



NEW CASTLE COUNTY Head Start, Inc.

"Give your child a Head Start"

Annual Report

2021 - 2022



A Message from the Executive Director

October 2022 marked my 25th year at New Castle County Head Start, Inc. (NCCHS). It is so hard to describe how much being a part of this organization has impacted my life. I celebrate my silver anniversary by beginning my journey in this new role.

Before data was popular to collect, analyze and aggregate, this program did exactly that.

Before diversity and inclusion were brought to the forefront of our communities, this organization embraced those concepts.

Before any state embarked on quality improvement systems, NCCHS had adopted a continuous improvement system using data for strategic planning.

I can go on, but you get the idea. This organization is deeply embedded in treating everyone with respect and empowering all those involved. The agency has a culture of embracing change and initiating programs based on credible research.

Like many programs that have faced difficult times due to the pandemic over the last few years, NCCHS has also been challenging. Despite all the issues, the program remained strong and provided quality services to its families.

I am very confident NCCHS will continue to move forward as we have these past 25 years with a renewed commitment. We will see even more consistent high-quality preschool services emerge, and the program will once again be ranked in the country's top 10% of quality preschool programs.

I will close by stating that, as far as I'm concerned, there is no greater cause for any community than to support the efforts of people who care for the most vulnerable individuals. That is what this agency does, and everyone who is a part of this program is a gift to us all.



Wendy Marsilii, Executive Director

2021-2022 Board of Directors



Carroll Shannon, *Chairperson*
 J.D. Lee, *Vice Chairperson*
 Caroline Harty Dickerson, *Treasurer*
 Holly Yoder, *Secretary*
 Bill Brady
 Eric DeFeo
 Judy Guttenplan

Donzell Harmon
 Leslie Lee
 Linda L. Marks
 Faith Mwaura
 Elaine Reilly
 Michael Staman
 Todd Veale

Pictured are (left to right) J.D. Lee, Elaine Reilly, Todd Veale, Linda L. Marks, Carroll Shannon, Judy Guttenplan, Leslie Lee, and Holly Yoder.

2021-2022 By the Numbers

563
Total number
of enrolled
children

- 467 children ages 3 to 5 years were enrolled in the program
 - 359 children in the extended-day program
 - 108 children in the year-round program
- 96 children birth to 3 years
- 43 Head Start children with disabilities and 8 Early Head Start children with disabilities
- 100% continuous enrollment
- 85% of Head Start children and 100% of Early Head Start children received medical exams and 76% of Head Start children and 100% of Early Head Start children received dental exams.
- 100% of age-eligible children, a total of 275 transitioned to kindergarten in the fall of 2022



503
Total number
of families

- 427 total Head Start families and 76 total Early Head Start families
- 302 Head Start families and 75 Early Head Start families had incomes at or below the poverty level



135
Total number
of staff

- 129 total Head Start staff and 6 Early Head Start staff
- 75 Head Start classroom staff and 5 Early Head Start classroom staff
- 56% of Head Start lead teachers and 60% of Early Head Start home visitors have a bachelor's degree or higher degree
- 100% of Head Start assistants have a Child Development Associate credential or an associate's degree
- 35 of the Head Start staff are former parents of Head Start students



490
Total number
of volunteers

- 433 Head Start volunteers and 57 Early Head Start volunteers
- 6,986 total Head Start volunteer hours and 2,582 total Early Head Start volunteer hours
- 85% of Head Start volunteers and 91% of Early Head Start volunteers are current or former parents



NCCHS Parent Volunteers

Thank you to all parent volunteers for their time and service to NCCHS during the 2021-2022 school year. We would like to recognize Sarah Forbes (Bear) for the most volunteer hours, with a total of 96.50 hours. Parents recognized with the most hours per center were Greg Warren (Absalom Jones), Mireya Camacho (Claymont), Beatriz Nieto Rojas (Early Head Start), Lynnea Chapman and Illenia Cruz (Lambson), and Simone Hamilton (Manor Park).



2021-2022 Accomplishments

Funding

- Continued partnership with the United Way of Delaware Stand by Me program to provide financial literacy education programs for parents.
- Completed an annual financial audit with no findings.
- Received an \$11,1222 grant from the Delaware Community Foundation to provide literacy learning kits to children.
- Received an American Rescue Plan Grant for \$513,299 to provide one-on-one child-to-teacher support over the summer and offer retention bonuses for staff throughout the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 fiscal years.
- Awarded carryover funds in the amount of \$1,026,731 from the fiscal year 2020-2021, which were moved into the 2021-2022 fiscal year.



