

Fayette County Early Learning Center



Annual Report 2015

Mission Statement

The mission of the Fayette County Early Learning Center is to EMPOWER the children and families of Fayette County through Education, Motivation, Provision of Opportunity, Wellness, Encouragement and Respect.

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ABOUT OUR PROGRAM



Fayette County Early Learning Center is a comprehensive child development program offering services to pregnant mothers and children birth to five years old. Fayette County Head Start is federally funded and serves all of Fayette County. Fayette County Head Start serves 148 Head Start children, 75 Early Head Start children, 60 Public Preschool children contracted through Washington City School District and 72 children through the Early Head Start Childcare Partnership.

Early Head Start: Operates year around in the family's home, with socializations 2-3 times per month at the Head Start center. Early Head Start places an emphasis on parents as their child's first teacher. Families are provided with developmentally appropriate educational activities that meet the developmental level of the child. Parents are taught how to use learning opportunities within their environment to teach their child. Families are also provided with health and nutrition resources, as well as social services and developmental screenings.

EHS-CC Partnership: Operates year round in our partnership sites. The Early Head Start Partnership provides enhancement services to child care centers to increase quality of services for all infants and toddlers. All infants and toddlers benefit from lower ratios, increased staff qualifications, parent education and training classes, and new equipment and materials. The grant provides slots for 24 individual children in each partner county. These children additionally receive family social services, mental health services, nutrition and health services and referral services.

Head Start/PPS: Operates two half day sessions Monday thru Thursday. Morning classes are 8:15 AM to 11:45 AM and afternoon classes are 11:45 AM to 3:15 PM. We also offer 2 full-day classrooms which operate from 8:15-3:15 pm Monday thru Thursday.

Head Start provides age and developmentally appropriate activities with a strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy. We currently use the Creative Curriculum and the Early Learning Content Standards, which aligns with the local kindergarten curriculum. Teachers track child outcomes and plan activities accordingly.

Health and nutrition are key components to our Head Start program. All children receive height, weight, vision, hearing, nutrition, speech, developmental and social emotional screenings yearly.

Our program serves not only the children, but the entire family. Our social service area and in-depth family partnerships include: assessments, goal setting, referrals, and follow-up.

FAYETTE COUNTY, OHIO

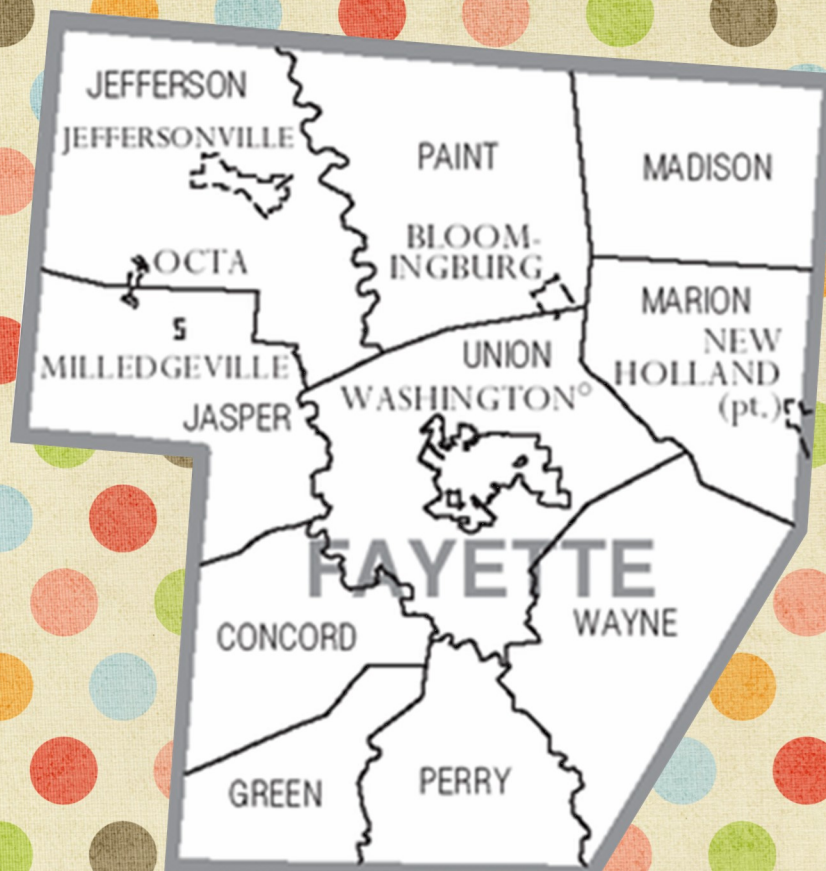
Fayette County is a county located in the state of Ohio. According to the 2015 census estimates, it has a population of 28,800, which is a decrease of .8% from 2010. Its county seat is Washington Court House.

Based on these census estimates, the median household income of Fayette County residents was \$37,619. 20.1% of the residents live in poverty. The ethnicities represented include: White (94.7%), followed by Black (2.4%), Hispanic (1.9%), Asian (0.7%) and American Indian (0.3%).

The county residents under the age of 5 is 6.1%.

Head Start centers are located in Washington Court House and Jeffersonville. These centers provide classroom experiences for children from the following cities: Bloomingburg, Jeffersonville, Washington Court House, Milledgeville, New Holland, Greenfield (partially in Highland and Ross Counties), and Octa. Early Head Start services are provided through the Home-Base option. Families are enrolled based on their level of need.

The Early Head Start Partnership serves three center based, child care sites: Rock-a-Bye (Fayette), Champions In The Making (Clinton), and Sunrise Sunset (Highland).



