

**Head Start/Early Head Start
Board Report February 2023**

General:

- During the month of February 4 staff and 2 children had tested positive for COVID.

Education:

- Child Development Coaches spent a significant amount of time this month completing Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) Video recordings as part of our participation in the (CLASS®) Video Pilot Federal Review. (CLASS®) is an observation instrument that assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions in center-based preschool classrooms. It includes three domains or categories of teacher-child interactions that support children's learning and development: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. Within each domain are dimensions that capture more specific details about teachers' interactions with children. The purpose of the CLASS Video Pilot is to determine the viability of having grantees capture video observations as part of monitoring for CLASS reviews versus federal (CLASS®) reviewers coming onsite to conduct the (CLASS®) in person. The process involved our Child Development Coaches completing 60-80 minute recordings in each of the 31 randomly (by the Office of Head Start) chosen classrooms; uploading the videos to the website provided by OHS; reviewing the videos for quality, and then submitting the videos to administrators for final review before they were officially submitted to OHS for scoring. CLASS scores are used by the OHS to help understand the current experiences of children in Head Start classrooms as a quality improvement opportunity and to offer training and technical assistance supports that build on existing program efforts to enhance professional development and teacher-child interactions. At the conclusion of the pilot, the OHS will provide us with a review report that will include CLASS® scores.
- Child Development Coach, presented to her peers at the bimonthly coach meeting in February about some of the information she had learned at the Go Engage training she attended last month in Texas. She shared with the group that one of the ways we could be tracking coaches' Practice Based Coaching (PBC) activities easier is by utilizing Go Engage. It can be set up to house the coaching agreement contract; track coaches' goals and progress; track reflections/observations and so on. In addition, she shared that Go Engage tracks pertinent ASQ (screening tool) data that may be very useful for Coaches' monitoring purposes. She will follow up with our Data Storyteller to see what the next steps are in setting up the PBC option in Go Engage for Coaches. It was also decided to ask education staff to enter the ASQ score results in Go Engage as well as the date it was done such that Coaches can use the Go Engage data to a greater extent for monitoring.
- Two of the Child Development Coaches worked with our program's Parent Engagement Coordinator on the Same Book plans for this program year. Same Book is a program initiative that connects reading in the classroom with reading at home. One book title is chosen for the program and all enrolled children receive a copy to take home. Copies are also provided to all of the classrooms. Teachers create learning activities for the classroom based upon the book and parents are given tips on activities they may do at home. The Same Book is "Ice Cream Face", Ezra Jack Keats, brings to delicious life the anxiety and elation involved in waiting in line to get ice cream.

Home-Base

- Conducted 113 home visits and 10 families attended socializations.
- Pregnant caseload is 8, two new pregnant moms. 2 babies born this month. Both new moms did have maternal/child health nurse as their doula.

- Home Visitor completed Brazelton Touchpoints Center for The How of Child and Family Engagement.
- Home based Supervisor attended Go Engage which provided training and shared some new features. The biggest new feature is Parent Portal, which parents sign in, report health check through an app.
- Simone Curry (Onondaga Health Dept. Fellowship) and Maternal/Child Nurse working together with a focus on wellness for pregnant/newly postpartum mothers to recognize their needs. They have planned self-care activities for the meetings.
- All home visitors completed DECA, social emotional screening and Teaching Strategies Gold mid check points. They will share the information with the parents.

Health:

- Three new staff completed Belay Allergy preparedness training and seven staff completed CPR/FA.
- Health Coordinator delivered emergency epinephrine auto-injector storage boxes, signage, scales, books and forms. Reviewed the importance with each director on making sure auvi-q auto-injectors are accessible to all teachers in their centers and re-iterated doses are based on weight and to make sure all their staff practice with the trainer auto-injector. At this time, Elmcrest has chosen not to stock emergency epinephrine. Met with directors and or staff at the following: Atonement; Lydia's; OCC; and all Catholic Charities sites.

