

Head Start/Early Head Start Board Report May 2022

General:

The two EHS classrooms at Sumner have been licensed and we 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 the focus was coaching, what we do well and areas that we could improve upon.

All Staff Training Day is being planned for August 30 and Education Staff Training Day for August 31 and September 1.

This month we have had 12 staff members testing positive for COVID.

Working with the Baldwinsville Central School District to finalize UPK services at our Baldwinsville location.

All components of HS are working to update the staff corner.

Education:

Attended the National Head Start Conference and workshops presented ranged from staff and individual wellness, to behavior management, to staff retention, and more. Information shared which be beneficial, including recommending some speakers for our own training.

Continued the Practice Based Coaching cycle with teachers. This consisted of setting a goal, conducting a focused observation, and then having a reflection meeting.

Continue developing the staff training survey that will help guide our training program for the next school year.

It has training questions under many topic areas including Conscious Discipline, Screening/Assessments, STEAM, social/emotional, disabilities, staff wellness, program operations, family/community, and health.

The recently hired coach completed, as part of her orientation, 16 hours of Practice Based Coaching training with our Region II Education Specialist. Practice Based Coaching is the model followed in our program to carry out intensive in-classroom coaching to teachers. It supports teachers in implementing strategies in the classroom that enhance best teaching practices. Also, completed 18 hours of Zoom training in the Infant/Toddler Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) with an additional 11 hours of independent online course work. After the training she completed and passed the test given by Teaching Strategies to be a certified Infant and Toddler CLASS observer. CLASS is the tool our program uses to assess the quality of teacher-child interactions in the classroom. CLASS results are used as a means to identify and set professional development goals with our education staff.

Home-Base

Conducted 127 Home Visits and two Socializations which 12 attended.

Two Home-Base Visitors attended National Head Start/Early Head start Conference this month.

Working with Cazenovia College, Human Services Department to have interns come, hoping when they finish would want to work for PEACE, Inc.

One Home-Base Visitor finished Parent As Teachers Curriculum Training Foundational 2, for 3 to 5 year olds.

Home-Base Manager attended ECA Pregnancy & Parenting Committee, talked about program, information about openings and recruiting for children for 2022 to 2023 school year.

Home visitors have been instrumental transiting children from home based to centers, setting up case conferences and scheduling families' to visit centers.

Health:

Eight Staff have been trained in CPR/First Aid and Stop the Bleed.

Five staff completed Belay allergy training.

Four staff completed MAT certification training- first class with Nurse Christina and Sage.

170 children attended Chompers Spring dental clinics at the PEACE HS locations.

Belay Allergy and Anaphylaxis training will be held each month for new staff.

One CPR/FA/Stop the Bleed class is scheduled for June 17th, includes administrative staff.

Mental Health:

Attended a meeting with members of the exec. team as well as the HB supervisor to meet a staff member at Cazenovia College to discuss a possible partnership with current and future students.

Webinars / Trainings: Training on family systems- focused on theory of family systems and the importance of family cohesion. Strategies and therapies on entropy (decline of the family) and ways to support positive family structure; Training on mindfulness awareness – discussed the importance of mindfulness as well as tools and strategies to utilize this in day-to-day lives; OOHS introduction to active supervision- the importance of actively being aware and mindful within each of your settings. Working with those within your team to assure the safety and wellbeing of all children and staff within your care; OOHS-inclusion webinar series- supporting social emotional learning with disabilities- discussed strategies to help support and utilize SEL especially with individual children who are differently able. Provided guides for promoting, reinforcement as well as social narratives to support staff and children in the classroom; OOHS – health and mental health leader's institute – focused on trauma and its effects on child development as well as trauma informed care, active supervision, the importance of equity in regards to health and mental health and the importance of equity in regards to health and mental health and the importance of maternal health and its effects on the developing child.

Nutrition:

After reviewing special diet numbers/percentages data from 2022, 2017, and 2010, we found that while the number of children with food allergies has mostly stayed consistent (around 6-8%), the number of children with other special dietary needs (intolerances, religious/cultural preferences, medical issues that require a modified diet) has tripled. Currently 24% of children that we feed have dietary restrictions.

