

# Huntingdon County Head Start 2018 Annual report

52 Juniata Ave Huntingdon, PA 16652 Telephone: (814)643-6800

**Huntingdon County Head Start** is operated by Huntingdon County Child and Adult Development Corporation, HCCADC, and has been serving families in the County since 1977. Head Start is a federally funded program that provides comprehensive services for income eligible children birth to five and pregnant mothers. Comprehensive services include: child development/education, health, nutrition and mental health services to children and providing social services and parent involvement opportunities for families while partnering with other local agencies in the community.

The Head Start Program serves children and their families by providing a quality program to equip children with the knowledge needed to succeed in school, as well as volunteer, career and education opportunities for parents. Head Start believes that the parent is the first and primary educator of their child.

Huntingdon County Head Start has expanded over the years from three classrooms to twelve classrooms and 7 home-based groups. Classrooms are located in Huntingdon, Huntingdon High School,, Mount Union, Orbisonia, Southern Huntingdon High School, Alexandria, Mapleton Elementary, Mount Union High School and Broad Top.

In Huntingdon County, there are 215 children enrolled in preschool Head Start. The program is funded through grants from Federal and State budgets. HCCADC also serves 72 infant, toddler and pregnant moms in the Early Head Start program in a home base option. Early Head Start is federally funded.

In 2015, HCCADC began to operate an EHS-child care partnership program in Mount Union and Huntingdon, This is a center base program for 16 infants and toddlers funded through the State of PA.

The mission of HCCADC is: dedicated to promoting the social, emotional, and educational development of children and families by providing quality programs and resources to foster self-esteem and self-sufficiency.

HCCADC is committed to being the recognized leader in providing quality comprehensive services by utilizing our strengths and resources to meet the future needs of our community.

There are 491 children under 5 at or below 100% of poverty in Huntingdon County. Head Start programs serve 287 of those children or 58% of the eligible children.

**This annual report contains data from the 2017-18 program year and the 2017 and 2018 Fiscal years.**

**Child & Adult Development Corporation**

This was my child's first year at Head Start and what I am thankful for is how well he adjusted, learning classroom rules, areas of the classroom and most importantly his speech. He was a little behind on talking. With the help of teachers and speech therapists, he is really improving his sentences and words in general. He is doing wonderful with shapes, colors, recognizing letters and numbers. We just see a huge difference in him and we can't thank Head Stat and the teachers enough.

Parent

**Programs offered by HCCADC include:**

Pre-School Head Start

Early Head Start

PA Pre-K Counts

First Choice Childcare

Family Literacy Program

Adult Basic Ed Program

EHS-CCP

EARN

**Staff:** The Head Start division of HCCADC employs 62 staff. Of the 62 staff, 46% were past or present parents of children enrolled in the Head Start programs. 704 individuals provided volunteer services to the Head Start programs during the 2017-2018 program year.

Head Start is proud of the qualifications and experience possessed by its staff. There are 13 teachers in the preschool program (ages 3-5) of which 2 has Masters Degree in Education; 1 BA in early childhood and 5 with a BA in a related field plus experience teaching preschool children and 6 have associate degrees in early childhood. There are 7teacher assistants that have achieved their Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) and 1 with associate degree in Early childhood. In the Early Program (ages 0-3) there are 6 home visitors of which 3 have a BA; 1 AA in HDFs; 1 CDA and 1 HS diploma working on a CDA.

**Management staff has over 195 years of experience with the organization.**



**HEAD START:**  
Educating Kids,  
Empowering Families,  
Changing Communities



**Child & Adult Development Corporation**

**Child Development/Education**

Huntingdon County Early Head Start utilizes the Parents as Teachers curriculum for children birth to three years of age and the Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculum with pregnant moms. Early Head Start Child Care Partnership uses the Creative Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers and the Head Start preschool program uses the Creative Curriculum for Preschool in all classrooms. Fidelity Checklists are utilized to ensure the curriculum is being utilized with fidelity. Teaching Strategies Gold is the ongoing assessment system that is used with all children birth to five years of age. Teaching Strategies Gold provides staff and parents with information regarding child growth and development. This data is implemented in classroom instruction.

A Birth to 5 transition plan is in place to coordinate the transition of children from Early Head Start to Preschool Head Start and then to the public schools. The plan is developed in conjunction with the school districts in the County. The plan consists of a variety of activities to prepare children for Kindergarten, such as: transition books specific to each elementary school, Kindergarten visits, Kindergarten teachers visit the preschool classroom, including Head Start children in family activities in the families' home school, and Kid Writing between Kindergarten and Head Start classes.

