

WESTERN CAROLINA COMMUNITY ACTION CHILDREN'S SERVICES ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 2015-2016

For the 2015-2016 Program year, WCCA's Children's Services served 829 families and 897 children between the ages of birth and five years old. That number reflects our traditional programs: Early Head Start (319 children); Head Start (316 children, center and home base); NCPReK (117 children); as well as the Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Program (145 children).

A new service WCCA now offers is the Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Program (EHS- CPP). This program spans Henderson, Transylvania, Rutherford and Polk Counties. The EHS-CCP served 145 children for this reported program year. The EHS-CCP does not provide services for pregnant mothers.

Of the total number served in the Head Start, Early Head Start and Early Head Start Child Care Partnership programs, 384 were two parent families and 328 were single parent families. Additional services such as clothing, food and transportation assistance were provided for 425 families. 89 families experiencing homelessness were served. 82 percent of the homeless families acquired housing during the enrollment year. 27 children were in foster care. 52 children received medical treatment for a chronic health condition and 74 children were professionally diagnosed with a disability. 48 children received mental health services. The required medical and dental exams were received by 98 percent of the children. 35 children received restorative dental treatment. 14 pregnant mothers and their newborns received services.

The average daily attendance for Head Start was 84.62 percent, 82.1 percent for Early Head Start and 88.7 percent for EHS-CCP. Any reason for low attendance is reported at Policy Council each month. We have maintained 100 percent of our funded enrollment.

Percentage of Eligible Children Served

WCCA Head Start, Early Head Start and Early Head Start Child Care Partnership program served 44 percent of children between the ages of 0-5 living below poverty level in Henderson County; 28 percent in Transylvania County; 3 percent in Rutherford County and 13 percent in Polk County.

Parent Involvement

Parent Involvement activities include parent committee meetings, parent conferences, ESL classes, fatherhood activities, Policy Council, and parent engagement activities related to school readiness, health and literacy. 91 percent of families participated in these activities.

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

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's Services prepares children for kindergarten using the following strategies:

- Our comprehensive educational program focuses on physical development and health, social and emotional development, approaches to learning, logic and reasoning, language development, literacy knowledge and skills, mathematics knowledge and skills, science knowledge and skills, creative arts expression, and social studies knowledge and skills.
- The curriculum, *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool*, aligns with the *North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning and Development* which is a common set of goals and developmental indicators for children beginning at birth and is a shared vision for what children should learn before they enter kindergarten. Curriculum implementation is individualized in order to help each child meet his/her educational potential.
- The assessment tool *Teaching Strategies Gold* is used to record and track progress toward meeting School Readiness Goals. This system is used for all children birth-5. Formal checkpoints reflecting children's progress were completed in October 2015, January/February 2016 and May 2016. While the assessment is primarily focused on tracking children's developmental progress, enabling teachers to plan both individually and whole group learning experiences, it is also used as an opportunity for teachers to reflect and identify professional growth needs. This program year, Teaching Staff and Home Visitors obtained inter-rater reliability certification to assure accurate observational assessments.
- Coordination and collaboration between WCCA and Henderson, Polk and Transylvania County Schools supports children's school readiness and addresses transition strategies. These include activities such as field trips to the elementary schools, and participation in the Kindergarten Readiness Rallies in Henderson and Transylvania Counties.

Budget by Cost Category for Western Carolina Community Action, Inc.

7/1/16 - 6/30/17

	PA - 20 Head Start T&TA	PA - 22 Head Start Program	PA - 25 Head Start Program	PA - 26 Early Head Start	HS/EHS Non-Fed Share	Total
Personnel	0	1,003,203	1,326,173	0	616,210	2,945,586
Fringe Benefits	0	354,614	476,508	0	64,988	896,110
Travel	17,266	0	2,954	27,056	12,517	59,793
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Supplies	3,175	35,612	38,543	3,000	75,154	155,484
Contractual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Facilities/Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	9,908	189,610	341,348	25,151	213,726	779,743
Total Direct	30,349	1,583,039	2,185,526	55,207	982,595	4,836,716
Indirect Charges	0	237,618	315,469	0	119,210	672,297
Total Budget	30,349	1,820,657	2,500,995	55,207	1,101,805	5,509,013

8/1/16 - 7/31/17

	Child care Partnershi p EHS Program	Child care Partnership EHS T&TA	Child care Partnership EHS Non-Fed Share	Total
Personnel	402,863	0	32,108	434,971
Fringe Benefits	138,688	0	11,057	149,745
Travel		12,000	0	12,000
Equipment	0	0	0	0
Supplies	22,517	0	12,500	35,017
Contractual	686,400	0	0	686,400
Facilities/Construction	0	0	0	0
Other	76,761	23,550	46,492	146,803
Total Direct	1,327,229	35,550	102,157	1,464,936
Indirect Charges	94,771	0	7,553	102,324
Total Budget	1,422,000	35,550	109,710	1,567,260