

Berkshire County



Head  
Start

2023-2024

Program Calendar

We enhance opportunities for success by inspiring each child's love of learning, partnering with families, advocating for equity, and fostering a connection to community.



August 2023							December 2023							April 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													

September 2023							January 2024							May 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				26	27	28	29	30	31	

October 2023							February 2024							June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					25	26	27	28	29			23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30						

November 2023							March 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4						1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

Program Closures	
September 4, 2023	Labor Day
October 9, 2023	Indigenous Peoples' Day
November 23, 2023	Thanksgiving Day
November 24, 2023	All Programs Closed
December 25, 2023	Christmas Day
January 1, 2024	New Year's Day
January 15, 2024	MLK Jr. Day
February 19, 2024	Presidents' Day
April 15, 2024	Patriots' Day
May 24, 2024	Mental Health Day
May 27, 2024	Memorial Day
June 19, 2024	Juneteenth Day
July 4, 2024	Independence Day

Head Start Morning Only Closures	
November 10, 2023	Veterans Day
November 22-24, 2023	Thanksgiving Break
December 25-29, 2023	Recess
February 19-23, 2024	Recess
March 29, 2024	Good Friday
April 15-19, 2024	Recess

Planning Days	
Friday, September 1, 2023	Full Closure Day
Friday, December 1, 2023	Close at 2pm
March 8, 2024	Close at 2pm
May 10, 2024	Full Closure Day

Last day for Kindergarteners: 8/25/23  
 First Day of Head Start Morning Only: 9/5/23  
 Last Day of Head Start Morning Only: 6/7/24

All Staff Training Days: All Sites Closed  
 Wednesday, August 30, 2023  
 Thursday, August 31, 2023  
 Tuesday, November 7, 2023  
 Friday, March 22, 2024  
 Friday, June 14, 2024

February 26, 2024 Annual meeting: Closed

# Program Locations

## Meadow Lane Head Start

1 Meadow Lane  
Pittsfield, MA  
413-499-0137

## Head Start at Taconic

96 Valentine Road  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
413-448-9600 ext. 1172

## Head Start at Conte

200 W Union St  
Pittsfield, MA  
413-496-9494

## Head Start at Brayton

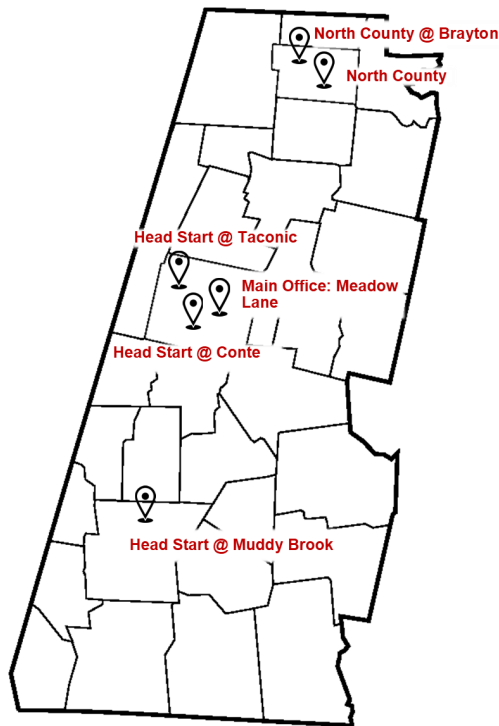
20 Barbour St  
North Adams, MA  
413-664-0384

## North County Head Start

535 Curran Highway  
North Adams, MA  
413-499-0137

## Head Start at Muddy Brook

318 Monument Valley Road  
Great Barrington, MA  
413-644-0005



# Closing and Delay Information

**PLEASE WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE SITE WHERE YOUR CHILD IS ENROLLED.**

When you suspect a delay or closing for Berkshire County Head Start the information will be posted on the following:

## Local radio stations

WUPE - 1110 AM      100.1 FM  
WBEC - 1420 AM      Live 95.9 FM

## Television networks

<u>WNYT</u>	Channel 13	<u>WNYA</u>	Channel 51
<u>WRGB</u>	Channel 6	<u>WCWN</u>	Channel 45
<u>WTEN</u>	Channel 10	<u>WXXA</u>	Channel 23

**FACEBOOK** (you must **follow us** on Berkshire County Head Start to receive updates.)

**ROBOCALL** All families will be signed up upon enrollment, with the option to opt out. If you are not receiving robocalls please connect with your Family Advocate.