Parents are provided a session with the Administration and Kindergarten teachers in March of each year as well as a monthly newsletter which includes handouts that address Kindergarten readiness and how parents can help prepare their children for the transition.

The **Child Outcome Data** shown below denoted the growth of children/mastery of skills in each domain from the beginning to the end of the year for Early Head Start children and preschool children.

Domain Area	Early Head Start Fall 2017	Early Head Start Spring 2018	Preschool Fall 2017	Preschool Spring 2018
Language Development	75%	81%	70%	94%
Literacy Development	91%	89%	54%	92%
Mathematics Development	91%	94%	54%	92%
Social/Emotional Development	92%	88%	70%	95%
Approaches to Learning	92%	93%	77%	93%
Cognitive Development	88%	89%	70%	94%
Physical Health/ Gross	85%	93%	83%	96%
Physical Health/ Fine Motor	93%	96%	80%	97%

**Disabilities**

By the conclusion of the 2017 – 2018 program year, Early Head Start had 6 children with a current Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP); 3 of which were diagnosed during the program year.

In Preschool Head Start, 29 preschool children were receiving services for a diagnosed disability and in which an IEP (Individualized Education Plan) was developed and/or implemented; 10 of these preschool children were diagnosed during the program year

**Parent Involvement**

504 individuals provided some type of volunteer service to the Pre School Head Start program. Of these, 342 were current or former Head Start parents.

200 individuals provided volunteer service to the Early Head Start program, with 154 being current or former Head Start parents.



Head Start offers a Men’s Group that plans and participates in fatherhood activities. Activities and attendance included: At the 2017 –18 Pumpkin Patch Field Trip 92 dads and kids attended the field trip.

In 2017-2018 year 75 percent of Head Start families had a father figure participate in some way in the program. This included Men’s Group events, center activities, volunteering or participating in home visits.

Our 2018 boxcar parade for the whole family allowed families to design and build a boxcar and then show them off. Each child attending received a certificate a medal and a free book. We had 28 constructed cars in the event with 115 parents, family members and children attending.

The opportunities for parents to get involved in their child’s education are vast. Just a few of the opportunities offered by the programs are: classroom volunteering, parent groups, family socials, Family Literacy Nights, committees, special activities, Family Fun Days and more.

My child and I like the letter home work. We have fun with them, make it a game, home visits, we have set a goal and completed it!

*Head Start Parent*

My son has benefited from the whole program. Although, he has only been there such a short time. We have seen big changes at home. He is becoming more independent. He enjoys singing songs that he has learned at school. Even though our son is very stuck in his ways, he is learning to transition from one activity to the next.

*Head Start Parent*

**Nutrition**

Children in the Head Start program receive 1/3 of their daily nutritional requirements. Children in center base Head Start receive breakfast and lunch or lunch and a snack. Along with good nutrition, Head Start children participate in activities from the I am Moving I am Learning initiative. This initiative focuses on physical activity and learning. The Head Start children also participate in a Healthy Kids Club which is an initiative in partnership with Penn State University. This focuses on healthy food experiences and nutrition education for both the children and parents.

Height and Weight measurements are taken on every preschool child twice per program year.

The 2017-2018 program year child weight measurements showed that 9 children were at risk for being under weight, 51 children were overweight and 46 children were obese. 135 children were at a healthy weight.

Parents, staff and community representatives work together to plan and evaluate nutrition services throughout the year.

**HEALTH**

At the beginning of the program year 86 children of 215 (40%) were up to date on a schedule of preventative care according to EPSDT guidelines. At the end of the program year that number increased to 202 out of 241 (84%). 98% of the children were up to date on all immunizations at the end of the program year.

Of the 241 preschool children served: 215 of them received a dental exam, 61 needed dental treatment and 48 received that treatment.

Of the 97 Early Head Start children served: 59 were up-to-date on a schedule of preventative and primary health care, 4 children were diagnosed as needing medical treatment and 3 received the treatment, 51 children received age-appropriate preventative and primary oral health care. Additionally, 91 children served were determined up to date with immunizations for their age.

98 percent of the children enrolled in both programs received a vision and hearing exam within the first 45 days of enrollment. Those needing follow-up were referred to their physician.

### Initiatives

**First Book:** First Book is a nonprofit social enterprise founded in 1992 that provides books and educational resources to children from low-income families. Children enrolled in Huntingdon County’s Early Head Start and Preschool Head Start programs receive 4-8 books each year to build a home library. The book distributions allow each child the opportunity to select a book from a variety of high quality books. This is made possible through the grants that Head Start receives from First Book of Huntingdon County.

