

Voting Item:

Jackson County Early
Childhood Programs
2023-2024
Report

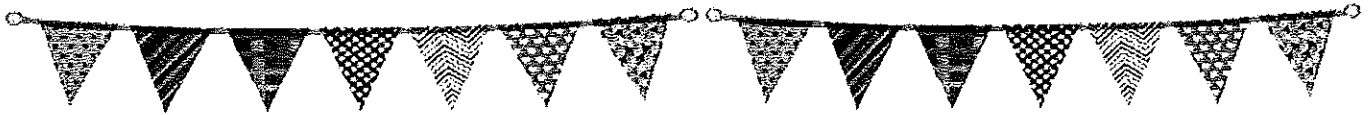
School Board of Jackson County

**Jackson County
Early Childhood Programs**

2023–2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Mission

The mission of the Jackson County Early Childhood Program is to maximize use of all resources in order to enhance school readiness for young children by providing services that are comprehensive, integrated, and family focused.



Our Creed

- We believe that each child deserves the opportunity to live fully and to develop to their fullest potential.
- We believe that acceptance of and respect for all stakeholders are essential for our mutual growth.
- We believe in commitment to provision of the highest quality in family-focused services.
- We believe that by utilization of all available resources, and by uniting our best efforts, we will achieve the common goals that we share with other child advocates.
- We believe that by being loyal to our beliefs even in the face of adversity, we will ensure that trust exists at all levels.



Our Goals

- To ensure developmentally appropriate programs of quality.
- To promote active involvement of each family.
- To provide qualified, competent, caring staff.
- To provide adequate resources.
- To develop, strengthen, and maintain seamless collaboration among programs, school district, and community providers.

Jackson County Early Childhood Programs

Early Head Start

Birth to Age 3



Head Start

Ages 3 - 5



VPK

Age 4 - 5



Program Funding

Early Childhood Program Funding

Preschool:

- ◆ Head Start Grant (Federal) \$ 1,958,626.94 Program Budget
\$ 26,286.93 Training Budget
- ◆ Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) State Funds \$ 469,959.30

Early Head Start:

- ◆ Early Head Start Grant (Federal) \$ 431,416.13 Program Budget
\$ 6,270.98 Training Budget

Match by Grantee for Head Start and Early Head Start:

- ◆ Recipient share of expenditures \$ 631,117.86

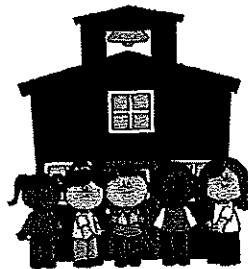




Head Start/Early Head Start Programs

The Jackson County Head Start/Early Head Start program is a high quality, federally funded, early childhood program that serves children from birth to 5 years old. Participants in these programs must meet age and income eligibility requirements per federal poverty guidelines.

The Head Start program serves eligible children who are ages 3 & 4 years old on or before Sept. 1 of the program year. These classes are available at Cottondale Elementary, Early Childhood Center, Graceville Elementary, Malone School and Sneads Elementary.



The Early Head Start program serves children birth to 3 at the Early Childhood Center. Four classes provide 32 available spaces to serve eligible children.



