



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 home-based children and 60 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. Early Head Start places an emphasis on parents as their child's first teacher. Home Visitors partner with families to provide developmentally appropriate educational activities that meet the individual needs of the child. Home Visitors guide parents on how to use the home environment to provide learning opportunities for their child. Families are also provided with health and nutrition resources, social services and developmental screenings for their child.

**EHS-CC Partnership:** Operates year round in our partnership sites: Rock-A-Bye Early Learning Center: 3 Star Step Up to Quality rated (Fayette), Champions in the Making Wilson Center: 1 Star Step Up to Quality rated (Clinton) and Sunrise Sunset: 5 Star Step Up to Quality rated (Highland). 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 20 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:** Operates in two centers, Washington Court House and Jeffersonville. Both centers are rated 5 STAR through Step Up To Quality (SUTQ).

SUTQ is a tier based quality rating system that is administered by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

Head Start provides age and developmentally appropriate activities with a strong emphasis on language and math development. We currently use the Creative Curriculum which is aligned with the Ohio Early Learning Content Standards, Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and School Readiness Goals.

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.

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

# About Our Community

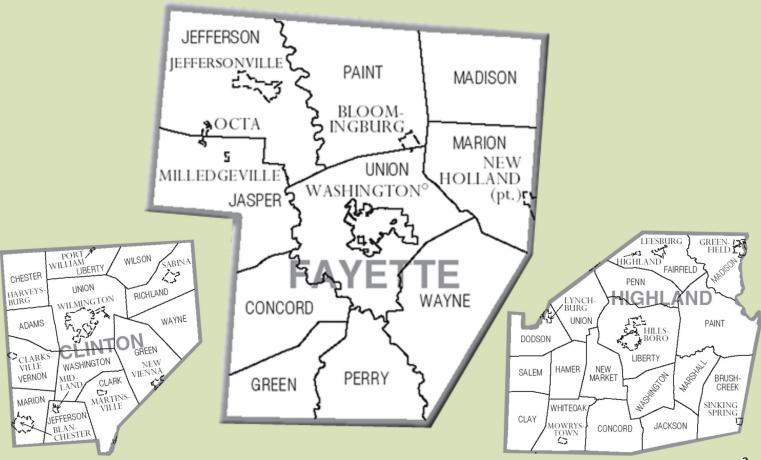
Fayette County is located in the state of Ohio. According to the 2015 census estimates, it has a population of 28,800, which is a decrease of .8% from 2010. Its county seat is Washington Court House.

Based on these census estimates, the median household income of Fayette County residents was \$37,619. 20.1% of 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), Wilson (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 66 staff members, 33 of our employees have an Associate's degree or higher. The breakdown of those 33 is as follows: 5 with MA, 15 with BA, 11 with AA and 2 LPNs. In addition to this, 13 employees have CDAs, 2 are currently enrolled in CDA program and 10 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

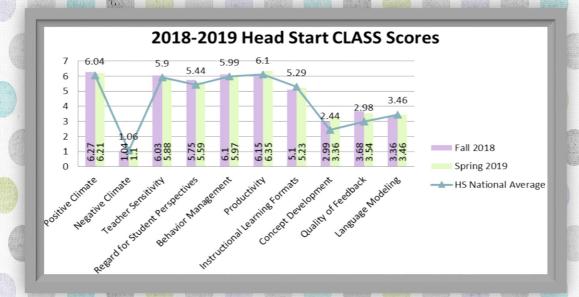
Enrollment Data	Head Start	Early Head Start	Early Head Start-CCP	
Number of funded slots	148	75	60	
Number of children served during program year	179	109	103	
Number of pregnant women served	0	25	0	
Number of families served	165	96	82	
Number of children enrolled as receiving public assistance	26	13	6	
Number of children enrolled as homeless	19	27	9	
Number of children with disabilities receiving special services	24	11	7	
Number of children enrolled as foster child	6	3	1	
Number of children enrolled as income eligible	104	70	73	
Number of children enrolled as over-income	16	17	9	
Number of children enrolled as 100-130%	8	4	0	



