



Head Start Preschool/Early Head Start

Board Report – August 2026

General:

- All Head Start Preschool/Early Head Start staff attended the annual pre-service training day
 - Keynote Speaker – Ondina Hawthorne
 - Creator of Elijah's Law – requires child care facilities in NYS to follow strict state guidelines to prevent, recognize, and respond to severe, life-threatening food allergies and anaphylaxis
 - Also did break out sessions – more in depth about how to handle food emergencies
 - Health and Nutrition
 - Cavity Free Kids, Blood Borne Pathogens, and CACFP
 - Policies and Procedures

Education:

- The Child Development Team held a "Back to Basics" training for all head start classroom staff, site supervisors, and classroom specialists
 - Topics included: developmentally appropriate teaching strategies, environmental design, classroom schedules, routines, visuals, and child guidance
- Child Behavior Specialist and an Early Childhood Specialist presented a Conscious Discipline Training for the First 6 Weeks of School to all head start classroom staff, site supervisors, and classroom specialists
 - Staff left with supplies to start a successful year
- Early Childhood Specialists have been following up the training by helping teachers get their classrooms set up for a successful beginning of the school year
- Early Childhood Specialists have been meeting with teachers who will be coached this program year
 - Introducing themselves, explaining process, signing paperwork, etc.

Health:

- "Back to Basics" training for head start classroom staff
- Chompers Dental Clinic MOU was renewed for the new program year
- Virtual Narcan training will resume monthly for all new staff that start

Disabilities/Mental Health:

- Disabilities Coordinator has sent out 18 LEA's to school districts in Onondaga County
 - 13 have been returned and will continue to work to get the remaining 5
- Disabilities Coordinator and Child Behavior Specialist presented a training to home-based visitors on trauma informed care and how it aligns with Conscious Discipline
- Disabilities Coordinator has worked with the Data Storyteller to create a form to track alerts through the program
 - Goal is to make the alert process more uniform across sites and makes it to the correct people

Family and Community:

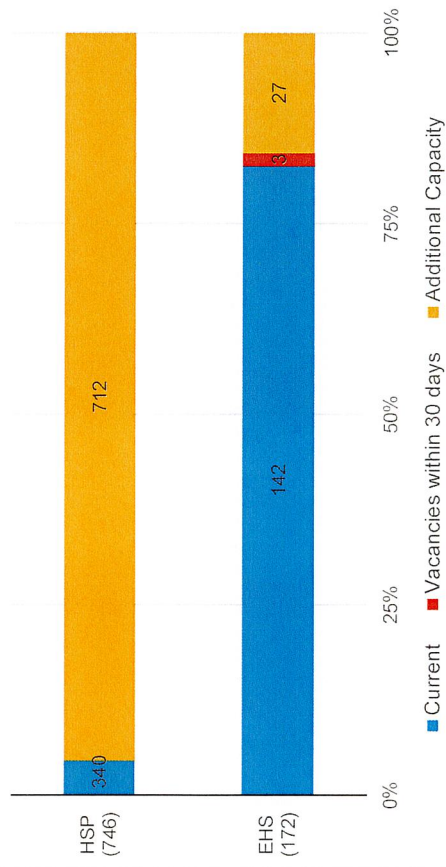
- Family & Community team trained family workers and intake workers on "back to basics"
 - Also had guest speakers from Vera House and CPS
- Team members helped sites with parent orientations and assisted family workers with final registrations
- Parent Engagement Coordinator gave a training to site supervisors and family workers on parent meetings and parent committees at the site level

Nutrition:

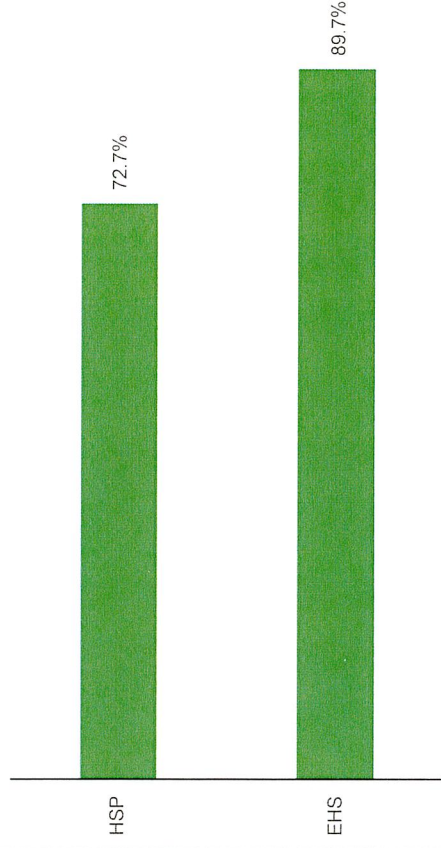
- All staff were trained on CACFP, Civil Rights, and NYS/OCFS special diet information
- Nutrition Coordinator modified 109 special diets for newly enrolled children that have special dietary needs

