

*Clinch Valley
Community Action
Head Start and Early Head Start
Annual Report*

2022-2023



*Serving children ages birth to five throughout Bland, Smyth,
Tazewell, and Wythe Counties.*

Clinch Valley Community Action

Head Start / Early Head Start

Administrative Office Locations:

PO Box 188
1379 Tazewell Avenue
North Tazewell, VA 24630

Phone: 276-988-5583

Fax: 276-988-4041

122 Apache Run Road
Max Meadows, VA 24360

Phone: 276-764-2055

Fax: 276-764-2057

www.clinchvalleycaa.org

Executive Director: Roberta Boyd

rboyd@clinchvalleycaa.org

HS/EHS Director: Richard Mullins

rmullins@clinchvalleycaa.org

Education Director: Angie Poskas

Assistant Education/Disabilities Coordinator: Sharon Foglesong

Partnerships/ERSEA Coord.: Bobbie Richardson

ERSEA Specialist/Recruiter (Tazewell): Rejohnda Puckett

ERSEA Specialist/Recruiter (BSW): Vacant

Health/Safety Coordinator: Mary Mitchell

Assistant to the Health/Safety Coordinator: Ashley Allison

Mental Health/Disabilities Coordinator: Peggy Wilson

Maintenance Technician: Thomas Sparks

Bus Support Technician (part-time): Clark Farmer

Maintenance Technician: Dale Gragg

Instructional Coach (Tazewell): Jeanette Wilson

Instructional Coach (Bland, Smyth, Wythe): Mandy Clark

Quality Assurance Monitor (Tazewell): Sherry Linkous

Vision Statement

We, the Policy Council, staff, and parents of the CVCA Head Start/Early Head Start programs share a vision of a program that will involve every eligible child, from birth to age five. We envision a neighborhood center, accessible to children and parents, with full community support and involvement. We envision complete community collaboration that will wipe out the effects of social and economic factors that condemn many children to “start behind.”

Our vision is to be able to give the public full assurance that every child in each of the counties that we serve will be perceived of as worthy of a high quality, fully supported, program that enables him or her to be able and ready when entering public school.

Head Start/Early Head Start Philosophy

We believe:

- that it is the right of young children to have access to a quality early childhood program without cost to the family.
- That society must be sensitive and responsive to the social and economic changes that have created the need for many children to “have a head start.”
- That the community must be responsible for the nurture and early education of young children who qualify for Head Start / Early Head Start.
- That it is the right of Head Start / Early Head Start children to participate in services that enhance their health, social/emotional development, and motor growth.
- That the Head Start / Early Head Start program must respect and uphold the dignity and authority of parents.
- That it is the right of Head Start / Early Head Start children that centers be managed according to regulations, staffed with qualified personnel, and provided with a clean, orderly environment with age appropriate furnishings and facilities that meet their needs.
- That the unique creative and social talents of each child are an asset to society and that his or her self-esteem and self-confidence are worthy of nurture.
- That play is children’s work—their way of discovering, creating order, and communication—and that young children learn best through “hands on” experiences.
- That a key component to early childhood education and school readiness is an environment that is rich in opportunity for expanding in numeracy, reasoning, pre-literacy skills, and language; that this environment will provide the child with a means of communication, expression, problem solving, and a foundation or reading.

Head Start/Early Head Start Philosophy

Continued:

- That the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework is a guide for ongoing assessment. Progress and accomplishments will be analyzed and used in the program's self-assessment and continuous improvement plans.
- That the development and educational needs of Head Start / Early Head Start children will be identified and met through an ongoing process of screening, observation, assessment, planning, goal development, and individualization.
- That the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework will be utilized as a guide for individual and program progress, self-assessment, planning, and continuous improvement.
- That each child has a unique pattern of growth, development, and learning which cannot be speeded up, but that Head Start / Early Head Start can provide a program that accommodates different rates of learning, growth, and development.
- That all activities will be based on appropriate, sequenced objectives delivered through play and communication with staff, with process rather than product as the goal.
- That acceptable behavior will be developed and maintained through a learning environment that is acceptable for the developmental stages of the child and that offers adequate reinforcements for acceptable behavior.
- That children will be treated with dignity and respect, and that positive discipline will be utilized within developmentally appropriate limits, focusing on defining time and space limits and providing reasons for rules and limits.
- That all children, regardless of developmental and physical differences, sex, or religious heritage are worthy of love, respect, and opportunities for development of their potential.
- That Head Start / Early Head Start will encourage the family to expand its network of support, help the family acquire new skills, and involve all family members as team players in activities which support the family.
- That Head Start / Early Head Start will make the family the senior partner, identify family strengths, and initiate relationships with families through conversations, not interviews.
- That Head Start / Early Head Start's goal is to work with families to strengthen, not substitute for family responsibilities.
- That Head Start / Early Head Start will provide a safe and nurturing environment that promotes the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of young children, while responding to the needs of the family, regardless of race, creed, sex, or special needs.

