



Operational Reports

March 2023 Information

April 13th Board Meeting

April 19th Policy Council Meeting



Empowering people, transforming lives

Program Information

Linda Carter, Children's Services Director

Highlights



The Forest City Children's Center recently completed its ITERS review, and Pearl Saddler and her team received rave reviews. WNCsource Coach Dana Fitzsimmons was a great support to the FRC team in preparing for the visit.

It was a great evening at the Tebeau Job Fair on March 30th. Thanks to all who helped make it happen. A special thanks to the Children's Services staff that helped promote the event by posting flyers and sharing them on social media and email.

WNCSource Staff Recruiter, Anna Williams, is off to a great start! She has already made many meaningful contacts, attended several job fairs, and reached out to several community partners, including colleges and universities.

With the Covid testing policy change, staff that were working remotely returned to the Main Office Building on March 27th, and 2 teaching staff hired with medical or religious exemptions.

Program Instructions



ACH-IM-HS-23-01 “The Role of HS Programs in Addressing Lead in Water” 3/8/2023

Lead is a toxic metal and there is no safe blood lead level for children. Because their bodies are still developing, children under the age of 6 are at greatest risk for significant and potentially lifelong health problems as a result of exposure. They are more likely to come into contact with lead through paint or dust since young children often put their hands or objects in their mouths. However, lead in drinking water can also be a significant contributor to overall exposure to lead. This is particularly true for infants whose diet consists of food and liquids made with water, such as baby food or formula. The adverse health effects of lead exposure can be both physical and behavioral. Even low levels of lead in children can lead to anemia, behavior and learning problems, and other concerns.

Head Start programs have a critical role to play in **preventing lead poisoning in children**. Programs are required to maintain a facility that is free from pollutants, hazards, and toxins that are accessible to children and could endanger their safety — and that includes lead in water and paint. As part of Head Start monitoring, programs can expect to be asked about their processes to identify lead hazards and mitigate them. This Information Memorandum highlights available resources for programs to address lead in water specifically.

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/im>

Classroom Closures



February 27 - 28, March 1 - 30

1 Classroom at Hillandale closed on March 28th due to both staff being out.

ALL classrooms (except BD) had an Early Dismissal on Wednesday, March 1st.

Bruce Drysdale was closed from March 6th - March 17th for Intersession.

Henderson County was closed from March 13th - March 17th for Spring Break

Bruce Drysdale, Rutherford County and Transylvania County classrooms were closed on Monday, March 20th for a Teacher Workday.

Staffing Updates

Staff Hired:

Brittany Nalley, EHS Teacher @Forest City

Anika Williams, EHS Teacher @Flat Rock

Jissel Zamudio, ERSEA Specialist

Lauren Street, After School @Hillview

Juan Unda-Azua, Site Supervisor Trainee

Brandi Branks, Head Start TA @Etowah

Kelsey Holt, Head Start Teacher @ Etowah

Shawna McCurry, NC Pre-K Teacher @King Creek

17 Trainees since 03/22- Program Inception

50 Staffing Positions Open*

**Not including After School, Columbus, Substitute and Trainee/Apprenticeship positions, and positions on hold. It does include Fletcher and Tebeau (except those on hold).*

Staff Departing:

Caitlyn Zeferino, Substitute Trainee @ King Creek

Jennifer Wood, Early Intervention Specialist

[(3/31) Delores Davis*, EHS Teacher @ King Creek

*** Retiring after 40+ years!]**

Facilities



We are getting ready for spring planting at our children's services sites! On our OLE playgrounds, we see many trees blossoming and beautiful Spring colors emerging.

Children's services facilities are all in excellent condition. Our facilities team deserves thanks for the ongoing maintenance, careful attention to detail, and quick response to any concerns.

Amy Smith has added many beautiful plants and greenery to the classrooms that create a natural and calming environment.

Outdoor OLE shade structures were installed at Tebeau. We are now ready for the sun !

