in local events and farmers markets.

E Center WIC is known for advocating for families on a state and national level, ensuring families continue to receive essential WIC services. It has been said that WIC could stand for WIC IS CHANGING or better said that WIC is ever evolving to best meet the community's needs.

E Center WIC is leading significant initiatives, including Food Package revisions and updates, in efforts to better meet family's nutritional needs. California WIC has been recognized for its stellar performance providing breastfeeding support, and WIC continues making modernization efforts. E Center WIC continues to offer both virtual and in-person appointments in Clearlake, Lakeport, Lucerne, and Middletown.

E Center WIC prides itself on providing quality nutrition education to families, and employs qualified nutrition and breastfeeding support staff. E Center WIC staff actively participate on the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) WIC Training Committee. This committee contributes to enhanced trainings for CDPH WIC staff statewide. CDPH WIC's Training Committee ensures creation of high-quality training materials, keeping our workforce growing, trained, and strong. This year, CDPH WIC launched a streamlined statewide learning management system (LMS) bolstering our continued commitment to maintaining a strong WIC workforce...

E Center WIC remains steadfast in doing our part, to ensure families grow healthy with WIC...

Cheers to another 50 years of compassion and caring!



WIC
Women, Infants & Children of Lake County



Bird Ribbon Cutting on May 1, 2024

Bird Open House Facility and Ribbon Cutting

E Center successfully expanded the Bird Center in Oroville, Butte County, to provide services for children ages 0–5. The site was purchased from the Oroville School District in September 2021. With funding from the Office of Head Start, the expansion project added two modular buildings, allowing for increased services in the Oroville community



Queens Ribbon Cutting on April 10, 2024

Queens Facility Purchase and Open House

E Center successfully purchased and opened a new center located on Queens Avenue in Yuba City, Sutter County, providing services to children ages 0–5. This location is ideal for parents commuting to work with easy access to the center.

Accomplishments & Community



E Center Denim Gala July 2024



Step with E Center September 2024



Canned Food Drive donated to Yuba Sutter Food Bank March 2024



Pinktober October 2024



NHSA fall Leadership Public Policy



Public Policy NMSHSA 2024 Jodie Steve Ruby Karen



Recruitment United Way 2024



Advocacy 2024



Location



E Center
(530) 634-1200

E Center CalAIM
(530) 634-1200

**E Center Head Start Child Development
Program Office**

860 Plaza Way | Yuba City, CA 95991
(530) 741-2995 / (866) 417-4255

**E Center Women, Infants & Children
(WIC) of Lake County**

831 Bevins Street | Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-5253

Connect



ecenter@ecenter.org



E Center



www.ecenter.org