



ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023

Mercer County Head Start

Tel: 419-268-0301
585 E. Livingston St.
Celina, OH 45822

TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Core Values

Trust, Integrity, and Excellence. We embrace and exude our core values in every aspect of the work we do every day. This is witnessed through the continued partnerships with families and our community.

Mission

We invest in individualized, comprehensive services which champion school ready children and self-sufficient families.

Vision

To eliminate poverty determinants and create a community full of opportunity.

“It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself. Serve and thou shall be served.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

Looking Ahead

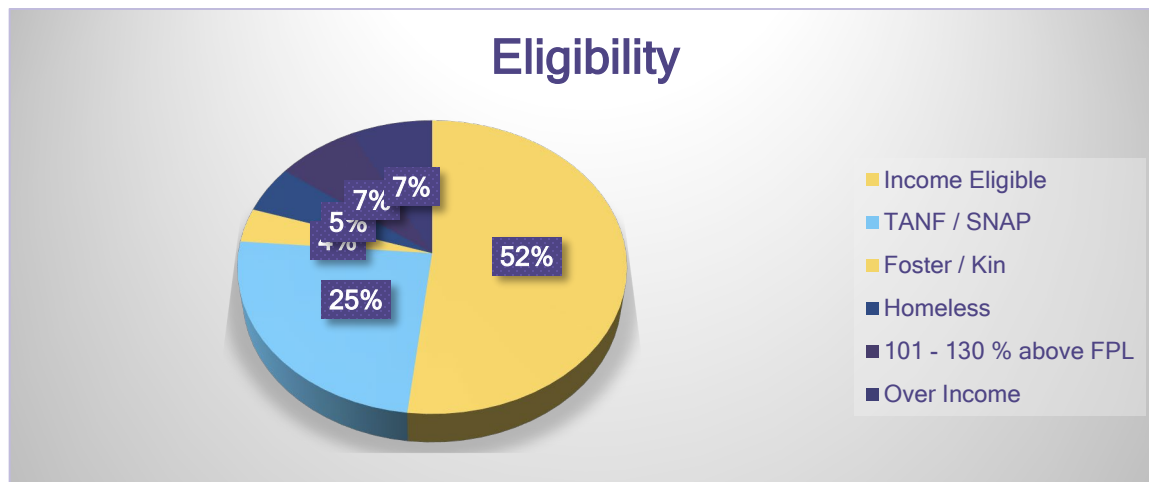
Mercer County Head Start has persevered and diligently worked through the adversity of providing high quality early childhood and social services to our community during an unprecedented time in our history. We are committed to continuously evolving and answering the call to serve our neediest and most vulnerable populations.

Amy Esser
Executive Director

PROGRAM SUMMARY

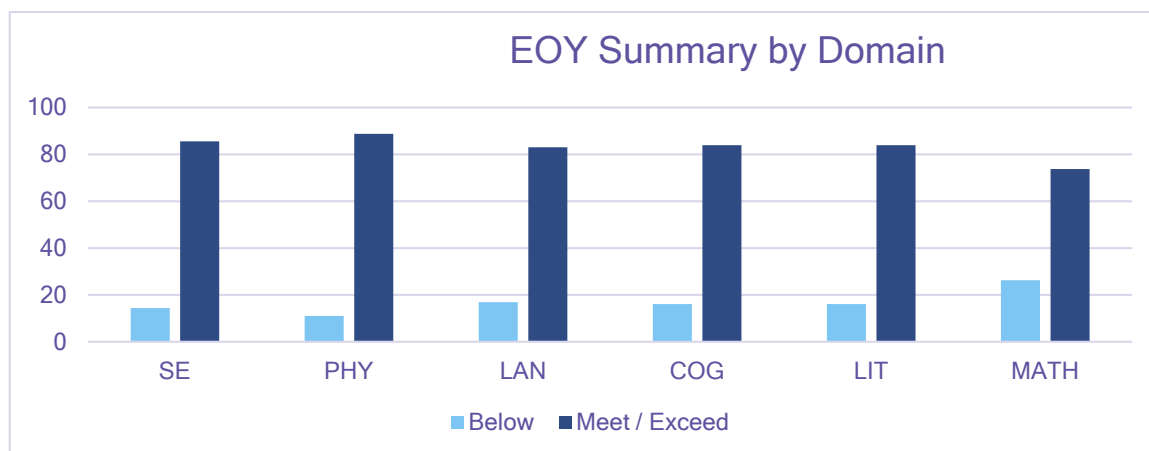
In PY 22/23, MCHS focused on rebuilding enrollment at all locations while addressing the increasing mental health needs of children and families. During the program year, MCHS served 135 children from 122 families. Our average monthly enrollment was 76%.