Head Start Annual Program Performance Indicators

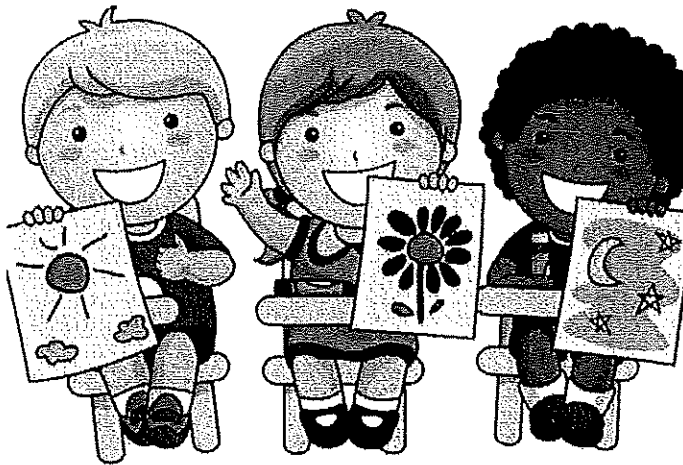
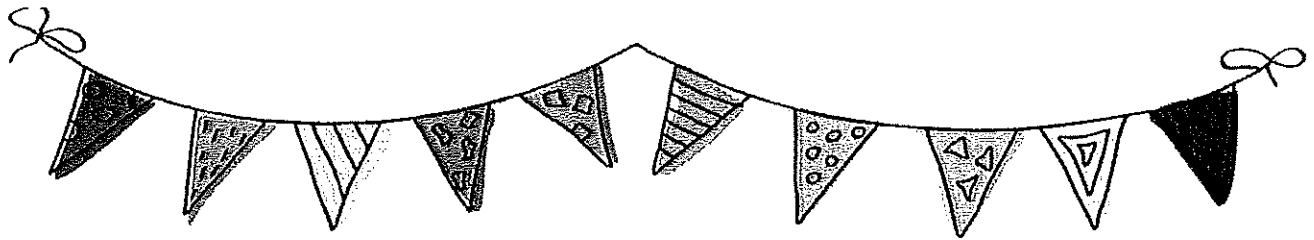
Funded enrollment	211
Number of children served	240
Number of families served	221
Children who received dental exams	170
Children who received dental treatment	11
Children with IEP's served	79
Children up-to-date on immunizations	240
Volunteer hours	7482.5
Average Monthly Attendance	87%

Early Head Start Annual Program Performance Indicators

Funded enrollment	30
Number of children served	34
Number of families served	34
Children with IFSP's served	3
Children up-to-date on immunizations	34
Volunteer hours	135.5
Average Monthly Attendance	82%

STATE AUDIT:

At the time of this report, the most current state audit report available is for program year 2021-2022. This report by the State of Florida Auditor General indicated no findings in the Head Start program.

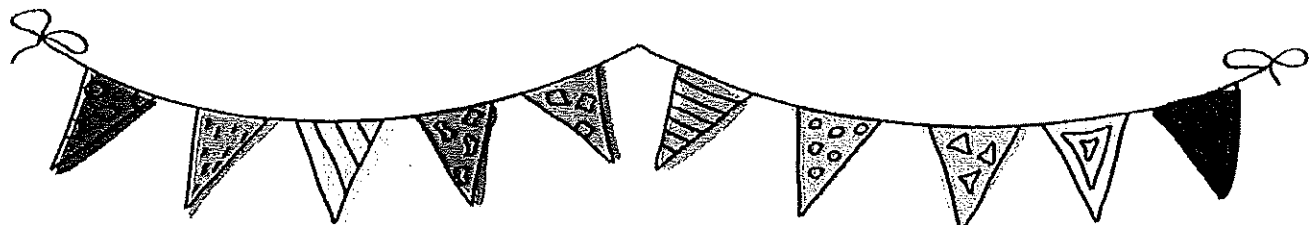


During the 2023-2024 program year, 188 students received VPK services through the Jackson County Early Childhood Program.

**Voluntary PreK in
Jackson County School District**

Voluntary PreK in the Jackson County School District is a state-funded Early Childhood Program for eligible students. Children who are Florida residents and four years old on or before September 1 of the school year are eligible for this program. The program provides 540 hours of services during the school year OR 300 hours of services during the summer session. During the school year, families have the option of extending the day from 3.25 hours to the full school day, for a fee.

Florida
VPK



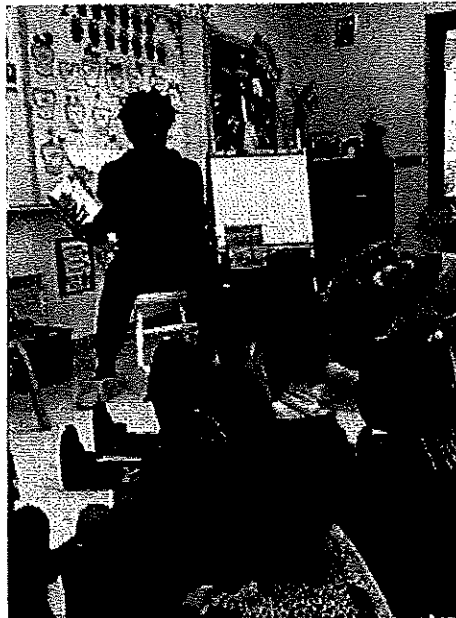
Exceptional Student Education

The Jackson County Early Childhood Program serves children with various disabilities. Head Start services are provided to students to allow the most comprehensive assistance to children.

