



# WCMCA Head Start Annual Report

2020-2021

## Mission Statement

Head Start provides a supportive environment that encourages children, families, staff, and communities to thrive by identifying strengths and opportunities, and developing strong partnerships to meet needs.

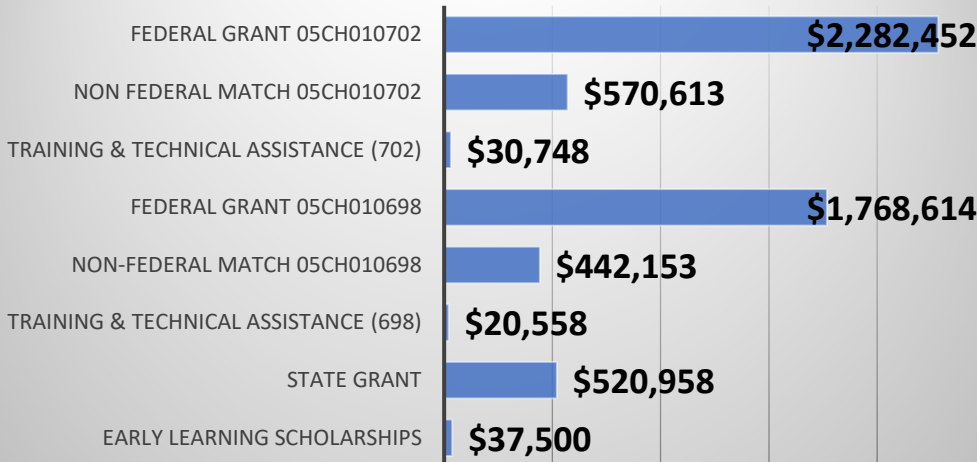
West Central Head Start operates a publicly funded program that serves children birth to 5 and pregnant women in Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse and Wadena counties.

WCMCA Head Start operated 9 full-day classrooms and 9 half-day classrooms providing services from September – May.

Home based services are offered year-round with 11 Home Visitors providing weekly home visits to each enrolled family as well as 2 parent socialization events a month.

We operated with in-person, hybrid and virtual flexibility to serve our families and communities during the pandemic.

## Funding Sources



## FUNDED ENROLLMENT:

298 Head Start

109 Early Head Start

- 315 Head Start children were served due to turnover
- 144 Early Head Start participants were served due to turnover
- 433 Families were served

## Budget

Personnel	\$ 2,958,799
Fringe	1,035,580
Travel	12,999
Equipment	16,001
Supplies	125,000
Contractual	86,500
Other	425,951
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,660,830</b>



## Meals Served at

### Head Start Centers:

Total Operating Days -	2336
Breakfast:	13,875
AM Snack:	1,122
Lunch:	10,603
PM Snack:	8,142

## Locate us:

411 Industrial Park Blvd.,  
Elbow Lake, MN 56531  
218-685-4486  
[www.wcmca.org](http://www.wcmca.org)

WCMCA's most recent financial audit revealed no deficiencies or material weaknesses. Information about the agency's audit is available by contacting our office.

Average Daily Attendance for Head Start Classrooms		Average Monthly Enrollment	Home Visits Completed
July	N/A	94/109 (EHS only)	265
August	96%	107/109 (EHS only)	481
September	93%	272/298	379
October	90%	271/298	398
November	92%	269/298	444
December	93%	267/298	595
January	94%	269/298	369
February	92%	281/298	323
March	92%	283/298	387
April	91%	282/298	367
May	92%	281/298	428
June	N/A	105/116 (EHS only)	176

### Health Services at End of Enrollment

- 🏠 99% of HS children and 100% EHS participants have health insurance.
- 🏠 99% of HS children and 100% of EHS children have a medical home.
- 🏠 89% of HS children and 33% of EHS children are up-to-date on well child care.
- 🏠 97% of HS children and 79% of EHS children are current on immunizations.
- 🏠 86% of HS children have completed a dental exam and 83% of EHS children have a dental home.

- 387 parents volunteered for a total of 17,592 hours.
- 94% of families received services such as housing assistance, ESL, emergency intervention, asset building, health or parent education, etc.
- 52 mental health referrals were made and 25 children are received services as a result.

### Parent Survey responses from question - Is there anything else you would like me to know about your experiences with the program?

