



### **School Readiness for the Whole Family**

Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS) are Federal programs that promote the school readiness of children from birth to age five from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development. Head Start programs provide a learning environment that supports children's growth in many areas such as language, literacy, and social and emotional development. Head Start emphasizes the role of parents as their child's first and most important teacher. These programs help build relationships with families that support family well-being and many other important areas.

Head Start & Early Head Start programs help families build and grow the tools they need to support their well-being and goals.

## Wisconsin Children and Families Served: By the Numbers

16,538
Total HS &
EHS Funded
Enrollment

13,183
Head Start
(Ages 3–5)
Funded Enrollment

**3,355**Early Head Start (Ages 0–3)
Funded Enrollment

1,108
Children Served through Tribal Enrollment

2,505
Children Served
Through Migrant
& Seasonal\*

2,713
Families
Participated in
Goal Setting
Activites

**617**Children Served Through State-funded Head Start

1,514
Families Received
Mental Health
Services\*

238
Pregnant Women
Enrolled \*

### National Enrollment Snapshot

Across the country, Head Start programs serve the children and families who need it the most!

822,491 Student Slots

17,515 Head Start Centers

259,587 Community Jobs Created

**12,736** Pregnant Women Served

**47,135** Homeless Families Served

**576,110** Families Received

Support Services

**4,513,418** Home Visits Conducted in 2022

### **Economic Impact**

**Total WI HS/EHS Federal Funding** 

\$151,400,958

The national research is clear that investing in a high-quality intervention program like Head Start results in a return of \$7-\$11 for each dollar invested. This investment in Wisconsin's children makes possible future savings of

over \$1 Billion!

### **Serving Wisconsin Families**

Rural, suburban, inner-city, classroom and home-based services aim to reach Wisconsin families around the state.

Programs offering HS and/or EHS Services



959 Total Classes Operated



Locations offering migrant/ seasonal grantee



299 Total Center Locations





### **Services for Early Learning and Development**

Our programs are:

- Building strong relationships for early learning
- Engaging families/Recognizing parents as a child's first and most influential teacher
- Creating welcoming learning environments in indoor and outdoor settings that are well-organized and safe. 77% of WI HS/EHS grantees utilize the Creative Curriculum.
- Conducting ongoing screenings and assessments to ensure each child is making progress 69% of HS grantees utilize the Teaching Strategies Gold primary assessment tool. 97% utilize the ASQ developmental screening tool.
- Supporting the full inclusion of children with disabilities and building on their strengths

### **HS/EHS Promotes Children's Growth in Five Key Domains**

- 1. Approaches to Learning
- 2. Social/Emotional Development
- 3. Language and Literacy
- 4. Cognition
- 5. Physical development

Head Start encourages learning through play, creative expression, and guided activities with schedules and lesson plans that include the cultural and language heritage of each child and family in relevant ways

### **Disability Services**

Early intervention is key to providing differentiated learning opportunities.

2,382

Preschool Children with an IEP or IFSP

1,635

Identified as Needing Follow-Up Disability Assessment

1,690

Preschool Diagnosed Primary Disability: Speech/Language **1,067**, Dev. Delay **499**, Autism **109**, Emotional Disturbance **15** 

Source: 2022 Office of Head Start Program Information Report-WI



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### **Grantee Snapshot**

- 17% of Wisconsin 3 and 4 year olds enrolled in public ECE were Head Start students.
- **\$6,264,100.00** State-funded Head Start enrollment serving 617 children.
- Federal Grant Breakdown 75 HS/ EHS grants at 39 programs:
  - o Non-profits: 36
  - Tribal/Migrant Organizations:15
  - o School Systems: 6
  - Community Actio} : ÁF€Á
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Source: 2003ÅJ -æe of Head Start Program InformationÁ Report-WI, 2022 State of Preschool Yearbook-NIEER Image Copyright © 2023 by WisconsinHead Start Association

### **Federal-to-Local Funding Model**



The federal government funds Head Start programs through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. Across the country, school districts, nonprofit and for-profit groups, faith-based institutions, tribal councils, and other organizations qualify to become a Head Start recipient and receive federal funding. The federal-to-local model allows local leaders to create a Head Start experience that is responsive to the unique and specific needs of their community. In Wisconsin, programs are combining funding from federal, state, and local sources to maximize service delivery and continuity. Head Start Collaboration Offices facilitate partnerships between Head Start agencies and other state entities that provide services to benefit low-income children and their families.

### **Head Start Staff Shout-Out:**

Andrea Velasquez truly is dedicated to Head start. She cares for and provides exceptional support to all head start staff and families. She has tackled every challenge that has come her way while staying upbeat, looking for positive outcomes or compromise, and focusing on the good. Andrea is truly an inspiring and amazing director who deserves recognition for her work within Head Start.



## Child Care Collaboration

34

Formal agreements with

Child Care Partners

902

Enrolled children with child care subsidies

40

Total Funded Enrollment at Child Care Partners

## YoungStar Participation

Head Start programs participating in State QRIS system

#### 237 centers rated:

169 ★★★★★ (5 star)

 $6 \star \star \star \star \star (4 \text{ star})$ 

28 \*\*\* (3 star)

27 | ★★ (2 star)

30 centers not participating at this time

Source: DCF YoungStar Case Management System 2022





4,165

Families that received emergency/crisis intervention such as meeting immediate needs for food, clothing, or shelter.

