

2022–2023 Annual Report

Introduction

Western Kentucky University Campus Child Care is pleased to present our 2022 –2023 Annual Report.

This year was full of farewells to many seasoned employees including but not limited to the Head Start Director. Dr. Amy Hood the interim Director did a wonderful job ensuring top notch services continued to be offered to children and their families. Despite a vacancy in the Education Manager position the program still excelled.

We are proud to announce the accomplishment of earning the NAEYC accreditation. This accreditation helps families recognize quality early learning programs and feel comfortable knowing that their children are receiving a high-quality, research-based education that will prepare them for future success.

A Federal Monitoring Review was also conducted. Reviews provide programs with information regarding their performance and compliance with requirements governing Head Start and Early Head Start programs. This includes those regulations specified in the Head Start Act and all applicable Head Start Program Performance Standards. There were no findings with the review conducted.

In addition to thanking Dr. Hood for her help we would like to thank the Board of Directors, the Policy Council, and the many community partners and school districts who volunteered their time and expertise to provide support and direction to the Head Start Program.

Without committed, capable, and caring staff consistently going above and beyond each day, a successful year would not have been possible.

Finally, we would like to thank each parent, guardian and family member who trusted us enough to place the care of their child in our hands.

**Sincerely,
Western Kentucky Campus Child Care**

WKUCCC operates a combination Early Head Start, Head Start and Non-Profit Child Care Program for children six weeks through five years of age. WKUCCC is a unit of Training & Technical Assistance Services (T/TAS), a department in the College of Education & Behavioral Sciences

Program Philosophy

The WKUCCC philosophy is based on the premise that all children share needs and that children benefit from a comprehensive developmental program to meet those needs. The WKUCCC program maximizes the strengths and unique experiences of each child. The family, the principle influence in the child's developmental, is invited to be a direct participant in all aspects of the center.

Approach

WKUCCC offers an educational program that utilizes an individualized, child-centered, problem-solving approach to learning. Children are encouraged to learn through play, exploration, experimentation and active involvement. WKUCCC utilizes the Creative Curriculum for infants, toddlers and preschool children. WKUCCC offers experienced, well-trained staff, low child-teacher ratio, developmental and health screenings. To inspire children and families to strive to their fullest potential every day.



Program Goals

Goal 1: To provide three and four year old preschool children and their families comprehensive services that will foster children's development competence in all learning areas to support the foundation for school readiness during the early years

Goal 2: To ensure all families have access to a support system designed that provides children and their families with appropriate health, oral health, nutrition and mental health.

Goal 3: Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PFCE): To increase the number of families who participate in the Family Partnership Agreement (FPA) process and to seek new community partners with focus on advocating for children's academic success.

Goal 4: Program Design and Management: To ensure comprehensive services are provided by maintaining efficient data systems and assure systems are in place and properly maintained.

Head Start and Early Head Start

Grant Year: November 1, 2022 through October 31, 2023

Program Year: August 2022 through May 2023

95 children served, ages birth-5 years at 2 sites.

WKU – Jones Jagers served:

62 Children ages 3-5

77 Children 6 weeks –3

Bryant Way served:

18 Children ages 3-5



Kentucky ALL STARS

Western Kentucky University Campus Child Care is currently a three star program. We are happy to announce the program is working toward earning five stars.

Kentucky All STARS recognizes and supports quality early care and education programs.

On the expanded five-star scale, STARS level one is obtained by meeting regulatory requirements. STARS level two is obtained by completing a set of required domains and standards. STARS levels three through five feature a range of points programs must meet in order to move up on the rating scale. While there are required domains for these three STARS levels, programs can choose from a menu of standards to fulfill the requirements.





Federal Monitoring Including Financial Audit

In March of 2023 Head Start and Early Head Start had a Focus Area 2 Monitoring Review conducted by the Administration for Children and Families. There were no areas of concern, areas of noncompliance, or areas of deficiency.

ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Revenue

Head Start and Early Head Start

Federal Operating Funds (HS)	1,986,244
Federal Training & Technical Assistance	20,982
Federal COLA/Quality Improvement Funds	159,218
Federal Operating Funds (EHS)	175,686
Federal Training & Technical Assistance (EHS)	3,664
Federal COLA/Quality Improvement Funds (EHS)	3,846
TOTAL	\$2,349,640

Other Grants

USDA	83,174
TOTAL FUNDING	\$2,432.814



Proposed Budget

	HS	EHS	EHS Delegate 9/23-8/24	TOTAL
Personnel	356,288	154,400	74,465	519,688
Fringe Benefits	323,304	64,276	91,405	387,580
Travel	125	0	0	125
Supplies	19,700	1,000	2,131	20,700
Contractual	1,087,430	0	0	1,087,430
Other	10,780	1,268	673	12,048
Indirect Cost	57,535	17,676	13,494	75,211
TOTAL	1,868,162	238,620	182,168	2,102,782

Non-Federal Share (In-Kind)

WKU Child Care Center receives **80%** of its total federal budget needed to operate each program. The remaining **20%** of the total federal budget is garnered from other sources.

A waiver was requested for non federal match for the 2022-2023 fiscal year due to the impact of COVID pandemic pursuant to Head Start Act. Sources included in the match are volunteers, space and other.

Budgetary Expenditures

	HS	EHS	TOTAL
Personnel	484,999	68,059	553,058
Fringe Benefits	338,617	77,960	416,577
Travel	1,431	0	1,431
Supplies	42,419	2,399	44,818
Contractual	1,042,544	0	1,042,544
Other	44,855	7,750	52,605
Indirect Cost	72,986	12,493	85,479
TOTAL	2,027,851	168,661	2,196,512

EHS Delegate budget is on different fiscal year– but total FY 2024 award included above. FY2025 will start 9/1/2024



Children & Families Served

Head Start and Early Head Start

HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START	Children	Families	Homeless Children
WKU Jones Jagers	77	64	0
Bryant Way	18	17	0
TOTAL	95	81	0



Why is WKU CCC Unique?

WKU CCC is unique in that it offers blended services, each classroom consisting of Head Start/Early Head Start children as well as Child Care. This results in WKU students and professors having the opportunity to obtain affordable child care right here on campus. The mingling of families of different backgrounds, race, ethnicity, and income provides a diversity to our enrollment not often found in Head Start classrooms.



Enrollment & Attendance

Head Start and Early Head Start:

Due to multiple reasons stemming from the COVID-19 Pandemic, funded enrollment was not maintained throughout the program year.

HS: 67 (cumulative enrollment)

EHS: 14 (cumulative enrollment)



Average Monthly Attendance Percentages

HS	EHS
82.5%	87.3%

Family Engagement

The purpose of Family Engagement in Head Start is to support parents as being their child's first and most important teacher. The following engagement opportunities were provided:

Staff also engaged with families in goal setting. Goal setting is simply identifying a goal and mapping out a plan to achieve that goal. The top family goals for families during the 2022-2023 program year were:

Families who participated in the family goal setting process	
HS	16 Families
EHS	3 Families

Health Services

WKU CCC recognizes that health is the foundation of school readiness. If a child doesn't feel well they can't be expected to participate fully in learning opportunities resulting in not being ready for school. Our goal is to ensure that all child health and developmental concerns are identified and addressed.

	HS	EHS
Up-to-date Physicals	31	4
Up-to-date Dentals	50	3

Child Nutrition Services

Promoting the nutritional well-being of children is a vital component of the Head Start Program.