Enrollment

Kiki Jackson, ERSEA Coordinator

Enrollment

Overall Enrollment

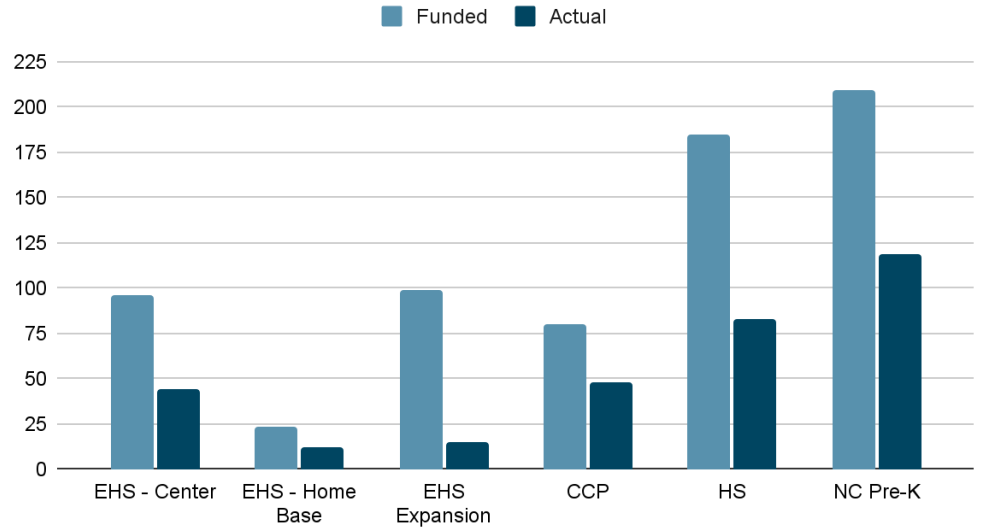
Little Blessings -Toddler 1 closed on 3/20/23

- Early Head Start (Center-Based) -44/ 45%
- Early Head Start (Home-Based) -12/50%
- EHS Expansion- 15/15%
- EHS/CCP -48/ 60%
- HS-85/45%
- NCPK- 119/56%

Waitlist

- **318** Participants on the Waiting List. Some children may be waitlisted for multiple program options.
- **0** Families are Waitlisted for the Home Visiting Program
- **105** Children are Waitlisted for the Early Head Start
- **17** waitlisted for CCP Program
- **1** Expectant Family is Waitlisted.
- **199** Children are Waitlisted for Head Start and **22** for the NC Pre-K Program

2022-2023 Enrollment



Attendance

March 2023

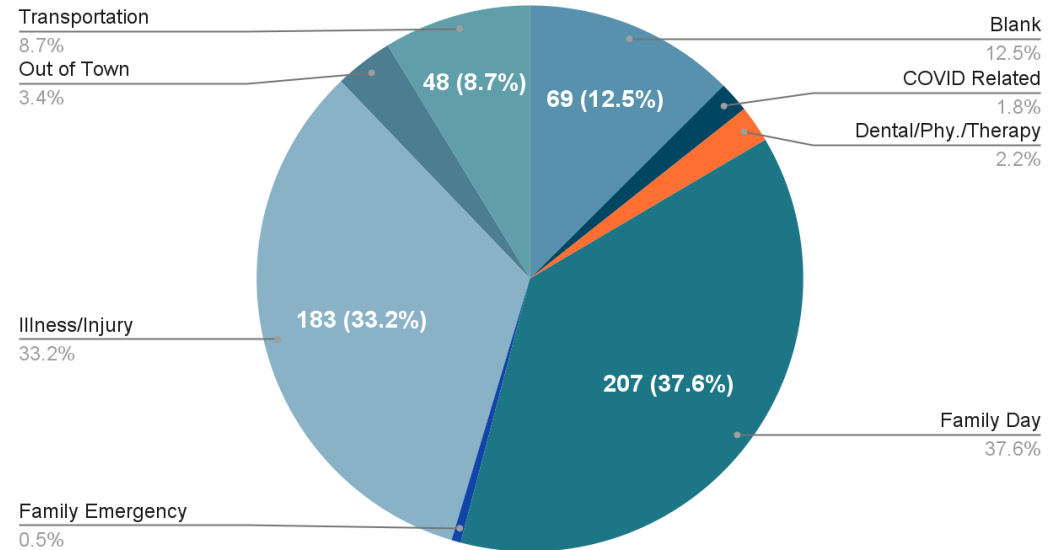
Average Daily Attendance by Program Type