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant:** Head Start continued to partner with the Mount Union and Southern Huntingdon School Districts to provide after school and summer programming to students that will be transitioning to kindergarten in the fall. The focus of the grant is to provide school readiness activities and experiences to help prepare them for kindergarten.

Below you will see baseline data and end of year data for children that participated in the sessions. This information comes from Teaching Strategies Gold which is the assessment tool used in our Head Start programs

<b>Mount Union</b>	<b>Baseline Data – Children Meeting/Exceeding Age Expectations</b>	<b>End of Year Data – Children Meeting/Exceeding Age Expectations</b>
<i>Total 7 Participants</i>		
Social/Emotional	4	7
Physical Gross/Fine Motor	5	7
Language Development	4	7
Cognitive Development	4	7
Literacy Development	4	7
Mathematics	4	7
<b>Southern Huntingdon</b>	<b>Baseline Data – Children Meeting/Exceeding Age Expectations</b>	<b>End of Year Data – Children Meeting/Exceeding Age Expectations</b>
<i>Total 9 Participants</i>		
Social/Emotional	1	9
Physical Gross/Fine Motor	5	9
Language Development	5	7
Cognitive development	2	6
Literacy Development	7	8
Mathematics	1	9

### Keystones to Opportunities

Head Start and Early Head Start continue to collaborate with the Mount Union School District and the Southern Huntingdon School District’s Keystones to Opportunities Grant.

Our classrooms in the Southern Huntingdon and Mount Union School Districts are implementing the Grape Seed Literacy curriculum along with the elementary classrooms in the districts. This is a great alignment of curriculums between both the districts and our program.

The KTO grant has provided our classrooms with a literacy coach that supports teacher in effectively implementing the Grape Seed supplemental curriculum. When looking at child outcomes in the specific area of literacy, those children in classrooms that were implementing Grape Seed had higher percentages of growth in demonstrating phonological awareness, knowledge of the alphabet, and knowledge of print and it’s uses in comparison to classrooms where children were not exposed to Grape Seed.

During the 2017-2018 program year the primary focus of coaching was based on CLASS which looks at teacher child interactions as well as child to child interactions. The Instructional Support domain which includes concept development, quality of feedback and language modeling was the area identified from the CLASS that had lower scores. Below are the fall and spring class scores in instructional support.

**Coaching as a Means of Professional Development**

Huntingdon Head Start is implementing a research-based coaching system that provides education staff with professional development in the use of effective teaching practices. By implementing quality coaching, education staff develop and enhance teaching strategies and practices that have a positive impact on all children’s school readiness goals.

A rubric that is based on the needs of the Head Start program is used to determine staff’s level of coaching. Factors such as ECERS/ITERS scores, CLASS scores, Curriculum Fidelity, Child Outcomes, Supervisor recommendations, School Readiness Goals as well as number of years employed are all considered when completing the rubric.

During the 2017-2018 program year the primary focus of coaching was based on CLASS which looks at teacher child interactions as well as child to child interactions. The Instructional Support domain which includes concept development, quality of feedback and language modeling was the area identified from the CLASS that had lower scores. Below are the fall and spring class scores in instructional support.

Instructional Support		
	Fall 2017	Spring 2018
Concept Development	3.38	4.27
Quality of Feedback	3.52	4.35
Language Modeling	3.49	4.09
Overall Score	3.46	4.24

**School Readiness**

The school readiness goals that were established for the Huntingdon County Head Start Program are based on the five essential domains for school readiness as outlined in the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework. This framework is used when planning for children and allows us to assess where children are in their development. Below you can see the progress that the children from the 2017-2018 program year have made in each of the school readiness goals. Children met or exceeded the expected outcome in each area.

1. Social-Emotional Development Goal: Children will engage in and maintain positive relationships and interactions with peers and adults. Fall 76% and Spring 95% of children met or exceeded in this area.
2. Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development Goal: Children will demonstrate control of large and small muscles and identify and practice healthy and safe habits. Fall 83% and Spring 96%
3. Language and Literacy Goal: Children will use language to express and share ideas, wants and needs; the children will demonstrate understanding of listening, speaking and pre-writing skills. Fall 77% and Spring 94%
4. Approaches to Learning Goal: Children will explore learning opportunities with increased independence, curiosity, persistence and creativity. Fall 77% and Spring 93%
5. Cognitive Skills Goal: Children will engage in learning opportunities that will enhance their mathematical and scientific reasoning abilities. Math : Fall 77% and Spring 93%. Science: Fall 25% and Spring 59%

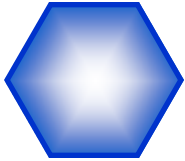
**Family Composition**

The following table represents the family composition of Preschool families during the 2017-2018 program year.

