





THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Head Start Child Care Partnership Program

2024-2025 Annual Report

Report can be found at go.osu.edu/ehs

The Ohio State University
Schoenbaum Family Center



“My Head Start education specialists are incredible mentors. They always seem to show up exactly when I need support the most. They answer my questions about how to best support families and consistently encourage mentally and emotionally. They also offer helpful strategies for working with other teachers who may be facing challenges and how I can uplift them. Our parents are deeply grateful for this program because they truly believe that without it, their children would not have access to the same high-quality education.”

- Claudia Ellerbrock, Teacher, A. Sophie Rogers School for Early Learning

Director’s Message

Our journey continues to grow and thrive as we work together to serve more Columbus families and create lasting change for those who need it most. Last year, The Ohio State University Head Start Child Care Partnership Program was awarded a five-year, $23 million expansion grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This incredible support allowed us to increase the number of children we serve by more than 70%, reaching 452 families living in areas most affected by poverty, infant mortality, and limited access to resources.

Most importantly, this grant now allows us to serve children through age five, enabling families to receive comprehensive support starting as early as pregnancy and continuing with high-quality education until their child enters kindergarten. We know that consistency makes a difference in children’s learning, especially during the early years when brain development is most crucial. Our goal is to help children build a strong foundation for school success by engaging parents as their child’s first and most important teachers, while also supporting families on their path to greater self-sufficiency.

When children experience this continuity of care, they’re able to form stable, loving relationships with caring adults, connections that are vital to their early growth and development. Parents also benefit by building trusting relationships with their family specialist, home visitor, and education specialist. Together, these advocates help create a strong bridge between home and classroom learning, offering guidance, understanding, and access to resources that support each family’s unique goals.

As we look back on the past year’s accomplishments, we’re reminded that none of our good work would be possible without our invaluable partners - university and community collaborators, passionate educators, dedicated governing board, and our parent-led policy council. Your expertise, generosity, and commitment guides everything we do and make our shared voice even stronger. We’ve achieved so much because of you.

Looking ahead, our mission is more important than ever. Together, we can continue to create brighter futures for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, and build a community where every child has the chance to thrive. We remain committed to implementing a program that nurtures the healthy development of children, expanding access to family-centered care, and advocating for meaningful investments in our youngest generation.

We look forward to continuing this important work with you as we strive to build positive outcomes for young children and greater stability, opportunity, and well-being for their families.

DON FUZER, MA
Principal Investigator/Executive Director
The Ohio State Head Start
Partnership Program

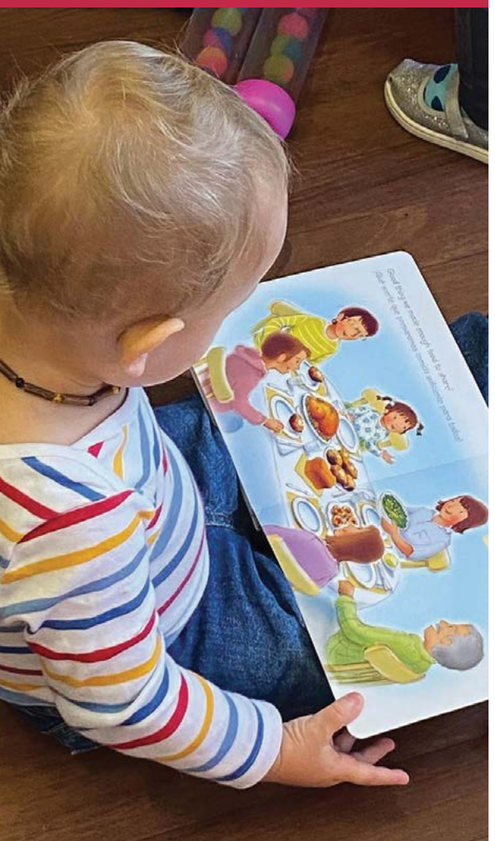
SHERRIE SUTTON, M.S.ED., LPCC
Director
The Ohio State Head Start
Partnership Program

MISSION

Through robust partnerships with university and community agencies, we improve the quality of early childhood education and comprehensive services for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in Columbus's most vulnerable neighborhoods.

