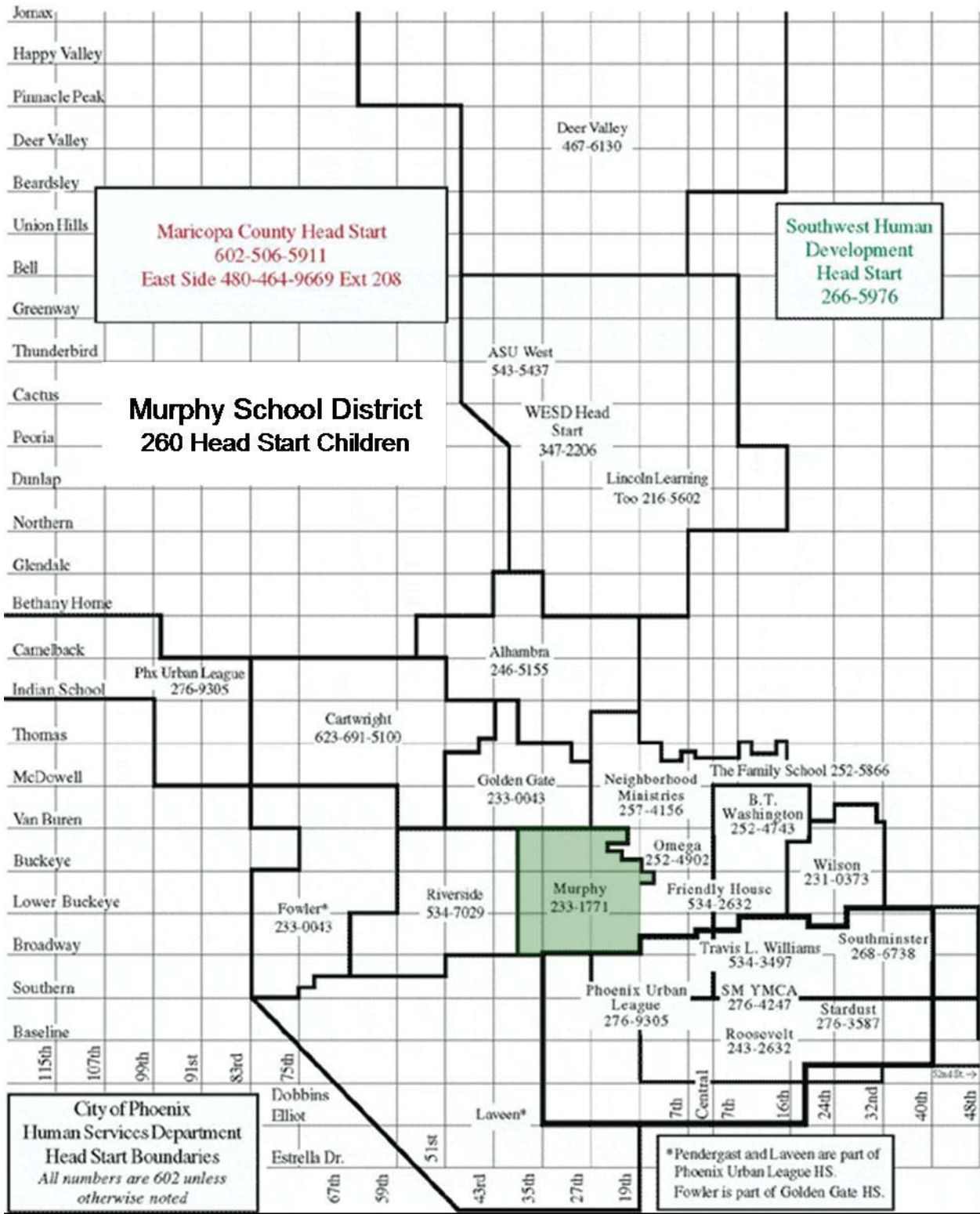


## **Murphy School District**

**City of Phoenix Head Start Map Showing Individual Delegate Agencies  
Murphy School District**



**City of Phoenix Head Start**

***Program Approvals***

***Program Year 39 (2004-2005)***

***Community Assessments, Goals, Objectives, and Action Plan***

Delegate Agency Name: Murphy School District  
Address: 2615 West Buckeye Rd.  
Phoenix, AZ 85009

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chairperson/Executive Director

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Delegate Agency Director

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy Committee Chairperson

## **Murphy School District Refunding Application Program Year 39 (2004-2005)**

### **Background**

Murphy Head Start initially received funding in 1978 for one classroom and a home base class. The Home Base option was discontinued in 1979, allowing for two site-based classrooms. Head Start expanded in 1984, increasing enrollment to six classrooms. The 1990 Head Start expansion increased enrollment to ten classrooms. With the advent of welfare reform, Murphy Head Start collaborated with the Arizona Department of Economic Security to provide the first wrap-around program in Arizona. Murphy Head Start has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children since May 1999. Murphy Head Start operates the state funded pre-school, serving 20 children. In August 2002 funding was provided to implement a classroom using a four-day option, as a seed classroom for A Stepping Stone Foundation, serving 20 children. The total number of preschool children receiving services in Murphy School District is 260.

