HEAD START OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, INC.





Source of all photos of children: Microsoft Online Photos, authors unknown



2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

The Need for Head Start Services in Washington County, Maryland

The need for Head Start and Early Head Start services is apparent within the community as parents and guardians begin to recover from the pandemic and return to work. Head Start of Washington County opened all classrooms, except for one Head Start classroom at MLK, to children for in-person services during the 2021-2022 program year. Enrollment numbers were down as the recovery process is slow. Classroom closures occurred during outbreaks of COVID and rolling closures occurred to alleviate staff shortages in buildings. All parent events were held virtually as volunteers in our buildings and classrooms were limited. Even with the many obstacles, children were provided a safe environment where they were able to make friends and learn the necessary skills to be successful in school and life.





Our Mission:

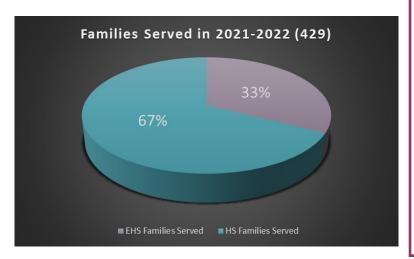
Head Start of Washington County, Inc. is dedicated to making a difference in our community through comprehensive child and family development services.

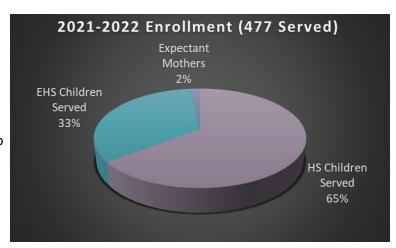
Our mission is to provide children with nurturing experiences, a strong foundation for developmental growth and opportunities to achieve school readiness.

We strive to empower families to take an active role in their child's development and to reach their full potential.

Enrollment Information

Head Start of Washington County is funded to serve 315 Head Start and 127 Early Head Start children annually. Due to the pandemic, Head Start openings were difficult to fill as parents were looking for care to return to the workforce and feeling hesitant about doing so. As the chart on the right illustrates, 477 children were served during the 2021-2022 school year (308 Head Start and 169 Early Head Start). Services were provided in four facilities located throughout Washington County.





Family Engagement Activities: 2021-2022

Dare To Be You— held virtually in the fall (7 families) and spring (5 families)

Dare To Be You Family Reunion-held in the summer of 2022

October 2021- Fall Fest (held virtually-every family received bag)

November 2021 – Bee Thankful (held virtually-every family received activity bag)

March 2022-Mental Health and Wellness Event (held virtually-every family received activity bag)

Spring 2022 – Celebration of Spring Event (held virtually-every family received activity bag)

Chicago Parenting—partnered with the Judy Center, held virtually for 6 families.

Site	Funded Head Start Slots	Funded Early Head Start Slots
Elgin Station	34	14
Martin Luther King	150	44
Noland	20	0
Sargent Shriver	105	22
Home Base	6	47

Head Start is mandated to enroll at least 10% of children who have a professionally diagnosed disability. During the 2021-2022 school year, 20% of HSWC's Head Start children (61 children) and 20% of HSWC's Early Head Start children (31 children)had diagnosed disabilities.



(DTBY Summer Reunion)

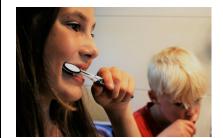
According to the 2021-2022 Parent Survey, 97% of respondents stated they had a positive experience with Head Start.

Medical and Dental Program Information

The health component of Head Start of Washington County ensures that the children enrolled in the program receive proper medical and dental treatment, are up to date on immunizations, find proper dental and medical homes and have health insurance. Part of the Early Head Start component is providing services to expectant mothers. Expectant mothers receive visits from a Home Base Teacher and are provided with information on delivering a healthy baby. Pre— and Post-Natal visits are conducted in conjunction with a registered nurse.