Head Start / Early Head Start Staff Members



Bland County

Bland Head Start Center

Emily Morgan	Center Director / Teacher
Haleigh Cunningham	Teacher's Assistant
Melissa Taylor	FSA / Center Aide / Bus Driver
Jenny Cruz	Cook

Smyth County

Atkins Head Start Center

Vacant	Center Director / Teacher
Susan Johnson	Teacher's Assistant
Vacant	FSA / Center Aide / Bus Driver
Tommie Ashley	Center Aide (Part-Time)

Chilhowie Head Start Center

Carlene Goff	Center Director / Teacher
Holly Berry	Teacher's Assistant
Robin Webb	Family Service Advocate
Marlena Jackson	Cook

McCready Head Start Center

Vacant	Teacher
Denise Allison	Teacher
Rikki Bush	Teacher's Assistant
Vacant	Teacher's Assistant
Kira Jordan	Center Aide
Tina Price	Family Service Advocate
Mary Haga	Center Director/Cook

Tazewell County

Tazewell Early Head Start Center

Rebecca Lambert	Center Director / Teacher
Brenda Keene	Teacher
Francis Sparks	Aide / Assistant Caregiver
Rachel Mallory	Aide / Assistant Caregiver
Linda Messer	Family Service Advocate
Rebecca Lester	Home Visitor
Ivy Stiltner	Home Visitor
Windy Stout	Home Visitor
Cassandra Justice	Home Visitor

Camp Joy Head Start Center

Ashley Green	Center Director / Teacher
Latisha Brett	Teacher
Beverly Horn	Teacher's Assistant
Vacant	Teacher's Assistant
Trinity Lewis	Center Aide / Bus Driver
Vacant	Center Aide / Bus Driver
Marsha Beinstingel	Family Service Advocate
Amanda Minton	Cook/Nutrition Assistant

Cedar Bluff Head Start Center

Stephanie Woodall	Center Director / Teacher
Angela Kinder	Teacher's Assistant
Tina Graham	FSA / Center Aide / Bus Driver

Head Start Home Based

Renata Sargent	Home Visitor
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Tazewell County, continued



Richlands Head Start Center

Kris Mutter	Center Director / Teacher
Kellie Wallace	Teacher
Anna Ward	Teacher's Assistant
Caitlyn Rife	Teacher's Assistant
Clare Patterson	Center Aide / Bus Driver
Autumn Ball	Center Aide / Bus Driver
Sharon Sparks	Family Service Advocate
Dixie Lewis	Cook

Tazewell Head Start Center

Amanda Dowell	Center Director / Teacher
Kayla Scrotsky	Teacher
Emily Cline	Teacher
Cortney Owens	Teacher's Assistant
Marilyn Figueroa	Teacher's Assistant
Amy Brewster	Teacher's Assistant
Sagan McGlothlin	Teacher's Assistant (LTS)
Kayla Flanner	Center Aide / Bus Driver
Kathy Sword	Center Aide / Bus Driver
Shonya Howington	Family Service Advocate
Barbara Jordan	Cook



Wythe County

Apache Run Head Start Center

Anisha Mines	Center Director / Teacher
Sarah Bishop	Teacher
Jessie Sayers	Teacher
Tracy Wilhite	Teacher
Mechelle Vaughn	Teacher
Jessica Owens	Teacher's Assistant
Ami Alderman	Teacher's Assistant
Kristina King	Teacher's Assistant
Melissa Palmer	Teacher's Assistant
Stephanie Smith	Teacher's Assistant
Amber Palmer	Center Aide/Bus Driver
Dawn Smith	Center Aide / Bus Driver (part-time)
Karen Arnold	Family Service Advocate
Dawn Smith	Family Service Advocate (part-time)
Vacant	Cook

Clinch Valley Community Action Employment

Clinch Valley Community Action is an equal opportunity employer with over seventy-five full and part-time employees working for its Head Start and Early Head Start programs in the four county area. CVCA accepts applications from qualified candidates on an on-going basis; applications for employment may be obtained from any Head Start or Early Head Start location, from the CVCA Main Office or a satellite office, or online at www.clinchvalleycaa.org. Head Start and Early Head Start parents/caregivers are encouraged to apply for open positions. CVCA offers an extensive benefits package. This includes employer paid health insurance for full-time employees and various other optional offerings. As required by both the Virginia Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers and the Head Start Program Performance Standards, all potential Head Start and Early Head Start employees must submit to multiple background checks, including fingerprinting, prior to employment.