### **Profile of the District**

Murphy School District No. 21 evolved from a rural farming community in the late 1800's-early 1900's to an urban industrial and commercial area that it is today. The district is zoned 68% industrial and 6% commercial. Single-family residential zoning is reported at 5%, multiple family units at 18% and public assistance housing includes 320 units.

Murphy is a PreK-8 district. The district is located approximately five miles from downtown Phoenix. It is considered an inner-city school district and encompasses an approximately 12-square-mile area in southwest Phoenix, bordered by the Salt River and Van Buren St., and 19<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Total 2003-04 enrollment is 2,600. The Murphy community is characterized by a mixture of older, low-income housing and apartments populated by multiple families.

Few amenities are in the area: one park, no play grounds outside of the schools, no day-care centers, no community centers, no programs for the elderly and few small businesses.

Three of the district's four schools provide classroom space for Head Start Classes. The W.R. Sullivan School does not provide space as the school age population count is large, and this school has no additional space for Head Start classrooms. Head Start eligible children residing in the W.R. Sullivan attendance area are transported to one of the other district schools that has Head Start classes. The bus used for transporting children is in-kind support from the district. To accommodate the need for transportation, two start times and bus runs minimize the time children spend riding the bus.

Jack L. Kuban School is the only school that does not have transportation for Head Start children because most of the families reside within the attendance area.

**Arthur M. Hamilton School** serves a portion of the Phoenix inner-city where the population is 95% Hispanic; 94% of families have incomes below the federal poverty level; and 40% of

households are headed by a single parent, mostly female. Many area residents are recent immigrants who lack English language skills. Gangs, drugs, criminal activity and violence plague the community.

Hamilton School enrolls 600 PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grade students, who are 95% Hispanic, 1 % African American and 1 % Native American. Almost all students are “at risk of educational failure” as defined by the Arizona Department of Education. Hamilton students are 100% eligible for free/reduced meals and Title I services. English language limited students comprise 69% of enrollment. A total of 140 preschool students are on this campus, including 100 Head Start students, 20 State funded and 20 preschool students funded by A Stepping Stone Foundation.

Hamilton school is located in the area that has the Maricopa County Housing Projects. Due to the heightened interrogation of undocumented residents after the September 11 tragedy, many apartments in the Coffelt Housing Project are vacant, due to fear of deportation of undocumented residents. This situation has afforded the Head Start program the opportunity to use two adjoined apartments that previously housed a childcare center. Murphy Head Start is currently using the facility for parent training, staff meetings and Policy Committee meetings. Murphy intends to obtain a license for the facility in the event expansion funds become available to have a classroom on the site. A Coffelt Housing Project site would be accessible to more than 50 eligible Head Start families in the area.

**Jack L. Kuban School** is the newest school in the district, and serves a portion of the Phoenix inner-city where the population is 95% Hispanic; 94% of families have incomes below the federal poverty level; and 40% of households are headed by a single parent, mostly female. Many area residents are recent immigrants who lack English language skills. Gangs, drugs, criminal activity and violence plague this community as well

Kuban School enrolls 518 PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grade students, who are 91 % Hispanic, 7% White, 1 % Asian, and 1 % Native American. Kuban students are 90% eligible for free/reduced meals and Title I services. English language limited students comprise 56% of students. Forty Head Start children are enrolled at this site in morning and afternoon classes.

**Alfred F. Garcia School** serves a portion of the Phoenix inner-city where the population is 97% Hispanic; 95% of the families have incomes below the federal poverty level; a single parent, mostly female, heads 30% of households. Many area residents are recent immigrants who lack English language skills. Gangs, drugs, criminal activity and violence also plague this community.

Garcia School enrolls 816 PreK-8 grade students, who are 97% Hispanic, 1 % Black, 1 % White and 1 % Native American. Garcia students are 90% eligible for free/reduced meals and Title I services. Eighty Head Start children are enrolled at the Garcia campus. The Garcia campus provides Wrap-Around Child care for children of parents that are employed, attending school or in job training.