Nutrition:

- February 2023 Diet Statistics: PEACE HS/HS feeds approximately 428 HS/EHS children in eight (8) centers: Sumner, Merrick, James St., Genesee, Liverpool, Baldwinsville, Jordan/Elbridge, LaFayette; as well as weekly or monthly meals for Home Base socializations and Children's Consortium. 97 children require a modified diet. 34 children have documented food allergies to food ingredients that include: milk, egg, soy, wheat, peanut, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, sesame, strawberries, pineapple, peaches, oranges, blackberries, cranberries, rice, millet, rye, barley. One child has G6PD deficiency, one child has celiac disease. One child is monitored for blood sugar/ketone imbalance. One entire center requires a substitute for fish due to staff allergy. There are two children who each have 12 or more allergies. On a daily basis, create modified menus as needed for 97 children in HS/EHS.
- Nutrition Coordinator worked with family workers to plan and provide February Heart Health messages, recipes, foods and activities for families.
- Attended OCHD Kitchen Sanitation/Food Safety Inspection presentation.
- Prepared to serve again as a preceptor for SU Community Dietetic Intern by meeting with other coordinators to plan nutrition related activities.
- Implemented Nutrition Care Process to observe, assess, evaluate, plan individual care/interventions for children with special diet modifications.
- Nutrition Specialist attended Gerharz Food Inspection training on 2/10/23. The training was presented by Gretchen Pierson, Onondaga County Health Department Food Protection Supervisor.
- Worked with Head Cook at Merrick to plan and prepare traditional African meals for EHS child at Merrick. This child has not been eating much while in the program; we have worked with her parent to plan and prepare special meals to encourage this child to eat. Some of her meals have included fresh spinach, tomatoes, okra; chicken with rice and tomatoes; fufu (made with yam powder); and cornbread.

Family & Community

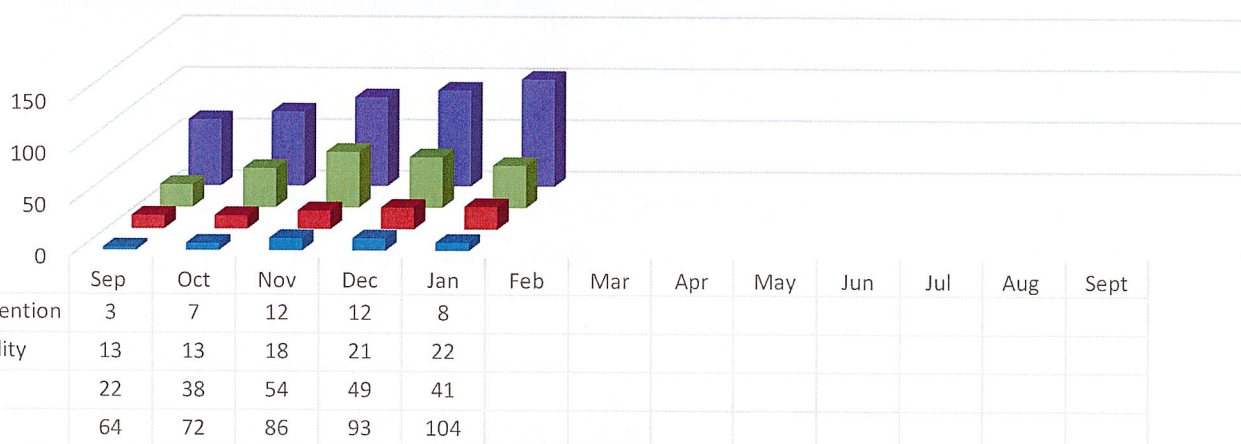
- February HS enrollment had 632 in a seat with 10 vacancies within 30 days. Total enrollment is 642 77%.
- February EHS enrollment had 143 in a seat, with 7 vacancies within 30 days. Total enrollment is 150 70%.

- Attendance: 2 EHS classrooms at Merrick are being serviced remotely due to staffing. EHS was 85% attendance and HS was 77%.