Who we served....



What we accomplished....

130 children covered by medical insurance 128 have access to care
126 children are up to date on immunizations for their age
135 children received a physical (100%), 91 children received a dental exam (68%)



SE - Social Emotional, GM - Gross Motor, FM - Fine Motor, LA - Language, CO - Cognitive, LIT - Literacy, MA - Math
Program Goal is 80% achievement in each area.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HEAD START BASE GRANT

DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	ACTUAL	REMAINING
Salary	989,588	915,504	74,084
Fringe	746,723	579,246	167,477
Programming	174,172	172,115	2,057
Supply	228,790	228,255	535
Training & Technical Asst.	19,232	19,232	0

ARP / CRRSA

DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	ACTUAL	REMAINING
Programming	17,340	17,340	0
Supply	64,850	64,850	0

USDA Funding

MCHS budgeted \$232,964 for food service costs. MCHS was reimbursed \$94,531 for food services costs.

During FY 22/23, Mercer County Head Start received funding through the Office of Head Start in the form of the continuation grant of the 5 -year project period (this includes a 5.6% COLA), and extended CRRSA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations) as well as CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program) provided by the USDA.

PREPARING CHILDREN FOR KINDERGARTEN

Alignment with local school districts

To align with local school district plans, Mercer County Head Start has invested resources (financial, human capital, and technology) to improve early literacy development. This includes the addition of the Heggerty program, increased literacy resources in classrooms, and increased literacy at-home activities to bridge home and school learning.

Transitioning to School Districts

MCHS students took a ZOOM tour of kindergarten classrooms this year due to health restrictions related to the pandemic. In addition to working on pre-academic skills, students work on self-help skills including carrying lunch trays and opening milk cartons. Entering kindergarten with these skills already developed allows kindergarten teachers to focus more on academic instruction earlier in the school year.

Families

MCHS assists families with enrolling children in district online systems and obtaining required paperwork.

Summer School

Additional weeks of programming were offered to students transitioning to kindergarten!

*“Preschool smiles,
Kindergarten dreams - cherish
the heartfelt moments in
between”*

Developmental Domains Success!

Social Emotional focused on independence and self-regulation

Physical Development - Building trunk strength and balance, awareness of body in space

Increase vocabulary and understanding speech and the give and take of conversations

Encouraged curiosity to learn and problem solve independently and in group settings

Supported children with understanding that words were made of sounds, and they convey meaning

Counting 1-10 and numerals were symbols of amounts

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Auditor's Report

We have audited the Celina City School District's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have direct and material effect on each of the Celina City School District's major federal programs as identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, the Celina City School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

The Celina City School District prepares its financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting in a report format similar to the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34, Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments. This presentation differs from GAAP. There would be variances in the financial statements between this accounting practice and GAAP that, while presumably material, cannot be reasonably determined at this time.

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Since the passing of the pandemic, Mercer County Head Start has vigorously rebuilt parent engagement in Head Start. In PY 22/23, the program offered ten DOGS events. DOGS stands for Dads of Great Students. These events encourage a male role model to spend quality time with their child. DOGS is the central part of the program's fatherhood initiative and has grown substantially. A group of mothers meets monthly is a self-directed group working specifically on self-efficacy and self-advocacy. In addition to the DOGS and MOMs, the program offered six additional parent education events (parenting, first aid, etc.) kinship support group meetings, two health screening days, and back to school events. Our five large family events include the Fall Festival, Winter Wonderland program, Valentine's Day Dance, Spring Fling, and Fashion Show ensure families feel welcome and showcase the various talents of their children.

The Annual Report is made available to the public through the Celina City Schools Board of Education public meeting, Policy Council distribution among members, provided to community stakeholders through Family and Children First meetings, and posted within the MCHS facility.

The Annual Report is posted to the MCHS website.