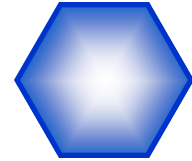
<b>Family Composition- Pre-school Head Start</b>	<b>Number of Families</b>	<b>Employed</b>
Two-Parent Families	113(51%)	Both Parents: 41 One Parent: 54
Single-Parent Families	110(42%)	71
<b>Total Number of Families</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>166 (49% of adults)</b>

The following table represents the family composition of Early Head Start families during the 2017-2018 program year.

<b>Family Composition- Ear-ly Head Start</b>	<b>Number of Families</b>	<b>Employed</b>
Two-Parent Families	51 ( 58%)	Both Parents: 12 One Parent: 30
One-Parent Families	37 (42%)	17
<b>Total Number of Families</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>59</b>



**Family Education Statistics 2017-2018**



**Preschool:**

- 126 (57%) parents have a high school diploma or GED.
- 77 (35%) had education beyond high school.
- 8 (4%) parents had no high school diploma or GED.
- 16 (7%) parents were in job training or schooling.
- 4 families had at least 1 parent is a US Veterans (2%).
- Served 5 families (6 children) experiencing homelessness and 3 of those acquired housing during the program year.
- 195 (87%) families received health education through Head Start.
- 187 (84%) received parenting education through Head Start.
- 197(88%) families received at least one family service through Head Start.

**Early Head Start:**

- 50 (57%) parents have a high school diploma or GED.
- 24 (27%) had education beyond high school.
- 14(16%) parents had no high school diploma or GED.
- 8 (9%) parents were in job training or schooling..
- Served 7 families (9 children) experiencing homelessness .
- 85 (97%) families received health education through Early Head Start.
- 88 (100%) received parenting education through Early Head Start.
- 88 (100%) families received at least one family service through Early Head Start.

**Mental Health**

Huntingdon County Head Start provides classroom environments which promote healthy social and emotional development of children. Teaching staff intentionally plan lessons and activities which teach children social-emotional skills. The Second Step curriculum is implemented in all of the classrooms.

Head Start contracts with a local mental health agency that provides our enrolled children, parents and staff with Mental Health Consultant services. The Mental Health Consultant (MHC) is scheduled routinely to visit each classroom in the Preschool Program and socialization in the Early Head Start Home Based program and offer feedback and recommendations for staff. All Head Start children receive an Ages and Stages:SE (Social-Emotional) screening within 45 days of enrollment into the program. The MHC reviews the screenings and provides recommendations, activities and strategies for those children who scored above the cutoff score. The teacher or home visitor shares the recommendations with the parents.

Additionally, the MHC meets with staff during monthly meetings and provides training as another means of support to staff. The MHC is available to meet with families to discuss concerns and provide recommendations in regards to the needed services and referrals.

- In 2017-2018, the Mental Health Consultant provided recommendations based off the social-emotional screening results and classroom observations for 48 children enrolled in the Preschool Head Start option. There were a total of 5 children referred to an outside agency for mental health services.

In 2017-2018, the Mental Health Consultant provided recommendations based off the social-emotional screening results and socialization observations for 2 children.

**Age/Ethnicity**

**Preschool Head Start:**

118 three year old children  
123 four year old children

**Race Ethnicity**

White: 206  
Asian: 1  
Black/African American: 11  
Biracial: 23

**Early Head Start**

28 children under age of 1  
33 children one year old  
34 children two years old

**Race/Ethnicity**

White: 88  
Black or African American: 7  
Biracial: 4

I really enjoy the Head Start services! My daughter loves her teachers and friend. I miss out on a lot and I am always behind but the staff is so patient and supportive. She comes home so happy and I am amazed at how much she has grown. This is such a great program.  
PARENT

**Triennial Review**

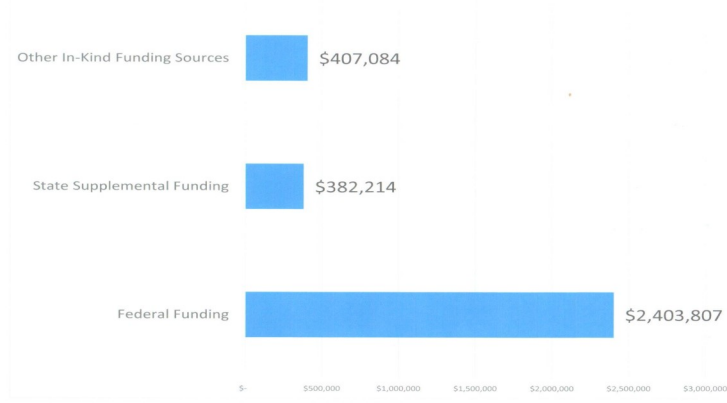
The Office of Head Start conducted a Focus 2 review in December 2017. There were no areas of non compliance found during the course of the review.