	HS/EHS
# of Breakfasts Provided	9706
# of Lunches Provided	9839
# of Snacks Provided	4696
TOTAL MEALS	24241



Education & Early Childhood Services

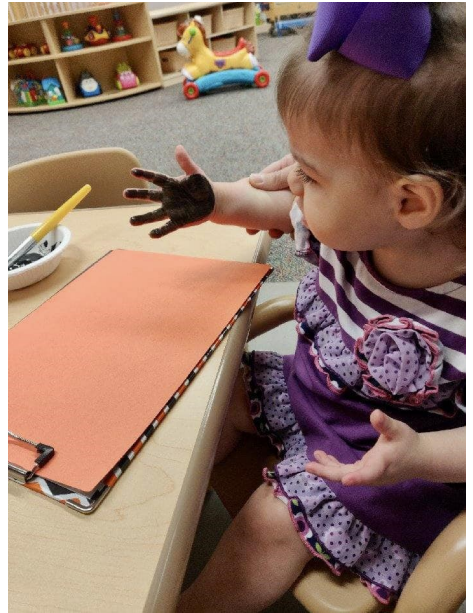
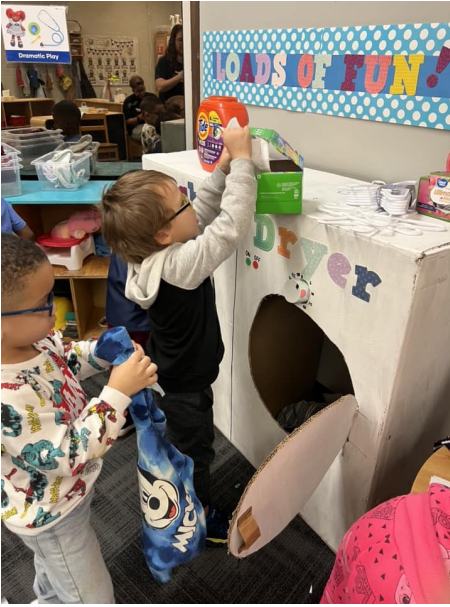
WKU CCC provides learning environments that are safe, nurturing, engaging, and enjoyable supporting individualized learning. Children enrolled in the program develop a sense of independence, social competence, confidence, and responsibility.

	HS	EHS
Brigance Screenings Completed	80	17
ASQ:SE Screenings Completed	80	17

Disability Services

Program policies ensure that our program prioritizes the individualized needs of children with disabilities and those needs are being met. The program also ensures all children have access to, and can fully participate in, the full range of activities and services. In partnership with local education agencies, our classrooms provide any necessary modification to the environment, varied formats of instruction, and individualized accommodations and support as needed for the full participation of children with disabilities.

	HS	EHS
Children Served with an IEP	8	N/A
Children Served with an IFSP	N/A	1



CLASS Scores

WKU CCC uses the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) as an observational instrument to assess our preschool classrooms on an annual basis. CLASS is a valid and reliable research-based observational instrument. CLASS measures and assesses the quality of teacher-child engagements across the areas of: (1) Emotional Support; (2) Classroom Organization; and, (3) Instructional Support which are linked to positive child outcomes and later achievement.

DOMAIN	SCORE	Quality	Competitive Threshold
Emotional Support	6.125	6	5
Classroom Organization	5.8974	6	5
Instructional	3.2949	3	2.3



Classroom Assessment Scoring System®

For the federal review WKU CCC was chosen to PILOT the CLASS review utilizing video cameras. It was an honor to take part in the cutting edge practice of off-site monitoring.



School Readiness Goals

Goals have been identified to ensure children are making progress in all domains throughout the program year. Progress is tracked, for each child, in Teaching Strategies GOLD.



Social and Emotional Development

Children Meeting Goal:

- ◇ **57%** Head Start
- ◇ **100%** Early Head Start

Physical Development

Children Meeting Goal:

- ◇ **71%** Head Start
- ◇ **100%** Early Head Start

Language Development

Children Meeting Goal:

- ◇ **36%** Head Start
- ◇ **75%** Early Head Start

Cognitive Development

Children Meeting Goal:

- ◇ **64%** Head Start
- ◇ **100%** Early Head Start

School Readiness Goals (Continued)

Literacy

Children Meeting Goal:

- ◇ **43%** Head Start
- ◇ **100%** Early Head Start

Mathematics

Children Meeting Goal:

