

## WESTERN CAROLINA COMMUNITY ACTION CHILDREN'S SERVICES ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 2013-2014

For the 2013-2014 Program Year, WCCA's Children's Services served 527 families and 588 children between the ages of birth and five years old. Of that number, 300 families were two parent families and 227 were single parent families. Additional services such as clothing, food and transportation assistance were provided for 458 families. 44 children received medical treatment for a chronic health condition and 86 children were professionally diagnosed with a disability. 16 children received mental health services. The required medical and dental exams were received by 97 percent of the children. The average daily attendance for Head Start was 86 percent and 83 percent for Early Head Start. We have maintained 100 percent of our funded enrollment.

### Percentage of Eligible Children Served

18.84 percent of children ages birth to three living below the poverty level in Henderson, Polk, and Transylvania Counties were served in Early Head Start and 49 percent of those ages three and four were served in Head Start.

### Parent Involvement

Parent involvement activities included parent committee meetings, parent conferences, ESL classes, fatherhood activities, Policy Council, and special events. 90% of families participated in these 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'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 are 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 2013, January/February 2014 and May 2014. 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 Head Start/Early Head Start  
Growth Report Fall 2013-Spring 2014  
Based on Age Expectations and Expected Growth Range

4 year olds

		Fall 2013		Spring 2014		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>	209	44.5%	55.5%	.5%	99.5%	5%	95%
<b>Physical</b>	209	32%	68%	.5%	99.5%	0%	100%
<b>Language</b>	209	36.8%	63.2%	5.7%	94.3%	2%	98%
<b>Cognitive</b>	209	68.8%	31.2%	0%	100%	2%	98%
<b>Literacy</b>	209	34%	66%	1.9%	98.1%	8%	92%
<b>Mathematics</b>	209	73.2%	26.8%	9.1%	90.9%	3%	97%

Ages 1-5

		Fall 2013		Spring 2014		Below growth range	Meeting or above expected growth range
Domain	Number of children	Below age	Meeting/exceeding	Below age	Meeting/exceeding		
<b>Social/Emotional</b>	419	23.6%	76.4%	4%	96%	8.5%	91.5%
<b>Physical</b>	422	17.7%	82.3%	2.7%	97.3%	6%	94%
<b>Language</b>	421	34.5%	65.5%	15.9%	84.1%	8.8%	91.2%
<b>Cognitive</b>	422	29.4%	70.6%	4.7%	95.3%	7.3%	92.7%
<b>Literacy</b>	416	42.6%	57.4%	17.2%	82.8%	12%	88%
<b>Mathematics</b>	421	56.2%	43.8%	18.8%	81.2%	7.8%	92.2%

\*Discrepancy in numbers per domain due to some ratings of “not observed”.

WCCA's Head Start and Early Head Start Expenditures 7/1/13 - 6/30/14

REVENUES

Head Start Funds	\$1,863,424
Early Head Start Funds	\$2,263,494
Head Start In-kind	\$465,856
Early Head Start In-kind	\$565,874
Total Head Start & Early Head Start Funding	\$5,158,648

TEACH	\$20,154
Local Cash and Donations	\$200
Total Funding	\$5,179,002

EXPENDITURES

Head Start Program Expenditures	\$1,506,155
Head Start T&TA Expenditures	\$30,349
Head Start Administrative Expenditures	\$326,920
Head Start In-kind Match	\$465,856
Early Head Start Program Expenditures	\$1,839,701
Early Head Start T&TA Expenditures	\$55,207
Early Head Start Administrative Expenditures	\$368,586
Early Head Start In-kind Match	\$565,874
Total Head Start & Early Head Start Expenditures	\$5,158,648

Other Head Start & Early Head Start Related Expenditures	\$20,354
Total Expenditures	\$5,179,002

There were no audit finding for the year ended 6/30/13.  
Audit is in process for 6/30/14.