

Head Start/Early Head Start Board Report September 2022

General:

Continue working with Jaclyn Schildkraut, PhD Associate Professor at Oswego on training staff in School Safety. She will facilitate an additional staff training on October 31 at Sumner and Merrick.

Child Care Solutions will provide training for staff on Reporting Procedures and Addressing Head Injuries on October 7 at Merrick and Sumner.

In September six staff members had tested positive for COVID.

Staff is working on updating the Reapplication for this year's grant as well as our T/TA Plan; and School Readiness Goals which is due November 1.

The Annual Report for HS/EHS has been completed and will be presented to the Policy Council for their approval on October 19.

Education:

Attended a Zoom meeting in regards to how to better monitor the completion of the Ages and Stages Questionnaire. We came up with a plan and specific dates monitoring would be done before the due date arrives so that we can make sure teachers are completing these before the 45 day deadline.

Visited Atonement to meet with teachers. The first visit with two Early Head Start teachers who have been within our collaboration for many years. We did a refresher on what the program requirements are (screenings, assessments, home visits, etc.) and the importance of the due dates. The second visit I sat with the newer preschool teachers. We went through the requirements, the importance of the due dates, I showed them the Ages and Stages binder, the home visits and talked about the yellow education folders.

I attended a coach's meeting in which we touched base with how teachers in the coaching program have been responding. We discussed the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) and made sure we were all on the same page with the new format for the tool. These observations will start in the classrooms the week of October 11th.

Spent several hours in a James Street classroom helping get it ready to open to children. One of the teachers at LaFayette is temporarily teaching in this James St. classroom until a certified teacher is hired. Spent time helping her get the toys and shelves labeled, cubbies labeled with the children's name, rearranging a few of the furniture pieces.

Started going through Teaching Strategies Gold rosters to make sure children were placed into the correct classrooms and also that their correct ages were selected for this rating year.

Provided DECA technical assistance.

The T/TA included managing children, adding new teaching staff, giving out usernames and passwords, creating group roster.

School Readiness Goals were updated for the new program year.

Home-Base

Conducted 87 Home Visits and will start in-person socializations in October.

Home Based is still looking to fill four Home visitor vacancies.

The home visitors attended Parents as Teachers conference in Denver.

Home visitors are at 11 or 12 children on their caseload. They finished final registration with families. We are still recruiting for pregnant moms. Maternal/Child Health Nurse caseload is 7.

We are beginning health screenings, in which maternal/child health nurse is providing for home based children.

Home based supervisor attended a zoom meeting with Home Based Learning Committee, from our region.

Many share the same concerns, staffing, hiring qualified staff, closed classrooms and recruiting families. One program had federal review in May and has not heard back as of yet.

Health:

Lion's Club vision screenings completed (Merrick- 79 children; Sumner- 53 children; and Liverpool- 48 children).

Gebbie Hearing Clinics completed (Grant Pre-K- 15 children; Our Lady of Pompei- 25 children; and Vincent House- 11 children).

Chompers Dental Clinic Cleaning/fluoride varnish completed (Baldwinsville-8 Children; Jordan—2 Children).

Four new staff completed Belay Allergy preparedness training.

Nutrition:

Feeding approximately 433 HS/EHS children in 8 centers: Sumner, Merrick, James St., Genesee, Liverpool, Baldwinsville, Jordan/Elbridge, LaFayette: 25 of those children require a modified diet (four of those children have documented food allergies; allergies include: milk, egg, soy, wheat, peanut, tree nuts, strawberries, and pineapple. Multiple children require modified diets due to feeding/swallowing issues.

Nutrition Coordinator- conducted interviews for nutrition aide candidates at sites and provided training newly hired nutrition aide at site.

Nutrition Specialist -met with several parents at Merrick to discuss nutritional needs of children.

Review documentation for approximately 75+ children starting in September with special diets. Communicate with nurses on clarification of special diets and status of documentation. Update special diet lists for both production kitchens to communicate daily modifications needed.

Family and Community:

September enrollment: HS 614 (601 in a seat with 13 drops) 74%. EHS 147 children in a seat 62%. Reminder we have four classrooms closed and several rooms not to full capacity, as well as Home-Base due to staffing shortages.

September attendance is not totally complete we have some challenges' due to not being fully staffed. HS is at 80% and EHS is 62% mainly due to Home Base.