*All program options could have delayed openings and/or program closures determined by our program that are necessary for the safety of children and staff.*

*Please keep in mind that our program delays/closures do not always align with the public school district so be sure to look for specific Head Start closings.*

*If it is determined that bus travel is unsafe, Berkshire County Head Start has the option to not follow the school district and to cancel transportation.*



# Join Families In Power!



*Parents benefit from this leadership role by gaining confidence, skills, and connections, while children experience improved learning and development both at school and home.*

*Program staff also benefit from understanding the strengths, interests, and needs of the children, families, and community they serve.*

Families in Power is a group of parents and community members in Head Start programs who help lead and make decisions about the program. Members are elected by parents of enrolled children and can serve for up to five years. Families in Power plays a vital role in providing overall direction for the program, and through it, parents have a voice in decisions regarding budget allocation, classroom activities, and community partnerships. Families in Power is a key component in our program, reflecting Head Start founders' belief in parents as essential partners in their children's education.

***When is Families in Power? How do I get involved?***

Policy Council meets in the Meadow Lane conference room on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Your Family Advocate will guide you through joining a meeting and what to expect!

***Does Families in Power provide childcare? Can my child join me?***

Head Start offers a classroom with adult supervision during Families in Power meetings!

***Am I committed once I join? What will happen if I miss a meeting?***

We understand that sometimes its not always possible to make the meetings. Join us when you can, if you like it, come again!

Berkshire County  
Head Start's new  
program, **Resources  
to Empower and  
Advocate for**



**Children & Households (REACH)**, provides access to affordable childcare, dedicated family support, community resources and health/wellness partners.

For eligible children and families, REACH provides:

- Free full-day childcare and transportation
- Dedicated advocates who work with families to identify needs and accomplish goals
- Access to additional community resources
- Financial assistance for transportation and fees for obtaining IDs and other documentation

*For more information or to  
apply visit our website at  
[www.berkhs.org](http://www.berkhs.org).*



*This grant is supported by funds  
provided by the City of Pittsfield.*

# Pittsfield CFCE



**Coordinated Family and Community  
Engagement Programs (CFCE)** are locally  
based programs serving families with children  
birth through school age.

What CFCE provides for families:

- Increase knowledge of and accessibility to high-quality early education and care programs and services for families with children prenatal through school-age
- Promote parent education, family engagement and early literacy
- Facilitate collaboration and community planning between local early education and care partners and other community stakeholders, including parents
- Provide support and information to families with children transitioning between and among early education and care settings.

Programs we provide include Fun on the Farm, Tiny Tots Story Time, Lunch and Learn, and many more! **Visit our website at [www.pittsfieldCFCE.org](http://www.pittsfieldCFCE.org) to learn more and see our program schedule.**



*This grant is supported by funds provided  
by the Massachusetts Department of Early  
Education and Care.*



# Librarians play a vital role in the development and education of preschoolers.

Librarians are knowledgeable about early literacy development and can provide guidance to parents and caregivers on activities and techniques that support language acquisition, phonics, vocabulary, and comprehension skills. They can recommend suitable books and resources that align with children's developmental needs.





# SEPTEMBER

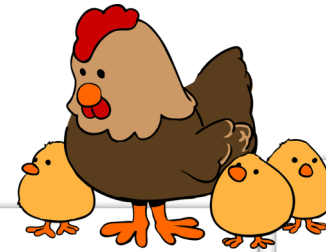
# 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <b>Staff Planning- CLOSED</b>	2
3	4 <b>Labor Day- CLOSED</b>	5 <b>First Day of Head Start Morning Only Program</b>	6 <b>National Read a Book Day</b>	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 <b>Rosh Hashanah All Programs Open</b>	16
17	18	19 <b>Super Hero Day</b> 	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

# Farmers play a crucial role in preschoolers' learning by providing valuable opportunities for hands-on experiences, exploration, and learning about the natural world.

Interacting with farmers and visiting farms can enhance children's social skills and emotional development. They learn to communicate with farmers, ask questions, and work together in a group setting. Farms often provide opportunities for role-playing and imaginative play, allowing children to develop their creativity, empathy, and problem-solving skills.