Head Start Preschool/Early Head Start Board of Directors Report, August 2026

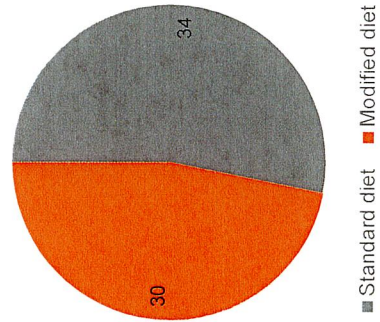
August Program Enrollment



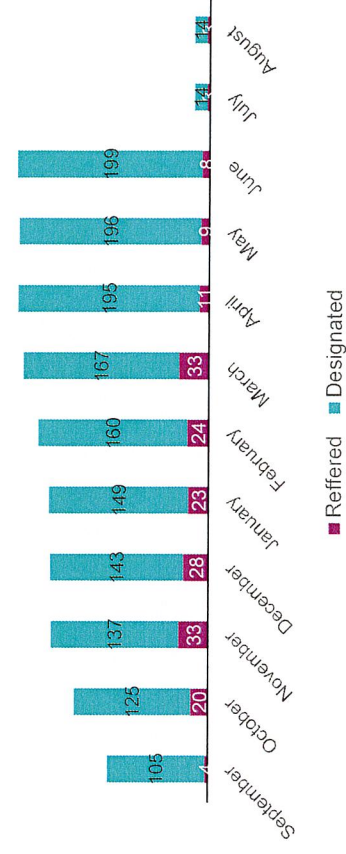
August Program Attendance



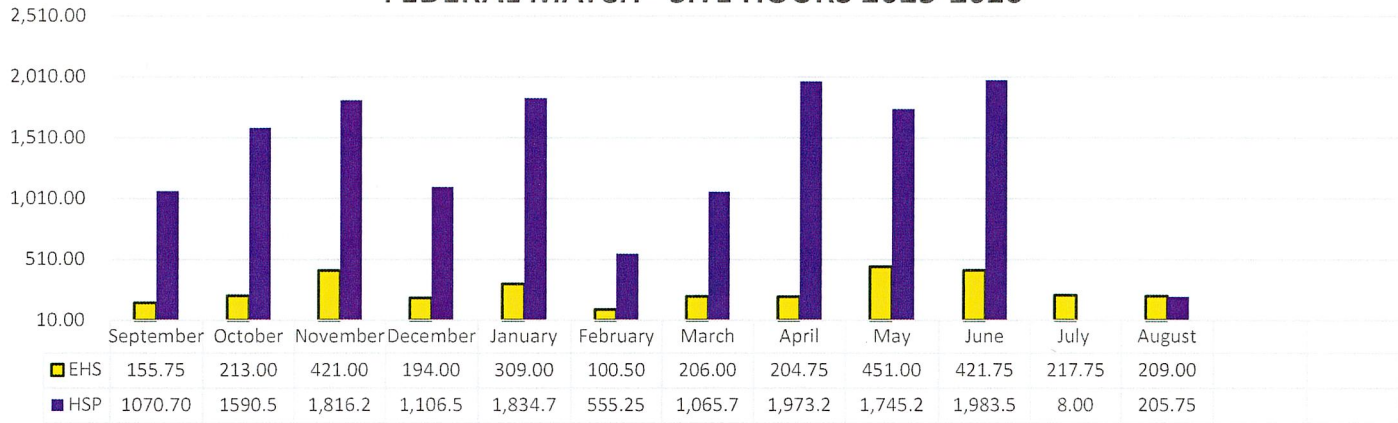
Number Of Children Served Meals in August



Number Of HSP/EHS Children With Disabilities



FEDERAL MATCH - SITE HOURS 2025-2026



Applications / Referrals / On Wait List 2025 - 2026