79 children with IEPs served in Head Start

0 children with IEP in Early Head Start

3 children with IFSP in Early Head Start



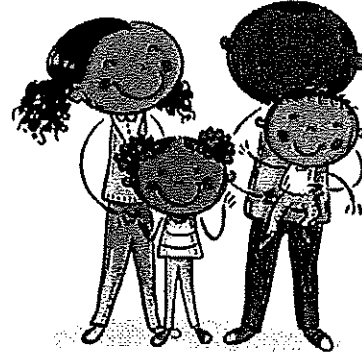
Collaboration between Head Start and Exceptional Student Education resulted in inclusion opportunities for all children to learn from each other. PreK ESE, Head Start and VPK students interact together in daily activities such as inside & outside centers, circle time, music, meals and field trips.

The Jackson County School Board and FDLRS/PAEC co-sponsor FREE Child Find Screenings for families who have concerns about their child's development. For 2023-2024, 78 children were screened in the Child Find Screenings held through-out the district; 32 were screened by Early Steps.

Who are We and Who Do We Serve?

Highly Qualified Staff

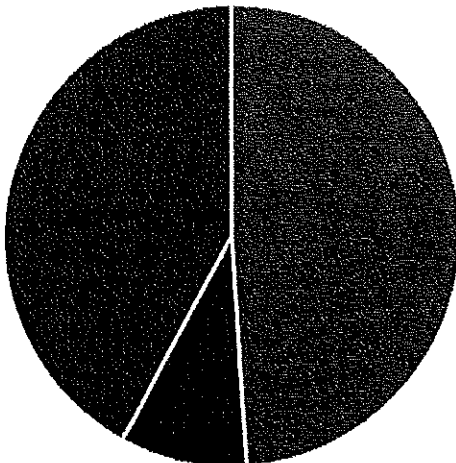
- ◆ ___ % of HS teachers hold AA degrees or higher and maintain CDA certification or teacher certification (___ % with BS degrees or higher)
- ◆ ___ % of HS Assistants hold CDAs or higher
- ◆ ___ % of EHS Caregivers hold CDAs or higher
- ◆ All family services staff have BS degrees or higher
- ◆ All management staff have BS degrees or higher and are former classroom teachers.



The Families We Serve

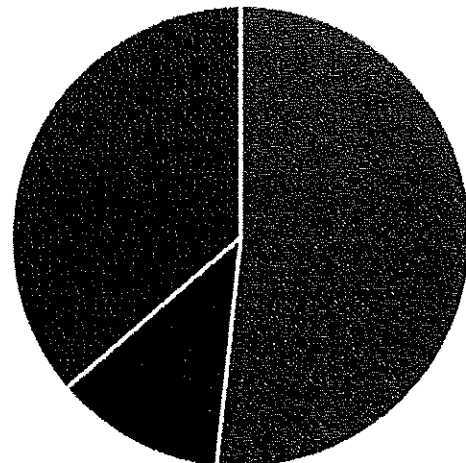
Head Start	Early Head Start
◆ <u>60%</u> are one-parent families	◆ <u>15%</u> families are one-parent
◆ <u>40%</u> are two-parent families	◆ <u>85%</u> of two-parent families
◆ <u>1.5%</u> families receive TANF	◆ <u>6%</u> families receive TANF
◆ <u>7.4%</u> families receive SSI	◆ <u>9%</u> families receive SSI
◆ <u>59%</u> families receive WIC	◆ <u>94%</u> families receive WIC
◆ <u>55%</u> families receive SNAP	◆ <u>74%</u> families receive SNAP

