



Head Start / Early Head Start Board Report April 2023

General:

- During the month of April one staff and no children had tested positive for COVID and for the month of March no positive cases were reported.
- Staff is working on documentation for the Office of Head Start Focus Area 2 Monitoring Review, which will occur during the week of May 8, 2023.
- We are currently working on presenting our Regional Office with a plan to reduce our numbers of slots due to being unable to open some rooms due to being short staffed and have no qualified applicants.

Education:

- One of the Coaches attended the New York Association for the Education of Young Children (NYAEYC) Conference at the Turning Stone Resort Casino, Verona, New York. The main take away from the conference was that relationships are the roots of our work. Be it in creating relationships with staff, administrators, families, coaches and coachees and, last but not least, the most important relationships are with the children. Without solid, well-built relationships, it is extremely difficult to be productive and successful in the coach position or any other HS staff position. The Coach also picked up resources for the program including new books relevant to coaching practices.
- Each year our coaches must renew their certifications in order to maintain their status as a Certified CLASS Observer (CCO). One of our coaches was due for renewal in April of her certification in the Toddler CLASS and she successfully completed it. All of our coaches are Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) certified which means they are qualified to reliably and accurately observe and measure the quality of classroom interaction. This is important to our program as CLASS is the tool we use to assess teacher-child interactions. The assessment results guide both individual professional development goals as well as, inform the program of broader professional development needs of the education staff in general. This in turns guides topics chosen for training such as pre-service training. Hence having CCOs on our staff plays an integral role in driving quality improvement in areas that matter most to children's development and learning.
- One coach completed Mandated Reporter training in April.
- Two of the Child Development Coaches are participating in the program's Self-Assessment process. They attended the preliminary Self-Assessment meeting to learn about what the Self-Assessment is and why we do it. They have been assigned to three different focus groups: school readiness; staff development and mental health of staff/families; and the third is staff safety and building security, for which one of the coaches was named team leader. Over several weeks they will gather information from appropriate resources. Through this research they will identify what we are doing well in these areas and where we can make improvements. All of this data will be turned into a final report and given to the Program Director.
- Coaches have started our Spring CLASS observations for those teachers who are participating in our Practice Based Coaching (PBC) program. The data will be used to assess growth in their teaching practice goals they have been working on between the Fall CLASS and Spring CLASS. The data will also be reviewed to assess effectiveness of the PBC and to guide any adjustments to our process. Coaches will continue to meet with their coachees in the PBC program throughout the program year to support their efforts in reaching their teaching practices goals.
- Coaches continued to provide technical assistance to our Collaboration sites. One of the Coaches provided technical assistance to a new director and an additional staff member. She reviewed/discussed child

files with them and will follow up again with technical assistance in May. Coaches also visited Collaboration sites to help them feel prepared for the federal review.

➤ Two of the Coaches participated in the Same Book Event held at Liverpool High School on April 26, 2023. They have been working over the past few weeks with our Parent Engagement Coordinator and Nutrition Coordinator in addition to a Liverpool High School teacher and students in her child development class to plan this event. The book chosen for this year's same book was, "Ice Cream Face." The event offered interactive activities set up in the gym related to the book theme that program parents could engage in with their children. In addition, many other books were made available for parents to take home to read with their children as well as other items including coloring books, crayons, and notebooks. The event epitomizes the important school-to-home connection for children's literacy.

➤ All of the Coaches assisted the Child Development and Health Services Manager with collecting materials for the upcoming Federal Review. It is anticipated that the education and child development part of this review will explore four areas: school readiness efforts; teaching practices that promote progress toward the next learning environment; support for teachers in school readiness efforts; and the quality of home-based services. The Coaches have pertinent documentation/examples/materials ready for the reviewers that demonstrate how we comply with Head Start Program Performance Standards in these four major areas.

Home-Base

➤ Completed 121 home visits and six families attended socializations.

➤ Four new pregnant moms for the month of April. Maternal/Child Health Nurse is following for babies nine pregnant moms.

➤ Wellness Mommy Group began in person led by Simone Baptiste, Onondaga Health Dept. Fellowship Intern and, Peace, Inc. Maternal/Child Health Nurse. The group is meeting weekly and currently working on a vision board. The focus of the group is emotional wellness and bounties.

➤ Home Base Visitor attended Introduction to Conscious Discipline training in Louisville, Ky. The training is trauma responsive, using developmentally appropriate practices. Now all home visitors have Conscious Discipline training, to facilitate with parents.

➤ Home based had five families attend Genesee Site's choppers program for dental checkups.

➤ Jill Hands from Onondaga Hill Library joined a socialization; focus on literacy, fine motor finger songs and attending to circle time.