VISION

To ensure that all caregivers engage their children in lifelong learning while strengthening their stability, economic outcomes and well-being.



About

Goals

- Empower caregivers to increase quality engagement in their child's development and learning
- Foster existing community and university relationships to provide high-quality, comprehensive services and identify opportunities to leverage new partnerships
- Promote developmentally appropriate practices to enhance positive outcomes for children and their families
- Implement data-driven decision-making for continued quality improvement and growth



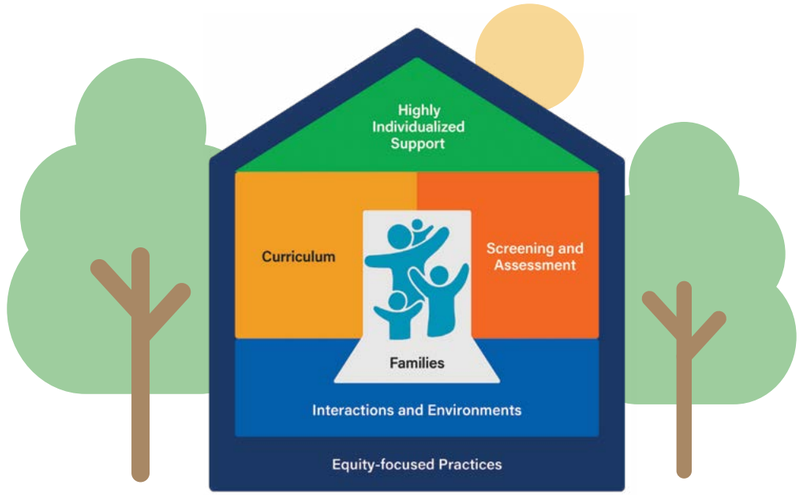
Program

Head Start provides multiple options to meet the needs of our Columbus families:

- 13 center-based programs offer children from birth to five classroom care in high-quality education environments
- 8 family child care programs provide the nationally recognized Head Start model in private homes
- Home visiting services bring staff to 51 families (at any given time) to support child development through weekly 90-minute home visits and twice-monthly group social activities
- Prenatal services offered to 29 pregnant mothers (at any given time) offer information, education and support to women during pregnancy and six weeks after giving birth

Framework

The National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning uses a house to represent six elements of quality teaching and learning for children from birth to age five across all Head Start program options. Quality teaching and learning draw on the lived experiences of children and families, home languages, perspectives, and cultural ways of knowing and being, to make learning more meaningful and engaging. This approach creates environments where all children feel a sense of belonging, promoting their social and emotional development and readiness for school. When these elements are connected, they form a unified structure centered around the family.



Center

As a lead community program housed within Ohio State's College of Education and Human Ecology's Schoenbaum Family Center, Head Start and Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy partner in research, practice and policy to improve the well-being of young children. The Schoenbaum and Crane Centers also serve as training grounds for Ohio State students studying early care and education.

658

children and families served

718 | 94%

hearing screenings, exams

714 | 81% EHS **| 88%** HS

well-child checks

502 | 93% EHS **| 18%** HS

dental screenings, exams

565 | 77%

vision screenings, exams

0%

EHS infant mortality rate

Percentages reflect the new grant award and the seven months spent building capacity to expand services for families.

Strengthening Ohio's early childhood movement

Celebrating 60 years of empowering families

For 60 years, Head Start programs have been transforming lives - helping more than 40 million children and families gain access to early education, health care, and critical supports they might not have had otherwise. What began as a bold idea in 1965 has grown into a national network of more than 1,600 programs dedicated to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

In Ohio, nearly 33,470 children benefited from Head Start services last year. To mark this milestone anniversary, the National Head Start Association (NHSA) hosted its 2025 Annual Conference and Expo in Columbus, welcoming more than 3,000 early childhood professionals from across the country. Participants engaged in over 130 sessions exploring best practices in early learning, family engagement, leadership, and policy.

The Ohio State Head Start leadership team was honored to serve on the national planning committee, contributing to the success of this landmark event celebrating six decades of empowering families and strengthening communities.





