



Operational Reports

July 2024 Information

August 8, 2024 Board Meeting



Empowering people, transforming lives

Program Information

Linda Carter, Children's Services Director

Highlights



We are excited about the progress at Columbus Children's Center. The classroom and office furniture have been ordered, and the equipment for the outdoor learning environment is on its way. We have also hired a Site Supervisor. We are looking forward to opening the center and welcoming the children and families of Polk County! We are awaiting the Certificate of Occupancy.


WNCSource applied for a federal one-time funding grant to help with playground renewal at Sugar Hill, new flooring, cabinets, and to assist with the removal of some trees at our Etowah Children's Center.

The groundwork has been laid for a partnership with HCPS where their students, taking part in Early Childhood Education class work, can complete internships in our classrooms. Meeting was held on 7/24 with HCPS and BRCC. The next meeting is scheduled for October 2nd.

Good conversations were had and input received for the Strategic Plan during in one on one interviews with Hendersonville Mayor Volk, HCPS Superintendent Garrett & Dr. Shannon Marlowe, McCray Benson- Henderson Co. Community Foundation and Kim Wilson, retired Polk County DSS.

Final preparations are taking place for our inservice training for all Children's Services staff on August 5th through 7th, as we prepare to kick off the new school year.

Classroom Closures



July 1 - 25

Unscheduled:

1 Classroom closed early on Tuesday, July 16th due to both teachers leaving early due to illness.

Scheduled:

All classrooms were closed on Thursday, July 4th for Independence Day.

All EHS classrooms were closed on Friday, July 5th for a Teacher Workday.

Bruce Drysdale opened for children on Friday, July 12th.

Staffing Updates



Staff Hired:

Amber Lee - Substitute Early Childhood Educator

Amethyst Caruso - Assistant Site Supervisor

Sydney Smart - Site Supervisor

Karla Angeles - After-school Teacher

Maggi Carroll - NC Pre-K Teacher (Rehire)

Patricia DeLuca - NC Pre-K Teacher

22 Trainees since 03/22- Program Inception

2 Apprentices hired in July, 2024

2 Summer Interns hired

30 Staffing Positions Open*

**Not including After-school, Columbus, Substitute and Trainee/Apprenticeship/Intern or summer positions. It does include positions that are currently being filled by Trainees.*

Staff Departing:

Austan Horton, Summer Intern

James "Hunter Weatherford, PD Coordinator

Page Williamson, Education Coach

Alejandra Carro, EIS - Development

Ashley "Page" Bronson, EHS-CCP Coach

Sherry Fowler, NC Pre-K Teacher

Amy Phillips, Program Support Services Manager (7/31)

Ari Young, EHS Teacher (7/31)

Facilities



King Creek Children's Center recently underwent renovations in Classroom 5. The old carpet was removed and replaced with beautiful new tile flooring. In addition, the room was repainted, giving it a fresh and attractive new look. The staff at King Creek is thrilled with the transformation and would like to extend a big thank you to our Facilities Team!

Also, don't forget to visit our outdoor learning environment to see the summer flowers and plants in full bloom. We have vegetables and flowers growing in our beautiful flower beds and plant boxes. Thank you to Amy Smith for all of her efforts to ensure children have a nature-based outdoor environment and build a relationship with nature.

Enrollment

Madeline Ortiz Méndez, Enrollment Coordinator

Enrollment

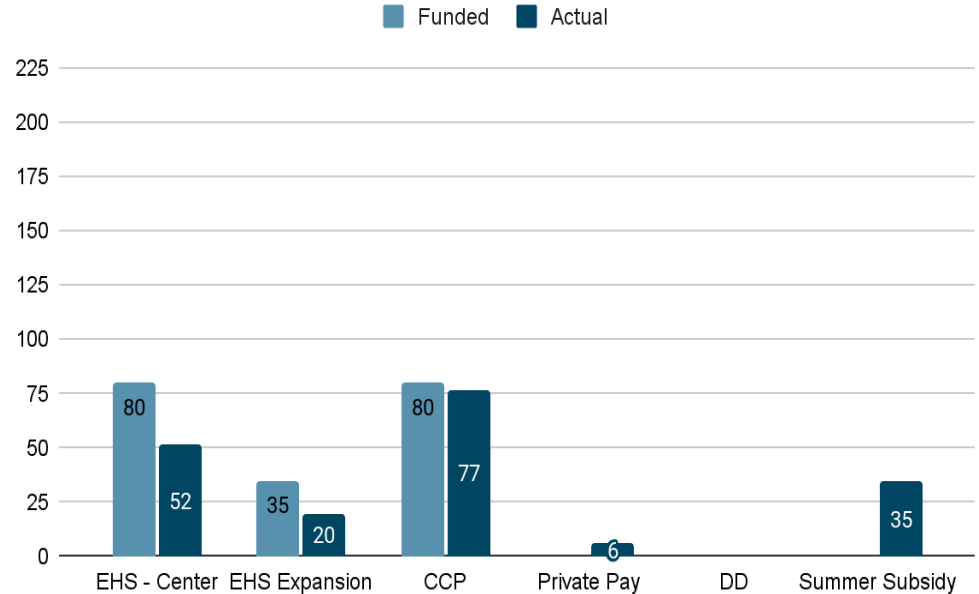
Overall Enrollment

- Early Head Start (Center-Based) 65%
- EHS Expansion 57%
- EHS/CCP 96%
- Summer Subsidy & PP 93%


Waitlist

- **290** Participants on the Waiting List. Some children may be waitlisted for multiple program options.
- **92** Children are Waitlisted for the Early Head Start.
- 1 waitlisted for EHS Expansion
- 6 waitlisted for CCP Program
- **147** Children are Waitlisted for Head Start
- 33 NC Pre-K Program

2023-2024 Enrollment



Attendance



July 2024

Average Daily Attendance by Program

Type

- EHS Average Attendance 78.86%
- EHS Expansion Attendance 85.04%
- CCP Average Attendance 77.99%
- NC Pre-K Average Attendance %
- Summer Subsidy & PP 76.71%

Early Intervention Updates



Our Team has spent the month getting ready for ASQ/enrollment days at each center and has conducted ASQs with all our new students, students transferring between programs and those in the NCPReK program. We are assisting families with resources and referrals after these. We will also visit each class and center to review the results with teachers as well as review IEP and IFSP goals before the program year begins.

The team has shifted and is now under the leadership of Amy Smith. We had Alejandra leave to start a new venture with SafeLight so we are hiring another intervention specialist. The team is working diligently to prepare for how best to support everyone in the new program year.

Support Provided:

- Notify school systems and CDSA for IFSP/IEP updates to stay current and help with classroom supports
- ASQ screenings and parent conferences
- Child Support Plan meetings
- Communications with parents and community partners
- Sensory tools and strategies
- Observations and development of BSPs and CSPs as well as small groups.
- Classroom teacher supports
- Working with HCPS ,TCPS, CDSA, Olson Huff, TEACCH, Key Autism Center, Carolina Peds, Mental Health Specialists, Children and Family Resource Center.

Health & Nutrition

Caitlin Cole-Ekman, Health & Nutrition Coordinator

Well Child Check Status



Expired Well Child Checks as of 07/25/2024:

EHS: 8 Children; 85% up to date

CCP & Expansion: 14 Children; 86% up to date

Vision and Hearing Screenings & Referrals



July 2024

Heath team currently completing screenings for newly enrolled children

- All children are screened annually
- If a child fails screening 2x, we refer to them to their pediatrician for further screening/evaluation

Health Team currently working on annual vision and hearing screenings for every new and currently enrolled EHS/CCP children for upcoming 24-25 school year

CACFP JULY

Center	Breakfast Meals Served	Lunch Meals Served	Afternoon Snacks Served
Bruce Drysdale	121	121	92
Etowah	165	160	96
Flat Rock	152	149	115
Forest City	206	216	189
Hillview	348	349	319
King Creek	94	100	82
Sugar Hill	331	342	241
Tebeau	168	173	169

May Reimbursement: \$39,867

April Reimbursement: \$44,545

March Reimbursement: \$30,607

February Reimbursement: \$41,792

January Reimbursement: \$34,039

December Reimbursement: \$22,663

November Reimbursement: \$33,861

October Reimbursement: \$35,683

September Reimbursement: \$31,662

Program Updates

Bridgett Librado, EHS Program Services Manager

Amy Smith, HS / NCPK Program Services Manager

Kathleen McDavid, CCP Coordinator



EARLY HEAD START UPDATES



Etowah- Family Water Day occurred on June 26th- with a great turn out of participation and lots of fun water activities for children. The Etowah Team also developed a wellness day together to take weekly walks.

