



McDowell County Schools Head Start & Early Head Start Annual Report to the Community Fall, 2011

Report statistics based on the 2010-2011 Program Year

Mission Statement

To provide high quality, comprehensive preschool services for children zero to five that will serve the needs of family and community and prepare children for entry to public school.

2010-2011 Expenditures



Salaries	1,499,360.39
Fringes	564,753.12
Utilities	29,250.24
Insurance	6,611.20
Maintenance/Repair	36,003.96
Transportation	25,344.55
Travel	2,267.49
Food Service	94,225.88
Administrative	34,712.12
Classrooms	35,479.76
Health & Disabilities	9,876.49
Parent Involvement	2,314.61
Training	59,410.38

Total Expenses \$2,399,610.19

Federal Funds Received:	\$1,740,622.99
State Funds Received:	\$ 463,861.23
Private Funds Received:	\$ 158,135.45
Total	\$ 2,361,681.15

(Overage is attributed to carry-over expenses from previous year which was not budgeted for 2010-11).

Nutrition Services:

All children are provided a nutritious breakfast and lunch from the McDowell County Schools Child Nutrition Program. A registered dietician reviews and, if necessary, revises all menus to meet the USDA meal plan requirements.



FUNDED ENROLLMENT:

Early Head Start: 52
40 center-based, 12 home-based
Actual Number Served: 56*

Head Start: 156
Actual Number Served: 185*

*Actual number served represents children who dropped and their replacements

Average Monthly Enrollment for 2010-2011

The program was 100% enrolled for the entire program year

Average Daily Attendance for 2010-2011

Early Head Start—80%
Head Start—81%

Ethnicity: 25% Hispanic/Latino

Race: 6.6% Black/African American, 85.9% White, 7.5% Biracial or Multi-racial

Language: 29% speak a language other than English, the same percentage as last year.

Family Services:

~229 families received at least one service such as emergency intervention (immediate need for food, clothing, or shelter), information and resources for job training, parenting education, resources for substance abuse prevention or treatment, and other

~23 families experienced homelessness as defined by the McKinney-Vento Act; all acquired housing during the program year

Staff:

- 65 Head Start Staff positions
- 18 teachers with an Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education
- 1 teacher with a Bachelor's degree
- 5 staff enrolled in program to earn a Bachelor's degree
- 6 non-teaching staff have Bachelor's or Master's degrees
- 87% of the total budget expended on salaries & benefits



McDowell County Schools Head Start is a federally funded child development program designed to provide high quality early childhood experiences to prepare children for success in kindergarten, and to prepare families to be active participants in their child's education. Early Head Start serves children birth to age three, as well as pregnant women. Head Start serves children ages 3 to 5 who are not eligible for kindergarten.

Health, Mental Health, and Dental Services:



***99% of children in Head Start had Medicaid health insurance.
***98% of children enrolled in the 2009-2010 program year completed all medical screening and treatment according to the state EPSDT plan. 28 children were assisted in establishing continuous accessible dental care.
***182 children received dental preventive care and completed an oral health examination while in the Head Start Program. All 40 children who were diagnosed as needing dental treatment received the treatment during the program year.
***Services from a mental health professional were provided to 31 children and families.

Disabilities Services:

Prior to enrollment, 15 children were identified as needing early intervention or special education services. During the program year, 29 additional children were identified. The majority of services needed are in the area of speech-language.



Educational Services:



~The curriculum used by Early Head Start is Creative Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers; the curriculum for Head Start is Creative Curriculum for Preschoolers.

~Children who transition from Early Head Start to Head Start go through a transition process to help with the change in class structure and curriculum.

All preschool Head Start children receive developmental screenings as well as ongoing assessment of developmental progress using the Head Start domains: Language development, Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Creative Arts, Social and Emotional development, Approaches to Learning, Physical Health and Development. Encouraging the development in each of these areas prepares children for greater success in kindergarten.

~School Readiness Goals are addressed with "Foundations: Early Learning Standards for North Carolina Preschoolers and Strategies for Guiding Their Success". The domains of Foundations align smoothly with those of Head Start.

~Transition activities, such as a spring parent meeting and field trips for rising kindergartners to the elementary school in their neighborhood, took place in coordination with the local school system.

Child Outcomes:

This summary reflects the gains in the classrooms for the 2010-2011 school year. Each developmental area includes objectives, which include 4 levels. Forerunner, step 1, step 2, and step 3. Based on the data gathered by teachers in each developmental area of the Developmental Continuum, gains of more than one step were shown in the areas of Language Development, Literacy, and Spatial Sense. In the areas of Science and Geometry gains of one step were shown.

Children qualify for Head Start through a point system. Points are given for family income and other factors such as identified disabilities, social needs in the home, size of family, etc. Any child accepted into the program attends at no cost to the family. Hours are 8:30-2:30 Monday through Friday, with before and after hours care available for a fee at Early Head Start and at the Sugar Hill center.

Triennial Review:

In May, 2011, one area of noncompliance was cited during the federal review. The program has responded to the non-compliance with a new Cost Allocation Plan and Corrective

Parent Involvement:

~Approximately 230 Head Start and Early Head Start parents or former parents provided volunteer services to the program. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classrooms whenever possible.

~Parent meetings were held on a monthly basis, with daytime and evening meetings offered alternately to accommodate work schedules.

~Parents served on the Policy Council, which met monthly. At least 51% of Policy Council members were parent representatives.

Centers

- Early Head Start - 4-star center serving 32 infants and toddlers
- Sugar Hill Center—5-star center serving two, three, four, and five year olds; in addition to Head Start children, some are paying children and others are enrolled in the state funded More at Four Program.
- Eastfield Head Start—5-star center located at Eastfield Elementary School serving 36 children
- Nebo Head Start—4-star center located at Nebo Elementary School serving 18 children
- North Cove Head Start - 5-star center located at North Cove Elementary School serving 18 children
- Old Fort Head Start—5-star center located at Old Fort Elementary School serving 18 children



Community Partners:

Head Start has working relationships with community agencies such as the Health Department, the Department of Social Services, Children’s Developmental Services Agency, WIC, Marion Library, Old Fort Library, The McDowell Hospital, McDowell Emergency Services, McDowell County Partnership for Children, McDowell County Children’s Services Network, McDowell Technical Community College, McDowell County Job Link, Family Infant and Preschool Program, and others. Approximately 60 non-parent volunteers from the community provided services such as reading to children, participating in “Community Helpers Day”, and other activities that children enjoy.



Helping
Hands
Shaping
Tomorrow

Transportation:

80 children were transported on Head Start buses to their centers. Head Start requires all children to be restrained in approved child harnesses on the bus, and that an adult monitor, in addition to the driver, be present on the bus at all times.

