

## WESTERN CAROLINA COMMUNITY ACTION CHILDREN'S SERVICES ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 2014-2015

For the 2014-2015 Program year, WCCA's Children's Services served 504 families and 610 children between the ages of birth and five years old. Of that number, 253 were two parent families and 251 were single parent families. Additional services such as clothing, food and transportation assistance were provided for 465 families. 36 families experiencing homelessness were served. 77 percent of the homeless families acquired housing during the enrollment year. 38 children received medical treatment for a chronic health condition and 52 children were professionally diagnosed with a disability. 19 children received mental health services. The required medical and dental exams were received by 97 percent of the children. 30 children received restorative dental treatment. 21 pregnant mothers and their newborns received services. The average daily attendance for Head Start was 84 percent and 81 percent for Early Head Start. 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 and Early Head Start served 41 percent of children under age 0-5 living below poverty level in Henderson County; 31 percent in Transylvania County and 11% 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. 90 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 2014, January/February 2015 and May 2015. 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 Rally.

## WCCA EHS and HS Program

Growth Report Fall 2014-Spring 2015

Based on Age Expectations and Expected Growth Range

1-5 year olds

		Fall 2014		Spring 2015		Below growth range	Meeting or above expected growth range
Domain	Number of children	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation		
<b>Social/Emotional</b>	448	28.57%	71.43%	5.79%	94.21%	6.47%	93.53%
<b>Physical</b>	449	22.49%	77.51%	3.79%	96.21%	4.45%	95.55%
<b>Language</b>	451	39.91%	60.09%	13.53%	86.47%	8.43%	91.57%
<b>Cognitive</b>	448	26.56%	73.44%	6.92%	93.08%	4.69%	95.31%
<b>Literacy</b>	448	46.65%	53.35%	14.73%	85.27%	8.26%	91.74%
<b>Mathematics</b>	447	62.86%	37.14%	17.45%	82.55%	4.7%	95.3%

\*variation in numbers of children is due to ratings of “not observed” or a missing bit of information so child did not have a baseline to measure growth, thus was excluded from this report

## WCCA Program 1-2, and 2-3 year olds

Growth Report Fall 2014-Spring 2015

Based on Age Expectations and Expected Growth Range

### 1-2 year olds

		Fall 2014		Spring 2015		Below growth range	Meeting or above expected growth range
Domain	Number of children	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation		
<b>Social/Emotional</b>	57	22.8%	87.2%	12.7%	87.3%	4%	96%
<b>Physical</b>	57	24.6%	75.4%	16.4%	83.6%	2%	98%
<b>Language</b>	57	47.4%	52.6%	36.4%	63.7%	12%	88%
<b>Cognitive</b>	57	17.5%	82.5%	18.2%	81.8%	2%	98%
<b>Literacy</b>	57	45.6%	54.4%	40%	60%	7%	93%
<b>Mathematics</b>	57	66.7%	33.3%	45.5%	54.5%	4%	96%

### 2-3 year olds

		Fall 2014		Spring 2015		Below growth range	Meeting or above expected growth range
Domain	Number of children	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation		
<b>Social/Emotional</b>	68	20.6%	79.4%	11.8%	88.2%	9%	91%
<b>Physical</b>	67	4.5%	95.5%	3%	97%	6%	94%
<b>Language</b>	69	40.6%	59.4%	21.7%	78.3%	7%	93%
<b>Cognitive</b>	67	31.3%	68.7%	13.4%	86.6%	3%	97%
<b>Literacy</b>	68	54.4%	45.6%	41.2%	58.8%	6%	94%

<b>Mathematics</b>	67	50.7%	49.3%	28.4%	71.6%	6%	94%
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\*numbers of children vary due to some ratings of “not observed” which do not provide a baseline thus excludes that child from this report

## WCCA Program 3-4 and 4-5 year olds

Growth Report Fall 2014-Spring 2015

Based on Age Expectations and Expected Growth Range

### 3-4 year olds

		Fall 2014		Spring 2015		Below growth range	Meeting or above expected growth range
Domain	Number of children	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation		
<b>Social/Emotional</b>	94	10.6%	89.4%	1.1%	98.9%	11%	89%
<b>Physical</b>	96	8.3%	91.7%	0%	100%	7%	93%
<b>Language</b>	96	22.9%	77.1%	5.6%	94.4%	6%	94%
<b>Cognitive</b>	96	18.8%	81.2%	1.1%	98.9%	4%	96%
<b>Literacy</b>	96	53.1%	46.9%	4.5%	95.5%	8%	92%
<b>Mathematics</b>	96	51%	49%	9%	91%	3%	97%

\*Discrepancy in numbers due to children with “not observed” rating in the Fall which provides no baseline so were excluded from this report

### 4-5 year olds

		Fall 2014		Spring 2015		Below growth range	Meeting or above expected growth range
Domain	Number of children	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation	Below age expectation	Meeting/exceeding age expectation		
<b>Social/Emotio</b>	229	39.7%	60.3%	4.5%	95.5%	5%	95%

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<b>Physical</b>	229	33.2%	66.8%	2.7%	97.3%	3%	97%
<b>Language</b>	229	45%	55%	9.4%	90.6%	9%	91%
<b>Cognitive</b>	228	30.7%	69.3%	5%	95%	6%	94%
<b>Literacy</b>	227	41.9%	58.1%	5.4%	94.6%	9%	91%
<b>Mathematics</b>	227	70.5%	29.5%	11.8%	88.2%	5%	95%

\*Discrepancy in numbers due to children with missing portions of assessments so were excluded from this report.