FCELC PROGRAM STAFF

Our staff consists of 65 individuals who fill the following roles: Child Development and Health Staff, Family Services Support Staff, Transportation Staff and Program Design/Management Staff. Work history verification, reference checks and criminal records checks are completed on all Fayette County Early Learning Center staff.

Of our 65 staff members, 34 of our employees have an Associates degree or higher. The breakdown of those 34 staff members is as follows: 4 with MA, 16 with BA, 12 with AA and 2 LPNs. In addition to this, 3 employees have CDAs and 5 are currently enrolled in a college program~ 100% of our staff are certified in Infant, Child and Adult CPR and First Aid ~ 100% of our staff have Professional Development Plans.

SERVICES PROVIDED

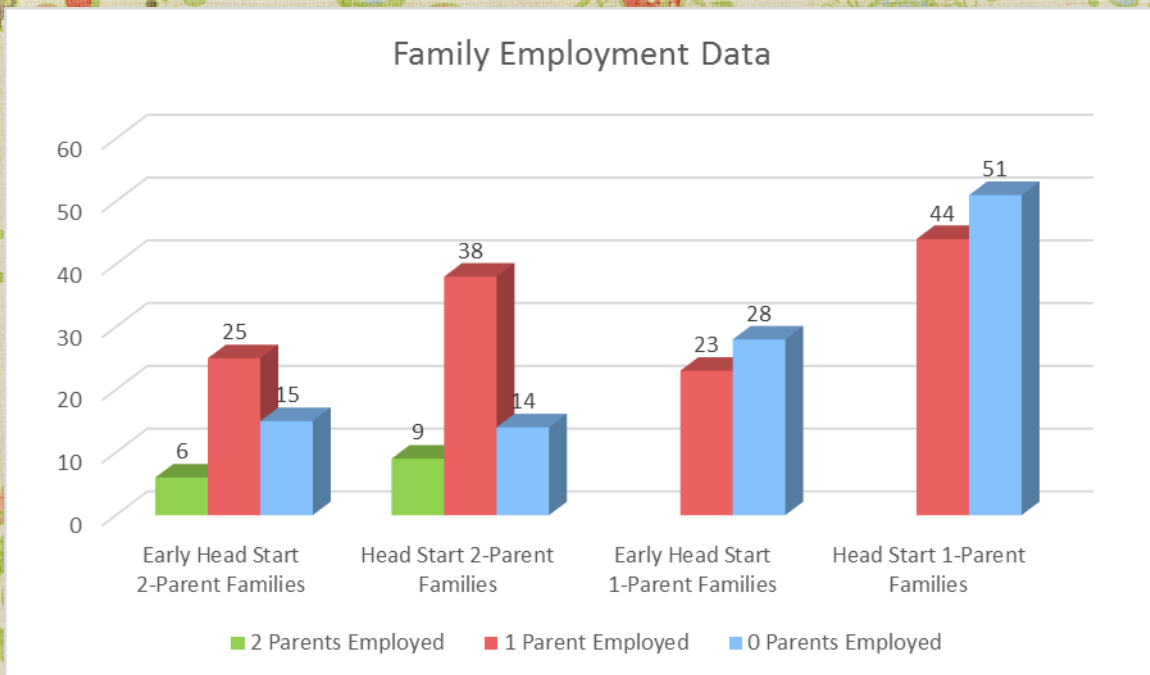
At the Fayette County Early Learning Center we strive to EMPOWER the families we serve by providing nutritional services, educational services, health referral services, family education services, disability services, prenatal and home based services, as well as mental health services with both on and off site consultations.

SERVICES

Enrollment Data	Head start	Early Head start	Early Head start/CCP
Number of funded slots	192	75	72
Number of children served during program year	224	109	97
Number of pregnant women served	0	23	0
Number of families served	203	97	81
Two parent families	86	46	10
Single parent families	117	51	71
Number of families receiving public assistance	43	19	3
Number of homeless families served	16	5	4
Number of children with disabilities receiving special services	18	0	7
Number of children in foster care during program year	4	3	8

Service Provided To Enrolled Families	Head start	Early Head start	Early Head start/CCP
1. Emergency/crisis intervention - Food, clothing, shelter, emergency needs.	24	28	8
2. Housing assistance such as subsidies, utilities, repairs, etc.	9	23	4
3. Mental Health Services	5	8	2
4. English as a Second Language (ESL) training	0	0	0
5. Adult Education such as GED programs and college	0	0	3
6. Job Training	1	0	2
7. Health Education	0	3	0
8. Parenting Education	1	9	5
9. Child Support Assistance	0	0	0
10. Relationship/Marriage Education	0	0	0

PARENT EMPLOYMENT DATA



Comparisons of employment data from the 2014-2015 Head Start program year and the 2015-2016 Head Start program year show that the number of 2 parent households with at least one parent working have stayed the same. The number of 1 parent households with an employed parent increased by 15 families.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

From the time of enrollment, parents are encouraged and offered many opportunities to be involved with our program. As their child's first teacher, parents have an important role in their child's educational experience. Parent involvement opportunities include, but are not limited to participation in: Early Head Start home visits, Head Start/Early Head Start Parent Meeting, Early Head Start playgroup socializations and Head Start classrooms as a parent volunteer. Our teachers and home visitors also encourage parents to continue teaching their child at home by providing homework activities and parent/child reading logs.



BUILDING LEADERS

We build leadership in our program by providing opportunities to parents and community representatives to participate in our Parent Meetings, Policy Council and Governing Board.