- EHS Average Attendance 81%
- CCP Average Attendance 82%
- Head Start Average Attendance 82%
- NC Pre-K Average Attendance 83%

Absence Summary

- Total number of Absences in March 2023
 - 551 (Decrease of 459)
- 1.8% of those absences are related to COVID and a majority absences are due to Family Decision

Absence Reasons



Education & Child Development

Lavonna Ruth, Education Coordinator

Coaching Updates



187 coaching contacts

- 24 Intensive coaching
- 24 Standard coaching
- 4 Self coaching

The Education Coordinator and coaching team were asked to offer a different type of support for a period of time during March so the coaching pattern changed a bit with Dana spending ½ days at Forest City, Lavonna at Flat Rock, Shannon at Sugar Hill, and Kathy picking up the Intensive classrooms at King Creek as well as juggling her usual coaching sites. The additional ½ days at sites is not reflected in the numbers listed above and differ a bit in terms of some staff receiving more side by side coaching for that period of time.

Early Intervention

Patty Burgess, Early Intervention Coordinator

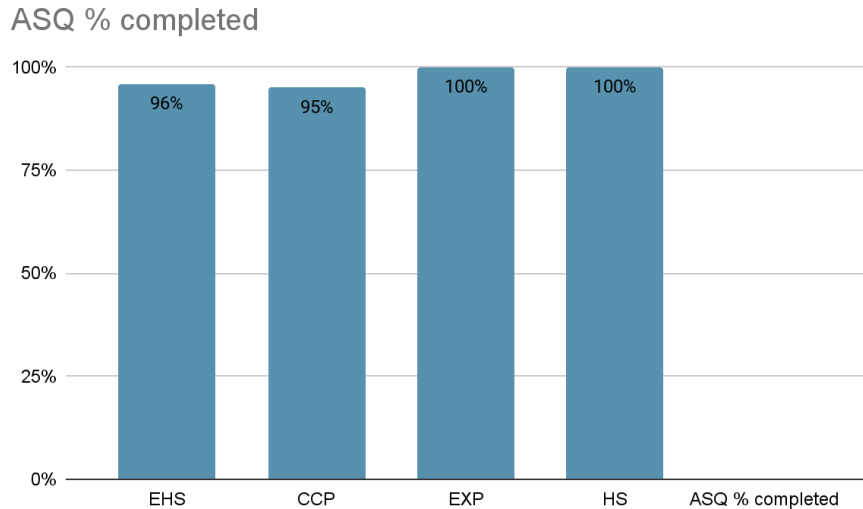
Disabilities Services

Program	Open IFSP / IEP	% of enrolled	% of funded enrollment	Referrals	Child Support Plans
EHS	8	15%	7%	9	5
CCP	3	6%	4%	3	2
Expansion	0	0%	0%	0	0
HS	20	23%	11%	15	11

Diagnosed Disabilities include:

- Autism
- Health Impairment
- Hearing Impairment
- Developmental Delay
- Orthopedic impairment
- Speech or Language Impairment

Development & Behavior Screenings



As a result of the ASQs we have done this month,

We have contacted parents and given strategies and activities that address areas of need found in the ASQs.

6 new enrollees have been scheduled but not completed as of this report.