About the CVCA Head Start and Early Head Start Programs

Clinch Valley Community Action operated the Head Start program in Tazewell County for many years as a delegate agency for a neighboring community action agency. This delegate agreement came to an end in July 2013 when Clinch Valley Community Action became the grantee for the Tazewell County service area. The Tazewell County Head Start program provides both center and home based services for one hundred and sixty-seven children, ages three to five in multiple locations throughout the county. The grant award making CVCA a Head Start grantee initially only included funding for these Head Start services. Then, with the end of government sequestration, an additional small amount of funding was awarded that allowed the program to add ten Early Head Start home based slots to further serve young children in the county.

In 2009, while still a delegate agency, prior to becoming a Head Start grantee, CVCA was awarded funding to start an Early Head Start program in Tazewell County. This Early Head Start program is designed to provide services to children ages birth to three and to provide services for expectant mothers as they await the arrival of their young ones. Since receiving this grant award, staff members have worked diligently to grow and expand the services that it offers to meet the changing needs of the service area. An Early Head Start Center, located within the CVCA Main Office in North Tazewell, provides full-day services to eight children; an additional twenty-four children throughout the county receive home based services.

The 2018-2019 program year brought exciting changes to the Clinch Valley Community Action Head Start program as it received the grant award for the Bland, Smyth, and Wythe County service area and began providing services to one hundred and seventy children in these localities. CVCA was notified in early fall of this grant award and began offering services in December 2019. Focus and effort has been placed on not only providing Head Start services to the three localities, but also on updating existing classroom spaces and on getting new spaces up and running.

The overarching goal of the CVCA Head Start program is for each child it serves to be ready for Kindergarten when he or she reaches age five. Our primary focus is to reach and serve low-income children and their families so that they can be prepared for entry into the school system. The program utilizes the Creative Curriculum, the Teaching Strategies Gold Framework, the AI's Pals Social-Emotional curriculum, and various other supplements to provide a high quality, child centered educational program that emphasizes the importance of the parent in each child's education. Much like the Head Start program, the Early Head Start program seeks to meet the ever changing needs of the children and families it serves. The program not only seeks to provide educational opportunities that help children begin their preparation for school, it also seeks to help and to empower parents as they adjust to the rapid changes that both they and their youngsters are facing. In addition to The Creative Curriculum and the Teaching Strategies Gold Framework, the EHS program utilizes the Partners for Healthy Babies curriculum, and the Parents as Teachers curriculum in provided services to younger children.

About the CVCA Head Start and Early Head Start Programs, continued

The Tazewell County Head Start program operates eight classrooms, serving one hundred and fifty seven children and a home based program serving ten children. Centers are located throughout the county to provide equitable access to the program, and the home based program services children from all localities. The Bland, Smyth, and Wythe County Head Start program operates ten classrooms serving one hundred and seventy children throughout the three county area. The Early Head Start program operates one classroom, located at the CVCA main office, serving eight children from ages sixteen months through age three. Head Start Centers throughout the four county area are located at and provide services as follows:

Center	Location	Slots for Children
Apache Run HS Center	(Wythe County) 122 Apache Run Road Max Meadows, VA 245360	5 classrooms / 77 children
Atkins Head Start Center	(Smyth County) 5894 Lee Highway Atkins, VA 24311	1 classroom / 20 children
Bland Head Start Center	(Bland County) 76 Seddon Street Bland, VA 24315	1 classroom / 20 children
Camp Joy HS Center	(Tazewell County) 176 Camp Joy Road Bluefield, VA 24605	2 classrooms / 40 children
Cedar Bluff HS Center	(Tazewell County) 1089 Cedar Valley Drive Cedar Bluff, VA 24609	1 classroom / 20 children
Chilhowie HS Center	(Smyth County) 809 Mason Alley Chilhowie, VA 24319	1 classroom / 20 children
McCready HS Center	(Smyth County) 145 Upper Poore Valley Road Saltville, VA 24370	2 classrooms / 33 children
Richlands HS Center	(Tazewell County) 757 Community College Road Richlands, VA 24641	2 classrooms / 40 children
Tazewell HS Center	(Tazewell County) 374 Carline Avenue Tazewell, VA 24651	3 classrooms / 57 children