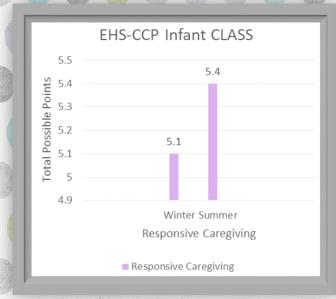
### CLASS Assessment Data

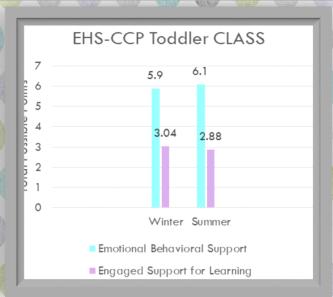
The Classroom Assessment Scoring System, CLASS is an observation tool that rates the quality of teacher interactions. CLASS uses a numbered scale of 1-7, seven being the highest. The CLASS is split into three domains that are comprised of 10 dimensions listed below:

- \*Emotional Support-Positive Climate, Negative Climate, Teacher Sensitivity, and Regard for Student Perspectives: This area refers to specific teaching behaviors that help children develop warm, supportive relationships, experience enjoyment and excitement about learning, feel comfortable in the classroom, and experience appropriate levels of autonomy or independence.
- \*Classroom Organization- Behavior Management, Productivity, Instructional Learning Formats: This area describes specific teaching behaviors that help children develop skills to regulate their own behavior, get the most learning out of each day, and maintain interest in learning activities.
- \*Instructional Support-Concept Development, Quality of Feedback, and Language Modeling: This area refers to specific teaching behaviors that support children's cognitive and language growth.

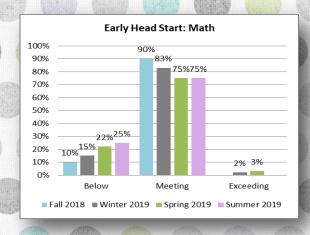


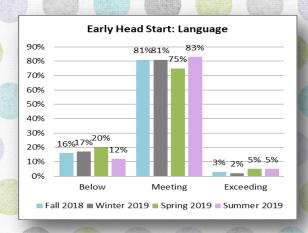
Infant/Toddler Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is a tool used to assess the classroom environment. CLASS is age specific, so Infant CLASS is different than Toddler CLASS. The highest possible score in CLASS is a 7 in all areas. A team of 3 certified observers assess the partner classrooms on a quarterly basis. Below are the results of the CLASS assessment for winter and summer 2018-2019.

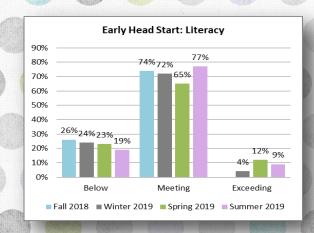


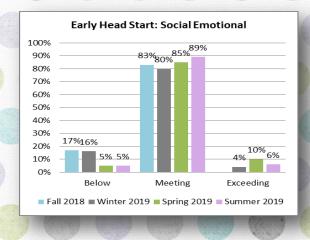


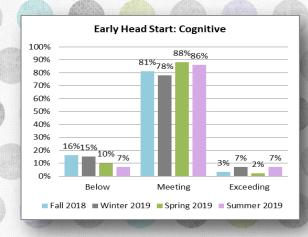
The following represents the development of the home-based infant and toddler children over the Program year 2018/2019. The number listed above each bar is the percent out of 100 that are below, meeting or exceeding typical development.

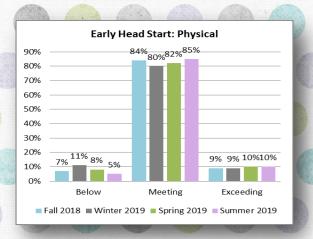






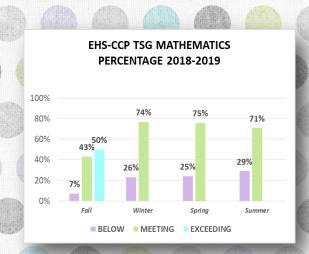


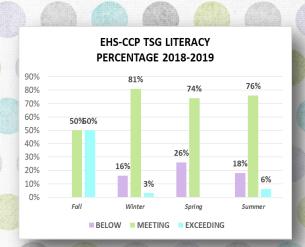


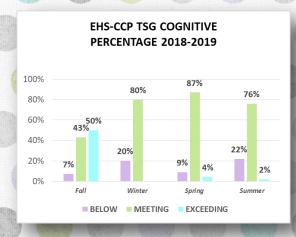


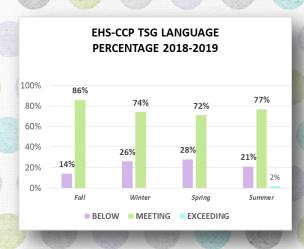
Teaching Strategies Gold is also used as the individual child assessment system in childcare centers to determine the development of children birth-3. All teachers must pass a reliability test before inputting observational data on children.

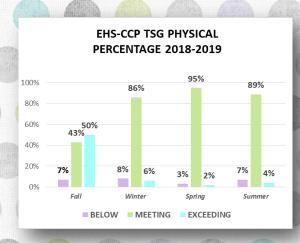
The tool then reports where the children are according to their development levels and chronological age.

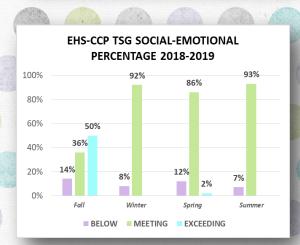






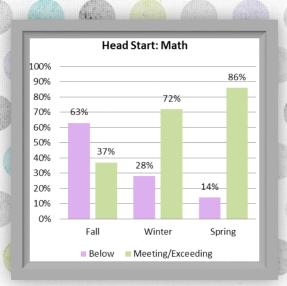


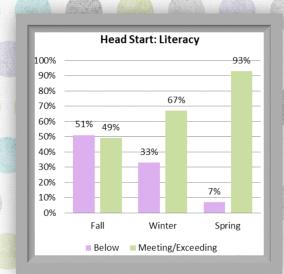


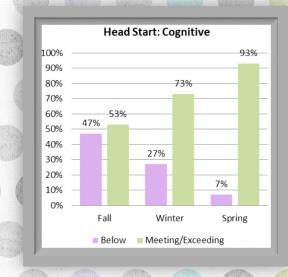


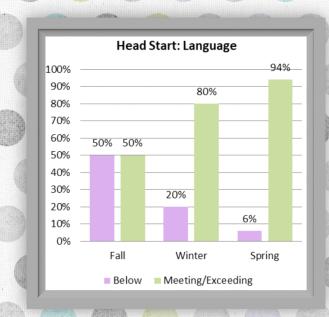
Both Head Start and Early Head Start utilize Teaching Strategies Gold to screen children in a multitude of significant areas to gauge each child's growth throughout the program year:

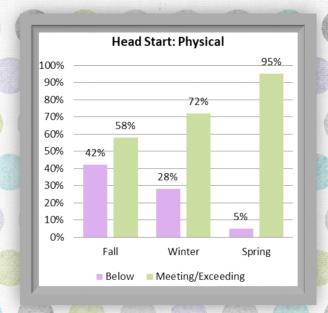
The following charts represent the development of the preschool children over the Program year 2018/2019. The number listed above each bar is the percent out of 100 that are below, meeting or exceeding typical development.













PLAY IS OFTEN TALKED ABOUT AS IF IT WERE A RELIEF FROM SERIOUS LEARNING. BUT FOR CHILDREN PLAY IS SERIOUS LEARNING. PLAY IS REALLY THE WORK OF CHILDHOOD.

-FRED ROGERS

## 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.



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.



#### 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 a family dental partnership. We have been able to provide an on-site pediatric dental consultation for families to establish a dental treatment plan for their child, including both in-office and surgical treatments. 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, 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		EHS-CCP	
Service Control				Start			
	% Enrolled Children Who	@ enroll @e	nd	@ enroll	@end	@ enroll	@end
	Received Physical Exams*	71% 98	%	65%	80%	59%	63%
	% Enrolled Children Who	93%					
	Received Dental Exams			Nacional Parties	and the same		Annual

## 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

Michael Gibbons-Camp

William Dent,

Stephanie Griffin

Jack DeWeese

Dale Lynch

Kelly Herd

Sharon Gibbs

Faye Williamson

Cheryl Royster

Mike Henry

James Garland

Elizabeth Mooney

Bob Kinzer

Trevor Patton

Lisa Sluder

Jodi Noel

Kuddy Thomas

#### POLICY COUNCIL MEMBERS

President/HS Parent: Stephanie Griffin

Vice President/EHS Parent: Tiffany Graves

Secretary/Jeffersonville Parent: Nikki Tilley

Fayette County Health Department: Jeannie Bihl

WCH Local Schools: Missy Marsh

Fayette County DJFS/Children's Services: Marcie Hamilton

Starting Gate: Jill Phillips

Early Head Start/CCP Parent: Sarah McQuiniff

Gifted leadership occurs when heart and head – feeling and thought – meet. These are the two winds that allow a leader to soar.

Daniel Goleman

### Parent Involvement

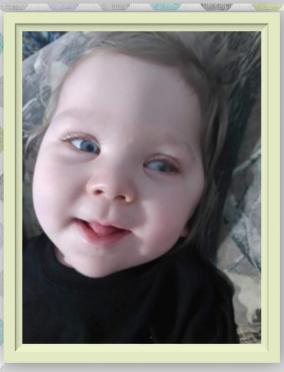
From the time of enrollment, parents are encouraged and offered many opportunities to be involved with our program. As their child's first teacher, parents have an important role in their child's educational experience. Parent involvement opportunities include, but are not limited to participation in: Policy Council, Governing Board, Early Head Start home visits, Head Start/Early Head Start parent meetings, Early Head Start playgroup socializations, Head Start classroom parent volunteers as well as other various committees throughout the program year. Our teachers and home visitors also encourage parents to continue teaching their child at home by providing homework activities and parent/child reading logs.







# Success Story



Kolton began his journey with Community Action Commission of Fayette County's EHS home-based program when he was just 7 months old. When his mom (Meghan) enrolled Kolton in the program, she informed the program he was visually impaired and had some other physical concerns. Mom was currently traveling 4 days every week to Children's Hospital for doctor and therapy appointments. She was doing all of this while trying to hold down a 3<sup>rd</sup> shift job. She was so stressed because she would work all night and then go to appointments in Columbus.

When Kay (Home Visitor) began seeing the family, she expressed concerns for mom's physical well-being because she was physically draining herself. Kay talked to mom about looking into services for Kolton locally. Mom was excited and did not realize this was an option available for Kolton. Kay went back to the center and contacted the Head Start/Early Head Start Mental Health/Disabilities Manager about how to get started applying for an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). They started the paperwork right away making calls and scheduling assessments. Kolton

was placed on an IFSP pretty quickly and was given a team of professionals who would now provide most of the services he was currently getting at Children's Hospital, Columbus in his home.