- ♥ My child loves going to school and I love how much he is learning.
- ♥ We are so thankful for the Early Head Start home visiting program! Our home visitor is amazing and we so look forward to our weekly visits. I am learning how to be a better parent and advocate.
- ♥ This program is very important because it helps children and parents learn. It also helps families meet their needs and goals. We are very thankful for this program.
- ♥ The staff did a great job listening to me and my family and taking the time to get to know us.
- ♥ Such a wonderful program for families! I will highly recommend it.

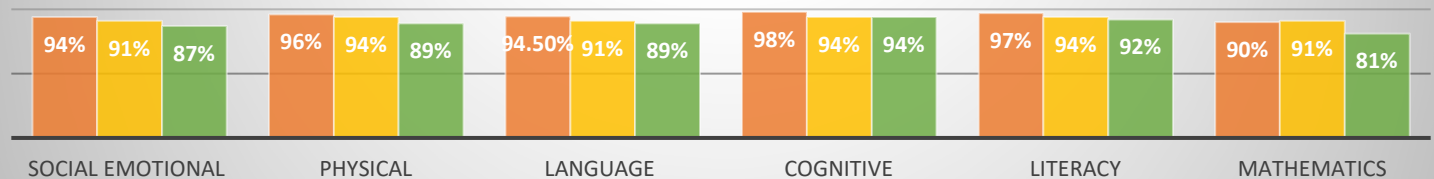
At the end of the year, 23% of children were on an IEP/IFSP and receiving services



**School Readiness:** WCMCA Head Start helps children succeed by linking Curriculum and Assessment, using observation-based assessment information to individualize children's learning. According to the American Community Survey (a demographics survey conducted by the US Census Bureau) our program served 40% of the eligible children in our service area. The most underserved in our area is children 2 years of age and younger.

### 4-Year-Olds, 3 Year Comparison

■ 2018-2020 ■ 2019-2020 ■ 2020-2021



### Overall Program Averages:

- 4-Year-Old Children in Head Start 2020/21- 88.6% Meeting/Exceeding TSG Widely Held Expectations.
- 4-Year-Old Children in Head Start 2019/20- 92.5% Meeting/Exceeding TSG Widely Held Expectations.
- 4-Year-Old Children in Head Start 2018/19- 94.9% Meeting/Exceeding TSG Widely Held Expectations.

## **WCMCA Head Start's main objective is to align with parents and families to prepare their child for Kindergarten.**

**School Readiness:** *"Children possessing the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning in life."* (Office of Head Start)

WCMCA Head Start School Readiness Goals follow a birth to age five approach and align with the Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress, the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (HSELOF) and the Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PFCE) Outcomes Framework.

Evidence-based curriculum and assessment are used to measure child outcomes and to plan for individualized instruction that supports the development of each child.

WCMCA Head Start's school readiness goals are organized into five Development Domains. Teaching Strategies GOLD Report Cards are shared with families three times per year (Fall, Winter and Spring.)

### **Domains of School Readiness:**

- Approaches to Learning
- Social Emotional Development
- Language and Literacy
- Cognition
- Perceptual Motor and Physical Development

### **Researched-Based Teaching Curriculums:**

- Partners for a Healthy Baby (Prenatal to age 5): Focuses on strengthening the family by addressing the overall well-being of both the child and the family.
- Creative Curriculum (Birth to age 5): Supports teachers to create meaningful daily routines, environments and learning experiences for children.

### **Assessment and Screening Tools:**

- Teaching Strategies GOLD
- Brigance Inventory of Early Childhood Development III
- Minneapolis Preschool Screening Instrument (MPSI)
- The Ages & Stages Developmental Questionnaire (ASQ-3)
- The Ages & Stages Questionnaires-Social Emotional (ASQ-SE)

## **Strategies to Support School Readiness**

- 1. Head Start classes that meet four days per week** for either half-day or full day sessions. Families in these classrooms also receive four home visits during the program year. Families are given a calendar each month with scheduled center days and a newsletter which includes information about classroom activities and upcoming events.
- 2. Early Head Start Home-Based Programming.** Early Head Start serves children birth to three years of age and expectant families in full year programming. Families enrolled in this option receive weekly home visits. Parents are supported as their child's most influential and valuable teacher in promoting their child's development.
- 3. Early Head Start Socializations.** Opportunities are held 22 times per year. Participation in these events with other parents and children is an essential piece of the programming. Parents will interact with their child in a variety of activities, promoting their interests and supporting the development of new skills.
- 4. Parent Teacher Conferences.** Each family participates in 2 parent teacher conferences each year. Child's progress and accomplishments are discussed and parents and teachers set goals for the child.
- 5. Family Partnership.** Staff create a partnership with families to meet identified need and goals.