Participant Information and Demographics

	HS Tazewell	HS BSW	EHS / D	EHS
Funded Enrollment	167	170	10	32
Individuals Served 2022-2023	210	192	16	64
Families Served 2022-2023	196	181	13	48
<i>Enrollment Eligibility</i>				
Families received TANF and/or public assistance	94	34	9	24
Families were at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Guideline	64	75	7	23
Children in Foster Care	6	4	0	6
Children from Homeless Families	13	24	0	4
Children from Families at 101-130% of Federal Poverty Guideline	14	39	0	5
Children from Over Income Families	19	16	0	2
<i>Age of Children Served</i>				
Under 1 Year	0	0	2	22
1 Year Old	0	0	9	22
2 Years Old	0	0	4	14
3 Years Old	155	161	0	0
4 Years Old	55	31	0	0
Adult	0	0	1	6
<i>Pregnant Women Enrolled</i>				
1st Trimester	0	0	1	1
2nd Trimester	0	0	0	4
3rd Trimester	0	0	0	1
<i>Ethnicity</i>				
Hispanic / Latino	1%	7%	0%	4%
Non-Hispanic / Non-Latino	99%	93%	100%	96%

HS HS BSW EHS / D EHS
Tazewell

Race of Participants Served

White	90%	92%	100%	75%
Black	3%	1.5%	0%	9%
Biracial / Multi-racial	6%	6%	0%	16%
American Indian / Native Alaskan	0%	0%	0%	0%
Asian	1%	0.5%	0%	0%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%

Hours of Service

HS Slots @ 1020+ Hours of Service	77	170	0	0
EHS Slots @ 1380+ Hours of Service	0	0	0	8

Years of Participation

1 Year	158	137	9	45
2 Years	50	53	5	19
3 Years	2	2	2	0

Facilities Projects and Improvements

Clinch Valley Community Action works to ensure that all facilities are maintained and that facilities upgrades and improvements occur on a regular basis. Over the past year, a few of our projects have included:

- The flooring in one classroom at Tazewell Center was replaced to repair damage.
- New resilient surfacing was completed as part of multi-step project of EHS Center playground improvement.
- HVAC replacements were completed at both Bland Center and McCready Center, providing for more cost-effective and cleaner heating and cooling.
- Minor repairs and regular maintenance have occurred at all locations to help ensure that facilities are safe, comfortable, and pleasant for all participants.



Program Funding

2022-2023

Grant #03CH010581 funds Head Start services for one hundred sixty-seven center-based and home-based children and Early Head Start services for ten home-based children in Tazewell County. During the program fiscal year, running from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, supplemental funds were provided to provide a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all staff and final COVID funds were expended. .

03CH010581 Funding Breakdown

Administrative Costs	\$234,622.00
Program Costs	\$1,499,764.00
T/TA Costs	\$19,934.00
Total Federal Funds Awarded	\$1,754,320.00
USDA Funding *	\$121,622.50
Required Non-Federal Share**	\$433,500.00
Non-Federal Share Breakdown	
Use of Space	\$635,828.05
Other	180.00
Professional Services	\$615.94
Materials/Supplies	\$3,095.50
Volunteer Services	\$173,774.66
Actual Non-Federal Share Collected	\$813,494.15

Clinch Valley Community Action Annual Audit

Each year, Clinch Valley Community Action is required to complete an audit of all financial records for the most recently ended fiscal year. The 2023 CVCA Financial Audit, conducted by Dooley and Vickars, CPAs, based in Richmond, Virginia, was completed and presented in March 2024. This audit, covering the period from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 resulted in no audit findings and / or questioned costs. Additionally, the auditor reported no outstanding issues from previous audits.

Program Funding, continued

Grant #03CH011301 funds Early Head Start services for eight center based and twenty-four home-based children/expectant mothers in Tazewell County. During the program fiscal year, running from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, supplemental funds were received to provide a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all staff, and final COVID funding was utilized.

03CH011301 Budgeted Funding Breakdown

Administrative Costs	\$82,977.00
Program Costs	\$473,767.00
T/TA Costs	\$10,161.00
Total Federal Funds Awarded	\$566,905.00
USDA Funding *	\$10,066.32
Required Non-Federal Share**	\$141,726.00
Non-Federal Share Breakdown	
Use of Space	\$27,930.00
Professional Services	1,260.00
Materials/Supplies	\$5,575.88
Volunteer Services	\$128,055.24
Actual Non-Federal Share Collected	\$162,821.12

*USDA funding is utilized to alleviate the cost of providing free meals to all center-based children.