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Godwin Apaliyah	Brettani Dodd
William Dent	Dale Lynch
Jack DeWeese	Connie Matthews
Vicki Freedman	Cheryl Royster
Gayle Hansen-Browne	Erica Burns
Mike Henry	Melissa Upthegrove
Mikki Hunter-Smith	Faye Williamson
Gordon McCarty	Wanda Woods

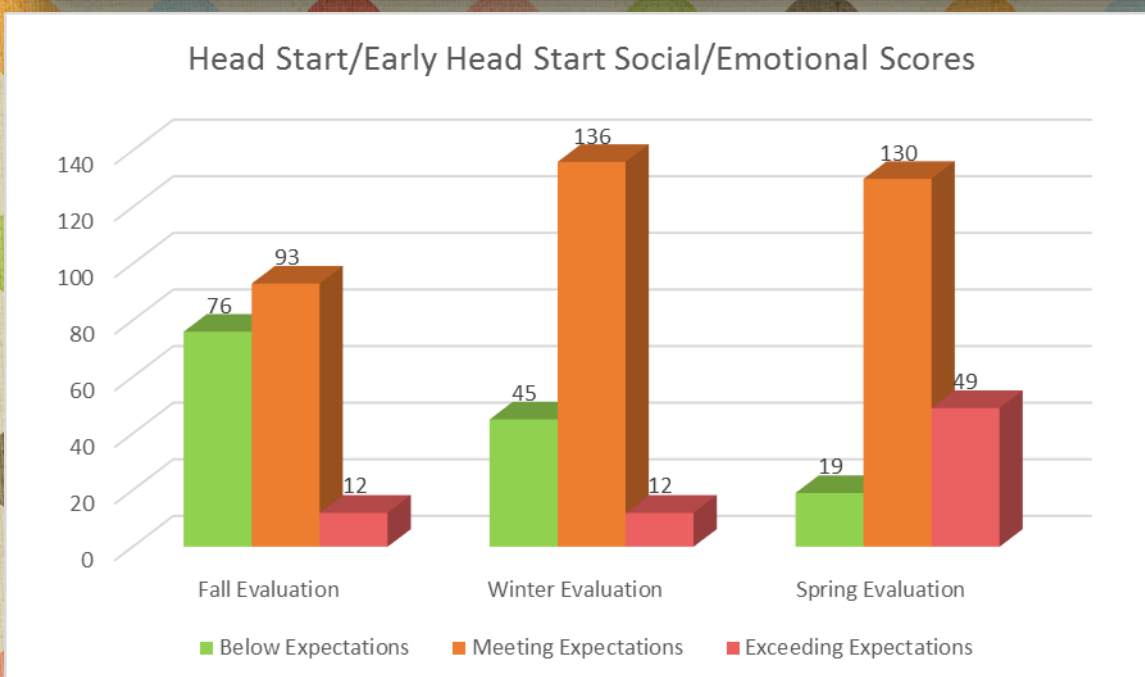
Policy Council Members

President/PPS Parent: Brettani Dodd
Vice President/EHS Parent: Brittani Wilt
Secretary/EHS Parent: Nikki Tilley
Fayette County Health Department: Jeannie Bihl
Miami Trace Local Schools: Amy O'Dierno
Fayette County DJFS/Children's Services: Ashlee Ward
Starting Gate: Jill Phillips
Head Start Parent: Jessica Hawkins
Head Start Parent: Crystal Pendergraft

ASSESSMENT RESULTS

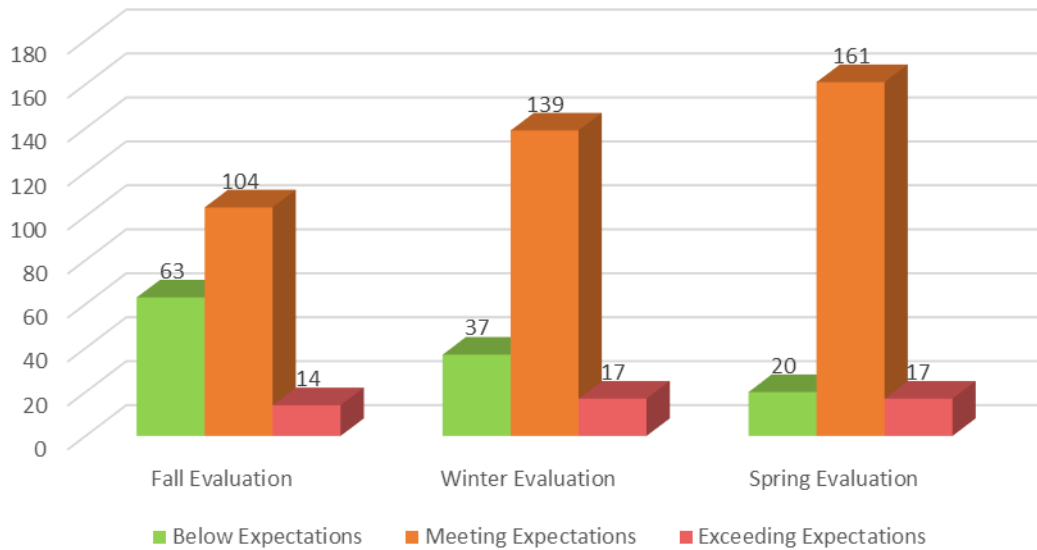
Currently, the Early Head Start program utilizes the Ages and Stages Questionnaire as a screening tool to assist with identifying strengths, delays and possible areas of concern in core developmental areas of children. Children are screened from age one month to three years.

In addition, both Head Start and Early Head Start utilize Teaching Strategies Gold to screen children in a multitude of significant areas to gauge each child's growth throughout the program year.

