

Head Start

AVCP Head Start Program nurtures children in their culture through the incorporation of Yup'ik language and providing opportunities for children to explore a variety of cultural activities that are relevant in their community, with an emphasis on parent involvement.

AVCP Head Start receives a large portion of its funding from the Office of Head Start (OHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), a component of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), who administers the Head Start Program.

The objective of the Head Start program is to promote school readiness of low-income children by enhancing children's cognitive, social, and emotional development.

Comprehensive center-based or home-based services are provided to children and their families. These include health, nutrition, social, and other services, determined to be necessary by the Family Needs Assessment, in addition to education and cognitive development services. Services are designed to be responsive to each child's and family's ethnic, cultural, and linguistic heritage.

AVCP Head Start is funded to serve 221 children and families in the following communities:

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| 1. Akiachak | 4. Kotlik | 7. Russian Mission | 9. Tuntutuliak |
| 2. Bethel | 5. Quinhagak | 8. Tuluksak | 10. Tununak. |
| 3. Chefornak | 6. Scammon Bay | | |

We employ 52 full-time employees across our 11 sites, and approximately 20-25 part-time substitutes.

Growing our own: we encourage our staff to continue their education to become more academically prepared to teach our children and work with families. We work continuously with the University of Alaska, Kuskokwim University Campus (KuC) and the AVCP Workforce Development Division to provide scholarships, to guide our staff in higher education.

As of June 1, 2020 AVCP Head Start consists of

4 teachers with an A.A. in Child Development	9 teachers/staff working on AA or BA degrees	5 staff have A.A. Degrees	4 staff with family advocacy training	1 teacher received a BA degree in early childhood education
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New computers were purchased for all center-based and home-based sites and with the assistance of the AVCP IT staff, all AVCP Head Start sites now have internet connectivity and email access, to better enable them to access and input child data.

AVCP Head Start purchased new editions of Creative Curriculum and Teaching Strategies Gold for center-based and home-based sites. We are currently working with ChildPlus to provide webinar training for our Teachers.

\$2,654,143 = Federal Award	Due to COVID-19 and State mandated closures of all educational facilities, our centers closed March 16. We continued to provide remote educational services to our children and families. AVCP Head Start worked with local school districts who received a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Waiver to provide daily breakfasts and lunches for our children.
\$52,465 = Cost-of-Living Adjustment	
\$58,786 = Quality Improvement	
\$194,216 = COVID Cares Act	
Total 2020 Grant Award = \$2,959,610	

