Children We Serve

- The Oswego County Head Start program was federally funded to serve 209 children in Oswego County for 2019-20. The program operated eleven classrooms across seven center-based locations. A total of 248 children were enrolled, at an average of 100% full enrollment per month.
- 26% of enrolled children (65 children) were identified as having a disability.

Program Description

Head Start provides a quality pre-k program for three and four year old children. The primary goal: “school readiness,” is achieved through “hands on” learning activities that encourage students to explore, create, learn and play. Family Engagement is a critical element to the success of the program. Health, nutrition and special services is an integral part of the services offered to children and families. Head Start serves all nine school districts with locations in Fulton, Oswego, Phoenix, West Monroe and Williamstown.

School Readiness Outcomes

Year in Review

The 2019-2020 school year was one of challenges! The Oswego 3 year old classroom was flooded and the entire lower level of the building required renovations that made the classroom and Kitchen inaccessible until January. Flexibilities and community support allowed the teaching team to still engage with students and families while meals were produced off site. The grand reopening was a celebration of all that contributed to the renovations and operations of programming.

We met our enrollment goals which was a ongoing celebration

Then COVID-19 Pandemic hit our community in March, shutting down schools throughout the county. Head Start followed the lead of school districts, pivoting to a virtual program for children, supporting parents and adapting to an unexpected crisis. This impacted all aspects of our programming including measuring child outcomes, family accomplishments, screenings, meals served, budget and self-assessment.

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Audit & Review Statement

Audit—Oswego County Opportunities is audited annually by Grossman St. Amour Certified Public Accountants. The report can be viewed at www.oco.org.

Review— There were no formal reviews by the Office of Head Start during this program year. Our internal reviews and oversight by NYS Office of Children and Families Services has not discovered any critical items during the year.

Funding & Budget Information

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Health & Nutrition

# of Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health &amp; Nutrition</th>
<th># of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vision Screenings</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing Screenings</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Exams</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up-to-date Immunization</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children with Health Insurance</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals &amp; Snacks Served (Sept-Mar)</td>
<td>43,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals &amp; Snacks Served (Apr-June due to COVID)</td>
<td>7,425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Engagement Activities

Families in Head Start are engaged in all aspects of the program:

- 333 current or former parent/family volunteers in the program.
- 6 Parents received Parenting Education Services.
- 18 parents received Health Education Services.
- 83 received emergency/crisis intervention services.
- 120 Parents attending Center Meetings.
- 11 Parents as members of Policy Council.

All Center Activities for both children and families:

- Parent & Child Orientation.
- Dad’s Take Your Child to School Day.
- Parent Night at Head Start.
- Field Trips.
- What to do When Your Child Gets Sick.

Sampling of Individual Center Activities:

- My Guy & Me, My Gal & Me Nights.
- Scrubby Bear & Fire Safety.
- Fall Fest.
- Holiday Make & Take.
- Parent Paint Night.
- Kindergarten Transition Night.

For more information about Oswego County Head Start go to: http://www.oco.org/education-services/head-start-upk