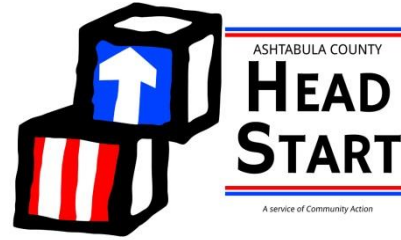


Head Start

**Annual Report Supplement
2022-2023
(Compiled May 2023)**



Ashtabula County Head Start will empower children, families, and our community by providing support, education, and advocacy.

Who We Serve

Head Start is funded to serve 400 children (ages 0-5), expectant mothers, and their families in Ashtabula County.

We service families that have children with disabilities, are low-income or homeless, or any family who meets the income qualifications.

A family with an age eligible child becomes categorically eligible if they are receiving Ohio Works First, Supplemental Security Income, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP), is experiencing homelessness, or if a child is in foster care.

Program Summary

Over the past nine months, Head Start has served 395 children and 4 pregnant women from 343 families. Of those served, 299 were preschool age and 100 infants, toddlers and pregnant women.

The percentage of enrolled preschool children that acquired medical exams is 92% and 48% received dental exams. 81% of infant and toddlers also had medical and dental screenings.

Program Options

The list below identifies the Head Start sites throughout Ashtabula County. The Program also provides services to children and families through a home visiting option.



Ashtabula

Main Avenue
4510 Main Avenue

Collins
104 W. 45th Street

Edgewood High School
2428 Blake Road

Ontario Elementary School
2304 Wade Avenue

State Road
4200 State Road

Andover

Pymatuning Valley Primary School
5571 State Route 6 West

Conneaut

Lake Shore Primary School
755 Chestnut Street

Geneva

Cork Elementary School
341 State Route 534 South

Jefferson

ATech – Building B
1565 State Route 167

Orwell

Grand Valley Elementary School
111 Grand Valley Ave. West

Audit Report for FY2022 – ACCAA received an Independent Auditors report via Zeno, Pockl, Lilly and Copeland, A.C. for the period ending March 31, 2022 and was issued a "clean" opinion. This means that after review of financial and program records, it was determined financial reports are presented accurately and fairly in all material respects and are in compliance with the rules and regulations governing financial and program reporting.



ABOUT OUR STAFF

Head Start has 68 total staff members.

Qualifications of Staff include...

12 Preschool Teachers

- 3 with a Bachelor degree
- 7 with an Associate degree
- 2 with a CDA (In the process of getting a degree in ECE)

6 Infant/Toddler Teachers

- 4 with a CDA
- 2 that are working on obtaining a CDA

12 Assistant Teachers

- 12 with a CDA

5 Home Visitors

- 2 with an Associate degree
- 3 with a CDA

2 Family Advocates

- 1 with an Associate degree
- 1 open position

6 Site Supervisors

- 1 with a Master degree
- 1 with a Bachelor degree
- 1 with an Associate degree
- 2 with a CDA
- 1 open position

1 Trauma Support Specialist

Has an Associate degree

1 Health Specialist

An RN with a Bachelor degree

3 Program Managers

- 2 with a Bachelor degree
- 1 with a Specialized Certification

2 Coordinators

- 1 with a Bachelor degree
- 1 open position

1 Assistant Director

Has a Bachelor degree

1 Director

Has a Bachelor degree

How We Prepare Children for Kindergarten

- School readiness goals are established and aligned with Creative Curriculum, DRDP (Desired Results Developmental Profile) Assessments, the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework, as well as, Ohio Learning and Development Standards.
- Home visits and parent conferences are conducted with families to assist children with school readiness skills by discussing children's developmental strengths, as well as areas to strengthen for kindergarten entry.
- Monthly Parent Meetings are offered at each site, as well as virtually, presenting a host of parent chosen topics, such as "Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten" and "Developmental Milestones".
- Head Start classrooms are designed to provide developmentally appropriate activities and instruction that will enhance each child's developmental needs.
- Classroom staff continually observe each child, document observations and provide activities to assist each child with specific skills needed to further their development.
- Head Start assists children and families with the transition from Head Start to Kindergarten.
- All children receive developmental, social emotional, speech, vision and hearing screenings within forty-five (45) days of enrollment. These screenings allow for timely referrals to various local agencies, as well as, Local Education Agencies (LEA) if necessary.

Family Engagement Within Our Program

Engaging families in their child's learning process is a critical piece of Head Start. From being a part of everyday successes in the classroom to having a say in how the Program is run, families play a huge role in the Program.

Informal and planned communication happens every day! Staff and families discuss children's progress, classroom happenings, changes in a family's life including setting and reaching goals, and various resources available. This is done via home visits, conferences, parenting workshops, informal conversations and group socializations.

Behavioral Specialists can be available to help facilitate conversations.

Parent Meetings and Policy Council provide families an opportunity to voice concerns regarding policies and programming as well as helping to plan family events.

Activities to promote male engagement are offered throughout the year. Getting men involved in a child's education as early as possible has many positive effects. Events like the *Cardboard Challenge*, *Men of the Year Awards*, and *Father Engagement Swim Classes* allow children and the men in their lives time to enjoy special activities together and to welcome men into early education.