**Transportation**

Due to Huntingdon County being a rural county, Head Start provided transportation to 235 of the children (98%) attending center base classes. Transportation services are provided by 2 contractors from local companies using the Head Start fleet of 8 buses.

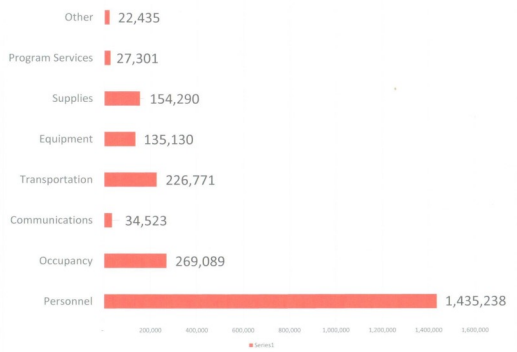
The Huntingdon County Head Start program is primarily funded with Federal Funds; 167 Pre-School Head Start Children and 72 Early Head Start Children. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program provides funding for 48 Pre-School Children. The Federal Head Start program requires a match of 25% of Federal funds; the Corporation has exceeded the Federal match requirement for the last several years.

Huntingdon County Head Start Revenue 07/01/17 - 06/30/18

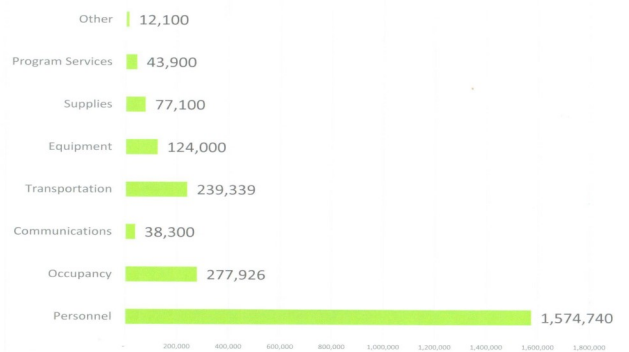


Huntingdon County Head Start participated in its most recent federal review in December of 2017, the results of the review yielded no deficiencies and no areas out of compliance.

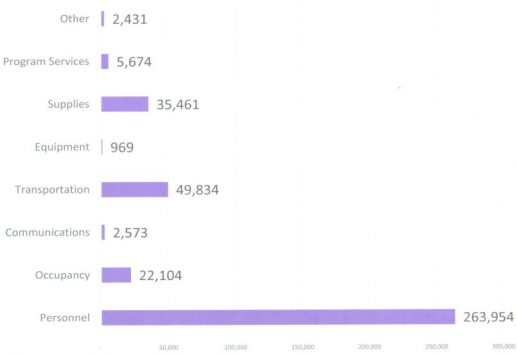
Huntingdon County Head Start Expenditures 2017



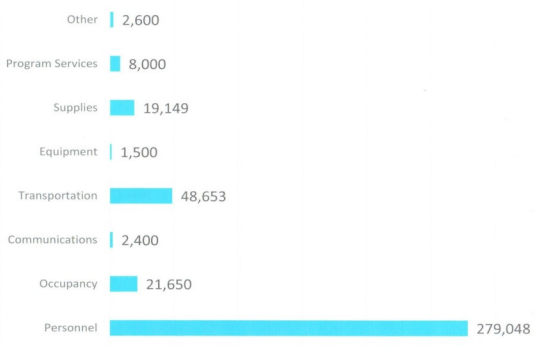
Huntingdon County Head Start Budget 2018



Huntingdon County HSSAP Expenditures 2017-18



Huntingdon County HSSAP Budget 2018-19





***Vision statement:** HCCADC is committed to being the recognized leader in providing quality comprehensive services by utilizing our strengths and resources to meet the future needs of our community.*

*Established guiding principles for the future:*

***Quality, Confidentiality, Compassionate, Flexibility, Integrity***

**Huntingdon County**



**Member Agency**



**HEAD START** is a division of the  
Huntingdon County Child & Adult  
Development Corporation

**A United Way Agency**