



**Missouri Valley Community Action Agency**  
**Child and Family Development Department**



# 2024 Annual Report

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Serving Carroll, Chariton, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis, Ray, and Saline Counties since 1965

**Missouri Valley Community Action Agency's Child and Family Development Department** manages three early childhood grants, serving 466 participants (children and families) through center based, and childcare partnerships. These grants include:

Missouri State Early Head Start #C314171005, which supports working eligible families with full-day, full-year care through childcare partnerships (18 children), (16 Children) at Little Steps Childcare Center and (2 children) at Appleseed Childcare Center. Services are also provided at MVCAA's Carrollton Early Learning Center (9 children), (12 children) at Knob Noster Early Learning Center, and (6 children) at the Salisbury Early learning Center. It also supports four pregnant women. This grant has a total funded enrollment of 45 infants/toddlers and 4 pregnant women, located in Lafayette, Johnson, Chariton, and Carroll Counties.

Federal Grant # 07CH7083 funds Head Start and Early Head Start services for 391 preschool and 41 infants/toddler. The preschoolers are served at 11 MVCAA center sites and 22 classrooms, with a location in each of the seven counties in our service area. Twelve of the classes operate 4 hours/day, 4 days/week for a 9-month school year, and ten Duration classes offer extended hours, operating 7 hours per day for 9 months. It includes services to 4 infants and toddlers and support funding for 37 of the State enrolled participants.

Federal Grant # 07HP0006 Early Head Start Expansion/Child Care Partnership, funds services for 34 infants/toddlers and their families. 17 child slots were served through childcare partnerships in Lafayette County and 17 through EHS Expansion slots, at MVCAA's Salisbury (2), Richmond (12) and Carrollton (3) Early Learning Centers in Ray, Chariton, and Carroll Counties.

A Federal monitoring reviews was conducted in 2022-23, for Focus Area Two, for the Federal Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. A State monitoring review was completed with no findings.

The full reports of past reviews and the 2022-23 Audit are posted on the agency website, [www.mvcaa.net](http://www.mvcaa.net), as well as the following Federal Program Information Reports containing details about program services. These include:

**07CH7083**

07CH7083 2023-24 Family Reports  
07CH7083-2023-24 Enrollment Report  
07CH7083-2023-24 Grant PIR Indicator Report

**07HP0006**

07HP0006-2023-24 Family Reports  
07HP0006-2023-24 Enrollment Report  
07HP0006-2023-24 Grant PIR Indicator Report

**School Readiness-Child Outcomes  
Report for 2023-2024  
Presented to MVCAA Board of Directors  
By Stephanie Brown, Education Manager  
Kathi Moore, Early Head Start Manager**

Head Start programs are required to have in place an assessment system and approach to track children's progress and report outcomes of children as they transition to kindergarten. MVCAA used the Teaching Strategies.net during the previous year to track children's progress on 38 goals related to social/emotional, physical, language, and cognitive learning. These results are used in individual child assessment, and the information is also used to assess child progress in the mandated domains, indicators and school readiness skills.

### **Teaching Strategies GOLD Child Assessment**

- MVCAA uses the Teaching Strategies Gold to track child outcomes in domains and indicators mandated by law. The eight domains include *Language Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Creative Arts, Social and Emotional Development, Approaches to Learning, and Physical Health and Development*. Within the domains there are certain specific *indicators track, including skills like Numbers and Operations, Letter Recognition, Using an Increasingly Complex Vocabulary, and Progress in Speaking and Understanding English* for children who are not native English speakers.
- Teachers complete Individual Child Profiles for all enrolled children three times a year on Teaching Strategies Gold for Head Start children and four times a year for Early Head Start children. Individual classroom reports by age groups are generated and sent to the teachers for use in group planning. Individual child reports are generated and given to the parents during home visits. Program reports are generated and presented to Policy Council, the Board of Directors and the Community.
- With Teaching Strategies Gold Teachers will be able to assess children from ages Birth through Kindergarten. This will enable teachers to have a better understanding of where children are developmentally.
- Program-wide results for 2023-2024 are included in this report. After teachers complete the winter checkpoint in January, mid-year progress data will be available for the current school year.

### **Use of Child Outcomes Information**

Teachers use information that they gather on individual children and overall group reports to help plan areas of learning to focus on in the coming months. At the end of the school year, they receive a report of child progress that they can use in planning for the coming year.

