

Head Start/Early Head Start Board Report March 2022

General:

The two new EHS classrooms at Sumner have been licensed and we are in the process of selecting children for these slots as well as hiring the staff.

Staff continues to attend 7 C's trainings put on by our T/ TA people. This month discussed successful collaboration and looked at how we could improve areas within the agency.

All Staff Training Day (March 18) – Individual trainings were completed and staff enjoyed a luncheon at their respective sites.

Received an RFP from the Baldwinsville Central School District to partner with them in providing UPK services at our Baldwinsville location. In the process of completing the RFP which is due mid-April.

Education:

Coaches continue to support the PBC cycle, goal setting, weekly observations, and in-person or Zoom reflection meetings. Coaches are currently taking on various responsibilities in addition to the Coaching Program: For the Wellness program, Peace places are being made at sites. Spaces have been chosen and items ordered to complete the Peace places for staff at sites. This idea came from the Wellness committee to improve mental health of staff needing a quiet place to relax and be more productive throughout the day.

Same Book 2022: Hop on Pop by Dr. Seuss was chosen for the Same Book. We are using the WCNY/PBS "Cat in the Hat" Literacy and family engagement curriculum that was gifted to PEACE, Inc. Head Start/EHS as resources for teachers, supervisors, and family workers to encourage a school to home link. Coaches took time to deliver books and resources to their sites, and discuss the expectations and opportunities this program has to offer.

FACES, through Mathematica Research has begun their spring data collection at Sumner and Jordan.

Developed monthly Active Supervision training for the remaining of the program year. These brief trainings are held during building staff meetings once a month, and incorporate information from the Early Childhood Knowledge and Learning Center, ECKLC.

Webinar: Supporting Transgender Individuals where we live, work, and play: Early Care and Learning Counsel; CLASS 2nd Edition, Summer 2022: Teachstone; Language development for Infants in the time of COVID: LENA

Home-Base

We are continuing to have in-person visits with families. These are going very well and feels natural to be in families' homes. We continue to ask the COVID questions before going to the visit to main safe. Home visits completed total 162.

Offered three virtual socialization 13 children attended.

Pregnant moms- one birth and one new pregnant mom. Maternal/Child Nurse is following 8 babies and we are keeping them on her caseload.

We continue to have three home visitor openings and have not had an applicant to interview. Two of the child development coaches and the disability coordinator are visiting eight children. This included weekly drop-offs to

the home with materials needed for that week, a zoom visit in which we use the materials, and then case notes and TSG documentation. We are not fully enrolled, which makes this manageable.

Health:

11 staff were CPR/First Aid and Stop the Bleed trained this month and three staff completed Belay allergy training. Belay Allergy and Anaphylaxis training is held each month for new staff.

OCC contract has been signed to obtain Medical Assistant students from their program each semester. If HS has an open position, the goal would be to hire an MA student once student has certification.

Health Coordinator attended a virtual conference 3/16 & 3/17 on Health Literacy through T/TAS- Western Kentucky University.

Two new Health Advocate positions have been filled.

Mental Health:

Pre/Mid Deca Comparison report completed (included percentages for each age group in the areas of strengths, typical and need).

Webinars Attended- TTAC Webinar: Deepening the Relational Foundations of Reflection- focused on the therapeutic relationship between a parent and the therapist in order to provide the best possible care to not only the child but to the family system as a whole. Discussed the varying levels of trust building in a therapeutic relationship as well as strategies/techniques to encourage parents to reflect on past experiences.

Pesi: Dick Schwartz's IFS in Action Master Class- this was a several day training that provided in-depth information and first hand use of Internal Family Systems therapy (IFS). Being aware and learning new therapeutic modalities is necessary in maintaining best practice.

Front Porch Series: Building Social and Emotional Development Outdoor- this OOHS webinar gave insights into the need for outdoor play and encouraging social-emotional play within the environment. This webinar focused on the differences outdoor play brings to social-emotional development in comparison to indoor play.

