



Head Start Birth-5 2022-2023 Annual Report

Financial Audit Review

Non-Federal Share funds include but are not limited to, parent volunteers in the home or at preschool and program governance that includes serving on the Head Start Birth-5 Policy Council.



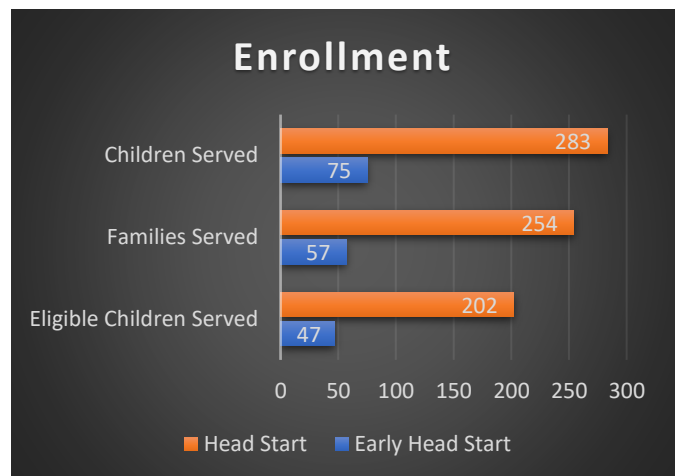
The most recent financial audit determined LHDC to be a "low-risk auditee" with no questioned or disallowed audit costs.

Financial and Budget Review 2022-2023 Fiscal Year			
<u>Continuation Base Grant</u>		<u>COVID-19 Relief Funding</u>	
Office of Head Start Grant Award	\$4,387,921	CRRSA Funds (4/1/21-3/31/23)	\$111,660
Non-Federal Share	\$0	ARP Funds(4/1/21-3/31/23)	\$443,902
Carryover Award (Buses)	\$139,454	Total Additional Funding	\$555,562
Total Operating Budget	\$4,527,375		

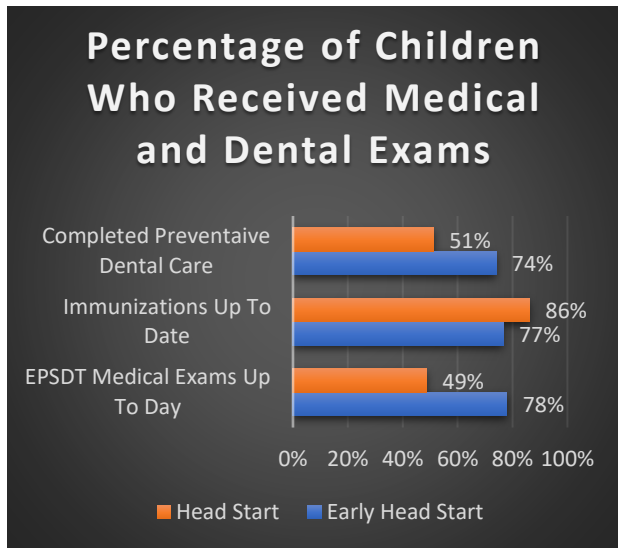
Head Start funds are utilized for program operations, facility maintenance, and to provide Head Start and Early Head Start services to children and families in LHDC's four-county service area, including Crawford, Harrison, Perry, and Spencer Counties.

Enrollment

LHDC Head Start Birth-5 funded enrollment is 371, which includes 291 Center-Based Head Start and 80 Home-Based Early Head Start. Selection criteria are based on community needs, including family income, homelessness, whether the child is in foster care, the child's age, whether the child is eligible for special education services, and other family or child risk factors. During the 2022-2023 program year, the Office of Head Start monitored enrollment monthly. In April 2023, LHDC received an under-enrollment letter which requires the program to create an Enrollment Plan and submit center level enrollment reporting for 12 months.



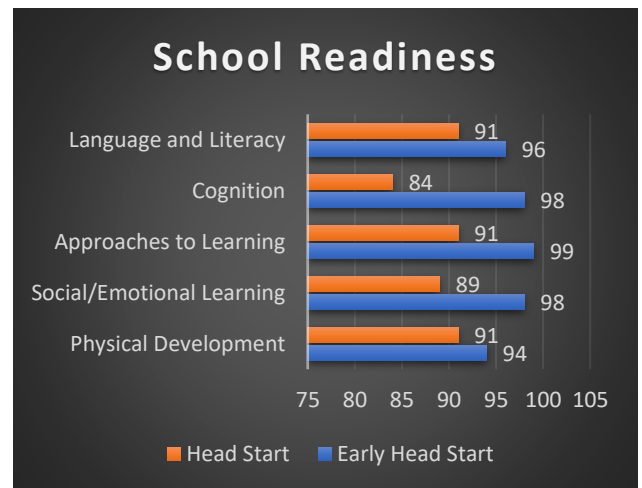
A Healthy Child is a School Ready Child



LHDC Head Start Birth-5 is committed to supporting families and children by providing health care and insurance resources, health reminders, guest speakers, and educational handouts to ensure all families understand the importance of preventative care and well-child exams. Staff assist families in acquiring medical and dental homes and provide referrals to LHDC's Health Care Navigators for help with obtaining health insurance. During the 2022-2023 program year, LHDC Head Start Birth-5 provided COVID-19 information to families on the importance of washing hands and wearing masks to prevent, reduce, and respond to COVID-19. COVID-19 impacted families and their ability to complete EPSDT Medical Exams, Immunizations, and Preventative Dental Care.

Preparing Children for School

LHDC Head Start Birth-5 School Readiness Goals articulate the program's expectation of a child's status and progress across the five essential domains of child development and early learning that will improve school readiness for preschool and kindergarten. The five essential domains are Language and Literacy, Cognitive and General Knowledge, Approaches to Learning, Social Emotional, and Physical Well-Being and Motor Development. Goals are developed around the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, Indiana Learning Foundations, Preschool and Kindergarten School Readiness Goals, and parent goals. To improve school readiness goals, child assessment data is aggregated and analyzed.



Parent Involvement

LHDC Head Start Birth-5 advocates and supports parents in being their child's most important teacher. Head Start Birth-5 promotes shared responsibility with parents for their child's early learning and development. Through a "Family Partnership Agreement," staff and families identify strengths in the following areas: Family Well-Being, Positive Parent-Child Relationships, Families as Lifelong Educators, Families as Learners, Family Engagement in Transitions, Family Connections to Peers and Community, and Families as Advocates and Leaders. Head Start Birth-5 works to instill confidence and success in both children and families in school and everyday life by developing goals, individualizing services, and providing resources as well as support and encouragement. There is a great deal of evidence that indicates fathers play an important role in healthy child development and can lead to better child outcomes in a number of areas. During the 2022-2023 program year, 90 fathers volunteered across LHDC's Head Start Birth-5 four-county service area.