In order to promote good health practices in the classrooms, all meals (breakfast, lunch & snack) are approved by a Registered Dietitian and meet the nutritional guidelines set by CACFP. Activities are utilized to teach the children the value of healthy eating and exercise. Children are given daily opportunities to use their large muscles, teaching them the value of staying active through exercise. The combination of proper screenings and treatments, nutritional meals, and exercise keeps children healthy while also teaching them important ideas and concepts about their health that help them both at school and home.

Performance Indicator	HS	EHS
% of children with a		
medical home	99%	100%
% of children with		
health insurance at the		
end of the program year	100%	99%
% of children diagnosed		
as needing medical		
attention from a chronic		
condition	6%	3%
Of these, the % of		
children receiving		
medical treatment	90%	80%
% of children with up to		
date immunizations	99%	99%



Performance Indicator	HS
% of children with a dental	
home	71%
% of preschool children	
completing professional	
dental exams	42%
% of preschool children	
needing professional dental	
treatment	3%
Of these, the % of preschool	
children receiving dental	
treatment	75%

2021-2022 School Readiness Goals:

- 1. Children will demonstrate positive approaches to learning to include attending and engaging, persistence, problem solving skills, curiosity, motivation, flexibility, and inventiveness in thinking.
- 2. Children will develop self-regulation skills to have positive social interactions to peers and adults and to follow expectations for an educational environment.
- 3. Children will understand and develop a progressively complex vocabulary. Children will demonstrate an awareness that language can be broken down into words, syllables, and smaller pieces of sounds.
- 4. Children will use mathematical skills to explore, experiment, question, and problem solve. Children will develop mathematical thinking skills to include counting, comparing, relating, and patterns.
- 5. Children will build and refine motor skills for such purposes such as movement, balancing, building, writing, and self-help skills. Children will demonstrate knowledge of positive health and safety practices.

Head Start Outcomes and Results

In-person services returned to all center locations. Even through COVID outbreak closures and rolling classroom closings to alleviate staff shortage issues, the focus of being here to assist children and families with their needs stayed prominent in the minds of staff. Education staff planned experiences and activities that helped children not only learn and grow, but become prepared to transition to kindergarten and public school.



97% of parents responding to the 2021-2022 Parent Survey agreed that Head Start is preparing their child for kindergarten.



Head Start of Washington County began to utilize the Early Learning Assessment (ELA) tool for all Head Start children during the 2019-2020 program year. The ELA is intended to be a process through which early childhood teachers collect and use assessment information to tailor instruction to the individual needs of each child. It was developed on the belief that the formative assessment process is not a single measurement, but rather an on-going, planned, and intentional practice to evaluate learning. The ELA is based on research-supported Learning Progressions that are aligned to the early learning standards. The Learning Progressions define the pathway of skills, knowledge, and behaviors that children develop between the ages of 36 months to 72 months (3-5). Below is a chart showing the percentage of children approaching and meeting/exceeding skills during the 2021-2022 program year.

4 Year Old Data	Developing	Approaching	Meeting/Exceeding	Meeting/Exceeding	
Domains	Levels NE-1	Levels 2 & 3	21-22 Spring (Levels 4 & 5)	21-22 Fall (Levels 4 & 5)	Growth
Social Foundations	26%	44%	30%	1%	29%
Language & Literacy	23%	39%	38%	14%	24%
Mathematics	19%	48%	33%	8%	25%
Science	34%	54%	12%	0%	12%
Social Studies	19%	57%	24%	1%	23%
Physical Well Being & Motor					
Development	20%	36%	44%	12%	32%

Key: Levels NE-1: Developing

Levels 2-3: Approaching

Levels 4-5: Meeting/Exceeding

During the 2021-2022 program year, Head Start of Washington County education staff completed 754 training hours through the Child Care Education Institute.

Summer Learning Loss Assessment Data

During the summer of 2022, three Head Start classrooms provided in-person services to children who would transition to kindergarten in the fall. Pre- and Post-Assessment data was collected, reviewed, and aggregated to see overall benefits from attending the summer program. Below is a summary of the data based on providing services to 43 children.

