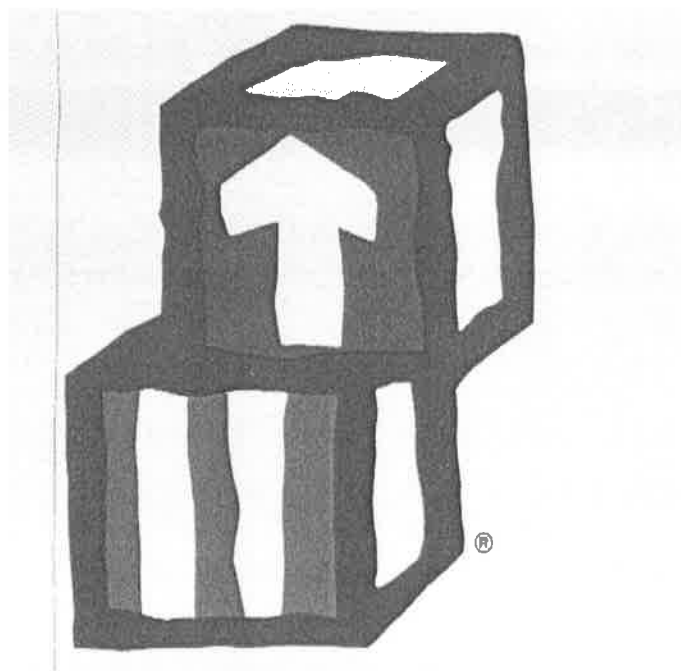




Head Start 2013 Annual Report



Introduction

Westmoreland Community Action has been providing Head Start services since its inception. The Head Start program has been providing center based services to eligible preschool children and their families since 1965. Services include education, nutrition, health, disabilities, behavior, parental engagement and family support. The agency also provides these services to pregnant women and children ages 0 to 3 through home based services.

The main purpose of WCA Head Start program is to prepare children for kindergarten. The program does this by enhancing children's cognitive, social and emotional development by providing a learning environment that supports growth in language, literacy, mathematics, science, social and emotional functioning, creative arts, physical skills and approaches to learning. Added to these are educational, nutritional, social and other services that are determined, based on family needs assessments, to be necessary.

Program Overview

WCA operates preschool classes four days per week for 4 or 5 hours per day at locations throughout Westmoreland County. These classrooms run Tuesday through Friday at the following locations:

Latrobe – 3 classrooms, 4 hours, 60 children

Derry – 2 classrooms, 5 hours, 36 children

Donegal – 1 classroom, 4 hours, 20 children

Greensburg – 4 classrooms, 4 hours, 80 children

Jeannette – 2 classrooms, 4 hours, 40 children and 1 classroom, 5 hours, 18 children

Kiski (Vandergrift) – 2 classrooms, 4 hours, 40 children

Mon Valley - 2 classrooms, 4 hours, 40 children and 1 classroom, 5 hours, 18 children

New Florence - 1 classroom, 4 hours, 20 children

New Kensington - 4 classrooms, 4 hours, 80 children

Northern Outreach (Avonmore) – 1 classroom, 4 hours, 20 children

Norwin - 2 classrooms, 4 hours, 40 children

Ruffsdale - 4 classrooms, 4 hours, 80 children and 1 classroom, 5 hours, 18 children

A total of 610 were served during the 2012-2013 program year.

WCA Early Head Start program provides 43 families with weekly visits for 90 minutes per visit. During these visits, a home visitor works with the parents to assess the child's development and plan activities that will build needed skills. They also assess the families' situations and determine what needs the families may have. The families choose goals to work on and the home visitors provide support and resources to assist the families in completion of their goals. In addition the home visitor brings in information on health, nutrition, behavior and a multitude of other areas. The families also are invited to attend two socializations per month where they and their child can interact with others, while sharing common concerns.



147-527598 - (c) - Lusanne Pashley

Funding Received

Amounts from US Department of Health and Human Services for Head Start Services

Base Budget -	\$3,766,499
COLA	27,119
Training and Technical Assistance	52,664
Total	\$3,846,282

Local Share

Required amount	\$961,570
Amount received	1,126,929

Includes:

Pennsylvania HSSAP	711,717
Westmoreland County	14,000
PNC Grow up Great	25,000

USDA for Child and Adult Care Food Program to provide breakfast and lunch to children \$254,359.

Expenditures

	Budget as planned	Budget as spent
Salaries	\$2,026,268	\$2,002,674
Fringes	968,272	822,510
Travel	500	806
Supplies	58,724	63,198
Contractual	185,320	229,914
Other	553,520	673,502
Training	52,664	52,664

Amounts from US Department of Health and Human Services for Early Head Start Services

Base Budget -	\$346,439
Training and Technical Assistance	6,640
Total	\$353,079

Local Share

Required amount	\$ 88,270
Amount received	88,270

USDA for Child and Adult Care Food Program to provide breakfast and lunch to children \$258.21.