Feeding approximately 407 HS/EHS children in eight centers. Some classrooms have not opened yet due to staffing issues. 96 of those children require a modified diet. 24 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 St. - 2 HS classrooms, and Liverpool - three HS classrooms) require a substitution for fish due to a child's severe allergy and a staff person's severe allergy. Multiple children require modified diets due to feeding/swallowing issues (James St., LaFayette, Merrick).

Nutrition Coordinator attended the first BELAY Dietetic Training at Syracuse University.

Continued Child and Adult Obesity Training hours to complete in June 2022.

Nutrition Specialist assisted with planning and obtaining food for the Merrick nutrition parent workshop on May 5th.

Met with IT Director and Food Service Director to discuss updates to the agency food request system.

Discussed the possibility of purchasing a system to meet various needs of the senior nutrition program and HS/EHS food services.

Completed application for No Kid Hungry advisory board.

Attended several webinars from the National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety; topics included active supervision, building resilience, and managing environmental health.

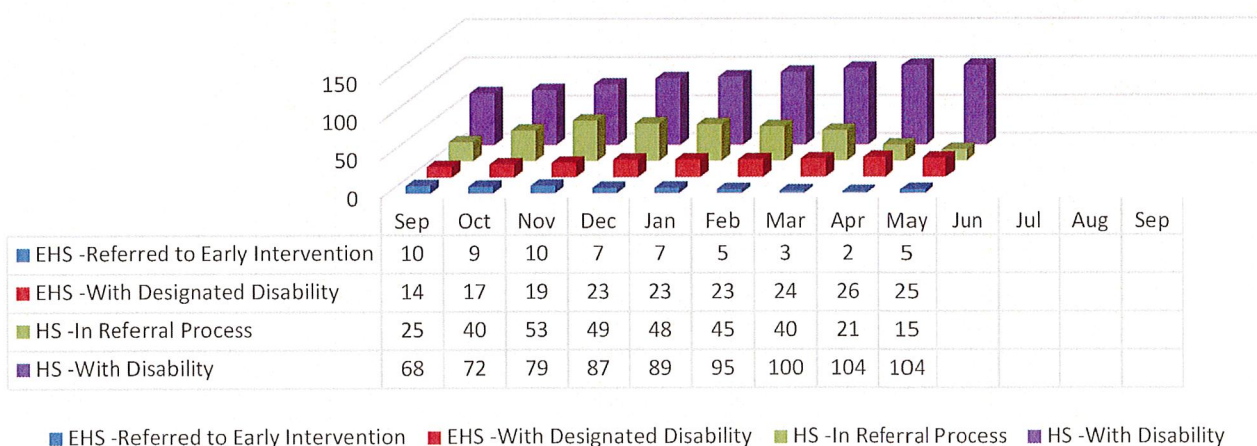
Disabilities:

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.