Head Start Racial Demographics

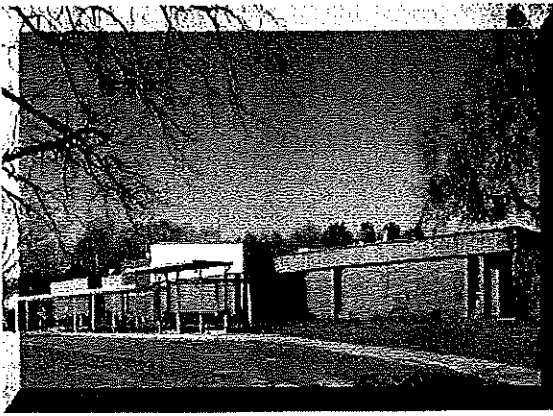


■ AI 0% ■ A 0% ■ Black 49% ■ Multi 9% ■ White 42%

Early Head Start Racial Demographics



■ AI 0% ■ A 0% ■ Black 60% ■ Multi 14% ■ White 26%



Cottondale Elementary



Early Childhood Center



Early Childhood Programs

Sites & Classrooms

Cottondale Elementary—1 Preschool class, 1 ESE class

Early Childhood Center—7 Preschool classes, 3 ESE classes,

4 Early Head Start classes

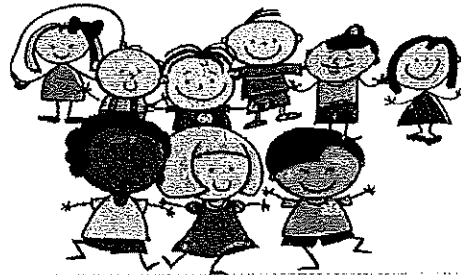
Graceville Elementary—1 Preschool class

Malone School—1 Preschool class

Sneads Elementary—2 Preschool classes, 1 ESE class



Malone School



Graceville

Sneads Elementary



ERSEA

2023 Poverty Guidelines

Family Size	Max Gross Income
1	\$14,580
2	\$19,720
3	\$24,860
4	\$30,000
5	\$35,140
6	\$40,280
7	\$45,420
8	\$50,560

Each additional person, add \$5,140

Head Start

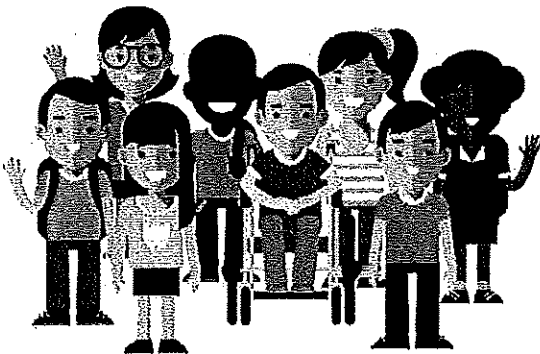
Enrollment eligibility based on:

Income Below 100% of federal poverty line	20%
Receipt of public assistance	64%
Foster child	5%
Homeless	0%
Over income	4%
Income between 100-130% Poverty Guidelines	2%

Early Head Start

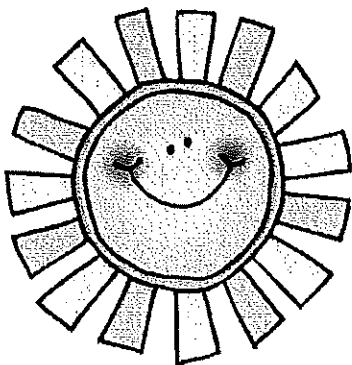
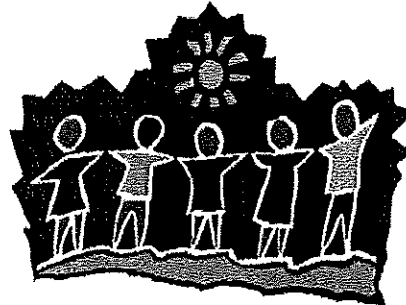
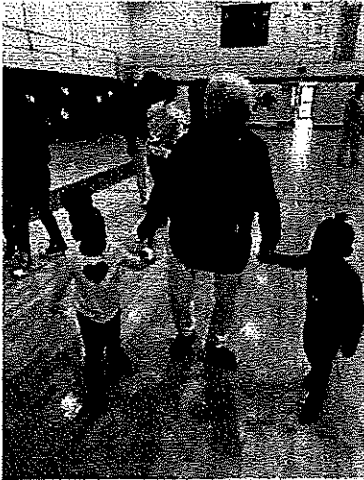
Enrollment eligibility based on:

Income Below 100% of federal poverty line	1%
Receipt of public assistance	31%
Foster child	2%
Homeless	1%
Over income	0%
Income between 100-130% Poverty Guidelines	0%