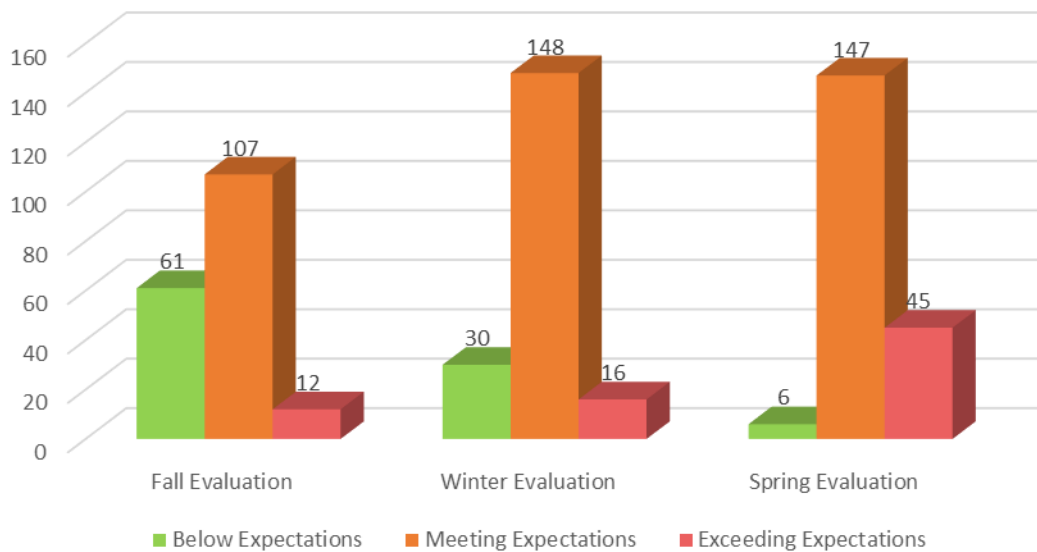


ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Head Start/Early Head Start Physical-Gross Motor Scores

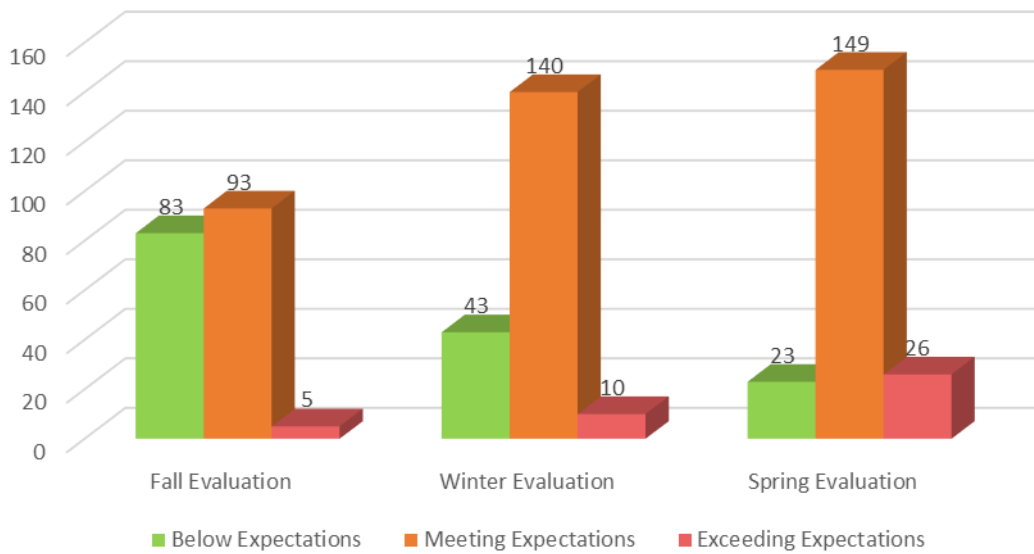


Head Start/Early Head Start Physical-Fine Motor Scores

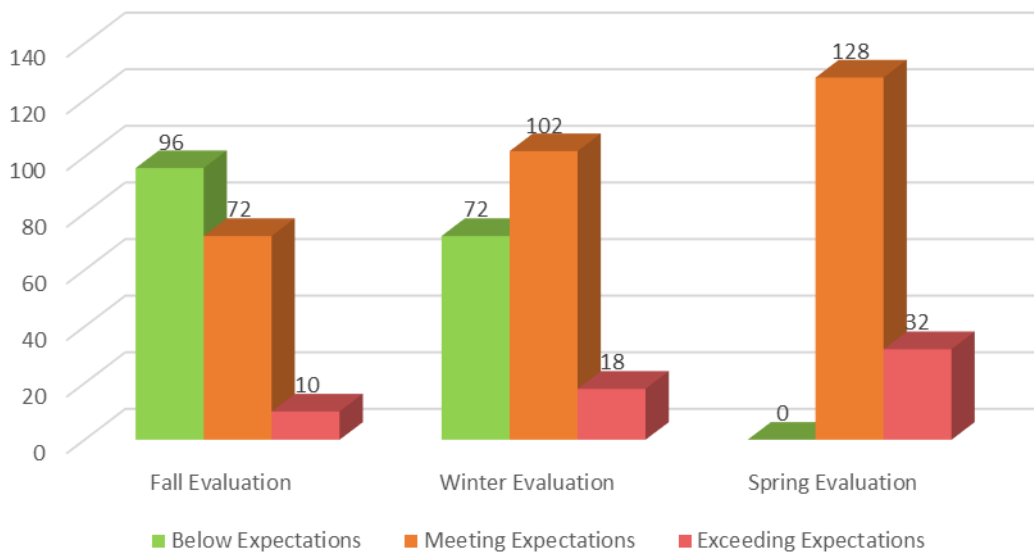


ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Head Start/Early Head Start Language Scores