Nutrition:

March 2022: Feeding approximately 414 HS/EHS children in eight centers. Some classrooms have not opened yet or have been closed due to staffing issues or COVID cases. 95 of those children require a modified diet (as of 3/31/22)

and 27 of those children have documented food allergies; several children have more than one allergy.

Allergies include: milk, egg, wheat, peanut, tree nuts, soybean, fish, shellfish, sesame, oat, coconut, red dye, blue dye, pineapple, strawberries, pumpkin, chicken, beef, and lemon oil. One entire center (James St. - 2 HS classrooms) requires a substitution for fish due to a child's severe allergy. Two children require modified diets due to feeding/swallowing issues (James Street and LaFayette).

Nutrition Coordinator followed up daily on staff questions/concerns at Merrick and Sumner kitchens to assure best practices in operations, protocols, policies, preparing, documenting, serving and disposing of EHS/HS foods.

Presented training resources to Nutrition Aide Kitchen staff at sites and provided Belay Allergy Training access and explanation to Merrick kitchen staff.

Nutrition Specialist met with HS/EHS Data Quality Assistant to discuss nutrition topics and reports that can be generated in MyHeadstart. Looking at ways we can take reports, such as children's BMI (body mass index) and compare that to racial/ethnicity data and geographic location; to see if there are any trends within the community. This will help with parent education and T/TA plans.

Attended FARE (Food Allergy Research & Education) training on March 9th. This webinar covered some of the basics for food allergies and differences between allergies and intolerance.

Participated in the agency's racial equity committee meeting and discussed the self-assessment tool that will be used and the plan for creating strategies for improvement. This committee is made up by staff from

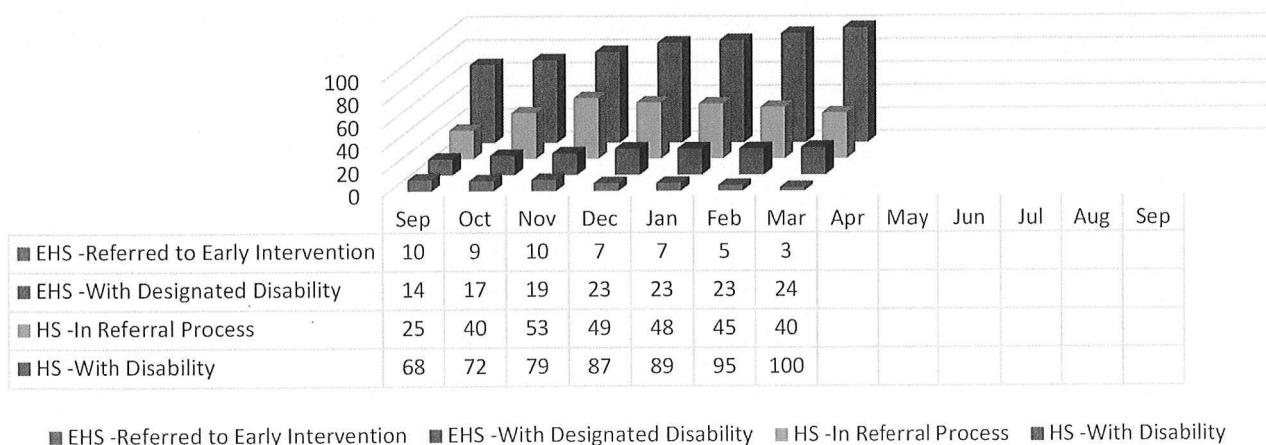
different parts of the agency (HS/EHS, Energy & Housing, Maintenance, FRC's, BBBS, HR, Fiscal, Foster Grandparent program, Community Engagement). Discussed ways in which the HS program and agency are successful in addressing racial disparities and ways we can make improvements.