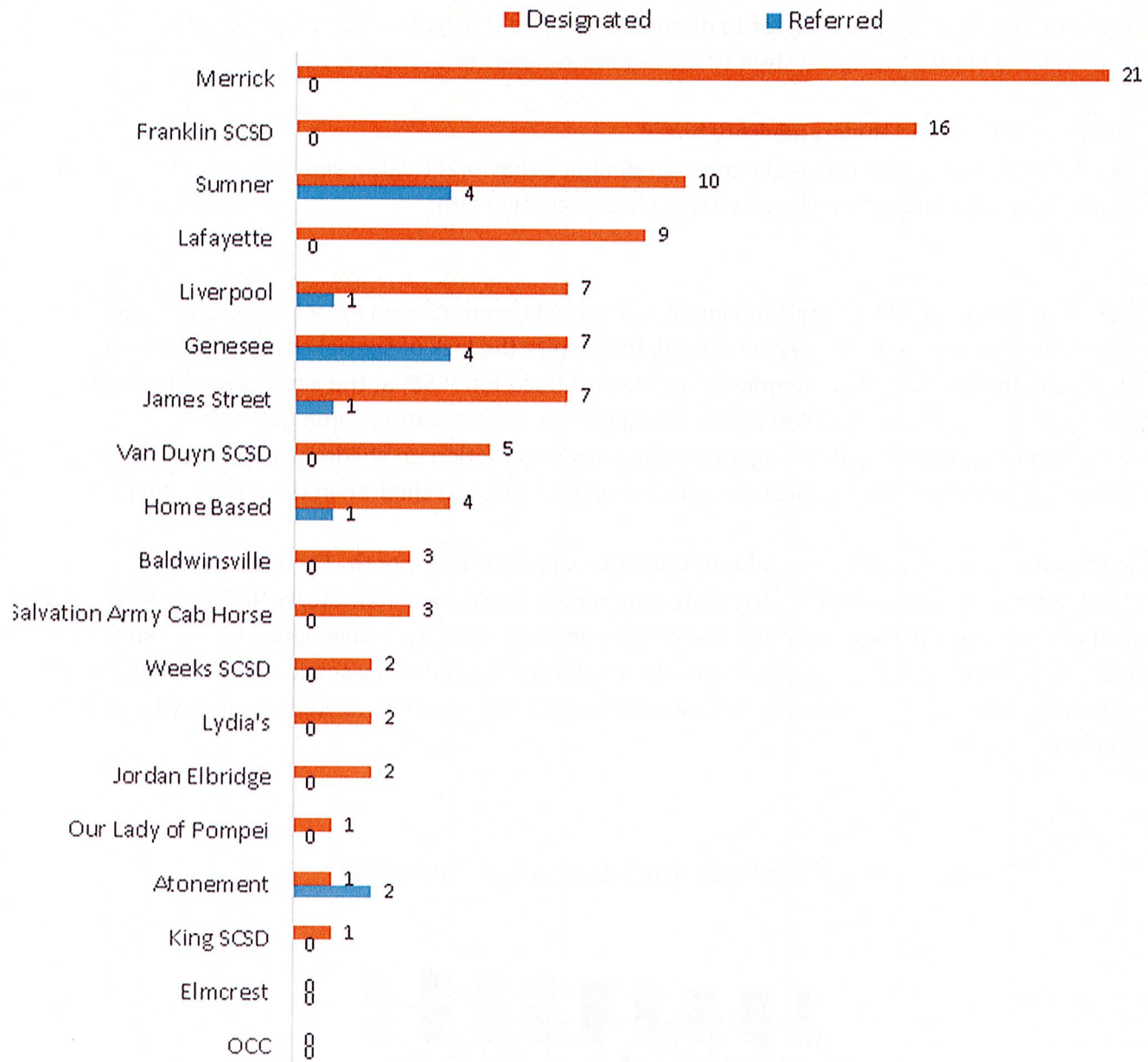
Worked directly with many intake workers regarding obtaining information on children with disabilities and those with suspected disabilities in an effort to ensure we select and place children in the best manner possible.

Attended the Preschool Coalition of Young children With Special Needs this month. There was a lot of discussion about summer services and virtual/remote and in-person services. Remote/virtual services are still only to be used when in-person is not an option due to the pandemic, not just convenience for the families or itinerant providers. In addition, there was discussion about educational audiology services at this meeting and the need for these services in our community. The agency Hear 2 Learn is willing to step up and try to support this need in our community.