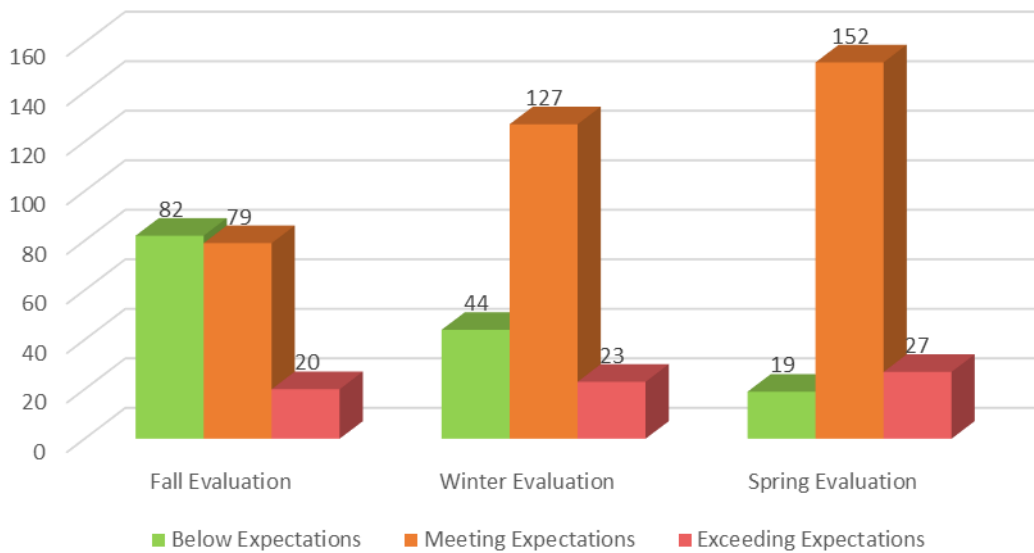


Head Start/Early Head Start Math Scores

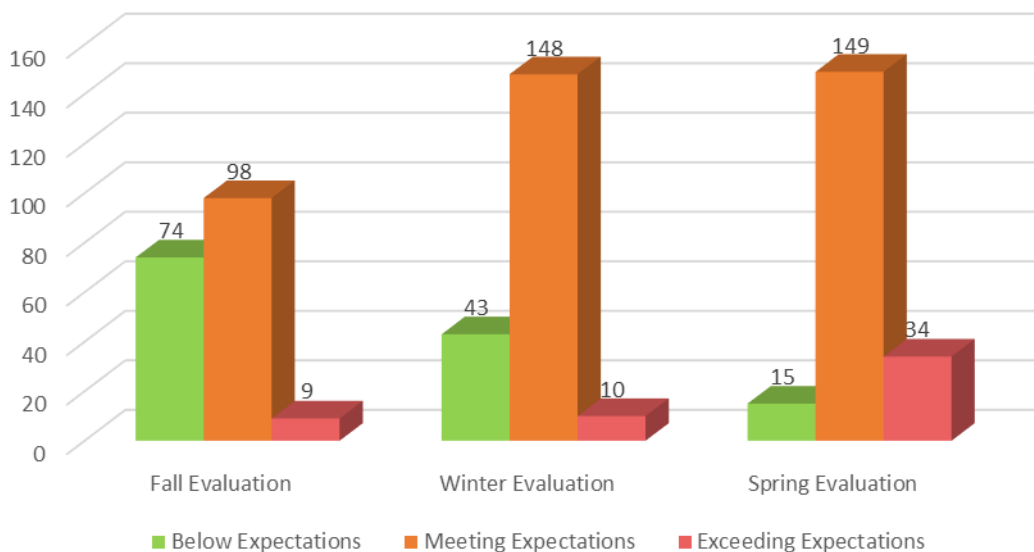


ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Head Start/Early Head Start Literacy Scores



Head Start/Early Head Start Cognitive Scores



KINDERGARTEN PREPARATION

Throughout the school year, teachers worked with children on kindergarten readiness skills. Each child was assessed using Teaching Strategies Gold. Individual goals were established based on the child's current and emerging skills. Kinder Camp is an opportunity for parents of children transitioning to kindergarten to meet with teachers and go over assessment data, meet public school teachers/administrators, and to create activities to help their children continue to learn over the summer months.

A kindergarten folder containing copies of shot records, birth certificate, custody papers, and social security card is provided to the parents. Parents are informed of upcoming registration dates and times. At the conclusion of the school year, the teachers send home ideas and suggestions for the child to work on over the summer months.

Cherry Hill Primary



Students who are transitioning into the local school districts for Kindergarten are given the opportunity to visit their future school on an annual Kindergarten field trip.



Miami Trace Elementary

HEALTH & NUTRITION SERVICES

Our Head Start children begin their health screenings at our Child Screening Days. Through collaborative efforts with our community professionals we offer on-site physical examinations, dental exams, fluoride treatment, hemoglobin, lead, vision, speech, hearing and developmental screenings. Parents are made aware of any needed follow-up and have access to community professionals to discuss their child's needs. These screening days are extremely helpful to both parents and staff. Parents are able to obtain everything their child needs in one visit and staff are able to complete all needed developmental screenings!

Dental follow-up is the biggest concern for our Head Start children. Our program is a rural program and access to the specialized pediatric dentistry that the majority of our children need is not available within our county. We have three pediatric dental partnerships, as well as our Family Dental partnership. We offer transportation assistance to all families which enables them to keep their appointments and obtain their child's dental care.

Childhood obesity is an additional concern for our children. Emphasis on positive choices regarding food choices, decreasing screen time and increasing physical activity. Some of the avenues we use to aid our families in combatting the issue of childhood obesity include: I Am Moving, I Am Learning in the classroom, Chef Combo, Healthy Beginnings, nutritional handouts sent home with children and nutrition training (healthy snacking & grocery shopping within your budget) at parent meetings provided by our partnership with our Ohio State Extension service.

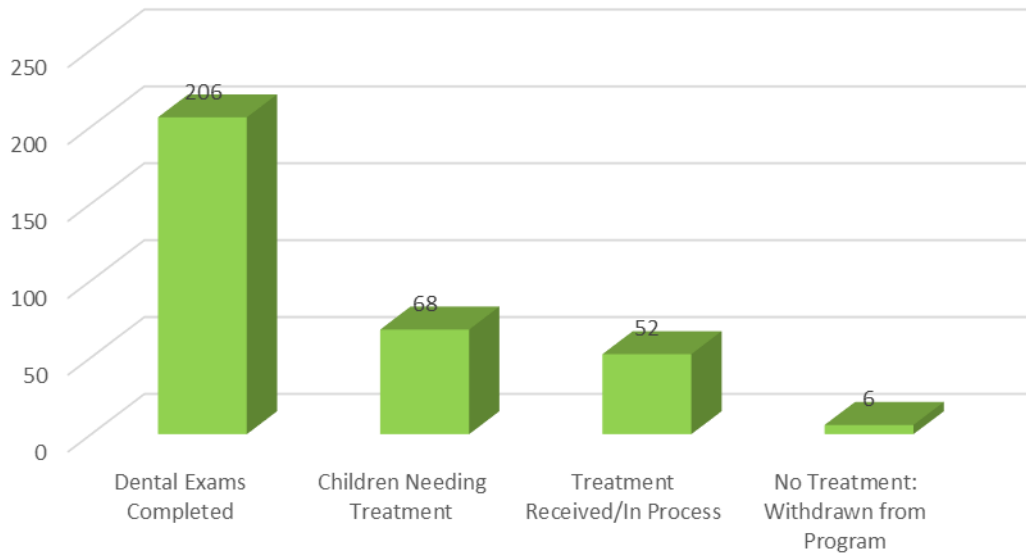
HEALTH & NUTRITION SERVICES *BY THE NUMBERS*

	Head Start		Early Head Start		EHS-CCP	
	At Enrollment	At End Of Enrollment	At Enrollment	At End Of Enrollment	At Enrollment	At End Of Enrollment
Up to Date On Age Appropriate Preventative and Primary Healthcare	126	215	124	125	52	52
Up to Date on Immunizations	79	107	88	103	44	47
Waiver/Exemption to Immunizations	82	89	9	10	21	21
Children with Health Insurance	219	220	124	125	96	97
Children with Medical Home	203	221	107	121	93	95
Children with Dental Home	97	221	13	124	10	92