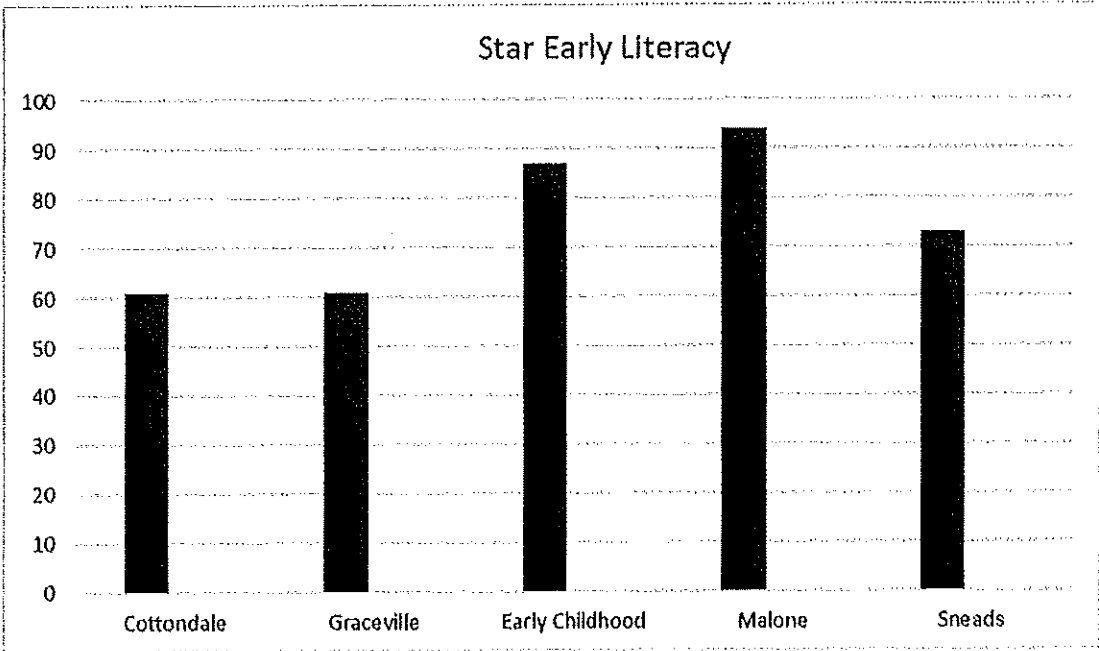
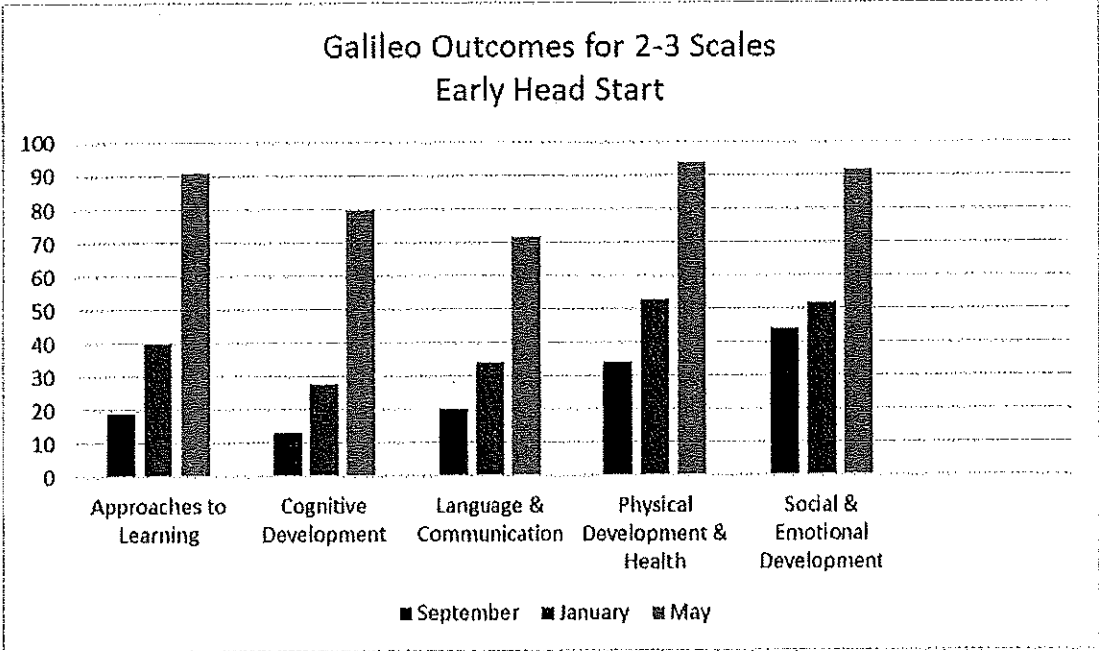