*Pittsfield CFCE Fun on the  
Farm at Brattle Farm*







# OCTOBER

# 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 <b>Indigenous Peoples' Day- CLOSED</b>	10	11 Yom Kippur All Programs Open	12 National Farmers Day	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Space Day 	28
29	30	31 Halloween All Programs Open				

Community helpers are people who live and work in our communities. They do many different things to help us every day. They provide us with goods (products we use) and services (things they do for us). Some examples of community helpers are: doctors, nurses, chefs, bakers, astronauts, soldiers, teachers, dentists, mail carriers, bus drivers, etc.

Community helpers often serve as positive role models for children. They exemplify important qualities such as responsibility, kindness, bravery, and dedication. Observing these qualities in action can influence the behavior and aspirations of young children, inspiring them to develop similar characteristics as they grow.



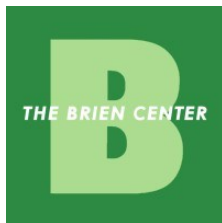
Berkshire United Way



Berkshire County Public School Districts



JOSEPHINE AND LOUISE CRANE FOUNDATION, INC.



These are a few of the community helpers that we partner with to help meet our programs mission of enhancing opportunities for success by inspiring each child's love of learning, partnering with families, advocating for equity, and fostering a connection to community!



# NOVEMBER

# 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Costume Day 	4
5 Daylight Savings Time Ends	6	7 All Staff Training-CLOSED	8	9	10 Veterans Day Head Start Morning Only-CLOSED	11 Remembrance Day
12 Diwali	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Children's Day All programs Open	21	22 Head Start Morning Only-Closed	23 Thanksgiving-CLOSED	24 All Programs-CLOSED	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Volunteers play a pivotal role in fostering a sense of belonging and social responsibility among children by encouraging young minds to develop a deep appreciation for their community and empowering them to become helpers themselves.



*Mayor Macksey volunteered to be a secret reader at BCHS*

Children learn best through real-world experiences and concrete examples. Volunteers provide tangible and relatable experiences that bring learning to life. By observing and interacting with these helpers, children gain a better understanding of how their community functions and the importance of different roles within it.







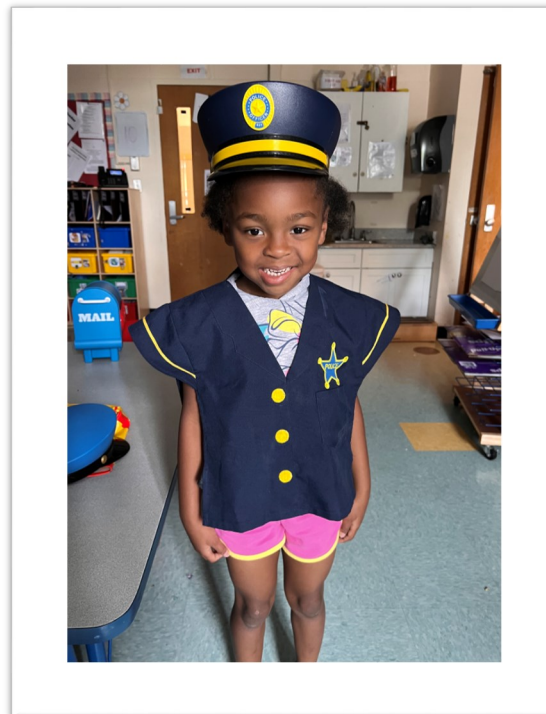
# DECEMBER

# 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Staff Planning- Closing at 2pm	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Winter Solstice All Programs Open	22 Funny Sweater Day 	23
24	25 Christmas Day- CLOSED	26 All Programs- CLOSED	27 All Programs- CLOSED	28 All Programs- CLOSED	29 All Programs- CLOSED	30
30						

Children are naturally curious and eager to explore the world around them, making it essential to teach them about the role of police officers and the importance of maintaining a safe and orderly society.


Police officers play a vital role in ensuring the safety and security of communities. Children need to understand the importance of safety rules, such as looking both ways before crossing the street or wearing a seatbelt in a car. Police officers can teach these concepts and help children develop an awareness of potential dangers in their surroundings.