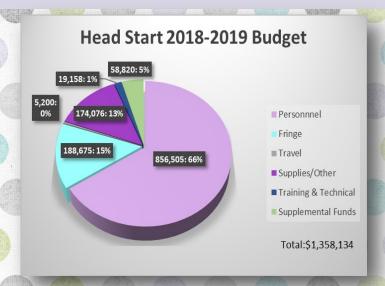
Kolton has multiple diagnosis and has struggled since before he was born. When Meghan was just 4 months along in her pregnancy, the doctors suggested mom abort Kolton because he had fluid on his brain and quite a few other medical issues that would cause a poor quality of life. Meghan refused and wanted whatever time she was going to be given with him. When Kolton was born, he was born with Gorlins skin cancer. He had to have a shunt put in to drain the fluid off his brain at 2 weeks old. He had 1 functioning kidney, a cleft-palate, and Laryngomalacia (where vocal folds in throat open the wrong way causing problems, swallowing etc.). The cleft-palate was corrected in December 2018. Kolton has always had a feeding tube and the doctors now want to put in a trach due to the problems with swallowing. Meghan does not want to do this and with Kay's help is learning to advocate for another alternative. She is now getting a Hensinger Collar that will help support the head and neck and will work in place of the trach. Kolton has been in the hospital off and on for over 14 months. He even spent his 1<sup>st</sup> birthday in the hospital. Kolton is now 15 months old.

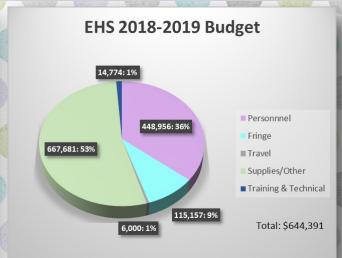
With the IFSP team in place, Kolton is able to receive occupational therapy, physical therapy, pallative nursing care, Early Intervention from the Board of Developmental Disabilities, and additional social service supports at mom's request along with the Early Head Start program. Meghan does not have to go to Children's as frequently and is able to focus on Kolton's care as well as being there for his siblings who are 11 and 13 years of age. Starting in June, Kolton will have an enhanced support team who will provide more intensive support for him in his home as they put increased efforts in building motor skills. Kolton is getting multiple assistive chairs, swings and equipment to assist in his motor development. Kolton is doing much better with therapy since it is in his home and not in hospital. He will also begin seeing a specialist weekly to build strength in his eye that can see sunlight.

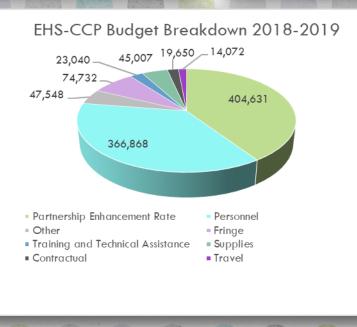
Kolton has made great progress but has a long road ahead. He is a fighter and mom is here to make sure he gets the care he needs. The IFSP team has also helped mom find financial resources through programs offered to children with severe disabilities allowing her to have her rent covered while Kolton needs her at home. This family is dealing with a lot even outside of Kolton's care but together with their Home Visitor, Kay and the IFSP team they will all be able to persevere.

## Funding/Budgetary Information

Community Action Commission of Fayette County received a total of \$2,002,525 in funds from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to administer the Head Start/Early Head Start program for the 2018-2019 program year. These funds included a 2.6% COLA increase and \$87,290 for roof and flooring repairs in two classrooms (floor: \$58,601; roof: \$28,689). The program is required to obtain \$493,459 in non-federal share. A waiver for \$149,588 of those non -federal share funds was submitted due to a decrease in parent involvement with full-day classes and increased volunteer requirements through ODJFS.







#### **USDA FUNDING**

USDA 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

Total Reimbursement: \$113,089

## 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 New Uniform Guidance fiscal audit had no findings.

#### Most Recent Findings

During the 2018-2019 funding year, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) did not conduct on-site monitoring reviews.

Our Early Head Start Child Care Partnership did not receive any reviews in the 2018-2019 program year.

Based on these reports the program will receive a review in the 2019-2020 program year.