Advocating at the national level

In January, the nation's capital became center stage for ensuring the voices of children and families are heard where decisions are made. During the 2025 NHSA Winter Leadership Institute in Washington, D.C., leaders from across the country gathered to shape conversations about national spending priorities, choices that directly influence the future of Ohio Head Start programs. Executive Director Don Fuzer and Policy Council Chairperson Lupe Bright shared how Head Start strengthens communities and why continued investment matters. Over several days, they immersed themselves in advocacy and leadership opportunities, including:

- Meetings with members of Congress and Senator Bernie Moreno, bringing Ohio's perspective to the national stage
- Advocacy and policy training sessions, sharpening strategies to champion Head Start
- Discussions showcasing how Head Start programs lead change in their communities, inspiring collaboration across states
- The Breakfast for Head Start on Capitol Hill, a chance to connect directly with national leaders

Research funding

Our partner, the Crane Center and Ohio's Department of Children and Youth, received $2 million in federal funds to understand the impacts of changes made to streamline Ohio's Quality Rating and Improvement System and to increase the reimbursement rates for child care providers. The partnership will examine how these changes impact family access to child care, provider quality and school outcomes for children from low-income backgrounds.

Last year, Crane Center graduate research associate Maria Abdul-Masih was awarded a $5,000 grant from Ohio State's Office of Outreach and Engagement that will fund her work on "Practices and Barriers to Connecting Early Head Start and Head Start Families to Resources."

Research shows that Head Start programs prepare children not just for kindergarten, but for lifelong success. Children who have experienced Head Start services are:

12%
less likely to live in poverty as adults

29%
less likely to need public assistance

2.7%
more likely to graduate high school

8.5%
more likely to enroll in college

39%
more likely to finish college

Office of Head Start (2024). Head Start Program Facts

SCHOOL READINESS GOALS

The Head Start Approach to School Readiness means that children are ready for school, families are ready to support their children's learning, and schools are ready for children.

DOMAIN
Approaches to Learning

GOAL
Children will make discoveries and initiate learning on their own

DOMAIN
Social and Emotional Development

GOAL
Children will engage in positive relationships with adults and peers

DOMAIN
Language and Literacy

GOAL
Children will participate in shared interactions with others

DOMAIN
Cognitive

GOAL
Children will use appropriate skills to solve problems

DOMAIN
Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

GOAL
Children will develop motor skills to participate in self-care routines

In 2024-2025, domains remained at 80%, the highest since the COVID epidemic.

Supporting healthy, thriving families

Promoting family stability and growth through home visiting

Home visitors play a vital role by building trusting relationships with families where they live and feel most comfortable. They support parents as their child's first and most important teacher, offering guidance on child development, health, and family well-being. They connect families to resources and encourage positive parenting practices.

Our program provides home visiting services to 51 families, supported by five home visitors who carry a caseload of at least ten families. Home visitors deliver weekly 90-minute educational visits using the Growing Great Kids (GGK) curriculum and plan and facilitate biweekly group socializations. GGK includes developmentally based manuals for children from birth to age five, with conversation guides that help home visitors engage families in meaningful discussions.

Families benefit from opportunities to connect for mutual support and relationship-building, just as young children benefit from regular interaction with their peers. Research shows that a family's quality of life is closely tied to the strength of its informal support networks. To support this, socialization opportunities were offered 23 times last year in local libraries for families to participate alongside their home visitors. These gatherings are shaped by parent input, ensuring topics and activities are meaningful and responsive to family interests and needs.

Building family connections that support meaningful goals

Directions for Youth and Families provide family specialists who build strong, nurturing relationships with parents to support family well-being, safety, health, and economic stability. They assist with recruiting and enrolling new families and work alongside caregivers to help them achieve individualized goals. In partnership with parents, family specialists promote children's health by providing education and support related to medical, oral, nutritional, and mental health services. They also help families understand disabilities or developmental and behavioral concerns and collaborate with other professionals to ensure each child receives appropriate services. With our growing program, we were able to recruit five additional family specialists over the past year.

Support that grows as families grow

Our prenatal educator plays an important role in supporting pregnant mothers by providing trusted guidance during a critical time in their lives. They help moms understand healthy pregnancies, prepare for childbirth, and build confidence in caring for their baby. They offer encouragement, connect families to health and community resources, and help mothers feel supported, informed, and empowered as they prepare to welcome their child. We remain committed to our focus on reducing infant mortality within our community.

51
children enrolled in home visiting

2,578
home visits completed

25.5%
of home-visiting families experienced homelessness or housing insecurity last year

3,415
home visiting hours



"Our new deck has been such a gift for our family. It's given my medically fragile son a safe way to explore and learn from nature, something that once felt out of reach. Now, he spends more time outdoors, discovering the world around him. This incredible generosity has touched our whole family, reminding us of the power of community and kindness. We are deeply grateful to Head Start, the Groveport Boy Scouts troop 371, and its leaders for making this possible."

- Home visiting father Hari K.

"I feel grateful every day. I have a safe place to live, food to eat, steady income, and the support of family, friends, faith, and purpose. And I believe those blessings are meant to be shared.

It brings me genuine joy to use my small gifts, thrifting, redistributing resources, connecting people, to help others. Whether it's clothing, books, school supplies, or household items, I love offering something that can make life a little easier for our Head Start families. For me, it's about showing care for my neighbors and doing my part for our human family. And each time I'm able to give, I'm reminded just how fortunate I am."

- Volunteer, Kathi Faulstich



University and Community Partners

Providing infants, toddlers and preschoolers with access to high-quality early education and comprehensive services requires the strength of many collaborators working together. At the core of our unique model is a network of dedicated partners who make this work possible. Throughout 2024–2025, these agencies played an essential role in delivering vital support to our families and child care providers.

Action for Children
Assists families with finding child care, offers training to child care educators, and assists family child care providers pursuing Step Up To Quality rating

Center for Healthy Families
Provides comprehensive services for pregnant and parenting teens, and refers clients to Head Start

Columbus Metropolitan Library
Provides space for Head Start play & learn groups at various library locations

Community Properties of Ohio
Provides subsidized housing and supportive services to its residents, including referrals to the program

Directions for Youth and Families
Provides social workers who recruit, enroll and offer support to Head Start families by connecting them to community resources, including housing stability, workforce development, continued education, and financial security

Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services
Assists families in applying for publicly funded child care, provides training for directors and staff to support families

Franklin County Family and Children First, Help Me Grow Early Intervention
Assesses children with developmental concerns and helps families find a successful learning environment for their child

Moms2B
Refers pregnant mothers to Head Start services

Nationwide Children's Hospital Community Wellness Initiatives
Provides well-child checks, immunizations, and sick visits through Primary Care Centers and visits at Head Start child care centers



Nationwide Children's Hospital Dental Clinic
Provides children with complete dental exams along with parent oral health education

Ohio State College of Education and Human Ecology
Places undergraduate students in Head Start classrooms to help them gain classroom experience

Ohio State College of Nursing
Provides Head Start physical exams, presents health-related topics at home visiting socializations, and serves as a resource for the program

Ohio State Department of Speech & Hearing
Provides children with hearing exams and follow-ups, as well as assessing, diagnosing, and treating speech, language, and cognitive communication disorders in children experiencing delayed speech

Ohio State Nisonger Center
Provides three developmental specialists and one mental health consultant who offer developmental screenings and mental health assessments for enrolled infants, toddlers and preschoolers; serves as a child development resource, supports families through the referral and evaluation process, and provides mental health consultation for Head Start teachers

Ohio State College of Optometry
Provides Head Start children with comprehensive vision exams and glasses

YCares
Works with pregnant families and those who have infants under the age of one and refers eligible caregivers to Head Start prenatal services

"A child's vision shapes how they see the world, and how they learn from it. Early eye care isn't just about seeing clearly; it's about empowering school growth, play, and everyday life. Detecting and treating vision issues early can prevent lifelong challenges. Every child deserves the chance to grow up seeing their world with clarity and confidence."