Expenditures

	Budget as planned	Budget as spent
Salaries	\$182,413	\$174,561
Fringes	88,484	75,593
Supplies	2,600	17,711
Other	72,942	68,703
Training	6,640	6,640

Plan for Developing WCA Head Start School Readiness Goals

- Continue gathering classroom observational notes on all children
Completed for 2012/2013
- Complete the Creative Curriculum GOLD Developmental Checklists
Completed for 2012/2013
Mid October Mid February Mid May
- Review data from 2011 2012 school year
- Hold 3 school readiness committee meetings to review and discuss data
Completed: Dates were 12/11/2012 2/22/2013 05/17/2013
- Include school readiness goals in our grant process
Completed Spring 2013
- Use data from various sources to devise school readiness goals for 2013/2014
- Share these school readiness goals with parents, policy council, and all staff. Also explain the process. Hold Professional Development Sessions for various staff positions (including cooks) to discuss and explain how we can implement school readiness goals within the routine of the day.
- Share the school readiness goal setting process with Central Office Staff
- Post a copy of the school readiness goals in a prominent place in each classroom.
- Give staff members a set of School Readiness Implementation Strategies
Completed at the professional development sessions

- Continue to implement the CLASS tool to help improve classroom quality and support school readiness goals especially in the areas of:

Concept Development Quality of Feedback Language Modeling

- All teachers will attend an overview of the CLASS tool
- Staff Development Specialists will train their center staff specifics of the CLASS
- A policy will be written to implement the CLASS tool use in our program. Completed Summer 2013
- Dates will be set for School Readiness Committee Meetings 2013/2014
- Strategies will be discussed to involve more parents on the school readiness committee.

School Readiness Goals 2012/2013



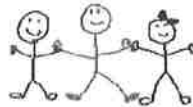
Domain: Physical Development and Health

1. Children will demonstrate increased ability to use hands, fingers, and wrists to manipulate objects.
2. Children will gain an understanding of the importance of tooth brushing and good dental hygiene.



Domain: Cognition and General Learning

1. Children will demonstrate an increased ability to ask questions and use their senses to explore materials and nature.
2. Children will demonstrate an ability to begin solving mathematical problems with simple strategies.



Domain: Approaches to Learning

1. Children will improve on following through and approaching new tasks by watching and listening to the directions of adults.
2. Children will listen to directions and perform 2 step tasks.



Domain: Social and Emotional

1. Children will demonstrate increased ability to interact with adults and accept adult direction.
2. Children will demonstrate an increased ability to display empathy for peers and express emotions appropriately.



Domain: Language and Literacy

1. Children will demonstrate increased talk experiences clearly with some detail.
2. Children will demonstrate an increased ability to practice and play with words and language.

Head Start

- ❖ 31 classrooms, 704 children served throughout year.
- ❖ 354 children transported by bus to center
- ❖ 1097 volunteers provided 18,127 service hours.
- ❖ Received over \$1,100,000 in required non-federal match from volunteer hours, donations and grants.
- ❖ Final group of teachers obtained their bachelor's degree meaning every classroom has a qualified teacher.
- ❖ Assisted 5 families in obtaining health insurance for their child
- ❖ Assisted 20 families in finding a medical home for ongoing health care.
- ❖ Assisted 101 children in obtaining physicals (573 had before starting program)
- ❖ Worked with 228 families to get children's needed follow-up treatment from concerns identified during physicals including 91 for asthma and 27 for vision problems
- ❖ Provided nutrition education to 194 families with children who were overweight or obese.
- ❖ Assisted 613 families in obtaining dental exams for children. This year for first time the program had a dentist come on site to do dental examinations for children.
- ❖ 28 children were identified, referred and received mental health services
- ❖ Identified 85 children with disabilities during program year and provided services to a total of 187 children with disabilities. 125 had developmental delays, 7 orthopedic impairment and 50 speech and language impairments.
- ❖ Provided hearing, speech, vision, behavior, height & weight and developmental screenings for 454 newly enrolled children
- ❖ Provided services to 664 families
- ❖ Referred 127 families to needed services in the community in response to an indicated need.
- ❖ Helped 24 homeless families successfully find housing
- ❖ Partnered with PNC Bank and Carnegie Science Center to improve children and teachers development in science.



Early Head Start

- ✦ 65 total children served, in 61 families
- ✦ All home visitors certified to utilize Parents As Teachers curriculum
- ✦ All children had health insurance
- ✦ 46 families assisted in obtaining physical for child
- ✦ 54 children up to date on immunizations
- ✦ Assisted 32 families with children's dental exams (for those over age 1)
- ✦ 7 children referred for mental health services
- ✦ 11 children were identified as having a disability due to involvement with program
- ✦ Referred 9 families to local resources due to need.
- ✦ 36 children enrolled were referred to the program by Westmoreland Co. Children's Bureau.
- ✦ Planned 22 play groups for the families
- ✦ Took families with 2 and 3 year olds to Carnegie Science Center
- ✦ Provided a field trip to Living Treasures Animal Park