Families that received housing assistance such as subsidies, utilities, repairs, etc.



Children who participate in Head Start programs receive innumerable

benefits that are immediate and last a lifetime. The effects are particularly strong amongst certain populations... dual language learners, homeless, foster care, and children with disabilities. We call this the Head Start Advantage!

### Health

Children who are physically healthy come to school ready to learn and grow.

4,062

Number of children with health insurance (1,576 in state-only funded insurance)



4,834

Children who received nutrition education



11,264

Up-to-date on immunizations



6,576

Children received dental care



1,514

health services





### **HS/EHS Students Receiving Public Support**

791	TANF
1,203	SSI
7,036	WIC
8,139	SNAP
762	Received foster services

### **Family and Community Partnerships**

Supporting families through community engagement, resources & referrals	
13,859	<b>5,537</b> Two-parent, <b>7,363</b> Single-parent, <b>294</b> Grandparents, <b>300</b> Foster parents (not including relatives), <b>365</b> Single fathers
437	Families that received English as a second language training
431	Families that received education on fetal development or the benefits of breastfeeding.
1,150	Families that enrolled in education or job training program
189	Assistance to families with incarcerated individuals
598	Families that received education on postpartum healthcare
4,255	Families that received research-based parenting curriculum
840	Families that received asset building services
1,131	Families experiencing homelessness
206	Families received education on safe-sleep practices.
4,866	Children recieved transportation services

Source: 2022 Office of Head Start Program Information Report-WI









### **Head Start Workforce**

Knowledgeable, reflective and passionate about helping children grow and develop.

- 4,483 Head Start employees in Wisconsin
- 420 Contracted staff
- 7,547 Volunteers
- 5,948 Volunteers who are parents
- Head Start is a key partner with school districts and ECE professionals, also known as local education authorities (LEAs). 100% of Head Start grantees have local Collaboration of some kind.



Scan above to hear from former EHS
Director: Sheri Norgard



## Child Development Staff Qualifications & Workforce Cont.

- 641 Classroom teachers & 666 assistant teachers
  - Education level: BA degrees or higher 434, associate degrees 333, CDA credential 409
- 820 Current or former HS parents
- 629 Infant and toddler teachers
- 189 Certified home visitors
- 544 Child development staff
- 596 Teachers who are bi or multi-lingual
- 265 Family services staff
- 166 Managers/coordinators with 87% with baccalaureate or advanced degrees
- 415 LEA agreements to Coordinate Disabilities Services
- 391 LEA agreements to Coordinate Transition Services





### **The Wisconsin Head Start Association**

WHSA is an association of leaders dedicated to assuring the availability of comprehensive, top quality services for children and families in our state. WHSA is a private, not-for-profit membership organization of parents, staff, and directors who make up Head Start, Early Head Start, Migrant and Seasonal Head Start/Early Head Start, and Tribal Head Start/Head Start. Together we represent 16,000+ Head Start & Early Head Start students, 4000+ employees, and 6,500+ community volunteers across Wisconsin.

The WHSA Mission is to support and strengthen Head Start and Early Head Start programs for the benefit of children, families, and communities through advocacy, professional development, and strategic alliances.

WHSA is governed by an elected member Board of Directors and supported by a small staff. The Board of Directors is composed of directors, staff, and parent affiliate representatives and the immediate past President of the Board. The 2022-23 WHSA Board of Directors is as follows:

WHSA Executive Board:

Jen Bailey - President, Ashley Borstov - Vice-President, Jeanne Myer - Secretary, Thanh Bui-Duquette - Treasurer, Tim Nolan - Past President

WHSA Affiliate BoD Representatives:

Lynn Hammen, Jenny Dehn, Hayley Strand, Sarah McAllistar, Patty Mevis, Paula Caron, Selena Vicente



### Jennie Mauer Executive Director JennieM@WHSAonline.org

Jennie Mauer joined Wisconsin Head Start Association as their executive director in 2020, supporting the organization and the Head Start community through the pandemic and the organization following several leadership changes.

Jennie holds a masters degree in Public Affairs from the La Follette School of Public Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a bachelor of art's degree in Legal Studies and French. Prior to joining WHSA Jennie was the Head Start Collaboration Director at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, where she served as a key connection between grantees and state initiatives and services that also support Head Start families.



### Brian Stults Operations & Events Manager BrianS@WHSAonline.org

Brian Stults began his Head Start journey in 2012 as a parent-volunteer for RWCFS, Inc. HS & EHS. After taking on a variety of leadership roles including Policy Council Chair & Vice-Chair, Brian was elected to sit upon the RWCFS Board of Directors. Later, he would hold a seat on not only his local organization, but the Boards of Directors of the WHSA, Region V Head Start Association, and the National Head Start Association in Washington D.C. Joining the WHSA staff in 2016, Brian originally served the association as an administrative assistant in roles of leadership, event coordination, advocacy, and data analysis. Currently, Brian is WHSA's Operations & Events Manager.



#### Wisconsin Head Start Association

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www.whsaonline.org

WHSA Board President: Jen Bailey
WHSA Executive Director: Jennie Mauer
Operations & Events Manager: Brian Stults