- Dr. Ian Binns, OD, MS, The Ohio State College of Optometry

Driving impact with strong partnerships

Expanding wellness services

With a 70% increase in the number of children served last year, we expanded our wellness support by adding a dedicated health coordinator to oversee screenings and health services across the program. This role uses a tiered approach—providing initial health, dental, hearing, and vision screenings onsite and connecting children to higher-level exams when needed. This model allows us to reach more children while making the best use of medical providers' time. With expert guidance from Ohio State's College of Optometry and Department of Speech and Hearing, we also invested in new vision and hearing equipment designed specifically for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

Monitoring healthy growth

Building on a successful collaboration with Ohio State's College of Nursing, we expanded our health services to include comprehensive head-to-toe physicals and well-child checks at provider locations. Each child receives a full nutritional and growth assessment, including measurements of height, weight, and BMI. Under the supervision of a pediatric nurse practitioner and graduate assistants, children also have their vital signs assessed, including temperature and blood pressure. This service has made a meaningful difference for families who are unable to take time away from work to attend pediatric appointments.





Promoting emotional well-being and resilience

Due to the increase in grant funding, we hired a mental health specialist through our partner, Ohio State's Nisonger Center. The mental health specialist plays a key role in supporting the social and emotional well-being of children, families, and staff across the program. Working alongside education specialists, they support positive behavior strategies and offer guidance to teachers and directors navigating challenging situations. They also partner with families to provide encouragement, resources, and appropriate referrals. This additional support helps create calm, nurturing environments where children feel safe, supported, and ready to learn.

Building pathways for early support

Children with disabilities remain an underserved group within our Franklin County priority zip code areas. To address this gap, the program actively recruits children with disabilities to ensure they account for at least 10% of the total enrollment. Referrals come through partners such as Franklin County Early Intervention, Help Me Grow. Our family and education specialists collaborate closely with community partners to identify and enroll children who may benefit from additional support or evaluation.

In the spotlight



Last year marked the 15th anniversary of **The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation**, an organization dedicated to empowering youth and supporting their growth and success across Ohio, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Louisiana. To celebrate this milestone, the foundation released "*15 Years – 15 Stories*," a video highlighting meaningful partnerships, including the impactful work Jenkins and his organization have accomplished with our program. In recognition of her leadership, Head Start Director Sherrie Sutton was selected as one of the first volunteer spotlight honorees for her role in bringing the foundation's work to Columbus children and families. Jenkins is a two-time Super Bowl champion and a former Ohio State Buckeye.







In May, our partner **Directions for Youth and Families** highlighted our successful collaboration at their annual *State of the Child* fundraiser. Head Start staff were featured in a video shared with donors, helping raise nearly $145,000 to support the event. Designed to celebrate youth talents and spotlight the impactful work of the organization's staff, the afternoon included powerful performances by the Ohio Avenue Choir. Proceeds from the fundraiser support clinical counseling services, early childhood and prevention programs, and summer and after-school initiatives for children and families across Central Ohio.

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Centers

- Chosen Kids
- Columbus Early Learning Center, Alum Creek
- Columbus Early Learning Center, Champion
- Columbus Early Learning Center, Main
- Creative Child Care, East
- Creative Child Care, North
- Creative Child Care, Learning Academy 111, West
- Fresh Start
- YMCA Future Scholars Learning Center
- Heavenly Kids
- Kid's Care Academy
- Ohio State Nisonger Center
- A. Sophie Rogers School for Early Learning
- Starting Point

Family Child Care Professionals

- Rhonda Brown-Daniels
- Diane Burton-Horton
- Kiara Dickerson
- Liz Gayle
- Esther Jefferson-Moore
- Marcia Jones
- Cheryl Odom
- Lori Whaley
- Lori Wilson

Gold Silver Bronze

Pathways to provider success

Community-based outreach

Recruitment efforts for child care providers last year included the development of large yard signs featuring QR codes in both English and Spanish, along with coordinating postcards. These postcards were distributed to community organizations and agencies where families are most likely to access services, including library branches, churches, shelters, free stores, and food pantries.

