

Annual Report 2023-2024

Stark County Community Action Agency Head Start / Early Head Start

Mary Maxwell – Head Start Director



Stark County Community Action Agency Mission

To promote economic self-sufficiency among low-income families and individuals in Stark County

We are committed to Helping people...Changing lives

SCCAA Head Start Vision

Head Start/Early Head Start is based on the premise that all children share certain needs, and that children of low-income families in particular, can benefit from a comprehensive developmental program to meet those needs. SCCAA Head Start / Early Head Start programs are committed to nurturing the dreams and aspirations of families in the program.

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Head Start / Early Head Start



The Stark County Community Action Agency (SCCAA) Head Start/ Early Head Start program has promoted kindergarten readiness since 1991. Through education, nutrition, health, social and other services offered to Stark County residents. Head Start / Early Head Start enhances the cognitive and social development of children and families in the program.

Head Start is a federally funded comprehensive program designed to prepare children for kindergarten while focusing on the development of the child as well

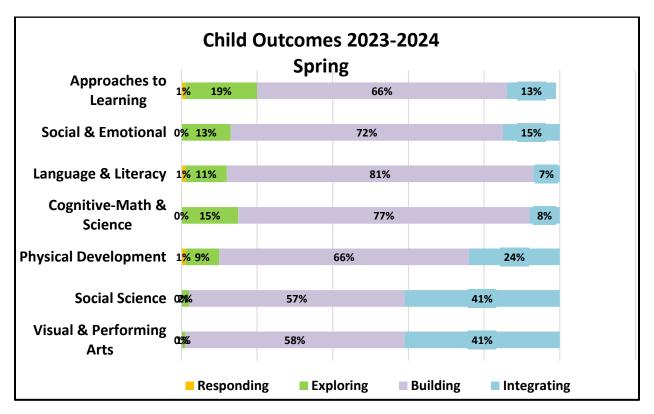
as the growth and development of the family.

The SCCAA Head Start program operates four locations in the cities of Canton, Massillon, and Alliance. All four sites have a 5-Star Step Up to Quality rating. Additionally, children are served through childcare partnerships throughout Stark County.

Head Start Program Goals

- **Goal 1:** The SCCAA Head Start program will provide services to children, families and staff to improve their mental, physical, dental, and nutritional health status.
- **Goal 2:** The SCCAA Head Start program will engage families and the community in the program to prepare children for school success and to assist families in achieving positive outcomes toward their goals.
- **Goal 3:** SCCAA Head Start will provide exceptional opportunities to prepare children for successful transition to kindergarten.
- **Goal 4:** The SCCAA Head Start program will support a focus on maintaining a program focus on quality and safety.

Preparing Children for School



The data above reflects child outcomes for the final data collection utilizing the Desired Results Developmental Progress (DRDP) tool. The DRDP is a strength-based assessment that considers the wide range of typical development at any age by offering positive descriptions of children's knowledge and skills across a broad continuum of development and learning rather than compared to the average learning and developmental progress of a large group of children. The **Responding** level reflects children in the beginning levels of skill development while the **Exploring** levels shows learning progress. The **Building** level of the DRDP generally corresponds to children's mastery of skills for kindergarten readiness. The **Integrating** level of the DRDP shows that children are beginning to demonstrate kindergarten level skills.

The foundations that are assessed provide teachers, parents, and the public with a clear understanding of the wide range of knowledge and skills that preschool children typically attain when participating in a high-quality preschool program. The DRDP is a child observation tool aligned with the foundations. The DRDP provides teachers with a means to assess children's learning along a continuum of different developmental levels. The foundations and the DRDP are to be used together to plan the environment, play, learning activities and instruction to meet the needs of the children and provide a high-quality preschool experience.

Transitions

A primary goal of the Head Start program is to prepare children for a successful transition to kindergarten, as well as to develop a foundation for future school success. The program provides the following transition activities for children:

- Classroom activities
- Kindergarten information sessions at the centers
- Information on kindergarten registration dates
- Stark County Transition Skills Summary (TSS)

The program participates in the Stark County Transition Skills Summary (TSS). The (TSS) aligns with the expectations of the receiving schools in Stark County. TSS is a collaborative project in Stark County that increases the connection between preschools and kindergarten programs. The TSS is an online observation tool used to capture a child's progress in five developmental areas using 47 key developmental skills. The TSS provides program and county-wide data to help with program planning and to guide teacher professional development. The TSS also provides an individual parent report for each child on ways to help build skills for kindergarten.



Parent Involvement

At Head Start, we support our families as the primary teachers of their children. We also encourage families to engage in the program as a way to support their family goals.

We provide the following opportunities for families to engage in the program:

- Parent Orientation
- Parent Center Committees
- Policy Council / Program Governance Participation
- Home Visits
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Center Activities
- Training Opportunities
- Parent Ambassador Program





Head Start by the Numbers

Head Start		Early Head Start	
Funded Enrollment	711	Funded Enrollment	94
Number of Children Served	493	Number of Children Served	124
Percentage of Eligible Children	9 %	Percentage of Eligible Children	99%
Average Monthly Enrollment	359	Average Monthly Enrollment	77
Number of Families	437	Number of Families	106
Children receiving Medical Exams	96%	Children Receiving Medical Exams	95%
Children receiving Dental Exams	48%	Children Receiving Dental Exams	95%



Budget & Expenditures

5/1/23 - 4/30/24	Total Grant Budget	Total Grant Expended
PERSONNEL	\$3,976,630	\$2,844,704
FRINGE BENEFITS	\$2,137,268	\$1,405,882
TRAINING & TECHNICAL		
ASSISTANCE	\$104,709	\$88,933
EQUIPMENT	\$0	\$0
SUPPLIES	\$505,076	\$370,456
CONTRACTUAL	\$1,027,731	\$1,014,150
OTHER	\$588,862	\$593,498
INDIRECT	\$117,017	\$757,679
IN-KIND	\$650,000	\$655,341

REVENUE BY SOURCE				
5/1/2023 TO 4/30/2024				
Federal Funds	\$9,457,293			
USDA-CACFP Nutrition	\$178,942			
INKIND	\$655,341			
TOTAL REVENUE	\$10,291,576			

COVID Grants	Budget	Expenses
COVID Cares	\$242,280	\$242,244
American Rescue	\$963,183	\$963,141

Audit & Review

Annual Audit Results

The accounting firm of Maloney & Novotny, LLC, conducted an independent audit for the period ending December 31, 2023. There were no findings and SCCAA was found to be in compliance in all areas and was identified as a lowrisk auditee.

Federal Review

There were no federal reviews of the Head Start program conducted during the 2023-2024 program year. The program was randomly selected to participate in an Improper Payment Study conducted by the Office of Head Start. SCCAA Head Start has not received official notice of the results of the study.



Stark County Community Action Agency Head Start Locations

Head Start/Early Head Start Administrative Offices

3015 Mahoning Rd., NE Canton, OH 44705 330-456-6218

William Malloy Center

Head Start 1134 Walnut Avenue Massillon, OH 44646 330-834-3567

William H. Hunter Center

Head Start/Early Head Start 3015 Mahoning Rd., NE Canton, OH 44705 330-456-6218

Alliance Franklin Center

Head Start 321 Franklin Street Alliance, OH 44601 330-821-5977

Southeast Center

1400 Sherrick Rd., SE Canton, OH 44707 330-438-4994

Childcare Partners

All Star Kids Early Learning Center Fair Play Family Center JRC Learning Center

SCCAA Administrative Offices

1366 Market Avenue, North Canton, OH 44714 Phone: 330-454-1676 Fax: 330-454-6850 SCCAA.org