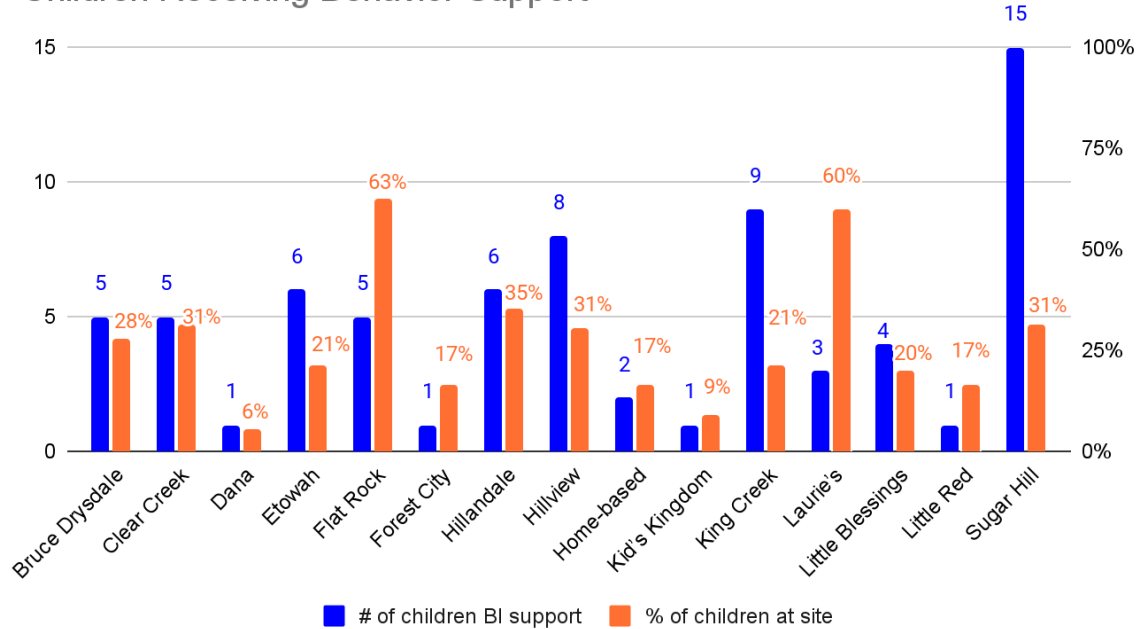
4 referrals have been initiated as a result of the ASQs this month and a CSP.

We are working to complete all the ASQs as soon as possible



Mental Health

Children Receiving Behavior Support



Receiving support from Elizabeth: 14 and 4 families

Chart shows number of children served: 72

Early Intervention Updates



53 Children are receiving private therapy through our agency.

Over 79 hours of individualized support provided to students by therapists or specialists from the community.

Our Classroom Specialist Nathalie Steffan Santos was in a classroom at Sugar Hill until Spring Break and is now at Etowah.

Adrienne doing Triple P with a parent.

Support Provided:

- ASD checklists and resources
- Make referrals, IFSPs, IEPs
- Parent Education Event coming up at Sites and Monthly Newsletters
- Communications with parents and community partners

- Sensory tools and strategies

- Observations and development of CSPs.

- Classroom teacher supports

- Working with to HCPS, TCPS, CDSA, Olson Huff, TEACH, Key Autism Center, Carolina Peds, Mental Health Specialists, Children and Family Resource Center.

Health & Nutrition

Dylan Allanson, Health & Nutrition Coordinator

Well Child Check Status



Expired Well Child Checks as of 03/31/2023:

n=48; 83% up to date

EHS: 22 Children; 68% up to date

CCP: 8 Children; 83% up to date

HS: 9 Children; 90% up to date

NCPK: 9 Children; 88% up to date

Dental Status



Expired Dental Exam as of 03/30/2023:

n=89 children are not up to date on Dental Exams

66% of children over the age of 1 are up to date

n=48 Children do not have dental homes; 81% of children have dental homes

CACFP February

Center	Breakfast Meals Served	Lunch Meals Served	Afternoon Snacks Served
Bruce Drysdale	253	256	190
Clear Creek	252	251	242
Dana	309	290	240
Etowah	364	360	289
Flat Rock	149	156	113
Hillandale	234	255	195
Hillview	327	332	298
King Creek	563	588	523
Sugar Hill	655	690	577
Forest City	63	65	59