Program Funding, continued

Grant #03CH010691 funds Head Start services for one hundred seventy children in Bland, Smyth, and Wythe Counties. With a budget year running from December 1, 2022 through November 30, 2023, with a budget extension through December 31, 2023. This grant award received supplemental funds for both pandemic response and to provide a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all staff.

03CH010691 Budgeted Funding Breakdown

Regular Program Funding	
Administrative Costs	\$207,702.00
Program Costs	\$1,774,029.00
T/TA Costs	\$24,194.00
Total Federal Program Funds Awarded	\$2,005,925.00
USDA Funding *	\$187,300.77
Required Non-Federal Share**	\$463,818.00
Non-Federal Share Breakdown	
Other Contributions	\$3,309.35
Professional Services	\$3,243.30
Materials/Supplies	\$18,330.12
Volunteer Services	\$378,460.85
Actual Non-Federal Share Collected	\$502,573.62

Each of the three grants administered by Clinch Valley Community Action continued to utilize final COVID-19 related funding through the early spring. The program received American Rescue Plan funding in the total amount of \$567,542.00 which could be utilized through March 31, 2023. This funding was utilized for needed equipment and supplies, installation of HVAC systems, playground enhancements, and to provide retention supplements to staff members.

2022-2023 Child Outcomes

Fall 2022/Winter 2022/Spring 2023 Comparison

Domain	Number of Children Meeting/Exceeding Fall 2022 Expectations	Number of Children Meeting/Exceeding Winter 2022 Expectations	Number of Children Meeting/Exceeding Spring 2023 Expectations
Social-Emotional Development	185/18	212/59	207/112
Physical Development	203 (total)	271 (total)	319 (total)
Language Development	217/23	248/32	235/90
Literacy	240 (total)	280 (total)	325 (total)
Cognitive Development	206/17	234/32	220/95
Mathematics	223 (total)	266 (total)	315 (total)
Emotional Support	167/15	243/28	228/93
Classroom Organization	182 (total)	271 (total)	321 (total)
Instructional Support	138/15	211/28	252/58
Classroom Organization	153 (total)	239 (total)	310 (total)
Instructional Support	156/14	216/23	232/65
Classroom Organization	170 (total)	239 (total)	297 (total)

The above outcomes compare children in the CVCA programs to widely held expectations for children of the same age in fall and winter 2022 and spring 2023 utilizing the Teaching Strategies Gold Continuum. The number of children being assessed includes all children participating in the program throughout Bland, Smyth, Tazewell, and Wythe Counties in both the Head Start and Early Head Start programs. Children participated in both in-person and very limited virtual services. Children also participate in the VKRP (Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program) receiving literacy, mathematics, and social emotional screenings twice each year.

Program Wide CLASS Observations

All pre-school age classrooms participate CLASS observations at least two times each program year. These observations rate teacher/child interactions on a scale of one to seven in ten dimensions, grouped into three separate domains—Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. The program has multiple staff trained as CLASS observers who conduct internal observations, and the program works with the Virginia Department of Education to provide opportunities for external observations conducted by individuals not affiliated with the program.

Current Program Internal / External CLASS Domain Scores

Domain	Score	Domain	Score	Domain	Score
Emotional Support	5.94 / 6.16	Classroom Organization	5.31 / 5.75	Instructional Support	4.04 / 3.56

Health and Preventive Care Information

The percentage of children who were up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health at the end of the 2022-2023 program year, according to the Virginia EPSDT schedule for well child care:

Head Start: 98%

Early Head Start: 93%

Percentage of children who were up-to-date on all age appropriate immunizations:

Head Start: 97%

Early Head Start: 89%

Percentage of children who received preventive dental care:

Head Start: 66%

Early Head Start: 32%

Percentage of children receiving services for chronic conditions:

Head Start: 9%

Early Head Start: 1%

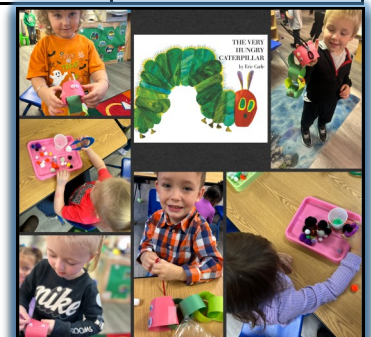
Percentage of children who had health insurance at year end:

