

Tri-County Community Action Agency Head Start and Early Head Start

Northern Region

Annual Report 2017



Head Start

Tri-County Community Action Agency Providing Head Start Services since 1992

Head Start is a comprehensive child development program that serves children from ages 3 to 5 and their families.

Early Head Start is dedicated to nurturing the development of infants and toddlers in the context of their family and supporting the health and well-being of pregnant women.

Early Head Start and Head Start programs are family centered, based on the belief that children develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents are respected as the primary educators and nurturers of their children. We help families identify their goals, provide access to community resources and help them however we can to make a better life for their children. Tri-County Community Action has a tradition of delivering high quality services that foster the healthy development of low-income children with the overall goal to impact positively on all facets of a child's life: education, early childhood development, health, safety, nutrition, and family

The Tri-County North Head Start Program provides exemplary services.

The latest federal review, conducted in April 2014, concluded that no corrective actions were identified in program operations including Health Services, Nutrition Services, Safe Environments, Mental Health Services, Disabilities Services, Family and Community Services, and Education and Early Childhood Development Services. Two areas of improvement in Health were identified.

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

Children who participate in Head Start are offered a variety of school readiness activities to prepare them for kindergarten. Efforts to prepare children and families for kindergarten includes:

- ◆ Implementing a research-based preschool curriculum.
- ◆ Following the Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards.
- ◆ Conducting formal developmental assessments using Teaching Strategies GOLD
- ◆ Developing program wide School Readiness Goals that are aligned with Creative Curriculum, Teaching

Strategies GOLD and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

- ◆ Distributing a Summer Learning Packet to support children's learning during the summer months.
- ◆ Providing each family with a written summary of their child's developmental strengths and goals.
- ◆ Providing families with transition specific information, including a suggestion to visit the school where the child will attend kindergarten, a list of books for family reading and a list of readiness skills that children should have before entering kindergarten.
- ◆ Providing families with information on family engagement activities in the public school.
- ◆ Providing families with simple activities that they can do with their child to support what is being taught at school.
- ◆ Inviting school department personnel to speak with families about the kindergarten transition



Enhancement Programs



Parents as Teachers

Born to Learn is a curriculum tool used in the Early Head Start home-based option. The goals of the program are to: Increase parent knowledge of early childhood development and improve parenting practices; provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues; prevent child abuse and neglect; and increase children's school readiness and school success

NAEYC Accreditation

Four Head Start locations maintain accreditation through the National Associate for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). NAEYC is the largest nonprofit association in the United States representing early childhood education teachers, families of young children, policy makers, and advocates. NAEYC is dedicated to improving the well-being of all young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for all children from birth through age 8.

Bright Stars: Rhode Island's quality Rating and Improvement System

Each of the Head Start centers is rated by the Bright Stars Quality Rating System. Each center maintains a four star rating out of a possible five stars. Participation in Bright Stars means that a program has made a commitment to quality that goes beyond the required child care licensing regulations. Bright Stars quality rated programs are assessed in the areas of health, safety, nutrition, enrollment and staffing, staff qualification and ongoing professional development, administration, early learning and development and family engagement.

School Readiness

In accordance with the 2007 Head Start Act, School Readiness goals have been established for the Early Head Start and Head Start programs based on a continuum of development from birth to age five. These goals reflect the skills and knowledge necessary for success in school and for later learning and life. Input for School Readiness Goals is obtained from local school departments, families, the Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards, and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

Funded Enrollment

Head Start 134
Early Head Start 50
EHS Prenatal 8

Total Served

Head Start 165
Early Head Start 96
EHS Prenatal 5

Average Monthly Enrollment

The average monthly enrollment in Early Head Start and Head Start is 100%

Income Eligibility

Head Start

58% income eligible, 7% over-income, 17% receive public assistance, 3% foster children, 5% homeless, and 10% with income between 100-130% of poverty

Early Head Start

60% income eligible, 1% over income, 24% receive public assistance, 5% homeless, 10% foster children

Children Receiving Medical & Dental Services

Head Start Children Receiving Medical 91%
Head Start Children Receiving Dental 90%
Early Head Start Children Receiving Medical 91%
Early Head Start Children Receiving Dental 80%

Family Engagement Activities

- ◆ Monthly Parent Meetings
- ◆ Monthly Parent Activities in each class
- ◆ Winter Breakfast
- ◆ Annual Fishing Event
- ◆ Annual Soccer Event
- ◆ Family Bingo
- ◆ Home Sweet Homework
- ◆ Health Fair
- ◆ End of Year Celebrations
- ◆ Volunteer opportunities in the classroom
- ◆ Opportunities to prepare classroom materials at home
- ◆ Monthly Policy Council Meetings
- ◆ Parent Satisfaction Survey
- ◆ Annual Self-Assessment
- ◆ Health Advisory Meetings
- ◆ Volunteer/Substitute Training
- ◆ Employee Interview

TRI- COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY HEAD START 10/01/16 - 09/30/17

REVENUES

Federal DHHS ACF	1,936,288
USDA	95,735
State Head Start	36,101
Other Revenue	20,421
In-Kind	447,971

2,536,516

EXPENSES

	Actual	Budget
Personnel	1,325,402	1,325,402
Contractual	9,154	9,154
Program Supplies and Activities	181,297	181,297
Travel	13,216	13,216
Training	32,197	32,197
Facility	275,317	275,317
Other	294,073	294,073
Total Cash Expenditures	2,130,656	2,130,656
Total In-Kind	405,860	405,860
Total Head Start Budget	2,536,516	2,536,516

In addition to periodic reviews and audits from Federal and State agencies, Tri-County has an annual audit performed by an independent accounting firm in accordance with OMB Circular A-133. The most recent external audit was for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017 and was completed by Baxter, Dansereau & Associates, LLP. The auditors rendered an Unqualified opinion on the financial statements and noted that there were no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. A complete copy of the audit is available by contacting the Agency.



Tri-County Community Action Agency's comprehensive services available to families including:

- ◆ Family Medicine including Pediatrics
- ◆ Dental/Oral Health
- ◆ Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling
- ◆ WIC
- ◆ Youth and Family Services
- ◆ Employment and Training
- ◆ Adult Basic Education/GED
- ◆ LIHEAP/Weatherization
- ◆ Emergency Food and Shelter Services
- ◆ Basic Human Needs
- ◆ Elder Case Management
- ◆ Financial Stability

For more information, contact:

Rhonda Farrell, *Head Start Director*
401-351-2750 x1926 -or- rfarrell@tricityri.org

Locations & Staffing

Johnston (Head Start & Early Head Start)

1126 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI

North Providence

79 Waterman Avenue (Head Start)

2204 Mineral Spring Avenue (Head Start & Early Head Start)

7 Rockwell Avenue (Head Start)

Burrillville (Head Start & Early Head Start)

185 Main Street, Pascoag, RI

Staffing

7 Coordinators: Education, Family Development/Mental Health, Family Engagement, Health, Nutrition, and Special Needs

6 Early Head Start and 7 Head Start Teachers

7 Teacher Assistants

4 Case Managers

3 Early Head Start Home Visitors

1 Associate Head Start Director

1 Head Start Director

Main Office: 1126 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919
(401) 351-2750

www.tricityri.org