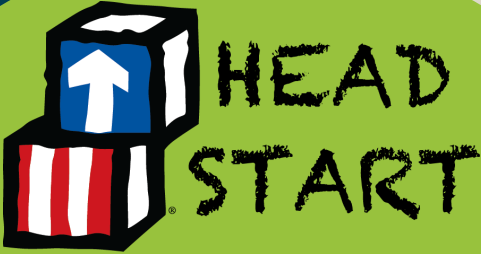




2021-2022

Annual Report



A PROGRAM OF  HRDC

Program Overview

SERVING:

Belgrade

Bozeman

Livingston

Human Resource Development Council of District IX, Inc. (HRDC) began operating the Head Start Program in April of 1991. HRDC Head Start is funded to serve 152 children in Gallatin and Park Counties of Montana. Its focus is to provide for the healthy development of children and the strengthening of families through family involvement, community engagement and parent education. Head Start serves children with a wide range of development levels including children with special needs. Our program strives to bring a greater degree of social and developmental competence to the children of participating families by maximizing their unique strengths and abilities. Parents are an important part of our program and we support them as the primary educators of their children.

HRDC serves and supports over 11,000 individuals yearly, and this number continues to grow quickly with our increasing population, and with it, the cost of living. Our goal is to impact our community in positive ways that allows anyone to move out of challenge and crisis into a state of thriving. By offering wrap-around services that address our community needs of housing, food and nutrition, childcare and transportation, we are able to support a wide range of needs and individuals in all three counties we serve.



Mission

HRDC Head Start is a High Quality Program for Children & Families, forming a foundation for school readiness & lifelong learning.

Blending multi cultural and anti-biased education in an inclusive environment.

Fostering development of the whole child: self-identity, cognitive, language, literacy, physical, arts, emotional, wellness and social development.

Partnering and honoring the lives of children, their families and their communities



Letter from Our Director

We had another wonderful year at HRDC's Early Childhood Education program, where we believe that every child deserves a head start. This year we were excited to get more students back in our classrooms as we were able to lift the 10 child/classroom ratio from last year. Our incredible teachers were busy with our full classrooms in which we strive to create an inclusive and supportive preschool experience that supports children's development through natural environments and play-based learning. As we continue to adjust back to in person learning after previously offering a mix of in person and virtual learning, we continued to implement robust health and safety practices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our children, teachers and families. I am so proud of our excellent staff, who continue to strive to provide the highest quality of care and education to our children through high levels of education, experience, commitment and dedication. Their passion for child development and the well being of children and their families inspires me every day. As we look to the future we are excited to bring back more of our in person parent engagement events in the coming year and connect with our larger community. We believe that our parents and caregivers are our students' first and most important teachers. We are honored to share in the preschool journey with these amazing and adorable children and so inspired to walk alongside the parents, students, teachers and staff that make up our community.

Warmest Regards,

Sara Savage

Early Childhood Director & HRDC Associate Director



Enrollment Snapshot

Families interested in the Head Start program must qualify by meeting locally designed requirements. Eligibility is based on family income at or below the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPL). Children in foster care, homeless children, and children from families receiving public assistance (TANF or SSI) are eligible regardless of income. Our program may enroll up to 35% of our families who are between 100%-130% of FPL. Up to 10% of our enrollment may include families that are over 130% of FPL. During the 2021-2022 school year due to our COVID Health precautions we had to limit our enrollment. We were able to provide services to families virtually. The data below does not include our virtual classroom participants. The families that attended our in person classes qualified for Head Start at the following percentages:



46%

Income Eligible



2%

Public Assistance



5%

Foster Children



12%

Homeless Children



26%

Income between 100% and 130% of FPG



9%

Over 130% of FPG

109 Families

53% were single-parent families

113 Children

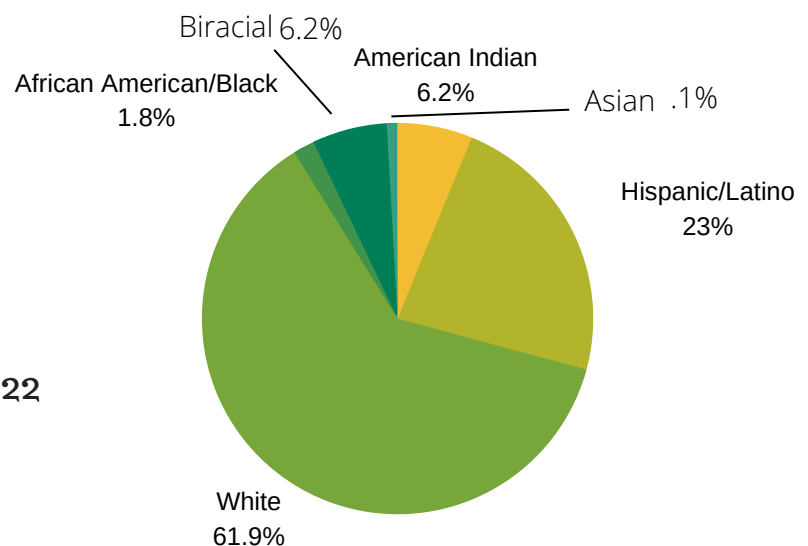
65% of total families served were income or categorical eligible

18.5% Percentage of eligible children served in our communities

*Number of children we served divided by the number of 0-5 year olds in poverty in Gallatin & Park Counties. Data obtained from Montana Kids Count. <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/customreports/4279/any>



Racial Makeup



87

Average monthly enrollment for 21-22

(57% of funded enrollment)

80.38%

Average daily attendance for 21-22

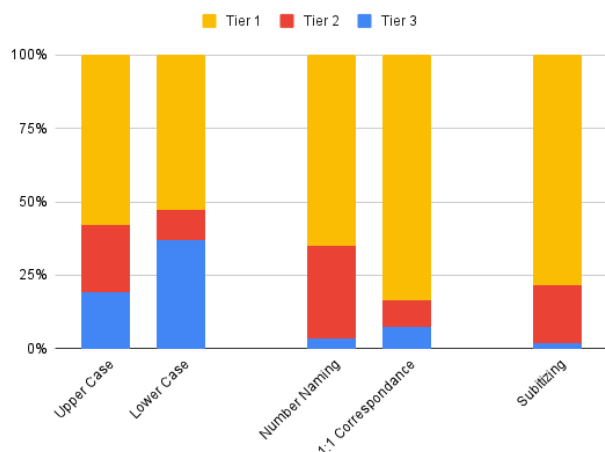
Using the Teaching Strategies Gold (TS Gold) assessment tool, we assess and track the growth of students at three checkpoints throughout the school year. This year we provided three checkpoints. This helps our program determine the percentage of children meeting or exceeding Kindergarten readiness expectations over five domains. At our third check point of the 2021-2022 school year we saw the following results:

SCHOOL READINESS OUTCOMES:

Social-Emotional	87%
Physical	93%
Language	89%
Cognitive	89%
Literacy	93%
Mathematics	87%

Early Academic Screener, developed by our program, is used to individualize and plan throughout the year for children entering kindergarten. Children are assessed in letter knowledge, number naming, 1:1 correspondence and subitizing using a tiered approach. Our 2021-2022 data results are shown in the graph below demonstrating how children moved through the tiers.