The National Association for Family Child Care

In July, Dallas hosted the nation's only professional association dedicated to advancing high quality early care and education in home based settings. The annual conference brought together more than 1,000 family child care educators, advocates, and early childhood organizations to learn, connect, and inspire one another. Head Start family child care professionals Lori Wilson, Esther Jefferson Moore, and Cheryl Odom (l to r) were proud participants in last year's event.



Shining achievements

Excellence in compliance: child care centers

Q1: Chosen Kids, Q2: A. Sophie Roger's School for Early Learning, Q3: Futures Scholars, Q4: A. Sophie Roger's School for Early Learning

End of Year for overall Excellence in Compliance
A. Sophie Roger's School for Early Learning

End of Year Rising Star Award
Future Scholars

Excellence in compliance: family child care professionals

Excellence in Compliance
Lori Wilson

Rising Star Award
Liz Gayle

Cultivating positive, consistent environments

Classroom foundations in Head Start focus on creating a safe, predictable, and caring environment where children can thrive. Teachers from centers such as Chosen Kids use consistent daily schedules and routines within routines, so children know what to expect and feel secure as they move through the day. Expectations are clearly taught, modeled, and practiced, because young children learn best when we show them what success looks like.

Positive behavior is encouraged by using more praise than correction, aiming for a 5-to-1 ratio that builds confidence and strong relationships. Social skills are woven into everyday activities, and children are encouraged to learn from and support one another through peer-to-peer interactions and "friends helping friends." Together, these practices help children develop self-regulation, positive relationships, and a strong sense of belonging in the classroom.

95%
of providers have a gold star

79% | 97%
EHS HS
average monthly enrollment

100%
of eligible children served

220,334
diapers distributed to providers and families



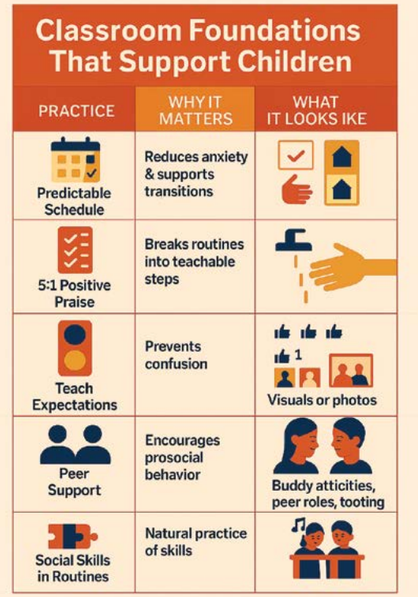
Chosen Kids teacher, Tina Dupree and Owner, Leanna Jackson



Compliance manager, Jessica Woodruff and Future Scholars teacher, Ruth Polonia



Recognizing Liz Gayle for earning her B.S. in Early Childhood Education





406
education participants

43
trainings

144
Ohio approved hours





Tailored assistance for educators

On-site support for teachers

To support the needs of our expanding program, Head Start added another education specialist to the team. Last year, three education specialists provided on-site support to 126 teachers, helping them enhance effective teaching practices and create individualized learning experiences based on each child's interests, strengths, and needs. They assisted families in accessing community resources and supportive services. In partnership with Ohio State's Nisonger Center, specialists worked with teachers and parents to identify developmental or behavioral concerns and develop support plans or referrals. When needed, families were connected to evaluation services through partners such as Help Me Grow Early Intervention, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and local school districts.

The education specialists also offered training in effective instructional strategies designed to develop and strengthen young children's early foundations in language and literacy, social-emotional, and math skills. Developed by researchers at the college's Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy, Read It Again! offers free curriculum manuals tailored for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, enhancing the work already taking place in their classrooms.

Advancing educator learning

Over the past year, Head Start strengthened its commitment to professional development and instructional support for teachers by adding a dedicated PD coordinator. This included two full-day training sessions and flexible small group workshops designed to accommodate varying schedules. Educators and directors strengthened their understanding of curriculum implementation and teaching strategies to ensure individualized learning based on children's needs. These sessions also created space for teachers to collaborate, share strategies, and receive valuable peer feedback. The coordinator also supported teachers in earning required credentials and staying on track with professional development goals.