Health:

➤ Five new staff completed Belay Allergy preparedness training and three completed CPR/FA.

➤ Collaboration Staff training-

- Health Coordinator and two collaboration nurses completed Stop the Bleed skills training for Catholic Charities staff and director- 23 staff trained.

- All Stop the Bleed kits delivered to the director for all four sites.

- Chompers completed at: Genesee; LaFayette; Baldwinsville; and Jordan.

- Data currently entered for 128 teeth cleaning and total for exam is 81 attended.

Nutrition:

➤ April 2023 Diet Statistics: PEACE HS/HS feeds approximately 428 HS/EHS children in 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. 99 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. Two children have 12 or more allergies. One HS child is on a pediatric formula due medical history.

- Nutrition Coordinator served as Preceptor for a Syracuse University (SU) Dietetic Intern Student. The Dietetic Intern supported and assisted coordinators, coaches, family workers, classroom and kitchen staff in nutrition related activities.
- Home Visit of HS Child with 15 Food Allergies to Assist/Support Family: Benefit parents are able to prepare special diet foods at home. Plan for their child to return to HS site for a special diet food menu.
- Nutrition Specialist attended GoEngage Training on April 4; discussed changes to the nutrition assessment section of GoEngage and how to use this tool to improve collection of data.
- Attended CACFP Record Keeping Training on April 5. Topics covered include production records, monitoring checklist, claims submission, meal counts, income eligibility, reimbursement rates and notice to households regarding participation in CACFP.
- Assisted with food activities at various sites centered on the same book: "Ice Cream Face." Children, parents/guardians, and staff at Merrick participated in an activity on April 27 where they made their own ice cream in a bag. Over 50 adults and children participated in this event.
- Attended the YWCA's Annual "Day of Commitment to End Racism and Promote Diversity" on April 27. This event featured several speakers from local organizations such as Vera House, Food Bank of CNY, Jubilee Homes, Home Headquarters and SCSD. One topic of discussion focused around the lack of access to resources, transportation, and food within the city and county and how this lack of access creates barriers to equity. The panelists discussed creating more dialogue between organizations that are doing similar things; building trust between programs and among clients.