		Summer E	LA Data Su	mmary (43 0	Children)				
	Assessment #1 (Pre)				Asses	sment #2 (Post)		
	Level NE-1	Levels 2-3	Levels 4-5	% ready	Level NE-1	Levels 2-3	Levels 4-5	% ready	Growth
SKB 7 Persisting with Tasks	5	28	10	23%	2	17	24	56%	339
SKB 8 Following Directions	15	25	3	7%	7	28	8	19%	129
SKB 11 Interest	2	30	11	26%	0	22	21	49%	239
SKB 14 Social Behaviors	4	23	16	37%	0	15	28	65%	289
SKB 15 Respond to Questions About Text	8	28	7	16%	2	25	16	37%	219
SKB 18 Syllables/Onsets & Rimes/Phonemes	8	33	2	5%	16	20	7	16%	129
SKB 21 Upper Case Letters	11	15	17	40%	8	15	20	47%	7 9
SKB 23 Letters-Sounds	11	18	14	33%	6	20	17	40%	7 9
SKB 24 Purposes & Situations	3	18	22	51%	1	13	29	67%	169
SKB 25 Name Recognition and Writing	1	19	23	53%	0	12	31	72%	199
SKB 26 Writing to Convey Messages	6	26	11	26%	4	25	14	33%	7 9
SKB 27 Sentences	3	14	26	60%	2	12	29	67%	79
SKB 34 Object Counting	0	17	26	60%	0	11	32	74%	149
SKB 37 Numeral Identification	4	17	22	51%	2	14	27	63%	129
SKB 38 Addition Problems	4	19	20	47%	0	19	24	56%	99
SKB 42 Sorting & Classifying	9	30	4	9%	5	22	16	37%	289
SKB 45 Two Dimensional Shapes	1	33	9	21%	0	30	13	30%	99





Head Start Classroom Observation Information

The CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) is an observation instrument that assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions in center-based Head Start classrooms. The CLASS tool includes three domains of teacher-child interactions that support children's learning and development. The three domains are Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. The chart below details the CLASS observation scores in each of the domain areas in center-based Head Start classrooms:

			Head Start CLASS Score Averages															
Head Start		1	2	3	4 Open	5	6 Open	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Spring 2022 Average	Fall 2019 Average	National Average (2020)
CLASS Scores	Emotional				оре		Орен									/// // // // // // // // // // // // //	Average	(2020)
by Domain	Support	5.75	5.50	6.42		6.34		6.25	6.25	6.75	6.50	7.00	6.50	6.25	6.17	6.31	6.44	6.03
	Classroom																	
	Organization	5.44	5.33	6.22		6.00		5.08	5.80	6.44	4.44	6.78	4.67	6.00	6.00	5.68	5.91	5.78
	Instructional																	
	Support	3.33	2.78	5.33		4.28		2.00	4.00	2.67	1.89	4.33	2.78	3.47	3.11	3.33	3.65	2.94

Financial Snapshot

Head Start and Early Head Start programs are required to obtain at least a 25% match of local in-kind or cash contributions for all federal dollars received. In-kind contributions are predominately space and/or volunteer hours by Head Start parents and/or members of the local community. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted the ability for programs to obtain in-person volunteer time.

Head Start and Early Head Start are very labor intensive programs with the major operational costs being personnel and fringe benefits for over 130 full and part time positions. Over 400 children and families are being served in Washington County each year. However, waiting lists still exist, especially for Early Head Start (birth – age 3) where eligible children are currently waiting.

Head Start of Washington County, Inc.'s administrative costs during this period were less than 10%, significantly lower than the 15% maximum permitted.