Recognizing the heart of education

Early childhood teachers are at the heart of our Head Start program. They nurture children's curiosity, build confidence, and create safe, welcoming spaces where learning begins. Recognizing their work matters because the care and dedication they bring each day truly shapes children's earliest experiences. Last year, we recognized our teachers by providing them with a complete lesson plan aligned with our curriculum and assessment format, a corresponding book, and a $100 voucher to purchase classroom supplies from Kaplan Early Learning Company.



Lifting families through engagement

Building bonds that boost involvement

When fathers take an active role in their young children's lives, the impact is powerful. Children benefit from seeing their fathers as caring, dependable role models, which helps them build confidence, emotional security, and strong social skills. Engaged fathers help strengthen the connection between home and school, supporting their children's learning in ways that can last well beyond the early years.



To support father-child engagement, our provider Heavenly Kids hosted activities including a dad-focused car show and "Dad's for Donuts," giving fathers and their young children a fun, relaxed way to connect. Our partner, Family Adolescent & Child Community Engagement Service (FACCES), also held a March "DADness" event that brought together fathers, mentors, and other positive male role models for food, music, and hands-on activities.

These experiences show children that their fathers value school involvement, spark curiosity through shared exploration, and help dads feel more connected to the Head Start community, strengthening each child's educational journey.

Wellness programming that supports providers

Dr. Jimmy Henry, National Director of Mental Wellness with the African American Male Wellness Agency, shared an overview of the agency's programs during a quarterly provider meeting. Child care directors and teachers learned about the free on site family engagement activities the agency offers, as well as the support available to help providers work toward earning their Step Up To Quality Star rating. The program also provides fathers with training and resources to help prepare their children for kindergarten.





Encouraging parents as leaders in learning

Parents are a child's first and most important teachers. Head Start empowers parents in this essential role by offering meaningful opportunities to participate in their children's education and to take positive steps in their own personal growth. This work begins by meeting families where they are, engaging them in activities they value, partnering to define what progress looks like, and collaborating to overcome any challenges that arise. To contribute to this effort, we hired a Family Engagement Coordinator who helps families feel connected, supported, and valued throughout their Head Start experience. They also support staff in building meaningful, responsive relationships that promote family well-being, lifelong learning, and smooth educational transitions.

Providers also support this process by organizing two parent-teacher conferences and conducting two home visits each year to review screening results, assessments, and each child's progress. Parents are also encouraged to take on leadership roles within the program, including participation in our Head Start Policy Council.



Our Team

Briana Anthony
Home Visitor

Shannon Constant
Data Entry Coordinator

Raylenna Fajardo
Home Visitor

Don Fuzer
Executive Director and Principal Investigator

Latoya Jackson
Education Specialist

LaTresha Lawrence
Education Specialist

Katherin Mancia
Fiscal Assistant

Angela Martin
Home Visitor

Molly McCaw
Family Engagement Coordinator

Dawn McDowell-Miller
Professional Development Coordinator

Myesha McLane
Home Visitor

Stacy Orbaker
Education Specialist

Joppa Person
Home Visitor

India Samuel
Wellness Coordinator

Sherrie Sutton
Director

Melanie Tracy
Service Integration and Marketing Coordinator

Jessica Woodruff
Data Analytics and Compliance Manager

Erin Woodson
Data and Project Coordinator

Lisa Welsh
Education and Community Program Manager

Our Board

Yolanda Burgess, Chair
Former OSU EHS Parent, Executive Assistant, SPPlus Corporation

Bernadette Melnyk, PHD APRN-CNP, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN
OSU Vice President for Health Promotion and Chief Wellness, Helene Fuld Health Trust Professor of Evidence-based Practice, College of Nursing, professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at OSU College of Medicine

Pat Bebo, MS
OSU College of Education and Human Ecology Assistant Dean, Outreach and Engagement, Assistant Director for Family and Consumer Sciences

Susie Breitenstein, PhD, ARN, FAAN
Associate Dean for Research, Office of Research Professor, Martha S. Pitzer Center for Women, Children and Youth