- ◇ **50%** Head Start
- ◇ **100%** Early Head Start



Staff Qualifications

	EHS	HS
Baccalaureate or higher	0	8
Associate Degree	2	1
Child Development Associate or lower	2	2



Professional Development

We understand the role of our teachers is important. It's a time when young minds are shaped, and lifelong learning patterns are established. That is the reason WKU CCC prioritizes individual professional development of staff. Training, observations, and follow-up are the cornerstones of our high-quality programming. Comprehensive training equips teachers with the knowledge and skills needed to create developmentally appropriate environments, identify signs of developmental delays, and effectively manage classrooms. It empowers educators to navigate the complexities of early childhood with confidence.



ChildPlus Software

WKU CCC uses ChildPlus Software to manage data. ChildPlus supports data based decision making ensuring the needs of the children and families served are addressed in a meaningful manner.



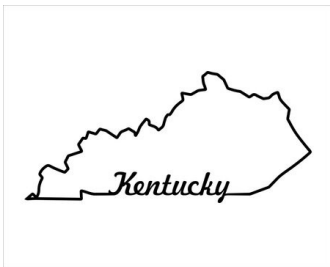
Foster Grandparents

WKU CCC is also involved in the Foster Grandparents Program. This is a program that provides senior volunteers, ages 55 and older, an opportunity to support, encourage, mentor, and nurture children. Foster Grandparent volunteers, the children they serve, the teachers, the classrooms, and our communities all benefit from the program. Children of all ages can improve with the interaction, support, attention, and wisdom provided by Foster Grandparent volunteers.



Volunteers

Volunteers are critical to the success of our program. The participation of volunteers has been an effective way of mobilizing community resources to strengthen our Services. Volunteers provide a wide range of services. Volunteers can be professionals and nonprofessionals, parents, local residents, and members of the larger community, board members and those who serve on policy and advisory groups, those who work in classrooms, offices, or kitchens, and those who provide necessary health education, medical and dental examinations, and other health services. Head Start volunteers can assist with classroom activities, upkeep and renovation of centers, playground supervision, parent education, and other similar tasks. Head Start volunteers may choose to give a few hours of time, or may volunteer every week.



ReadyRosie Parent Curriculum



ReadyRosie, an evidence-informed, research-based family engagement resource and parenting curriculum that has been shown to have positive impacts on family behaviors and child outcomes. This curriculum is an online resource that emails daily activities to adults to do with their children ages 0-5. Each activity is modeled with a two minute video. The activities are simple, take about two minutes, and help prepare children for school building off the foundation set in the belief that parents are their children's first and most important teacher.



Kentucky Head Start Association

KHSA champions Head Start programs through a common vision, a united voice, and shared expertise to serve Kentucky's most vulnerable children and their families. WKU CCC is a proud member.





National Head Start Association

WKU CCC is also a member of the National Head Start Association's (NHSA's) mission is to coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education. Western Kentucky University Child Care Center is a member of the NHSA. As a member, NHSA advocates for us before Congress and the Administration. We also have access to online resources and additional learning and networking opportunities at annual conferences.



Policy Council

Head Start programs are required to establish and maintain a formal structure of shared governance allowing parents the opportunity to participate in policy making and other decisions regarding the program. This is accomplished by providing parents with two different opportunities.

- 1) Parent Meetings - These meetings give parents an opportunity to have a voice in local center decisions.
- 2) Policy Council Meetings - Parents are elected from the parent meetings to act as an advocate for the parents ensuring their voices are not only heard but considered in decision making.

Policy Council in 2022-2023

President: Laura Beth Fox-Ezell



Board of Directors

WKU CCC has a Governing Board which holds the legal and fiscal responsibility for administering the Head Start programs.

Governing Board Members for 2022-2023

Chairperson: Laura Hagen



We invite you to share this booklet to inform others of the services being provided on our corner of campus. Also please like and follow us on Facebook **Western Kentucky University Campus Child Care**.