Mental Health Services

THE JACKSON COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS EMBRACE A VISION OF MENTAL WELLNESS. OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO BUILD COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG CHILDREN, FAMILIES, STAFF, MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND THE COMMUNITY. WE PROVIDE SERVICES THAT SUPPORT POSITIVE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL GROWTH FOR YOUNG CHILDREN. SKILLS CHILDREN LEARN IN EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS WILL PROMOTE SOCIAL SUCCESS IN SCHOOL AND IN LIFE.

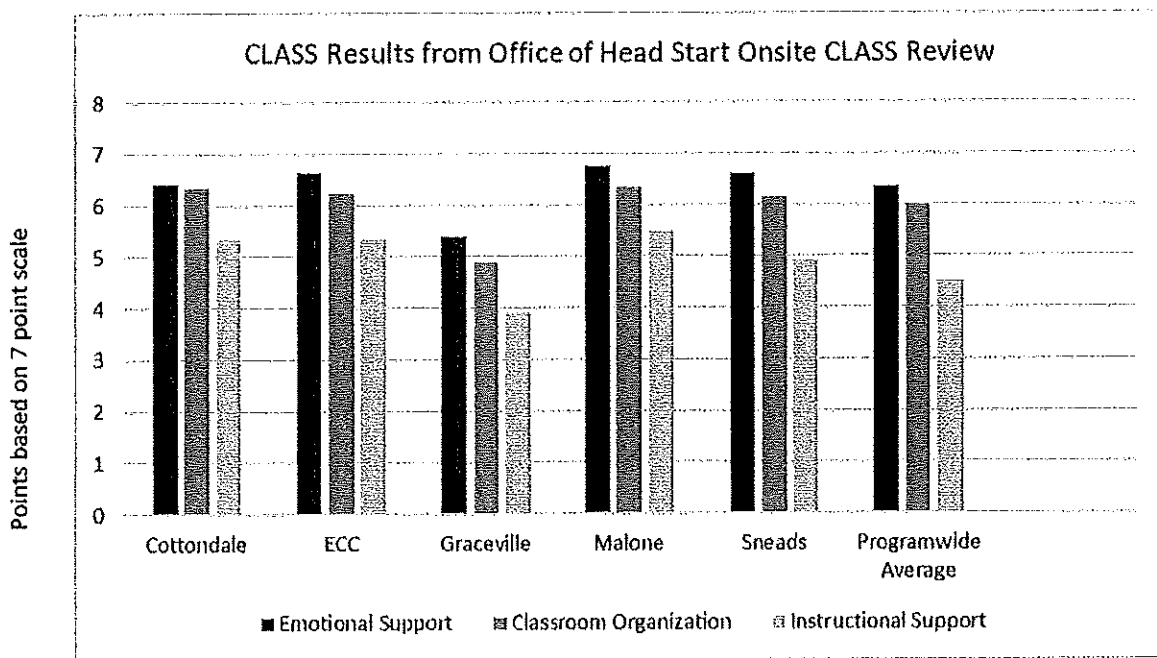


Child Outcomes



CLASS Results

The CLASS is a standardized instrument used in reviews by federal teams to assess preschool classrooms. The Jackson County Early Childhood Programs uses the CLASS as an annual observational practice. All preschool and Early Head Start classrooms in the Jackson County Early Childhood Program were observed during the 2023—2024 school term using this instrument.



Average of FL Early Learning Coalition observation scores of VPK classrooms and Program Reliable CLASS observer scores.

The program has a Quality Assurance Team to monitor and address areas of low performance through additional observations of classrooms and learning environments as well as analysis of student data. The program also has a Practice-Based Coach to provide assistance to teachers through modeling/coaching, additional training and resources. Professional development opportunities are provided to teachers through face-to-face training and webinars.

Staff Training



Date	Training
08/02/23	New Staff Training
08/03/23	Beyond Centers & Circle Time
08/04/23	Head Start Orientation & Med Training
08/07/23	Math/Ethics/Bloodborne Pathogens/Bullying
12/4-7/23	Parent & Family Engagement Conference
01/03/24	CPR
01/23/24	New Staff Training
02/15/24	Eligibility Determination Training for Management Staff
04/24-26/24	Crisis Intervention: Initial Classroom Training
06/12-14/24	Summer Literacy Institute



Health & Dental Services

Dental services are contracted with the Jackson County Health Department, "Smiles on Wheels" and land-based clinic, as well as other participating dentists.