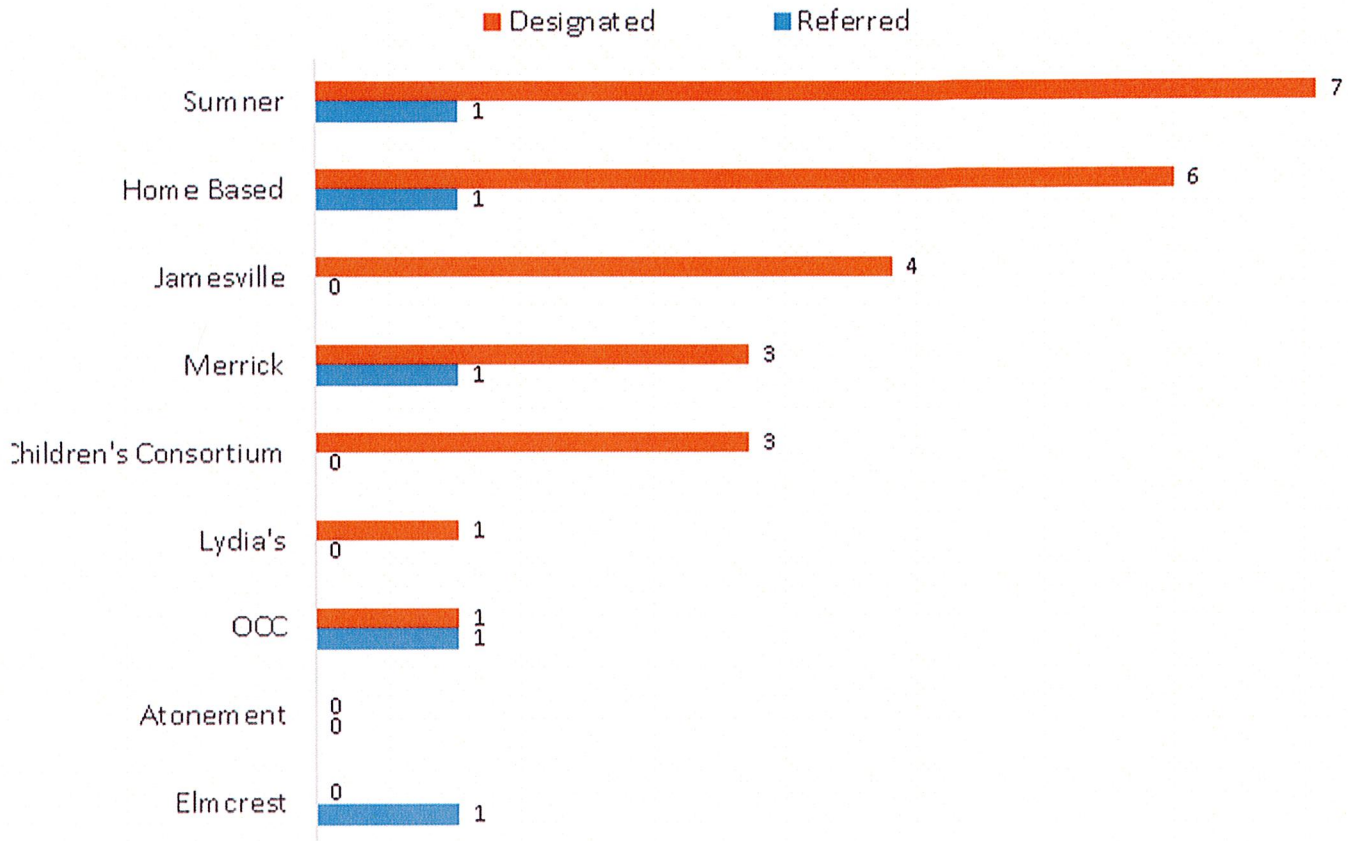
Children with Disabilities (numbers are cumulative)



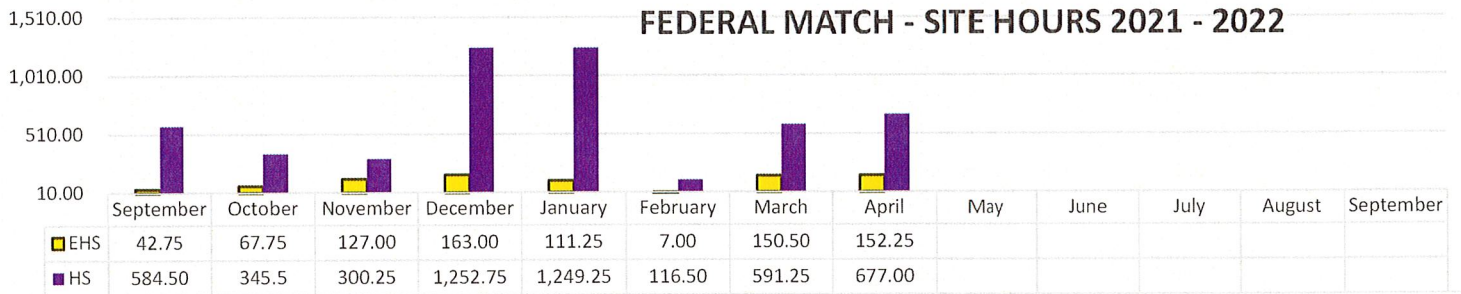
All HS Children Designated and Referred Children as of 4/12/2022



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



FEDERAL MATCH - SITE HOURS 2021 - 2022



Applications / Referrals / On Wait List 2021 - 2022