Garcia Campus has a newly-constructed building that has been donated to the Head Start program and will be in close proximity to the modular building that was built with federal funds. This building will house the Head Start office and two classrooms.

## Poverty

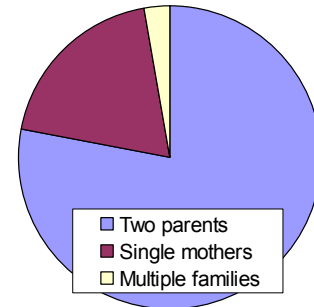
Murphy School District is a free lunch district. The median income is \$10,097. At the present time Murphy Head Start is serving 260 of the estimated 400 four year olds who are at or below the poverty level. Another indicator of poverty is AHCCCS (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment Services, the Arizona Medicaid program) eligibility. In order for a family to be eligible for AHCCCS, they must be significantly below the poverty level. As of June 2003, 73% of the children in the Murphy School District qualified for AHCCCS.

## Murphy School District Demographics

A profile of current Murphy School District Demographics show the level of need to be extremely high. These factors include:

- 69% of the students come from single parent homes
- 50% of the parents have less than an 8th grade education
- 65% of the parents are not employed full-time
- 50% of the families earn less than \$6,000 annually

Household Composition



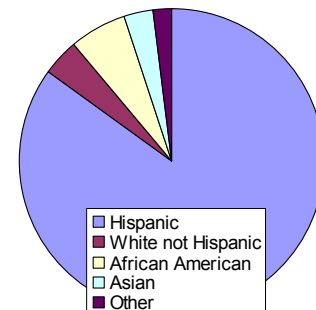
The significance of the community drug and alcohol problems and the need for Head Start is reflected by the demographic profile comparing Murphy District and the State of Arizona.

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>State of Arizona</i>	<i>Murphy School District</i>
Families who live in poverty	16%	94%
Minority students	37%	94%
High school graduation rate	63%	38%
Languages other than English	16%	51%
Latchkey children	20-30%	39%
Average family size	2.6	5
Median family income	\$27,540	\$10,097

## Ethnic Origins

The Murphy School District Community remains predominately Mexican American. The ethnic composition is as follows: 85% Hispanic; 6% African American; 4% White; 3% Native American; 2% Other

Racial and Ethnic Distribution  
Murphy School District Comm.



## Family Mobility

Low family stability is also a characteristic of the Murphy School District. While student mobility in Phoenix as a whole averages 11% per year, in the Murphy District one of every five students either moved into or left the district in the 2002-03 school year. High mobility is another indicator of the number of at-risk students in the Murphy School District.

## Survey Results

Murphy Head Start conducted a comprehensive Community Needs Assessment in September and October 2003. Surveys and focus groups measured the needs and trends that are evident in the community. Of the 340 surveys that were distributed, 85% were returned.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Forms Distributed</b>
Head Start Families	220
State Preschool Families	20
Hamilton Resource Center	50
Community Agencies	50

In addition to the surveys, Murphy School District conducted in-depth interviews with:

- District Family Resource Specialist
- Assistant Superintendent
- Hamilton School Resource Specialist

A total of 28 concerns were ranked in terms of their importance in the Murphy community. The top five concerns established through the comprehensive community needs assessment and surveys in the Murphy School District Community are:

- Job Training
- Neighborhood Safety
- Medical Care/Dental Care
- ESL/GED
- Domestic Violence

## Results of Annual Self-Assessment

In addition to the surveys and interviews, Murphy School District conducts an annual self assessment. Results of the self-assessment conducted in March 2003 indicated:

### (a) Educational Services:

Instructional staff has a need for additional training on individualizing for children. Teachers have had the opportunity to list classroom learning materials that may be needed in each of their classrooms; the self-assessment revealed that manipulative, multicultural materials and books are needed in the classrooms. The Lead Teacher and Director will inventory classroom materials and place orders to insure adequate learning materials.

### (b) Community Partnerships

Community Partnerships include, Kith and Kin, Women Together for Health, Maricopa County Housing, Maricopa County Flood Control, Valle del Sol, A Stepping Stone Foundation, Friendly House, *etc.* The donation of the apartment space in the Coffelt Housing Project serves as a community meeting and training facility for parents and staff.

### (c) Administrative/Human Resources

A system must be developed that will provide up to date information regarding staff immunization and TB skin test results. A form has been developed that will document new staff orientation that covers Head Start philosophy and other required topics.

### (d) Governance

The Policy Committee did not have direct communication with the School Board, the governing body for Murphy School District. A Board member has been invited to be a Community Member on the Policy Committee and share information with both parties.