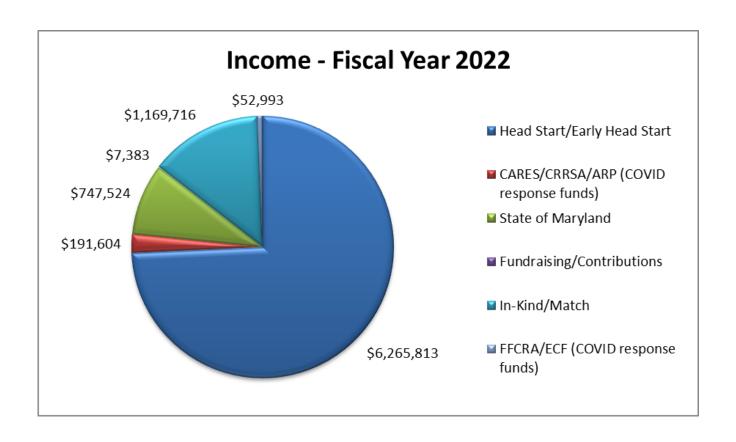
Results for most recent financial audit

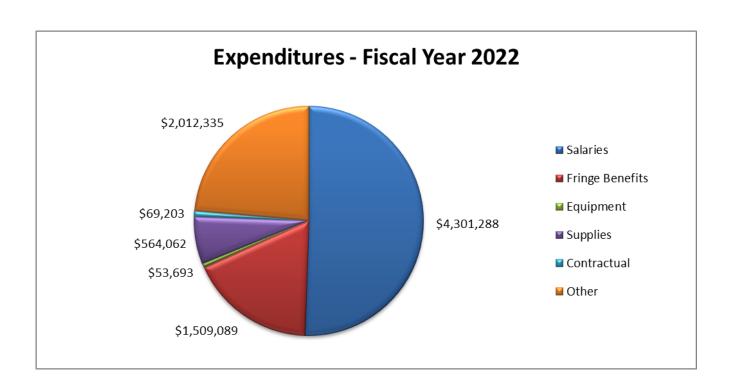
The annual independent audit for fiscal year ending January 31, 2022 was conducted by Smith Elliott Kearns & Company, LLC. The firm issued a Qualified Opinion due to the accounting treatment of equipment, fixed assets, non-specialized volunteer in-kind hours, and encumbrances; however, they believe the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Head Start of Washington County, Inc. as of January 31, 2022. A copy of the audit report is available for viewing upon request at 325 W. Memorial Blvd, Hagerstown, MD. The IRS Form 990 is available for viewing at 325 W. Memorial Blvd., Hagerstown, Maryland, upon request or on our website www.headstartwashco.org

Proposed budget for fiscal year end January 31, 2023

(includes stimulus funds awarded through the CRRSA Act and the American Rescue Plan)

Salaries	\$4,826,019
Fringe Benefits - Sec125 and retirement benefits and	\$1,698,134
mandatory federal and state withholdings	
Travel - lodging and per diem for out of town confer-	\$12,100
ences and meetings	
Equipment – Playground equipment	\$63,175
Supplies – Office, classroom, and food service supplies	\$520,799
Contractual – Audit fees, health/disabilities services,	\$66,202
and training/technical assistance	
Other – Rent, mortgage, and utilities/telephone; insur-	\$1,862,977
ance; cleaning and repairs/maintenance; policy council	
and parent services; T&TA local travel including trans-	
portation services	
Total Proposed Budget	\$9,049,406





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Community Representative

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Policy Council Chairperson & Treasurer

** Denotes Finance Committee Member

Our Locations:

Administrative Office:



325 West Memorial Blvd Hagerstown, MD 21740

Martin Luther King Center:



131 West North Avenue Hagerstown, MD 21740

Elgin Station Center:



40 Elgin Blvd Hagerstown, MD 21740

Leadership Team

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Kristen Long

Behavioral Health Manager

Donna Eby

Health Manager

Susie Danjolu

Food Services Manager

Kirsten Golden

Transportation Manager

G. Diane Graham

I/T Specialist

Noland Center:



1048 Noland Drive Hagerstown, MD 21740

Sargent Shriver Center:



837 Spruce Street Hagerstown, MD 21740