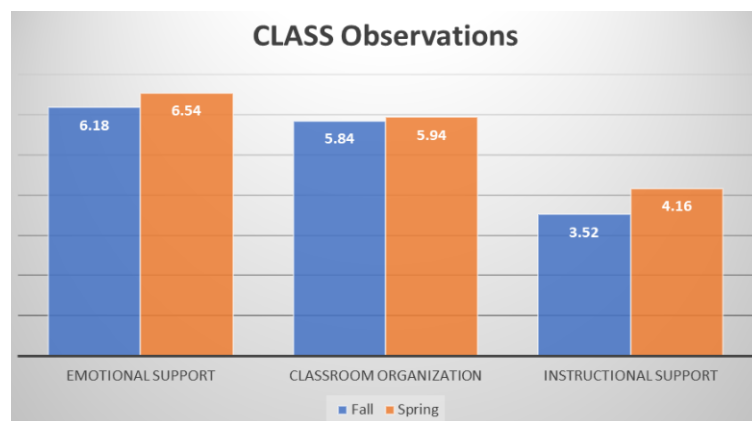
20-21 End of Year EAS Data



Education

HRDC Head Start served children in a classroom setting four days per week, both full day and half with classes. Experience at Head Start fosters a strong love of learning, while our curriculum, **Creative Curriculum**, provides a comprehensive approach to development, by supporting children's individual development in language, literacy, cognitive, physical, science, social studies, math, and the arts. Our program encourages the theory that children learn through play and intentional, individualized teaching. This foundation supports children throughout their lives.

CLASS, or the **Classroom Assessment Scoring System**, is an observational measure that looks at interactions between teachers and students. These ratings are categorized into three areas: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization and Instructional Support. Each area is further broken down into different dimensions. Each dimension is ranked on a scale of one to seven, seven being the highest score given. Our 2021-2022 CLASS scores are shown in the graph below.

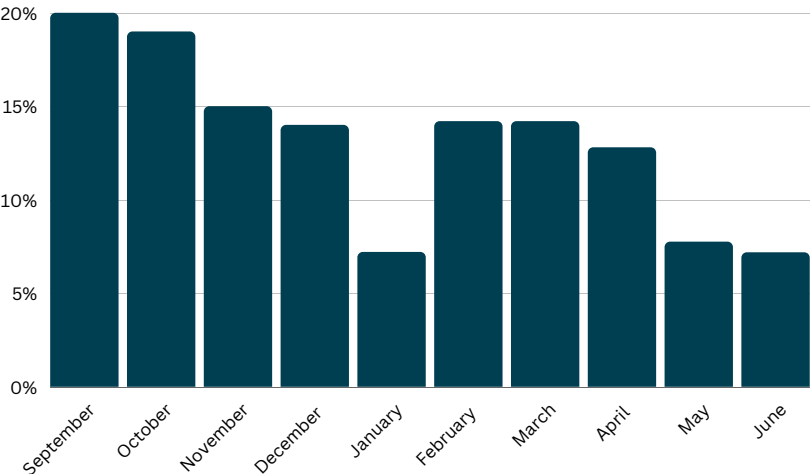


Social-Emotional Development

HRDC Head Start uses the Devereaux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) and the Conscious Discipline Curriculum as a key part of the social-emotional, mental health process. With family and teacher data from these assessments we begin each year with a proactive approach to children's mental health and social emotional needs. Using a universal and individualized focus of support, children begin to recognize feelings, build trust, problem-solve, resolve conflicts, build resiliency, and develop independence and healthy attachments. If needed this data gives us the ability to reach out to community mental health resources for intensive care.



The graph below shows the percentage of Social Emotional action plans from the DECA assessment and individualized action plans for children's social, emotional, and mental health needs.



2021-2022 GOVERNING BOARD

Policy Council

Liz Schultz
Chair

Lori Parker
1st Vice Chair

Brandee Lammle
2nd Vice Chair

Yesenia Cordova
Billie Warford

HRDC Board of Directors

Scott Malloy
Board Chair

Linda Young
Vice Chair

Bill Berg
Mitch Bradley

Ron Brey

Kris Moos

Brooke Poole

Peter Schmidt

Billie Warford

LeRoy Wilson

Gene Townsend

Scott MacFarlane

David Kack



HRDC Head Start's goal is to promote family wellness through education, healthy choices and healthy lifestyles for our children and their families. Staff assist families with immunization requirements, health insurance questions, finding a medical home and encourage well child care. Dental and Physical exams are required for all children within 90 days of starting school. Our program has been fortunate to offer free oral health exams to all Head Start children in the past. Due to COVID 19 regulation, we were unable to offer oral health exams in the 21-22 school year. All enrolled children receive health screenings which include; Vision, Hearing, BMI, Height & Weight and Blood Lead.