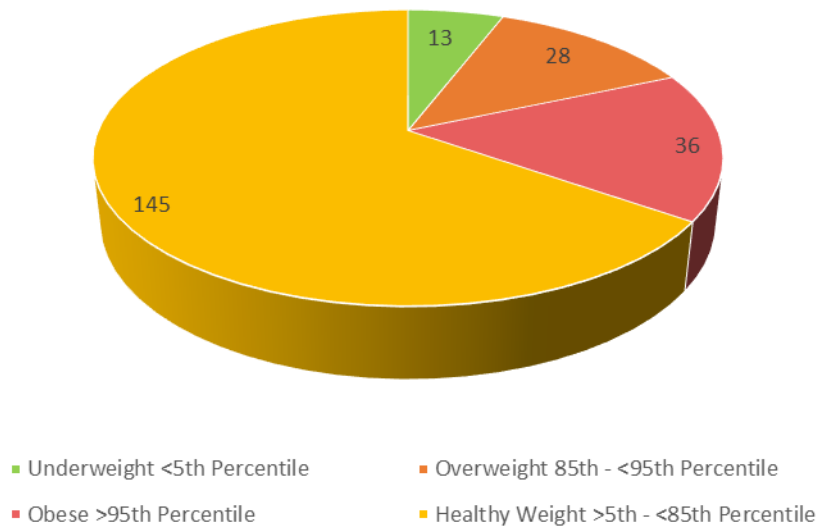
HEALTH & NUTRITION SERVICES

BY THE NUMBERS

Child Dental Status 2015-2016



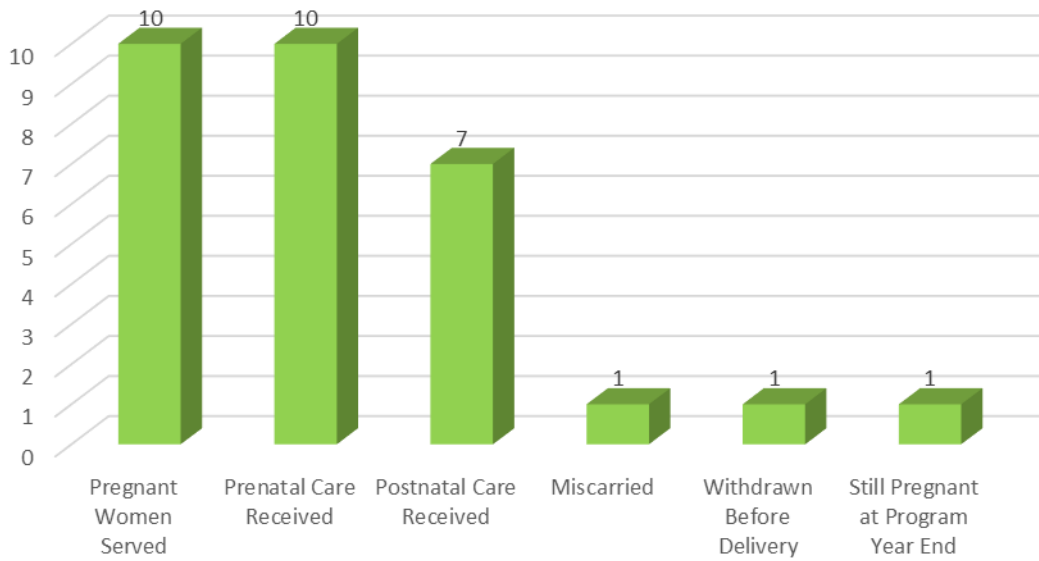
Child Weight Status 2015-2016



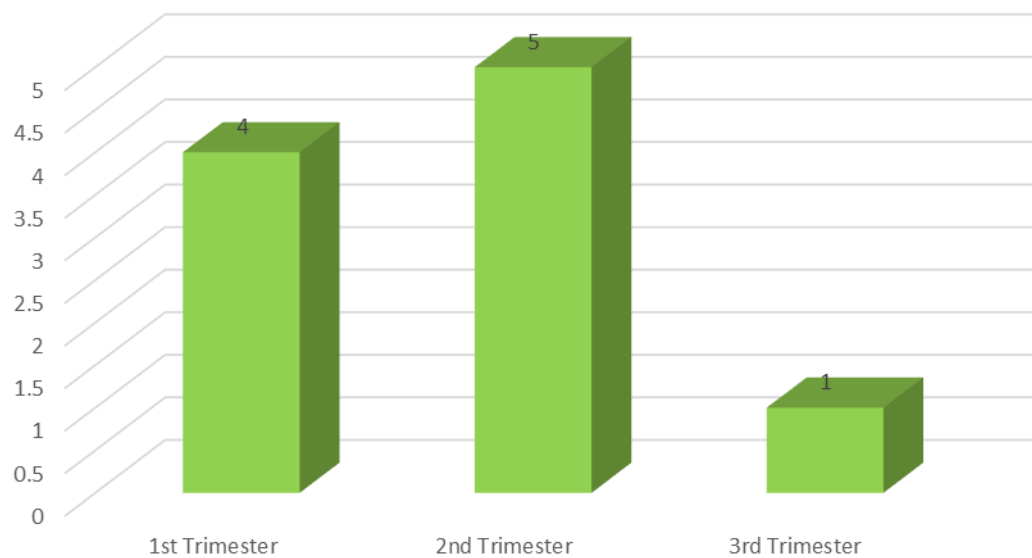
HEALTH & NUTRITION SERVICES

BY THE NUMBERS

Pregnancy Services 2015-2016



Pregnancy Enrollment by Trimester 2015-2016



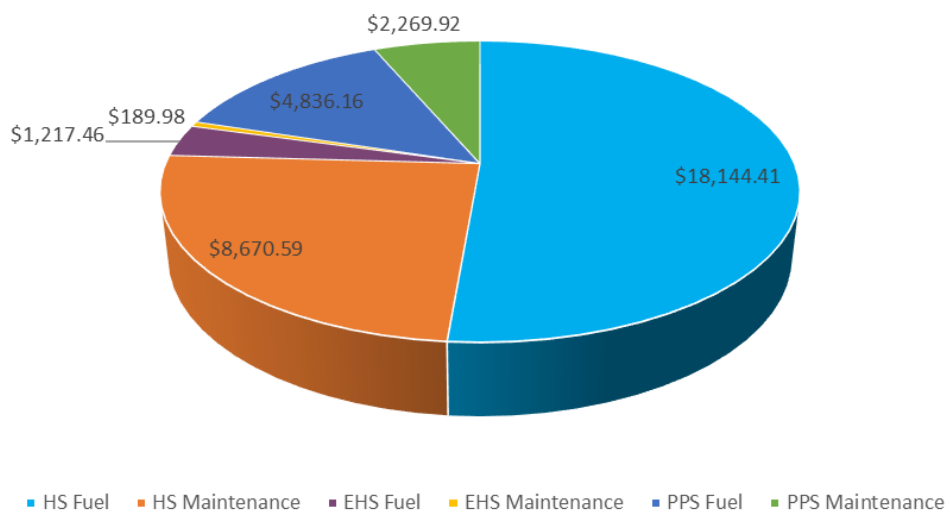
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Fayette County Early Learning Center Transportation Services focus on transporting students safely to and from two local Head Start centers. One in Washington Court House, and the other is located in Jeffersonville. Transportation services involve the pick-up and discharge of children at regularly scheduled times and pre-arranged sites, including trips between children's homes and program settings. Head Start Transportation Services also accommodates field trips for additional learning experiences for children. Fayette County Early Learning Center also provides transportation for families with children in need of dental appointments during the program year.

Head Start Transportation staff includes 5 CDL licensed drivers, 5 Bus Monitors, 2 Substitute drivers, and 1 Transportation Manager. Six buses transport roughly 135 children to and from center based programming. Experiences on the bus are an important part of preparing children and families for school. We believe the bus should be an extension of the classroom, so bus monitors provide activities to keep the children engaged in learning. In addition to busing, 2 cars help to provide transportation for Home Based Visitors which serve a total of 74 children and pregnant mothers in their homes. Early Head Start also accommodates trips to appointments as needed, for children who otherwise have no transportation.

TRANSPORTATION COSTS

Breakdown of Annual Transportation Costs



SUCCESS STORY



Larin has been a Head Start parent for six years in our program. In that time she has had all three of her children in either the Early Head Start or the Head Start programs. Her children are Carleigh-10, Casi-8 and Connor-4 years. In the six years her children have been enrolled Larin, along with their father Chris, have been very involved in the program, volunteering and attending meetings.

Three years ago, Larin began working in our program as a bus aide. In the past two years she has continued to be a bus aide but has also taken the position of a center assistant in the classrooms. Larin has been a very dedicated employee helping wherever she is needed.