Program

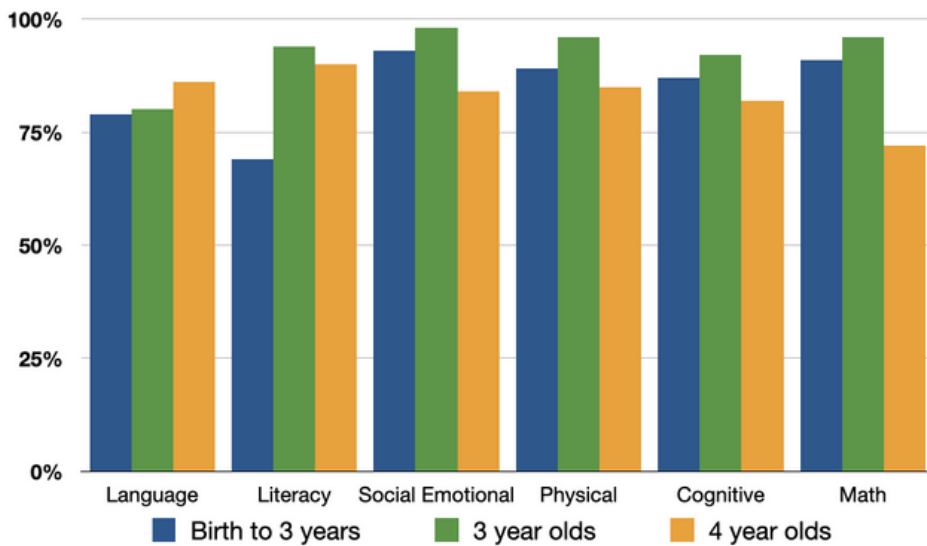
- Returned to in-person learning.
- Improved and enhanced the virtual learning curriculum to continue to provide instruction during the pandemic.
- Provided a 4-week summer enrichment program in July 2021 for all children.
- Implemented Ready-Rosie Parent Curriculum for enrolled families.
- Transitioned 100% of age-eligible children to kindergarten in the fall of 2022.
- Implemented a vaccination policy as of 11/1/2021 to protect all employees and enrolled children.



2021-2022 Outcomes

Child Outcomes

NCCHS regularly measures each child's progress during the school year. The bar graph shows the percentage of children in each age group at or above expectations in the essential domain areas for the 2021-2022 academic year.



Advisory Committee and Policy Council

Thank you to all parents, staff, and community volunteers who served on the Advisory Committee and Policy Council. Advisory members assist with planning and evaluating services, and Policy Council members assist with establishing program policies and practices.

Advisory Members

Sarah Ally
Wilma Almonterosario
Alisha Beckford
Sheila Berkel
Paula Broody
Mindy Cox
Allison David
Dara DuPont
Ella Edwards

Dr. Michelle Harris
Karen Kozlowski
Special Lewis
Lee Lucas
Lila Meredith
Michael Ragin
Shawn Rohe
Walter Smith
Breanna Thomas

Policy Council Members

Noha Almusned
Althea Burgett
Samantha Clark
Alhassan Fofanah
Jennifer Grundy

Masani Marks
William Martinez-Vazquez
Lanikka Riddock
Patience Roberts
Kelsey Webb

2021-2022 Audited Financials

Statement of Financial Position

	2022
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 161,361
Grants receivable	453,013
Prepaid rent	35,163
Prepaid insurance	26,221
Other assets and prepaid expenses	3,402
Property and equipment - net	428,442
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,107,602
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS (DEFICIT)	
LIABILITIES:	
Accounts payable	\$ 247,173
Accrued salaries and compensated absences	164,312
Payroll protection program loan	-
Payroll taxes and withholdings payable	4,308
Refundable advances	92,027
Total liabilities	507,820
NET ASSETS (DEFICIT)	
With donor restrictions	35,432
Without donor restrictions (deficit)	564,350
Total Net Assets (Deficit)	599,782
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS (DEFICIT)	\$ 1,107,602

Statement of Activities

	2022
SUPPORT AND REVENUE WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	
Federal grants	
Head Start	\$ 4,985,699
Early Head Start	606,278
Training and technical assistance	24,246
Child and Adult Care food program	359,242
State grants	1,073,140
Contributions - cash	12,218
Contributions - in-kind	314,059
Interest income	84
Net Assets released from restrictions	86,909
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	7,461,874
EXPENSES	
Program	
Head Start	6,037,271
Early Head Start	571,567
Total Program	6,608,838
General and Administrative	879,652
TOTAL EXPENSES	7,488,490
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	(26,615)
NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	
Contributions - cash	79,102
Net assets released from restriction	(86,909)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	(7,807)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS BEFORE NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES	(34,422)
NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Gain on forgiveness of Paycheck Protection Program loan	966,642
Proceeds from insurance recovery	-
TOTAL NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES	966,642
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	932,220
Net assets - beginning of year	(332,438)
Net assets - end of year	\$ 599,782