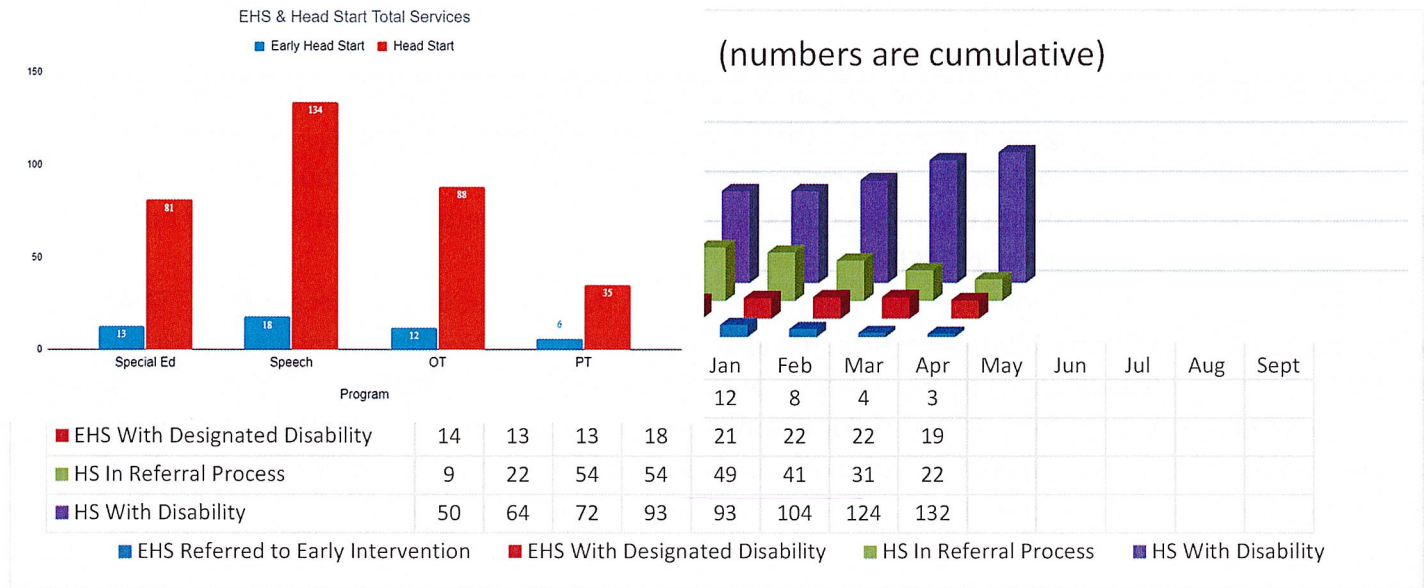
Family & Community

- April HS enrollment had 624 in a seat with eight vacancies within 30 days. Total enrollment is 632 / 76%.
- April EHS enrollment had 143 in a seat, with four vacancies within 30 days. Total enrollment is 147 69%.
- April attendance; 2 EHS classrooms at Merrick are being serviced remotely due to staffing. EHS was 72% attendance and HS was 78%.Transportaion has been an issue, and we have handed out several bus passes at Merrick to help children get to school. Illness has also been an issue.
- 4.13 Boost Core Committee Meeting- Discussed services provided to HS families, problem solving how to mainstream the recording of services through cross data systems, making a plan moving forward and keeping the family workers informed about Boost and the family resource centers.
 - 4/26 Family Worker Meeting: Staff received a two hour training from Lauren Penizotto from the McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy Center on Contact Darkness to Light, which is a training to end child sexual abuse.

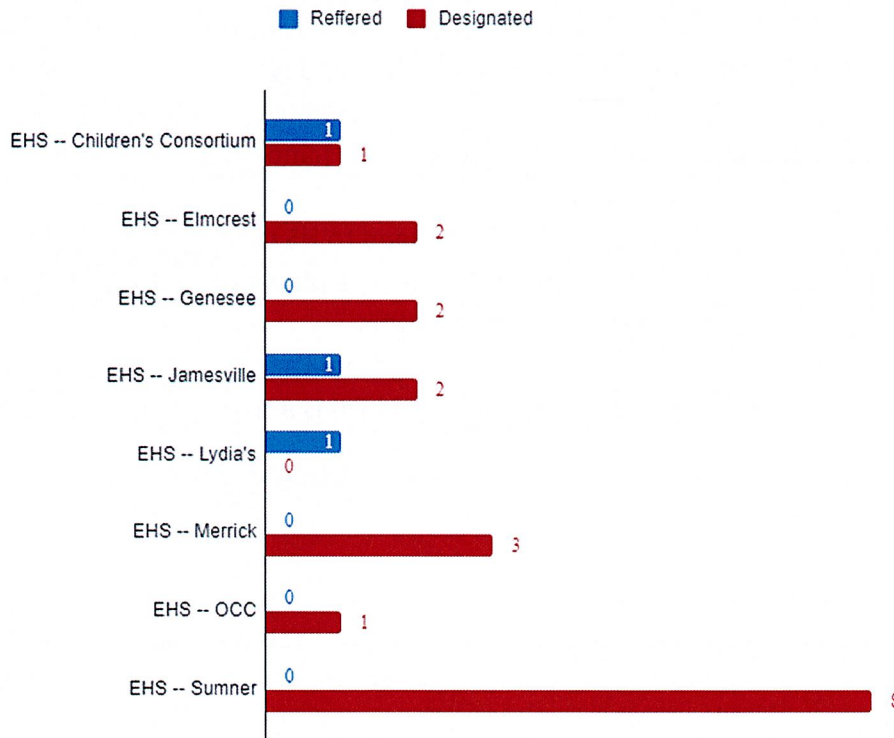
Disabilities:

- The Disabilities Coordinator continues to attend not only initial CPSE (Committee on Preschool Special Education) meetings, as well as annual reviews and transition to CSE (Committee on Special Education) for school age. It is great to have Head Start to participate in those meetings, because we know the kids best, and can assist the CSE in ensuring an appropriate kindergarten classroom. In addition, it is helpful for the Disabilities Coordinator to be present so she is aware and fully understands what is happening especially when she needs to assist families in understanding information after a meeting occurs.
- Attended a webinar put out by Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) entitled Leveraging Data to Create Rich Environments for Children with Disabilities. After watching this, it was clear that our program is on the right track when it comes to using our TSG data and individualizing for children with disabilities.

➤ Participated on the Self-Assessment committee that worked on monitoring competencies. It was great to be part of a group, especially when the disabilities component area has worked so hard this program year on enhancing monitoring of referred and designated children.

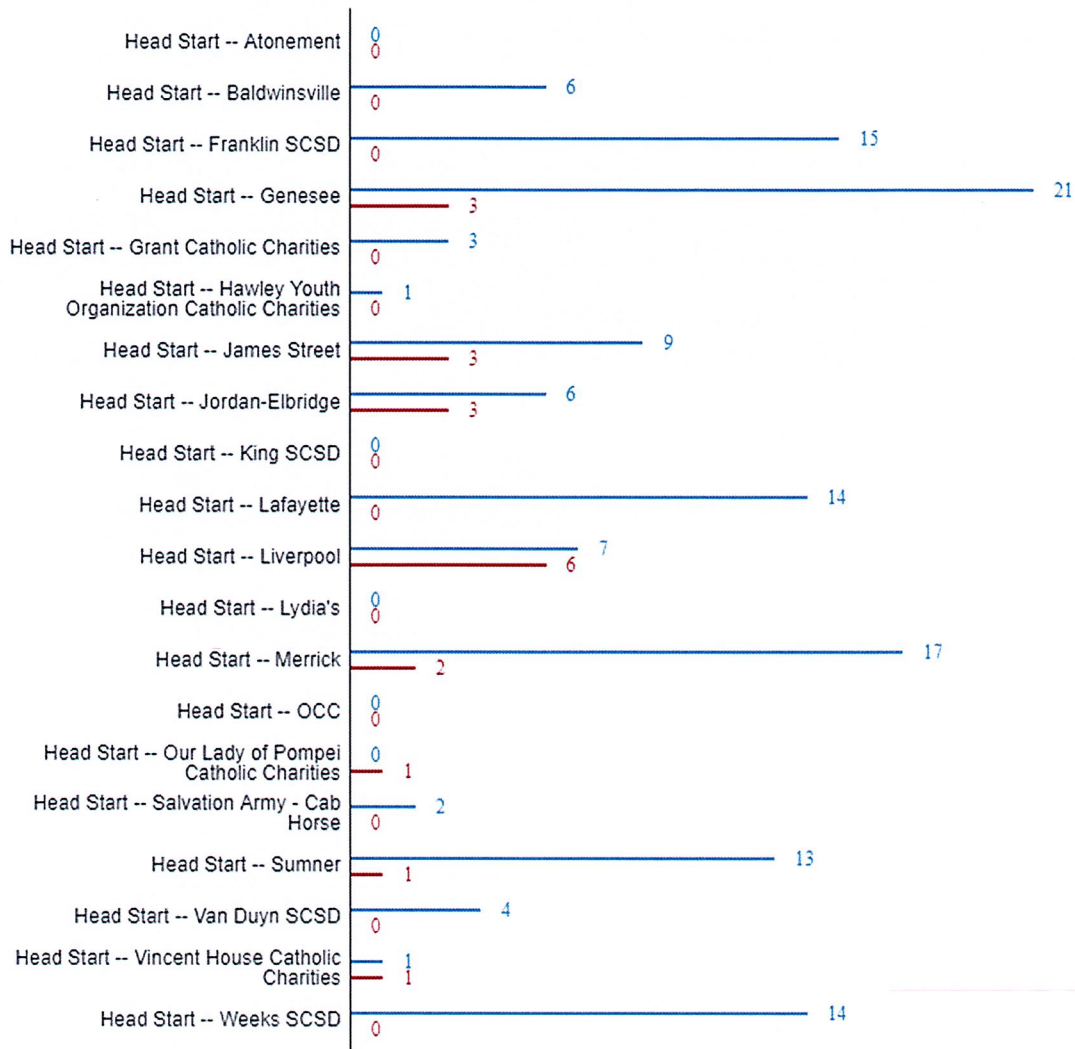


Early Head Start Designated and Referred Children

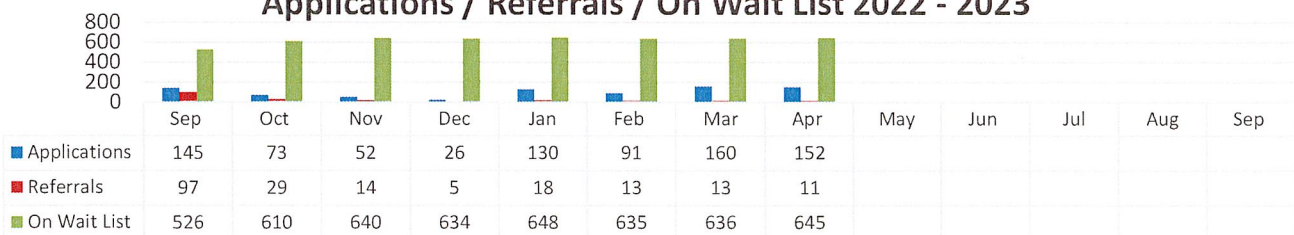


Head Start Designated and Referred Children

SUM of Des Count SUM of Refer Count



Applications / Referrals / On Wait List 2022 - 2023



FEDERAL MATCH - SITE HOURS 2022-2023