Nutrition services are available through the district contracted provider, Sodexo. All students receive free breakfast, lunch and snack during the school day.

Head Start Health Data

- ◊ 97% children had health insurance by the end of the year
- ◊ 95% families had a source of continuous ongoing and accessible health care
- ◊ 100% children were up-to-date on physicals with 99% on immunizations
- ◊ 12% preschool children were diagnosed with a chronic condition needing medical treatment



Early Head Start Health Data

- ◊ 100% children had health insurance by the end of the year
- ◊ 97% families had a source of continuous ongoing and accessible health care
- ◊ 100% children were up-to-date on physicals and 100% on immunizations
- ◊ 0% EHS children were diagnosed with a chronic condition needing medical treatment

Dentals for HS

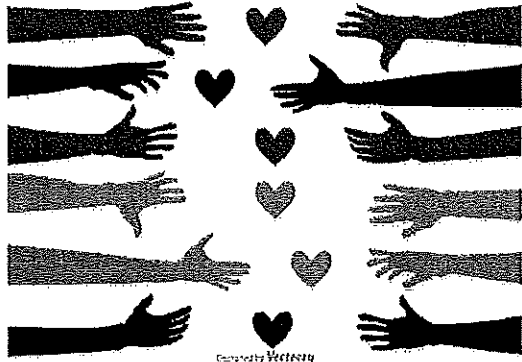
- Dental staff visit each site to present a short program to students familiarizing them with dental experience
- 66% children had a source of continuous, accessible dental care by the end of the year
- 71% children received preventive care
- 13% children needing treatment
- 5% children received treatment



Dentals for EHS

- Dental staff visit each site to present a short program to students familiarizing them with dental experience
- 24% children had a source of continuous, accessible dental care by the end of the year
- 76% children received dental screening
- 3% children needed dental treatment
- 0% children received treatment

FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES



Family Partnership

Our Early Childhood Programs offer families opportunities and support for growth so they can identify their own strengths, needs and interests. Our objective is to support families as they meet their goals and as they nurture the development of their children. The building of trusting collaborative relationships between families and staff allows them to share with and to learn from one another. Support is given by the staff in the following areas:

- Family goal setting through the partnership agreement process
- Access to community services and resources
- Family involvement in child development and education, health/nutrition, mental health education, community advocacy, transition services and home visits



Parent Involvement

District wide activities:

Volunteers

Serve on Policy Council, Advisory Council, School Advisory boards & PTO, Parent Center Committees

Participate in Self Assessment

Participate in home visits and conferences, parent orientation, Parent Education Programs

Parent Center Committees

The Parent Center Committee is made up of parents of the EHS students at ECC and Pre-K children at each school site. These committees provide a time for parents to share their talents, hobbies and plan activities for the students at their school site. The Parent Center Committee meetings are planned and conducted by parents with support given by Comprehensive Services Specialist and Classroom Teachers.

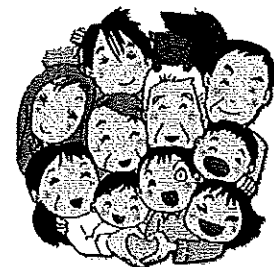
Community Partnerships

Our program serves families within the context of their community and recognizes that other agencies and groups work with the same families. The objective is to partnership with other community agencies to gain greater support for families.