9/1 F&C staff helped Merrick with orientation.

9/15 The Partnerships Coordinator and Specialist attended the "Stand Against Child Abuse Conference" presented by the Ryan McMahon Center.

9/28 F&C functional area meeting to discuss FW meeting agenda's and to offer MHS training one day per month.

We are down 7 family workers.

Disabilities:

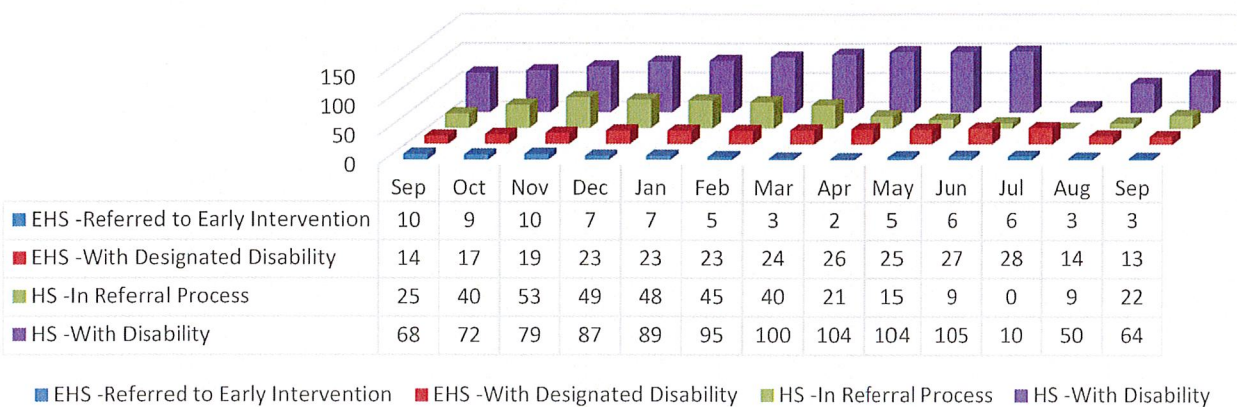
The Disabilities Coordinator has been ensuring we accept and enroll children who are appropriate for our program. It is imperative we ensure that we do not overwhelm any one classroom with children with disabilities, especially due to our staffing shortage.

Collected and uploaded IEP's/IFSP's into "myHeadStart" data base. It is important that we have them on file and that teachers have access to them to support children with disabilities in our classrooms.

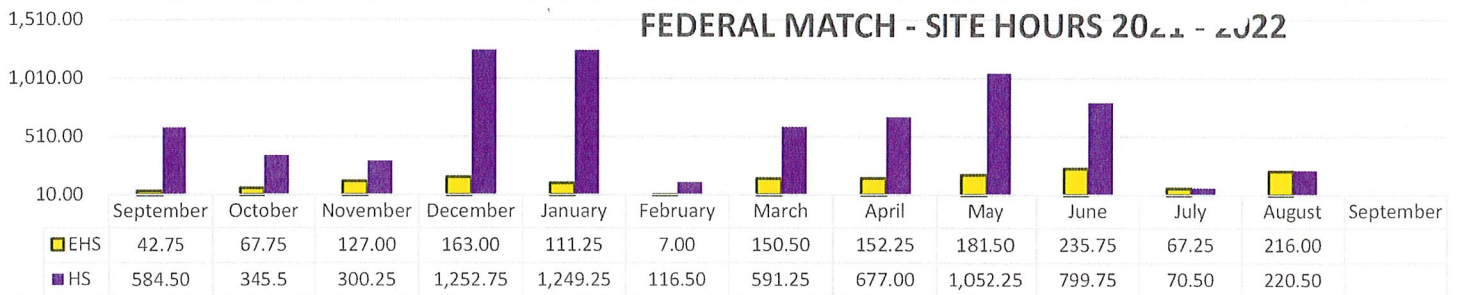
Sent out LEA (Formal Agreements) to all 20 school districts that we service in Onondaga County. To date, we have received 14 back with signatures.

Have begun to obtain letters from the special education agencies that service our children regarding what clearances their staff have upon employment.

Children with Disabilities (numbers are cumulative)
note: July and August represents Summer program numbers



FEDERAL MATCH - SITE HOURS 2021 - 2022



Applications / Referrals / On Wait List 2021 - 2022