Disabilities:

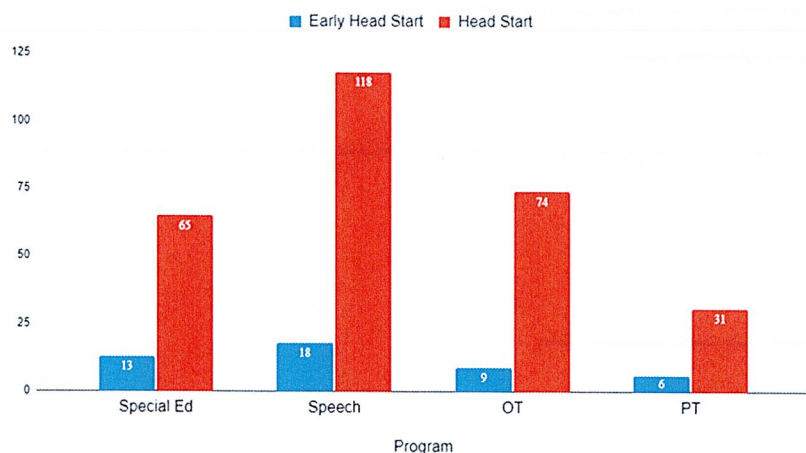
- The Disabilities Coordinator continues to attend CPSE and Annual Review meetings for children in the program. This serves quite beneficial to assist in coordinating services for children at the various sites as well as being a support for staff and parents. Furthermore, it is helpful to know that many children who went through CPSE later in November/December and who are going to kindergarten and have not received all of their services, are having annual reviews early in an effort to get them ready for kindergarten. Many CSE (Committee on Special Education) referrals are being made at these meetings. This way the hope is that these kids will be ready with supports in kindergarten.
- Working on transitioning kids from EI (Early Intervention) to CPSE (Committee on Preschool Special Education). It is very important to stay on top of these kids to ensure that they will be ready for Head Start with the appropriate services they need to be successful.

Children with Disabilities (numbers are cumulative)

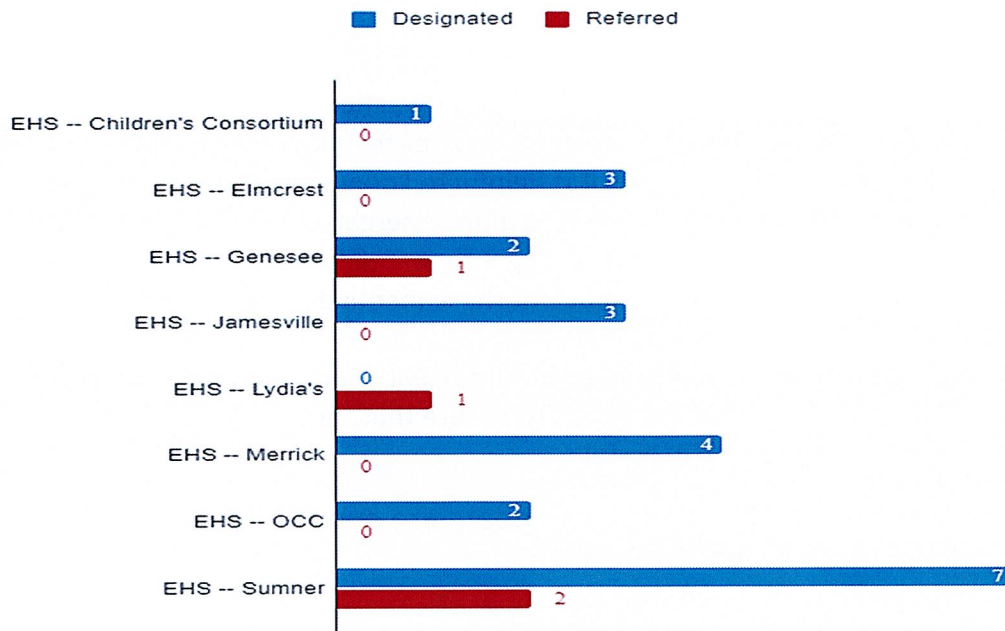


■ EHS Referred to Early Intervention ■ EHS With Designated Disability ■ HS In Referral Process ■ HS With Disability