# JANUARY

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <b>New Year's Day-CLOSED</b>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 <b>National Cop Day</b>	10	11 <b>Pajama Day</b> 	12	13
14	15 <b>MLK Jr. Day-CLOSED</b>	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 <b>Hogmanay</b> All Programs Open			



Supermarket employees play a valuable role in educating and shaping the minds of children, and their influence goes beyond the traditional shopping experience.

Interacting with supermarket employees can help children develop social skills such as greeting others, asking questions politely, and following instructions. Employees can model appropriate behavior and encourage friendly interactions.







# FEBRUARY

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Groundhog Day All Programs Open	3
4	5 Crazy Sock Day 	6	7	8	9	10 Lunar New Year
11	12	13	14 Valentines Day All Programs Open	15	16	17
18	19 Presidents Day-CLOSED	20 Head Start Morning Only Recess	21 Head Start Morning Only Recess	22 Head Start Morning Only Recess	23 Head Start Morning Only Recess	24
25	26 Annual Board Meeting-CLOSED	27	28	29		



Doctors play a vital role in the development of children, not only as healers but also as influencers and guides.


Doctors can help children develop communication skills by engaging in age-appropriate conversations. They may ask questions to assess their health, encourage children to describe their symptoms or feelings, and teach them to express themselves clearly.





# MARCH

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Staff Planning- Closing at 2pm	9
10 Beginning of Ramadan	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 St. Patricks' Day	18	19	20	21	22 All Staff Training CLOSED	23
24	25	26 Decades Day 	27	28	29 Good Friday Head Start Morning Only- CLOSED	30
31 Easter						

Beyond simply transporting children to and from school, bus drivers have a profound impact on their educational journey.

A bus driver can teach a child how to safely board and exit a bus. This includes waiting for the bus to come to a complete stop, using handrails while getting on and off, and being mindful of their surroundings.







# APRIL

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 April Fools All Programs Open	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Head Start Morning Only Recess	16 Head Start Morning Only Recess	17 Head Start Morning Only Recess	18 Head Start Morning Only Recess	19 Head Start Morning Only Recess	20
21	22 Earth Day All Programs Open	23	24 Sports Jersey Day 	25 National Thank the Bus Driver Day	26 Arbor Day All Programs Open	27
28	29	30				



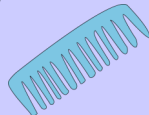
Firefighters serve as powerful role models, instilling invaluable life skills and inspiring young minds to be resilient, compassionate, and responsible individuals.

Firefighters can help children and their families develop and practice fire escape plans. They teach them how to identify and safely navigate escape routes, including crawling low under smoke, feeling doors for heat before opening them, and meeting at a designated meeting place outside the home.



# MAY

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 Cinco De Mayo	6	7	8	9	10 Staff Planning Day- CLOSED	11
12 Mothers Day	13	14	15 Crazy Hair Day 	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Mental Health Day- CLOSED	25
26	27 Memorial Day- CLOSED	28	29	30	31	

Chefs have a remarkable influence on children's education, teaching them valuable skills, promoting healthy eating habits, and nurturing a lifelong appreciation for food.



Chefs can demonstrate and guide children in age-appropriate food preparation activities, such as washing fruits and vegetables, tearing lettuce for a salad, or spreading toppings on a sandwich. This helps children develop their fine motor skills and coordination.





# JUNE

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 National Food Safety Day	5	6	7 Last Day of Head Start Morning Only	8
9	10 Fairytale Character Day 	11	12	13	14 All Staff Training Day- CLOSED	15
16	17	18	19 Juneteenth- CLOSED	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29



Postal workers play an important role in teaching preschool-age children about mail, communication, community, and even some basic life skills!



Postal workers can help toddlers learn to recognize and identify letters of the alphabet. They may introduce them to different letters and their sounds, helping them develop early literacy skills.



# JULY

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 National Postal Worker Day All Programs Open	2	3	4 <b>4th of July- CLOSED</b>	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Dentist aim for smiling teeth and happy hearts, by creating positive connections, safe practices, and healthy hygiene!



Dentists educate children about the impact of sugary snacks and drinks on their teeth. They emphasize the importance of a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and dairy products.





# AUGUST

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 National Tooth Fairy Day All Programs Open	23	24
25	26	27	28 All Staff Training- CLOSED	29 All Staff Training- CLOSED	30 All Staff Training- CLOSED	31



My child's family advocate:

My child's room number:

Family advocate's contact information:

My child's teachers: