

Head Start/Early Head Start Board Report April 2022

General:

The two EHS classrooms at Sumner have been licensed and currently room 106 is open. We still need to hire staff before we can open room 105.

Staff continues to attend 7 C's trainings put on by our T/ TA people. This month discussed culture of confidence. We talked about what that looks like, how confidence works in a circle model, affecting those on either side of your position. We also talked about how to build confidence, strategies that we already use, and areas that we can improve upon.

All Staff Appreciation Day plans developed to deliver lunches to all HS/EHS staff on Friday May 6.

This month we have had 18 staff members testing positive for COVID.

Submitted an RFP from the Baldwinsville Central School District to partner with them in providing UPK services at our Baldwinsville location. Currently awaiting to hear from them.

Education:

The coaches continue to implement Practice Based Coaching (PBC) practices. The PBC cycle consists of goal setting; observation, reflection; and planning. The cycle is completed weekly with each coached teacher, focusing on social emotional wellness of the children and adults in the classroom. Observations are conducted in person. Reflection meetings are conducted in-person or virtually. The coaches have been in a very good rhythm with most teachers, and just getting back on track with the others as COVID classroom closures cause disruptions to the cycle.

Coaches attended a Child Development Meeting where we talked about the 45 day screening requirement, CLASS observations for next program year, and site coverages for next year. We also talked about topics for pre-service training. We specifically spoke to involving direct service staff in the process, developing a survey to assist in this, and also different ways to structure our all staff, larger training days.

Developed a survey on Shared Drives incorporating topics of future potential trainings. The survey is built to give teachers input on what trainings they are interested in, and gives the opportunity to add their own ideas, as well as, what makes a training most effective for them.

Delivered caterpillars to agency sites.

Open House for Infant Room 106 at Sumner. As enrolled families arrived, we collaborated with them to complete the required screenings (ASQ and Deca). We were able to complete these for 6 of the 7 children on the roster. They would also complete final registration paperwork and the health screening. Upon completion, each family received a bag of educational materials to use at home while waiting for the classroom to open. Attended a Coach Coffee Hour meeting with our Regional Specialist as well as other coaches from the region. We talked about the current status of our coaching programs, having culturally responsive approaches to coaching, what that looks like, what we are already doing, and things to keep in mind moving forward.

Home-Base

Conducted 113 Home Visits; Socialization 13 families attended.

Currently have one pregnant mom and eight babies.

All home visitors have completed Parents as Teachers training I.

Child Development Coaches and Disability Coordinator continue to visit home based families. We continue to try to recruitment for the three home visitors' position. There is a meeting schedule with Cazenovia College with the intern coordination for the Human Service program to have intern be at PEACE, Inc.,.

Home visitors went to events at Tully FRC and Eastside FRC. Recruited with the children's librarian at the Soul branch, sharing information with her colleagues. We ask parents to recruit for us. The parent with the most applications will win a family activity bag.

Health:

Trained seven staff CPR/First Aid and Stop the Bleed and three staff completed Belay allergy training.

Nurse Christina Lear and Nurse Sage Parkin successfully completed the NYS Medication Administration Instructor training course and are official MAT instructors now.

Two new Health Advocates are doing very well in this new position created.

Belay Allergy and Anaphylaxis training will be held each month for new staff and a CPR/FA/Stop the Bleed class is scheduled for May.

Chompers Dental Clinics underway: Have had to reschedule James, Liverpool and LaFayette due to COVID closures.

Mental Health:

Webinars: BabyTalks Series: How Infants Think and Feel: What the Research Tells Us- provided research based information on infant brain development and how they are learning about the world and environment they grow up in. TTAC webinar – perinatal mood and anxiety disorders – Discussed the impact of depression during pregnancy and the effects it may have on the pregnant mother as well as the unborn child.

Nutrition:

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, lemon oil. Two centers (James Street two HS classrooms, and Liverpool three HS classrooms) requires a substitution for fish due to a child's and a staff member's severe allergy. Three children require modified diets due to feeding/swallowing issues (James Street, LaFayette, and Merrick EHS).

Nutrition Coordinator engaged in 40 CE hours in Pediatric and Adult Weight Management.

Met with ERSEA Coordinator and Specialist, and Family Worker / Intake Worker to discuss Nutrition Selection Criteria points for next year's enrollment, each nutrition point will be defined to help us better track the needs of families and what services we can provide..

Nutrition Specialist attended one day of a virtual Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

conference. The topics covered on the first day included: CACFP creditable resources for professionals, Meal Pattern basics, general session, and reviewing the crediting handbook.

Family & Community:

April enrollment for HS was 632 (76%) and EHS was 173 (81%).

April attendance for HS was 69% and EHS was 70%. We have still had to close classrooms for COVID, children have had to get tested and that has affected attendance as well as transportation.

Kindergarten Readiness workshops have been taking place at sites many have been in the evening.

We held two open enrollment days at Merrick for parents. It was very successful.

Recruitment is well under way we have posters at bus shelters throughout the city also have face book and other social media targeted at families with children under 5.

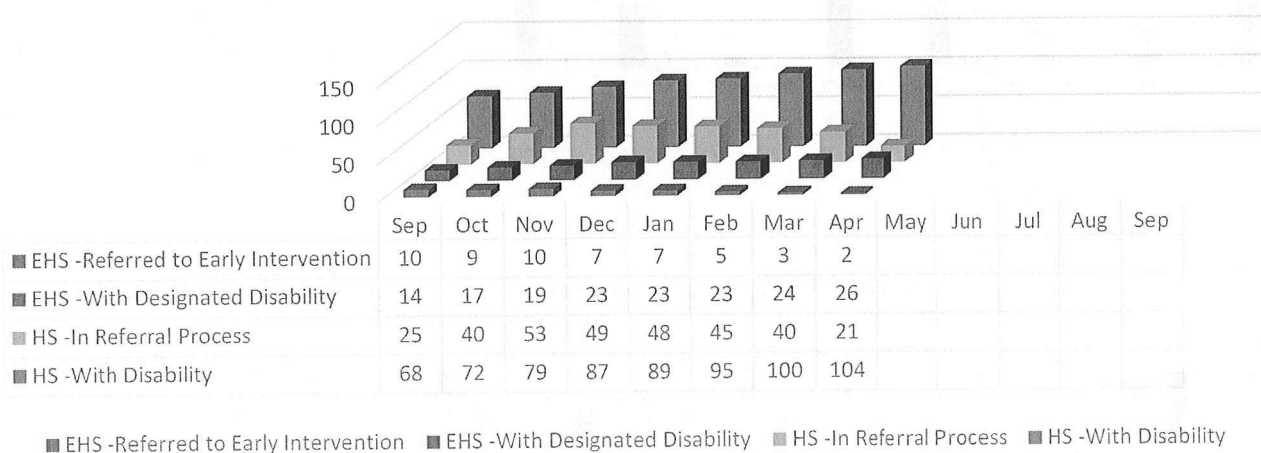
Disabilities:

The Disabilities Coordinator continues to attend initial and annual Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) meetings. This has proven to be very successful, for despite the lack of special education providers in the area, children are being referred to Committee on Special Education (CSE) at the kindergarten level. In addition, when truly warranted, some children may be eligible for compensatory summer services. Provided a training for all the Early Head Start teachers at Merrick regarding referring children for Early Intervention.

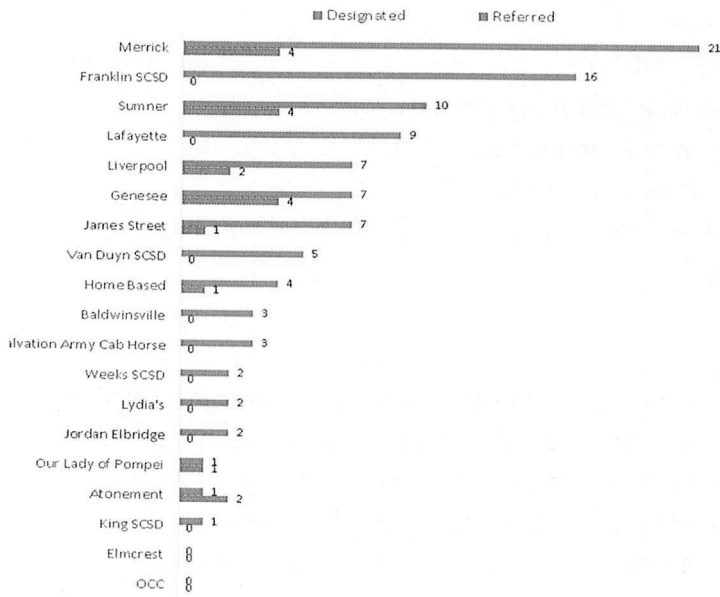
Continues to work with the Data Story teller in an effort to more effectively capture the data on children being referred to EI or CPSE and those children with disabilities in our EHS/HS program.

Attended a workshop put on by Hear 2 Learn on working with children who are deaf or have hearing loss. This is always helpful because over the years we have had several children with hearing loss in our program.

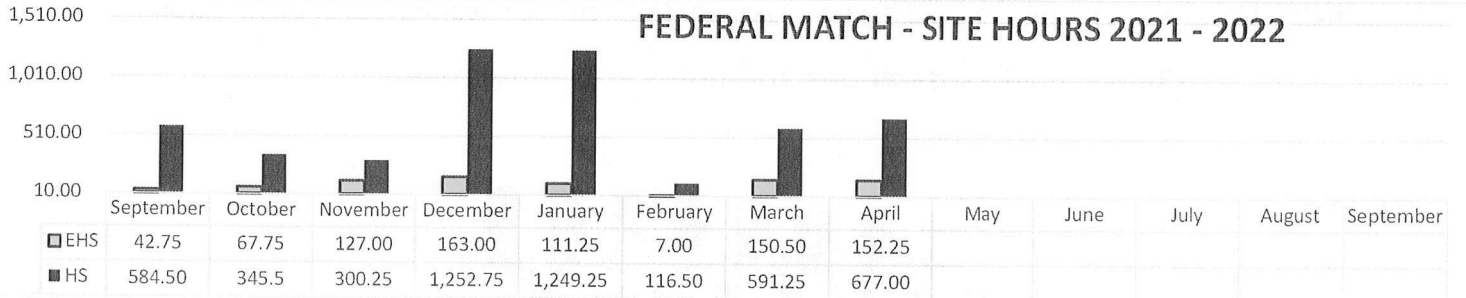
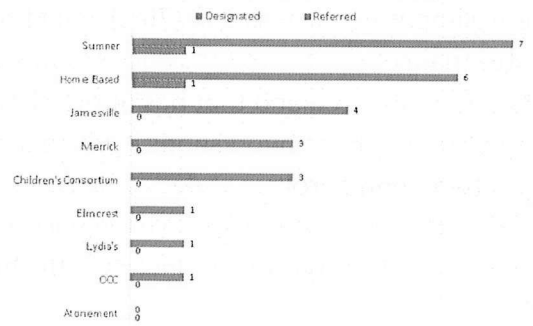
Children with Disabilities (numbers are cumulative)



All HS Children Designated and Referred Children as of 4/12/2022



All EHS Designated and Referred Children as of 4/12/22



Applications / Referrals / On Wait List 2021 - 2022