Melissa Johnson, BA
Vice President, Cameron Mitchell Premier Events and Community Relations, OSU Adjunct Faculty, Hospitality Management

Elena Moore, MSW
Licensed Social Worker, OSU East Hospital

Obie Stillwell, BA
Executive Director, A Community Reach, Facilitator of Obie's Breakfast Club

Andrew Wapner, DO, MPH
OSU Assistant Clinical Professor, Director, Center for Public Health Practice, Director, Master of Public Health Program for Experienced Professionals

Policy Council

Guadalupe Bright
Chairperson

Rachel Woods
Co-Chair

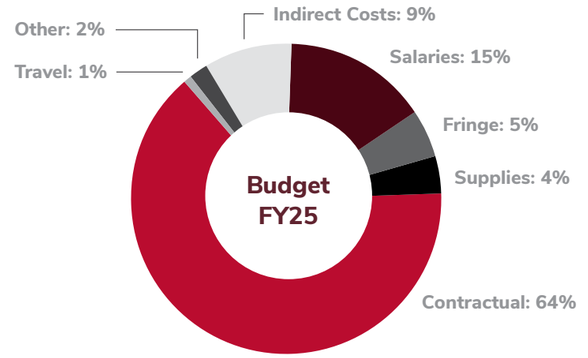
Sherrell Lucas
Lisa Ealy

Shannon Follins
Lydia Owusu

Early Head Start 2024-2025 Budget

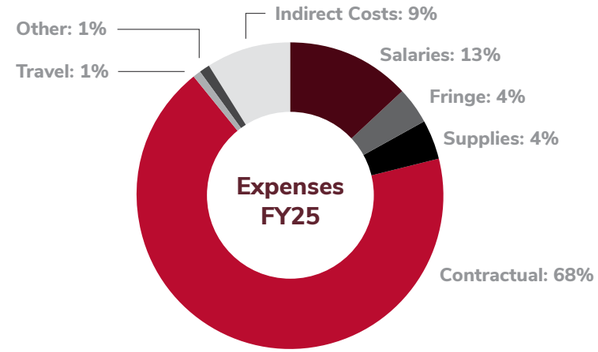
Budget FY25

Salaries	$1,292,805
Fringe	$460,239
Supplies	$326,463
Contractual	$5,619,179
Travel	$109,242
Other	$155,772
Indirect Costs	$796,370
Total Direct	$7,963,700
Totals	**$8,760,070**



Expenses FY25

Salaries	$961,414
Fringe	$294,680
Supplies	$282,009
Contractual	$4,972,193
Travel	$47,353
Other	$49,287
Indirect Costs	$657,695
Total Direct	$6,606,939
Totals	**$7,264,634**



Object Class Categories	Federal	Training & Technical Assistance	Non-Federal Share	Total
Personnel	$1,292,805	-	$931,451	$2,224,256
Fringe	$460,239	-	-	$460,239
Travel	$37,941	$71,301	-	$109,242
Supplies	$324,434	$2,029	-	$326,463
Contractual	$5,607,179	$12,000	$648,674	$6,267,853
Other	$112,497	$43,275	-	$155,772
Direct Costs	$7,835,095	$128,605	$1,580,125	$9,543,825
Indirect Costs	$783,510	$12,860	-	$796,370
Totals	$8,618,605	$141,465	$1,580,125	$10,340,195

Audit opinion on each major federal program: An Independent Auditor's Report, submitted through the Office of Sponsored Programs by Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler (KPMG) concluded that The Ohio State University complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to in the OMB Uniform Guidance that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ending June 30, 2025. Audit can be found at The Ohio State Office of Sponsored Programs, 1960 Kenny Road, Columbus, OH 43210-1016.



Serving on the Head Start Board is deeply meaningful to me. I see every day how this program supports families, strengthens children's confidence, and gives our youngest learners the strong foundation they deserve. Investing in this work truly helps shape a brighter future for our community, and I'm honored to be part of it.

- Susie Breitenstein, PhD, ARN, FAAN
Associate Dean for Research, Office of Research
Professor, Martha S. Pitzer Center for Women, Children and Youth















THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Head Start Child Care Partnership Program

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