Head Start: 98%

Early Head Start: 100%

Family Information

Demographics	Head Start	Early Head Start
One-Parent Families	163	25
Two-Parent Families	214	36
Parent/Guardian Figure Is Parent	343	52
Parent/Guardian Figure Is Someone Other Than Parent (grandparent, relative, foster parent, etc.)	34	9
Families Where the Father/Father-Figure Participated in Child's Educational Activities	124	13
At least One Parent/Guardian Has Completed Education/ Training Beyond High School	138	31
Families Participating in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program	171	44
Family Participating the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	245	46



Family Services

Families in all centers work with their Family Service Advocate throughout the program year. These advocates help to establish partnerships between the family, the school, and the community; they help to promote the parent as the primary educator and decision maker for his/her child; they complete Family Partnerships agreements with all families, and they encourage parents to become involved in activities both in the school and in the community. Families participating in the home--based program also have access to these services through their home visitors.

During the year, all parents are provided opportunities to participate in health and parenting education activities and asset building services as part of their regular monthly parent meetings. Parents also receive flyers and other educational information sent out to all families and have multiple opportunities to take part in Here, Now, and Down the Road parenting classes. Also, advocates help to connect parents to needed community based services and supports.

While the pandemic continued to affect both staff and participating families, staff members did not waiver in their continued commitment to work with families to provide as many needed services as possible, in as many innovative ways as possible, with many lessons learned that will help ensure seamless services in the future.



Services Received by Families



Service	HS Families Receiving	EHS Families Receiving	Service	HS Families Receiving	EHS Families Receiving
Emergency/Crisis Intervention	16	3	Housing Assistance	12	2
Asset Building Services	220	48	Mental Health Services	7	0
Substance Misuse Prevention	61	1	Substance Misuse Treatment	2	1
Nutrition Education	353	57	Assistance w/education, training	3	0
Parenting Education	34	5	Involvement in Child's Progress	344	59
Program Transition	199	48	Education—Medical/Oral Health	338	59
Tobacco Use Prevention	183	8	Assistance to Families of Incarcerated Individuals	0	0
Postpartum Care Education	0	7	Relationship/Marriage Education	78	0



School Readiness and Transition

The CVCA Head Start and Early Head Start programs actively partner with the public school systems in each county of its four county service area to help ensure that children are ready to enter kindergarten at the end of their time in Head Start. Head Start staff members are given opportunities to visit elementary school classrooms early in the school year to ensure that common routines and activities are in place, joint training opportunities are offered when possible, collaboration team meetings occur on a regularly scheduled basis, and both CVCA staff and school system staff participate in the area Smart Beginnings groups to help spearhead initiatives geared toward early childhood education and preparing children for school.

Each spring, Head Start children who will be transitioning to kindergarten are given the opportunity to visit the school that they will attend, spend time in a kindergarten classroom, ride a regular school bus, tour all of the school facilities, and have a meal or snack with the elementary school children.

Additionally, teachers, Family Service Advocates, and main office staff work with parents to ensure that their children are registered for kindergarten and have all of the documentation necessary to enroll in the public schools. As part of the record sharing agreement between the Head Start program and the public schools, the Head Start program provides schools with all appropriate children's records if parents have signed the required release of information documents.

Early Head Start children are also actively involved in the transition process. They participate in various activities with the Head Start children throughout the year so that they become familiar with the older children and with the Head Start staff. Also, at least six months prior to turning three, the Early Head Start children begin making regular visits to the centers and/or programs they will participate in once they leave Early Head Start.

Recruitment and Enrollment

Recruitment is a year-round process with applications for all programs accepted and processed throughout the year so that a waitlist is maintained and available slots for children do not remain empty. Major recruitment efforts for the upcoming year begin in early March; recruiters and other staff members participate in various local activities to help raise parental awareness of the program, to distribute applications, and to help complete applications when needed. Online submission of applications is available.

In Tazewell County, the program participates in the Tazewell County Preschool Partnership, a single-point-of-entry process that utilizes a single application for entry into Early Head Start, Head Start, and the Pre-K program in the local elementary schools. We hope to expand this program to other counties in the service area. Applications for services are available at CVCA offices, all Head Start and Early Head Start centers, on the CVCA webpage, and in Tazewell County at local elementary schools.

Camp Joy Center



Cedar Bluff Center



EHS Center



Richlands Center



Tazewell Center



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