

WESTERN CAROLINA COMMUNITY ACTION CHILDREN'S SERVICES ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

In 2009, WCCA's Children's Services served 362 families and 382 children between the ages of birth and five years old. Of that number, 242 families were two parent families and 120 were single parent families. Additional services such as clothing, food and transportation assistance were provided for 332 families. 46 children received medical treatment for a chronic health condition and 53 children were professionally diagnosed with a disability. 75 children received mental health services. All enrolled children received the required medical and dental exams. The average daily attendance for Head Start was 88 percent and 90 percent for Early Head Start.

Percentage of Eligible Children Served

13 percent of the children ages birth to three living below the poverty level in Henderson and Transylvania Counties were served in Early Head Start and eighty-one percent of those ages three to five years old were served in Head Start.

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement activities included parent committee meetings, ESL classes, fatherhood activities, Policy Council, and special events. 50 children's fathers participated in fatherhood activities.

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

Ensuring that children are ready for school does not happen automatically. Children's experiences and the skills and characteristics they develop during the preschool years are critically important to their success later in life. National experts conclude that children's cognitive abilities and the concepts they can understand if they are exposed to age-appropriate and stimulating learning opportunities were previously underestimated. WCCA's Children Services prepares children for kindergarten using the following strategies:

- Our comprehensive educational program focuses on language, literacy, mathematics, science, creative arts, social/emotional development, approaches to learning, and physical health and development.
- The curriculum aligns with NC Early Learning Standards for Preschoolers and NC Kindergarten Standard Course of Study.
- Coordination and collaboration between WCCA and Henderson and Transylvania County Schools supports children's readiness and address transition strategies. These include activities such as field trips to the elementary schools and participation in the Kindergarten Readiness rally.
- Education outcomes are linked by ongoing assessment with curriculum goals in order to help each child meet his/her educational potential. Tracking of outcomes is done using the *CreativeCurriculum.net* online assessment system which is based on a continuum of developmental steps that children progress through.

WCCA's Head Start & Early Head Start Budget 7/1/09 – 6/30/10

	PA - 20 Head Start T&TA	PA - 22 Head Start Program	PA - 26 Early HS T&TA	PA - 25 Early HS Program	ARRA HS Expansion	ARRA COLA/ Quality	Total
Personnel	0	984,154	0	395,880	165,000	75,196	1,620,230
Fringe Benefits	0	235,346	0	108,172	49,500	22,559	415,577
Travel	12,486	0	6,000	2,954	2,000	0	23,440
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Supplies	2,875	46,391	4,000	21,845	25,680	0	100,791
Contractual	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Facilities/Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	12,642	263,503	6,469	65,508	61,000	64,470	473,592
Total Direct	28,003	1,529,394	16,469	594,359	303,180	162,225	2,633,630
Indirect Charges	0	204,442	0	84,544	37,500	17,108	343,594
Total Budget	28,003	1,733,836	16,469	678,903	340,680	179,333	2,977,224

WCCA's Head Start and Early Head Start Expenditures 7/1/08 - 6/30/09

Income	
Head Start Federal Funds	1,749,488
Early Head Start Federal Funds	674,403
Head Start In-kind	437,372
Early Head Start In-kind	168,601
Total Head Start & Early Head Start Funding	3,029,864
TEACH	53,235
Other Local Contract	1,320
Total Funding	3,084,419
Expenditures	1,435,137
Head Start T&TA Expenditures	23,969
Head Start Administrative Expenditures	290,382
Head Start In-kind Match	437,372
Early Head Start Program Expenditures	546,302
Early Head Start T&TA Expenditures	15,658
Early Head Start Administrative Expenditures	112,443
Early Head Start In-kind Match	168,601
Other Related Expenditures	54,555
Total Expenditures	3,084,419

There were no audit findings for the year ended 6/30/09. The federal review in 2008 showed all areas in compliance. The next federal review will occur between October 2010 and May 2011.