Program Review

Program Review and Self-Assessment Findings

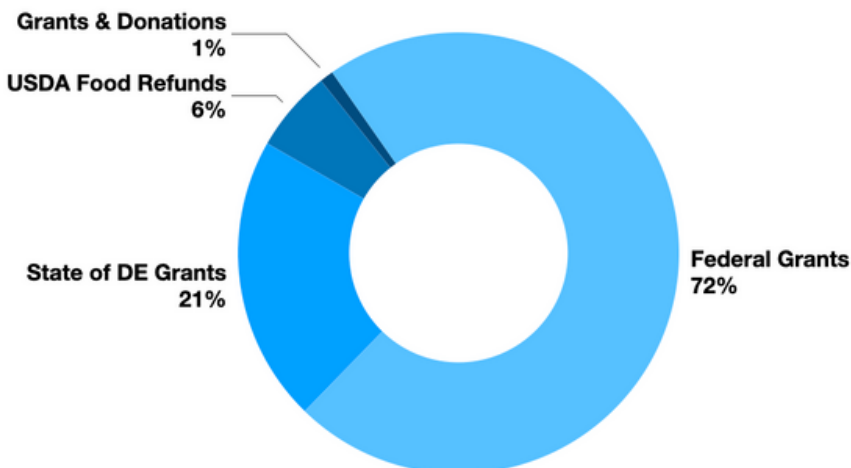
New Castle County Head Start, Inc. conducted a detailed program self-assessment in accordance with the federal Head Start performance standards for the 2021-2022 program year. Below is a summary of the results:

- The area of Program Design, Management, and Quality Improvement was found to have strengths in the knowledge of the community, strategic planning process, and fiscal operations.
- The area of Designing Quality Education and Child Development Program Services was found to have strengths for formal agreements with all Local Education Agencies (LEAs), Summer Enrichment, and Coaching for the educational staff.
- The area of Designing Quality Health Program services was found to have strengths in response to COVID-19 concerns and health and safety procedures.
- The area of Designing Quality Family and Community Engagement Program Services strengths include our overall response to the pandemic, including a virtual learning model, support to families (food, supplies, educational materials), and the availability of Financial Coaching for all families.
- Developing Effective Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, and Attendance (ERSEA) Strategies and Fiscal Infrastructure areas had strengths in Eligibility determination system with supervisory approvals and 100% compliant Financial and Pension audits.

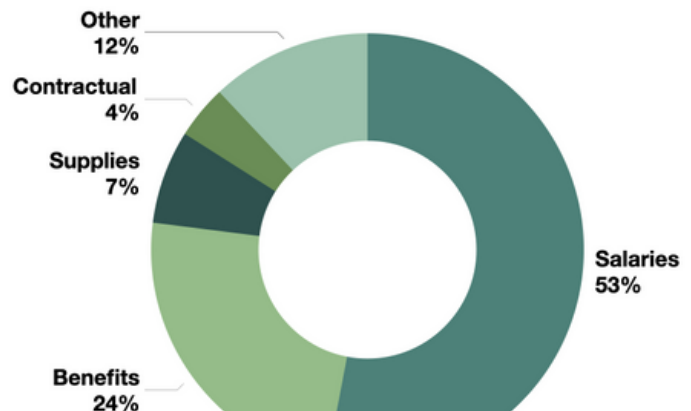
The only areas of concern were training, communication, and translation technology. Due to staffing shortages and the pandemic, these areas need more attention.

2021-2022 Budget

Total Revenue \$6,693,326



Total Expenses \$6,693,326



Looking Ahead

Looking Ahead at 2023 & Beyond

The priorities for 2023 and beyond are to provide exceptional early childhood education and support our families with their ever-changing needs, including:

- Implement a successful transition of the new Executive Director to ensure consistent services.
- Maintain an employee retention bonus system to attract and retain staff.
- Create wellness, mental health, and stress management training for staff and families.

2021-2022 School Readiness Goals

Each school year goals are established to improve lower-performing child development areas. The goal areas were:

Early Head Start Goals

Engagement
Establish and sustain positive relationships
Engage in conversations
Use scientific inquiry skills
Use fingers and hands

Head Start Goals

Recognize and recall
Establish and sustain positive relationships
Engage in conversations
Write to convey meaning
Count
Understand spatial relationships
Use scientific inquiry skills
Demonstrate gross motor skills
Use hands and fingers



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www.facebook.com

Center Locations

Absalom Jones

310 Kiamensi Road
Wilmington, DE 19804
(302) 999-8480

Bear

931 Corbitt Road
Bear, DE 19701
(302) 832-2212

Claymont

3301 Green Street
Claymont, DE 19703
(302) 792-9065

Early Head Start

19 Lambson Lane
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 777-5104

Lambson

19 Lambson Lane
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 655-5070

Manor Park

1 Bassett Avenue
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 328-9454

Thank you to our donors and community partners!

Donors

Delaware Community Foundation
United Way Campaign

In-Kind Donors

Becker School Supplies
Delaware Children's Museum
First State Safety Services, LLC
Gallagher Benefit Services
Juggling Hoffmans
Lakeshore
PNC Bank
Sigma Data
Wilmington Library
Wilmington State Parks
Winterthur Museum

Partner Organizations

Brandywine School District
Center for Child Development
Christina School District
Colonial School District
DE Department of Education
DE Health and Social Services
DE Technical & Community College, Education Program
DE Technical & Community College, Nursing Program
Foster Grandparents Program
New Castle Vocational Technical School District
Read Aloud Delaware
Red Clay School District
United Way of Delaware
University of Delaware, Cooperative Extension College of
Agriculture Resources

Volunteer or Donate Today!

NCCHS depends on community support by way of monetary or in-kind donations and volunteers. Call the Administrative Office at (302) 452-1500 for more information on donation needs and volunteer opportunities.