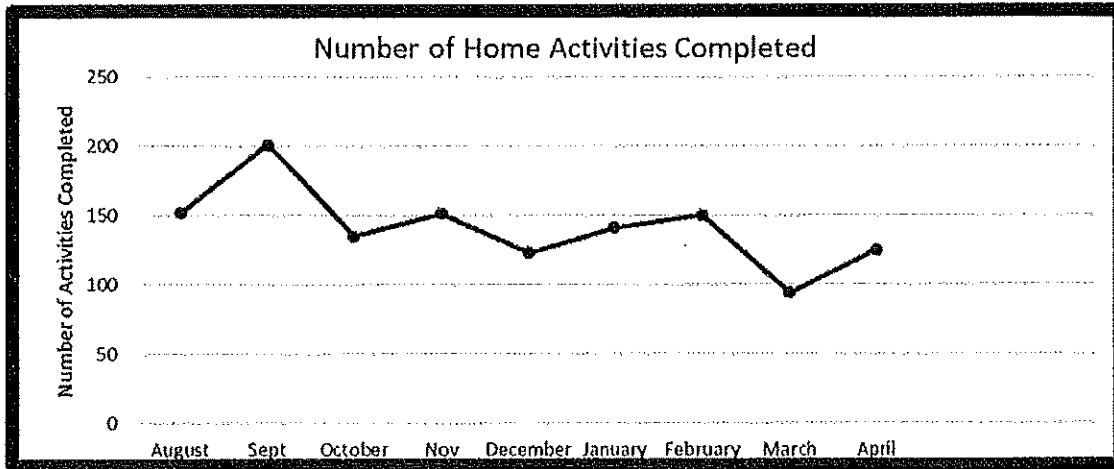
The program has 33 Cooperative Agreements with community agencies and 1 inter-agency agreement.

FAMILY SERVICES

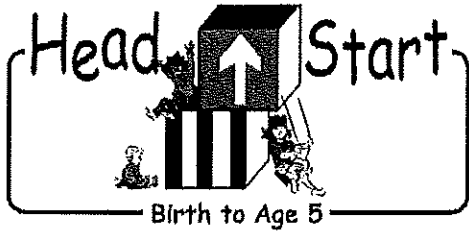
Service:	HS	EHS
Emergency/crisis intervention	63	10
Housing	54	5
Mental Health Services	1	6
English as Second Language	2	1
Adult Ed	8	3
Job training	0	0
Transition	145	18
Health Ed	113	21
Assistance to families of incarcerated individuals	4	1
Parenting Ed	147	24
Relationship Education	2	0
# of families receiving at least one service	176	24



Literacy & Parent Education



Month	Family Activity	Home Visit Activity	Literacy Activity Materials for Children	Parent Education
August	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>Learning My Name</i>	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>Giraffes Can't Dance</i>	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>Giraffes Can't Dance</i>	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>Parent Calendar/Community Resources</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Portions for Preschoolers</i>
September	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>Looking at Pictures in a Book</i>		<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>I Wish I had a Dinosaur</i>	<i>EHS/HS: Smart Parenting</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Colorful Fruits</i>
October	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>Learning How to Use a Book</i>		<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>The Story of Clifford</i>	<i>EHS/HS: Child Development Milestones</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Encouraging Vegetables</i>
November	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>Seeing First Words</i>		<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>There Was An Old Woman Who Swallowed a Turkey</i>	<i>EHS/HS: Ready Rosie</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Growing Strong With Milk</i>
December	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>Showing Your Child How to Read</i>		<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>The Biggest Christmas Ever</i>	<i>EHS/HS: Ready Rosie</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Healthy Celebrations</i>
January	<i>EHS: Talking About Things Outside</i> <i>HS: What Sounds Begins Words</i>	<i>EHS—HS:</i> <i>I Was Mad</i>	<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>I Was Mad</i>	<i>EHS/HS: Ready Rosie</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Tips for Choosy Eaters</i>
February	<i>EHS: Listening to Different Sounds</i> <i>HS: Making Up A Story</i>		<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>The Dot</i>	<i>EHS/HS: Ready Rosie</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Vary Your Protein Foods</i>
March	<i>EHS: Discovering Print</i> <i>HS: Keeping a Diary With Words</i>		<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>No Book</i>	<i>EHS/HS: Ready Rosie</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Water, It's a Great Choice</i>
April	<i>EHS: Learning About Nursery Rhymes</i> <i>HS: Measuring Things</i>		<i>EHS/HS:</i> <i>I Promise</i>	<i>EHS/HS: Ready Rosie</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Whole Grains Make a Difference</i>
May	<i>EHS: Making Up Silly Songs</i> <i>HS: Having Fun With Rhyming</i>		<i>EHS—HS:</i> <i>No Book</i>	<i>Transition Material: Family Summer Activities</i> <i>Nibbles for Health: Healthy Snacks with Smiles</i>



Jackson County
Early Childhood Programs
4283 Kelson Avenue
Marianna, FL 32446
Phone: (850) 482-1266
Fax: (850) 482-9133