6
children

children had a health care plan for children with chronic conditions

8
children

had a modified diet due to food allergies

51%

of children were up-to-date at the end of enrollment on a schedule of age appropriate preventive and primary care

50%

of enrolled children received an annual dental exam



Nutrition

23,486 dietitian approved meals served



8,519

Breakfast

8,813

Lunch

6,154

Snack



Our program receives federal cash assistance to serve these healthy meals. Meals served at HRDC Early Childhood Education must meet nutrition requirements established by the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

Family Services

At HRDC Head Start we believe that we are in a unique position to support and promote not only the child's early learning, but also the child's well-being and the well-being of parents and families. Parent, Family and Community Engagement is built upon developing trusting relationships with families that support family well-being, strong parent-child relationships and ongoing learning and development of parents and children alike.

Building these relationships begins with involving parents in their child's development and learning through positive parent-child interactions. We accomplish this through home visits and conferences and educational goal planning. Parent engagement promotes children's attainment of their academic goals through take home activities, parent involvement in their child's classroom, special day activities in the classroom such as Pancakes for Pals, interactions with our Family Support staff during parent orientation, goal planning and Family Partnership Agreements. The various family events we plan with the help of engaged community partners, help our families feel a part of the communities they live in.

90

Families served by Head Start

Needs met (clothing, food, housing, etc...)

80.7%

Families housed

5

Referrals to community agencies

70

2021-2022

EVENTS

****WE WERE LIMITED TO VIRTUAL OPTIONS FOR OUR EVENTS DUE TO COVID 19**

SEPTEMBER

- Health and Safety Virtual Meeting
- School Readiness Meeting

JANUARY

- Midyear check-ins
- Early Head Start Transition Meeting
- Financial Literacy Class-Virtual

MAY

- Circle of Security (Continued)
- Half Day Graduation Ceremonies

OCTOBER

- Policy Council Elections
- LIEAP (Energy Assistance)

FEBRUARY

- Cooking Classes-Virtual
- Kindergarten Registration

JUNE

- Graduation Ceremonies
- Menu Committee

NOVEMBER

- Harvest Food Boxes
- Winter Hat Giveaway
- Health Care Institute

MARCH

- Joey Learns the Touching Rule Parent Education
- Pancakes with Families

DECEMBER

- Holiday Food Boxes
- Salvation Army Holiday Assistance
- Healthy Kids Pack Introduction
- Cooking Classes-Virtual