Disabilities:

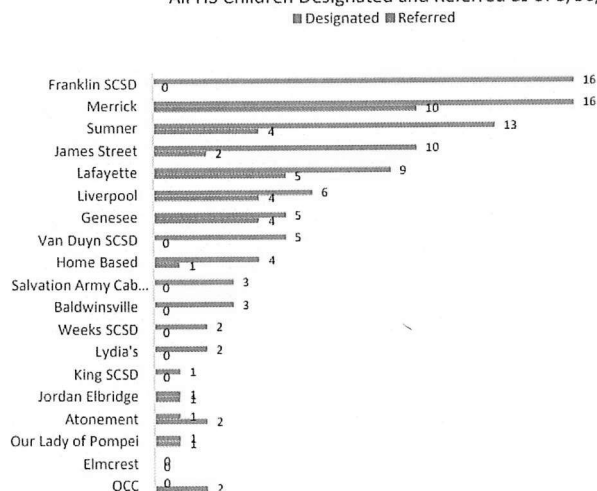
Continue to attend initial and annual Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) meetings. In addition, also attending several Committee on Special Education (CSE) meetings. These are the meetings for the children who have services and are going into kindergarten. Although there is a shortage of special education providers in our county, children are at least getting into the special education system and when needed getting referred for services in kindergarten. This way they can begin kindergarten with the appropriate supports they need right off the bat, rather than waiting for things to become difficult for the child and then have them referred to CSE at a later date.

Provided a training for all the Head Start teachers at Merrick. This was a short, but informative training regarding referring children for a preschool special education evaluation and the CPSE process as a whole.

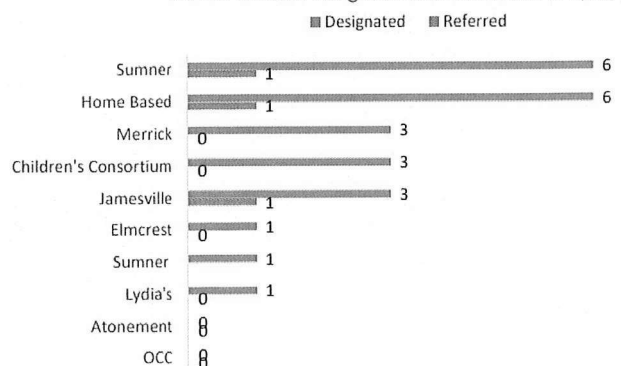
Children with Disabilities (numbers are cumulative)



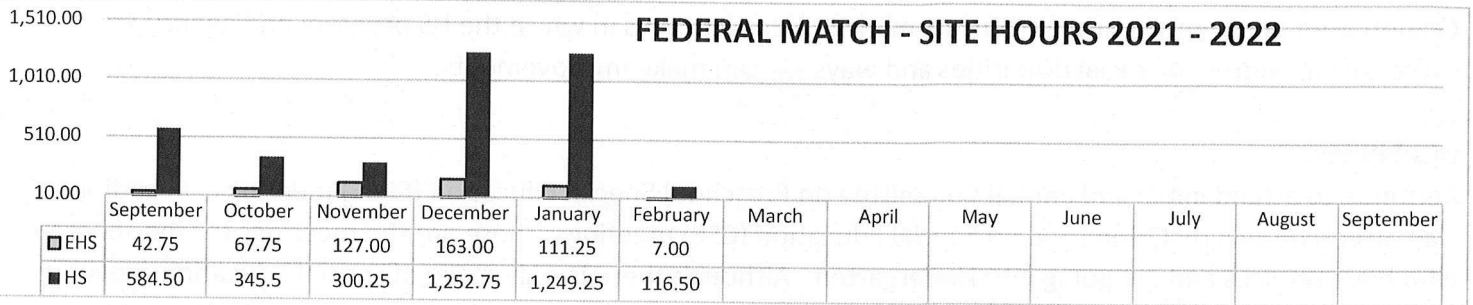
All HS Children Designated and Referred as of 3/30/2022



All EHS Children Designated and Referred as of 3/30/2022



FEDERAL MATCH - SITE HOURS 2021 - 2022



Applications / Referrals / On Wait List 2021 - 2022