Last year she began the process of obtaining her Child Development Associate Credential (CDA). The CDA is designed to prepare those working with young children in all settings. The fields of study focus on supporting children's learning in all areas-physical, social emotional, and intellectual. The CDA serves as a document of that employee's professionalism and competence that they bring into the classroom. Larin's hard work led to her completing the courses and obtaining her CDA in April 2016. We are thankful to have Larin as part of our teaching team and as an aide on the bus. The dedication she brings to her work have led to great bonds with both children and their families. We are truly thankful to have Larin as a part of our team!

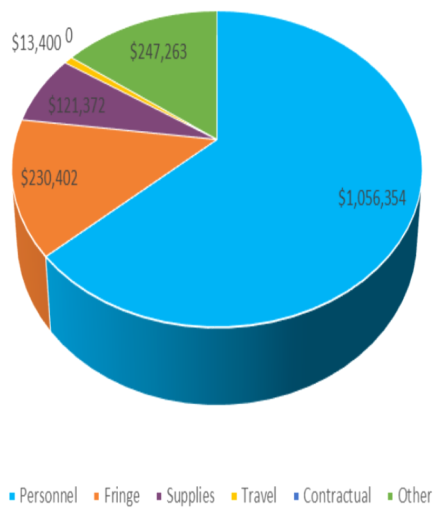
FUNDING/BUDGETARY INFORMATION

Community Action Commission of Fayette County received \$1,042,492 through a grant from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to administrator the Head Start/Early Head Start programs for the 2015-16 program year. The required non-federal share of \$425,681 was met.

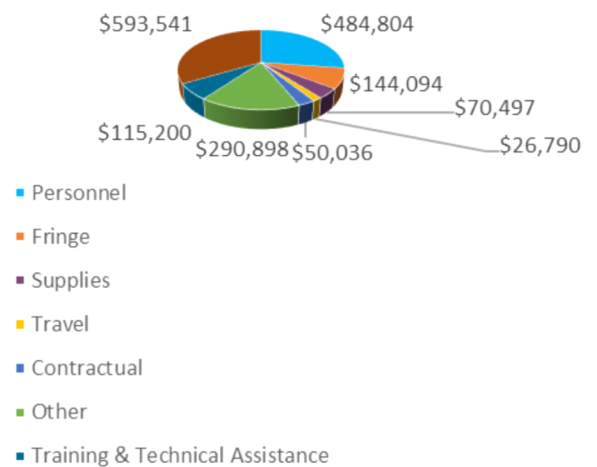
In addition, the agency received \$1,775,860 through a grant from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to administer the Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Grant for the startup 18 month period 3/1/2015- 8/31-2016. A waiver was submitted and approved for the non-federal share. Much of the startup budget included major physical renovations for all partners including 3 new playgrounds, and various building renovations.

The following charts display the budget expenditures for the 2015/2016 program year.

Head Start/Early Head Start Budget Breakdown



Early Head Start CCP Budget Breakdown



ADDITIONAL FUNDING

STEP UP TO QUALITY OVERVIEW

Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) is a five-star quality rating and improvement system administered by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. SUTQ recognizes and promotes learning and development programs that meet quality program standards that exceed licensing health and safety regulations. The program standards are based on national research identifying standards which lead to improved outcomes for children.

Programs with star ratings receive a Quality Achievement Award. The amount of awards is determined by program size, number of subsidized children and number of the star rating.

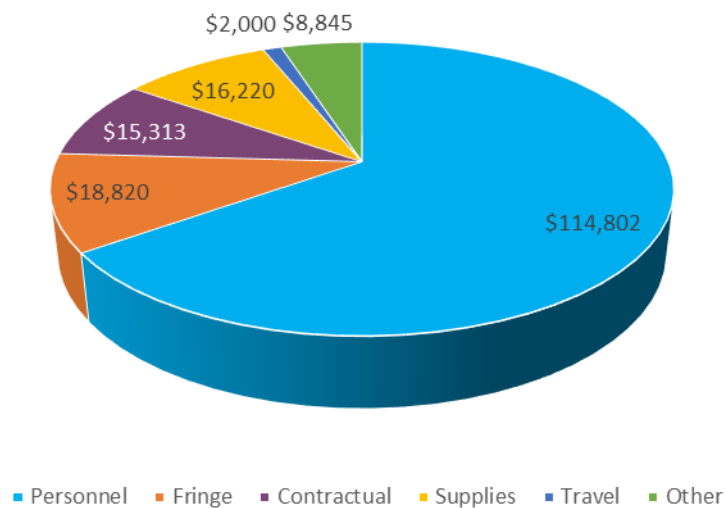
Washington Court House Center-5 star rated center-Award \$6500

Jeffersonville Center-5 star rated center-Award \$3500

USDA FUNDING

USDA 3/1/2015-2/29/2016 Total Reimbursement = \$99,530

Washington City School Public Preschool Partnership
Total Budget: \$176,000



PROGRAM OPERATIONS

Accountability—Quality Assurance—External Review

Monitoring the goals and activities of Head Start and Early Head Start programs is an ongoing process. Through the use of regular self-assessments, the Tri-Annual Federal Review, and an annual fiscal audit, Fayette County Early Learning Center Head Start and Early Head Start are able to maintain a high quality program and participate in continuous program improvement.

Audit Findings

The annual A-122 fiscal audit had no findings.

Most Recent Findings

During the 2015-2016 funding year, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted several on-site monitoring reviews. Our Head Start and Early Head Start program had the following reviews.

- The ERSEA (Enrollment, Recruitment, Selection, Eligibility, Attendance) review was completed on 3/19/15. There were no findings or areas of non-compliance.
- The CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) was completed on 4/27/15. No findings were identified with no areas of non-compliance.
- The Program Design and Management review was completed on 4/11/16. No findings were identified with no areas of non-compliance.

Our Early Head Start Child Care Partnership program also had a review in 2015/2016. The Environmental Health and Safety review was completed with no findings in any of our partnering sites. No areas of non-compliance were noted.