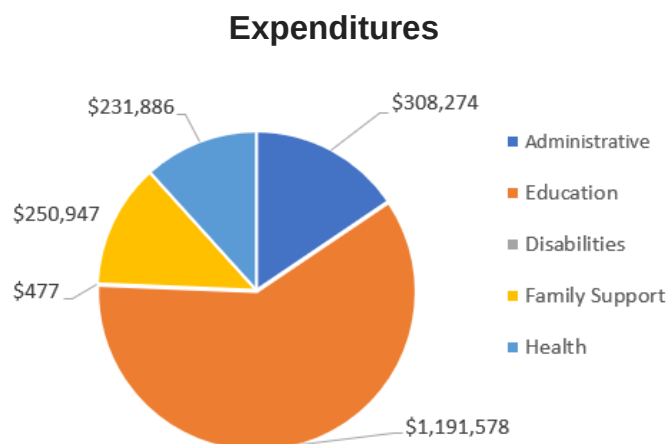
APRIL

- Circle of Security Parent Training
- Cooking Classes-Virtual

Financial Information

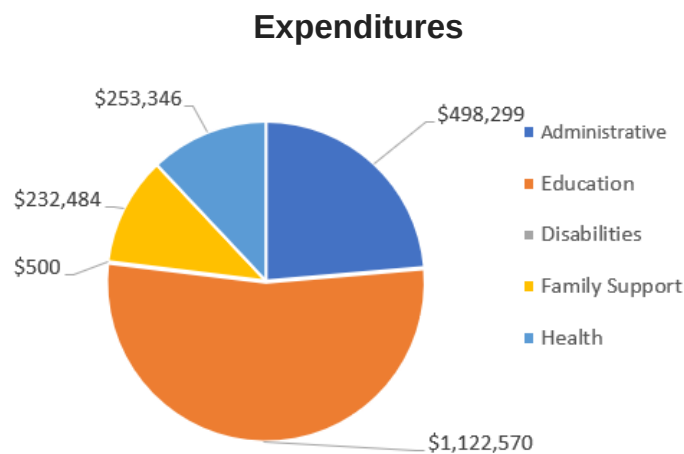
2021-2022

U.S. Department of HHS--Head Start Grant	\$	1,665,637
ARPA & CRRSA	\$	127,056
Cost of Living Adjustment & Quality Improvement Funds	\$	20,079
Total Federal Head Start Grant	\$	1,812,799
United State Department of Agriculture Child & Adult Care Food Program	\$	67,472
STARS (Quality Rating and Improvement System)	\$	39,500
Montana CARES	\$	23,940
Private Pay	\$	14,738
Cooking Matters	\$	4,500
Best Beginnings Scholarship	\$	3,606
Sponsorships	\$	16,643
Total Funding Sources	\$	1,983,162
Non-Federal Share Required	\$	141,409



Proposed 2022-2023 Budget

U.S. Department of HHS—Head Start Grant	\$	1,685,716
Cost of Living Adjustment & Quality Improvement Funding	\$	47,983
American Rescue Plan Act ARPA	\$	100,559
Total Federal Head Start Grant	\$	1,833,699
United State Department of Agriculture Child & Adult Care Food Program	\$	85,000
CDBG Stabilization	\$	128,000
STARS (Quality Rating and Improvement System)	\$	39,500
Best Beginnings	\$	10,000
Donations	\$	10,000
Total Funding Sources	\$	2,107,199
Non-Federal Share Required	\$	421,429



Audit/Review Results

For the 2021-2022 Grant year HRDC Head Start was selected for a major program audit by an independent auditor. There were no findings or concerns. HRDC qualified as a low-risk auditee.

In addition, the program successfully completed the Office of Head Start's FA1 & FA2 monitoring reviews.

Head Start has passed all of its monitoring visits for the five year grant period and is in a non-competitive grant status.

Thank You

Community Partners

**Bozeman
Health**

**MUSEUM
OF
THE ROCKIES**

PARK COUNTY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Community
Health Partners



**CHILD CARE
CONNECTIONS**



BELGRADE
COMMUNITY
LIBRARY



Belgrade

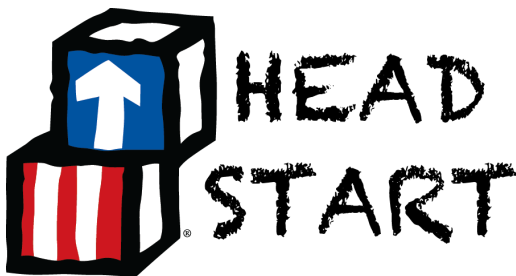
82 7th Street
Belgrade, MT 59714

Bozeman

52 N. 24th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59714

Livingston

201 South F
Livingston, MT 59047



A PROGRAM OF  HRDC

33 S. Tracy
Bozeman, MT 59718

406.586.9652

*This Program is an Equal Opportunity Provider