Hillview- Children/ Families also participated in water day in June 17th- which children and families enjoyed watermelon as well. We also wanted to welcome a new EHS teacher to the team - Axia- she is in the infant classroom!

Sugarhill- Families getting ready to soar in Ready Rosie participation- Also Sugarhill wanted to show all of the hard work happening with floaters and teachers during the summer to prep for new year.

Flat Rock-Art is offered to the children outside on the playground. Items used were a bed sheet, cups of paint and brushes. The children were able to experience their own creativity by painting on the bed sheet.

Forest City- Open house for parents commenced in June 17th, and 6 families participated. This was a great turn out for our smaller site.

ALL SITE PICS BELOW



Head Start/NCPK Program



- As Head Start and NC Pre-K teachers prepare to return on August 5th from their summer break, they will embark on a "pre-service" week dedicated to professional development designed to inspire, empower, and reinvigorate them for the upcoming school year.
- This intensive week will cover a variety of topics aimed at enhancing teaching practices and renewing their passion for early childhood education.
- In addition to engaging workshops and motivational sessions, teachers will have several days to set up and personalize their classroom environments, ensuring everything is ready for the children's arrival on Wednesday, August 14th.
- This combination of professional growth and hands-on preparation aims to equip teachers with the tools and enthusiasm they need to foster a positive and enriching learning experience for their students.



**LIFELONG
LEARNING**

Summer Program Updates

2024 Summer Fun!

“The Summer Program has been a joyful addition to our King Creek Children’s Center. Over the summer we welcomed 17 children from several different WNCSource centers, an ASU Intern and a seasoned teacher to our center family. Over the summer our children grew in cognitive, social and emotional skill development by engaging in various activities both inside and outside the classroom. Not to mention they had a ton of fun from making homemade ice cream, to having water fundays and tended fruitful gardens. These young children learned to work and grow together in a fun and enriching environment.”

April Barrett
Site Supervisor, King Creek Children’s Center



Partnership (CCP) Enrollment Update

1

Slide

Total Enrolled in Partner sites: 32 of 44

Little Red School - **Nine of 10 EHS Spots Filled**

- LR1 has 4 EHS children
- LR2 has 5 EHS children

*God's Gifts - **Five of five EHS Spots Filled**

*Laurie's Child Care - **Four of Five EHS Spots Filled**

Kids' Kingdom - **Eight of eight EHS Spots Filled**

- Infants/Ones Room: Four of four EHS spots filled, Staff: Two teachers.
- Toddler 1 Room: Four of 4 EHS spots filled, Staff: Two teachers

Little Bright Minds - **Six of 16 spots filled (spots recently increased from 8 to 16 at new location) Currently enrolling to reach 16**

- Ones Room: Zero of eight spots filled
- Twos Room: Six of eight EHS spots filled, Staff: Two teachers

We are currently seeking a new partner site to fill the remaining EHS spots

*Family Child Care Home



Partnership (CCP) Updates

Slide 2

- Our CCP partner, Kids' Kingdom, decided to end their participation in the CCP program on July 31, 2024. Kids' Kingdom has been a highly valued and much appreciated partner since the very beginning of the CCP program ten years ago. We thank the Kids' Kingdom EHS teachers for their hard work over the years providing exceptional early care and education for so many families in the community. We wish them well and much success in their future endeavors. We will be forever grateful for their energy, expertise, and time spent as our respected CCP partner.
- At the July 25th CCP directors meeting we welcomed Veronica Grondahl from our Behavior Intervention team to present an overview to the CCP directors on what BI services are available to Early Head Start families.