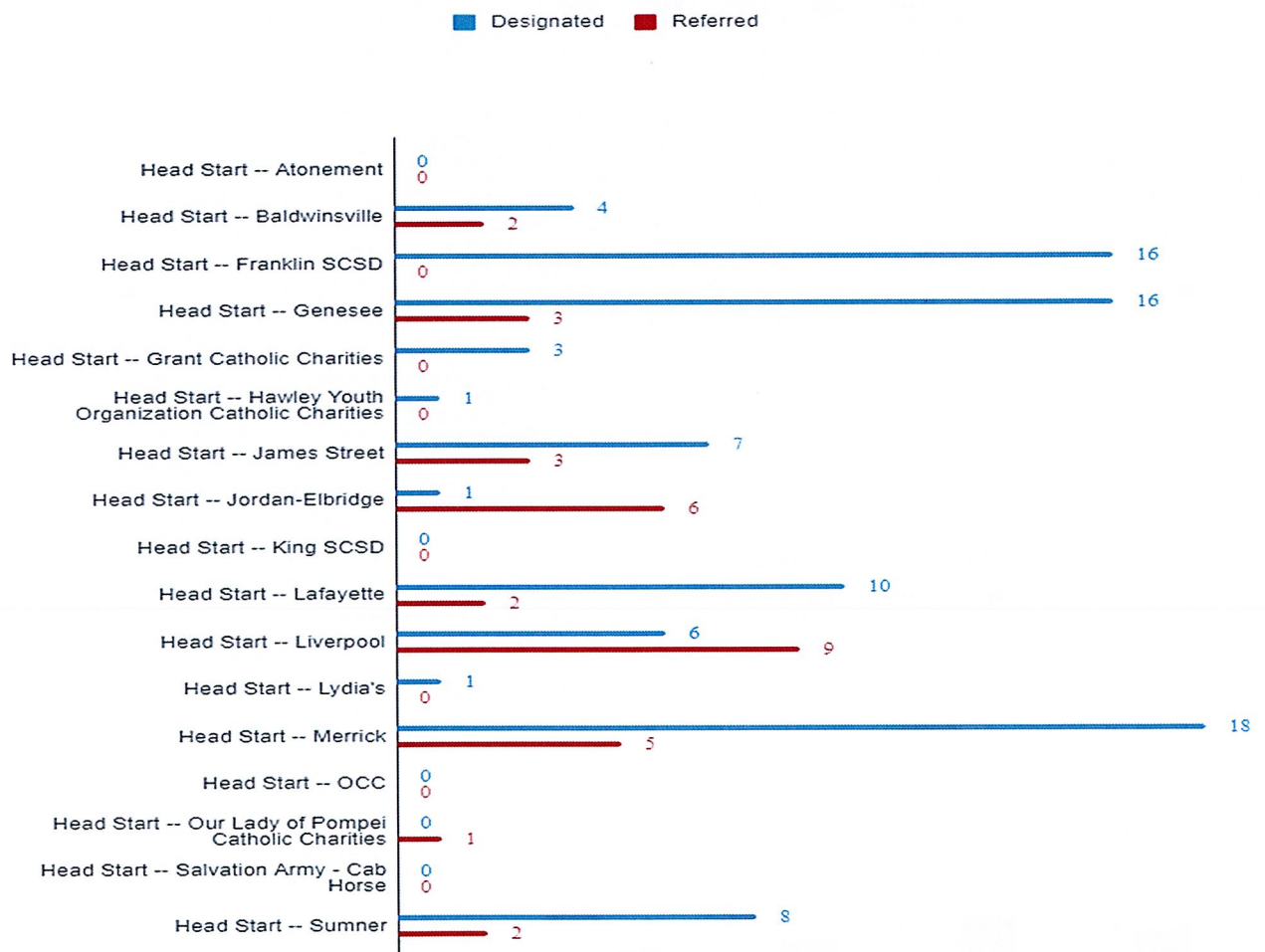
EHS & Head Start Total Services



Early Head Start Designated and Referred Children



Head Start Designated and Referred Children



700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Applications	145	73	52	26	130	91							
Referrals	97	29	14	5	18	13							
On Wait List	526	610	640	634	648	635							