February Reimbursement: \$23,602

January Reimbursement: \$22,323

December Reimbursement \$13,901



November Reimbursement \$19,277

October Reimbursement \$17,041

Family Services

Eric Hoffman, Compliance and Data Coordinator

Family Services

Agency Totals - WNCSource	Preliminary			End of the year		
	Completed	Due within 30 days	Past Due	Completed	Due within 30 days	Past Due
Families: 181	93% 	8	0	1% 	0	0

- Family Strengths and Needs Assessments are due within the first 45 days of a child enrolling in the program.
- 8 families currently have a Strengths and Needs Assessment due within 30 days.
- None are past due.

Parenting Curriculum: Ready Rosie



- Went from 227 to 235 families connected to ReadyRosie. And we saw an increase in the number of families watching or commenting on the videos, now at 167!
- There are 66 more invitations pending for families. If they accept, we could be near 100% families connected with ReadyRosie.
- Over 140 video views in the last month! That's 140 extra learning opportunities for families.

Program Updates

Pearl Saddler, EHS Program Manager

Kathleen McDavid, CCP Coordinator

Amy Smith, HS Program Manager

Amy Phillips, Program Support Services Manager

Early Head Start Updates



Hired a teacher for Forest City to move toward opening up a second classroom. The FC Rated License Assessment window will be between 3/13/2023 and 4/07/2023.

A Hillview parent is in her last semester of cosmetology school at BRCC.

Classroom Incidents Report:

EHS Classrooms recorded 14 minor incidents. Minor incidents do not require reporting to the OHS.

Family Socialization and Engagement Events:

Hillview sponsored a Winter Scavenger Hunt, Pisgah Legal Services provided tax information and assistance to parents. Socialization was a Knitting Class and (Passports) Travel Around the World

- Comparing last month's turnout to this month's, we saw a total increase in family attendance of 14%. February's family participation was at 43%. March was at 57%.

Head Start / NC Pre-K Program Updates

WNCSource participated in recent **HCPS Kindergarten Rallies** for both enrollment and recruitment efforts. Teachers, Family Advocates and Site Supervisors attended bringing fun activities, giveaways/promotional materials and informational flyers.

- Bruce Drysdale 3/2
- Dana 3/9
- Clear Creek 3/23
- Etowah 3/28
- Hillandale 4/11
- Fletcher 4/13



Transylvania County Schools Kindergarten Rally was on 4/6. WNCSource was present and donated approximately 400 bags to rising kindergarten children and families for the event.

We are actively hiring for Head Start and NC Pre-K teaching positions for both existing vacant classrooms and new facilities. We hope to have multiple new classrooms open before the end of the program year. We are very excited to be able to provide children these services as they prepare to transition to Kindergarten!

LETRS: Currently we have three HS/NC Pre-K teachers registered and attending the state required early literacy training. New Site Administrators will also be trained early next program year! *LETRS® for Early Childhood Educators* provides vital, practical information for building language and cognitive skills through a balance of teacher and student-centered social, emotional, and physical development essential for young children before learning to read and write.



Partnership (CCP), EHS, and FCCH Updates



Laurie Morin (our CCP FCHC provider) has begun mentoring an EHS teacher at Little Red school. Laurie created a teacher's basket of goodies for her first mentoring visit filled with thoughtfully chosen items to support a new EHS teacher.

We are working on ways to support our CCP Directors with retention and teacher recruitment so they can enroll more EHS children in their program and we can reach full enrollment in 2024.

Professional Development Updates

Community of Practices occurred with

- Head Start teachers
- Early Head Start teachers
- Family Advocates & Parent Educators

Training provided to all HS & NC Pre K teachers on the PreK CLASS Observations. During March & April select Pre K classrooms will be participating in CLASS Video Observations for the Office of Head Start.



Upcoming

3rd Annual Wellness Afternoon on May 3rd

Developing 2023-2024 Annual Calendar for approval next month.