A report on the previous year's outcomes is shared with Policy Council, the Governing Board and included in the program's annual self-assessment, MVCAA Annual Report, to the community on the MVCAA website, and at the end of the school year in late May a report is generated that covers program-wide progress in all domains and indicators. This information can be used to help plan staff training and identify additional learning materials that might need to be purchased.

Head Start teachers assessed 477 preschool children during the 2023-2024 school year; 112 children dropped during the program year and 32 were enrolled 45 days or less. There were 163 kindergarten-bound children enrolled in the 2023-2024 school year. Out of 477 possible children, 333 children aged 3-5 were assessed at both the Fall and Spring checkpoints so it is possible to track their progress for the entire year; these children are included in the final Program-wide Progress and Outcomes Report. The summary that is attached covers child progress *overall* and in the *eight domains, and eleven indicators*. It also covers the kindergarten readiness skills.

## Head Start Child Outcomes Data

We use these outcomes along with our self-assessment to provide additional teacher training, if indicated and the teachers use them to help plan weekly lessons and group activities. The numbers for the 2023-2024 school year show growth in all areas. The areas in Head Start with significant growth for our three to four-year-old children were Understanding and using language, Follows limits and expectations, Book Knowledge, and Shape Knowledge. Below is a chart showing the changes from the Fall assessment period to Spring Assessment period.

Objective	% Below Expectations at the Fall assessment period	% Meeting/Exceeding Expectations at the Spring Assessment period.
Understand & Use Language	25.57%	89.04%
Follows Limits & Expectations	28.65%	92.69%
Book Knowledge	29.33%	88.22%
Shapes	28.65%	88.13%

The areas with significant growth for our four to five-year old children were Understanding and Using Language, Follows limits and expectations, Identifying Letters and Attending and Engaging. Below is a chart showing the changes from the Fall assessment period to Spring Assessment period.

Objective	% Below Expectations at the Fall assessment period	% Meeting/Exceeding Expectations at the Spring Assessment period.
Understand & Use Language	24.49%	91.33%
Follows Limits & Expectations	34.47%	86.66%
Identifies Letters	26.85%	94.67%
Attends & Engages	20.13%	93.33%

During the 2023-2024 school year, continued implantation of our Planned Language Approach into the classrooms with teachers intentionally documenting on ever lesson plan what activities/lessons they did that week specific to four of the five focus areas of the Big Five. We had 37 children classified as Dual Language Learners, speaking mainly Spanish or Ukrainian as their primary language. We had 5 bilingual Head Start and 1 bilingual Early Head Start classroom staff, 2 bilingual family advocates, and 1 bilingual senior manager during the 2023-2024 school year. Below is the data that shows the percentage of children below expectations at the fall checkpoint period to the number meeting and/or exceeding expectations at the spring checkpoint period for Language/Vocabulary, Book Knowledge, Alphabet & Writing, and Phonological Awareness.

Indicator	3–4-year-old children	4–5-year-old children
Language/Vocabulary	27.53% below- 85.73% m/e expectations	23.07% below-90.83% m/e expectations
Book Knowledge	29.33 % below- 88.22 m/e expectations	18.69% below-91.11% m/e expectations
Alphabet/Writing (Literacy)	23.88% below-84.31% m/e expectations	32.26% below-87.66% m/e expectations
Phonological Awareness	24.02% below-84.59% m/e expectations	40.10% below-84.16% m/e expectations

During the 2023-2024 school year we completed training with staff around Creative curriculum Basics, Assessment Data, Language & Literacy: The Big Five For All, High Five Mathematize, and Science in the Classroom. In addition to each teacher completing the classroom Early Literacy Progress Survey, assessment data is reviewed by the Education Manager following each assessment period and this data is used to guide training throughout the school year.

Physical Health & Development is an area that we continue to see growth in. We will continue implementing the I am Moving, I am Learning (IMIL) initiative in our classrooms, Family Night activities and information shared with families. During the 2023-2024 school year we completed growth assessments on the enrolled head start children at the start of their enrollment and again at the end of the school year. We had 15 children start the year classified as obese and end in the healthy weight category and 23 children classified as overweight end the year classified as healthy weight; 8 children who were classified as underweight when they started the school year, ended in the healthy weight category.

The areas needing more attention for our three- to four-year-old children are: Uses an Increasingly Complex and varied spoken vocabulary, Associates sounds with written words, Letter Identification, and Numbers & Operations. The areas needing more attention for our four- to five-year-old children are: Associates sounds with written word, Recognizes word as a unit of print, Shapes, and Counting. In these areas, we had over 15% of children below expectations at the Spring assessment period.

### **Early Head Start Outcomes Data**

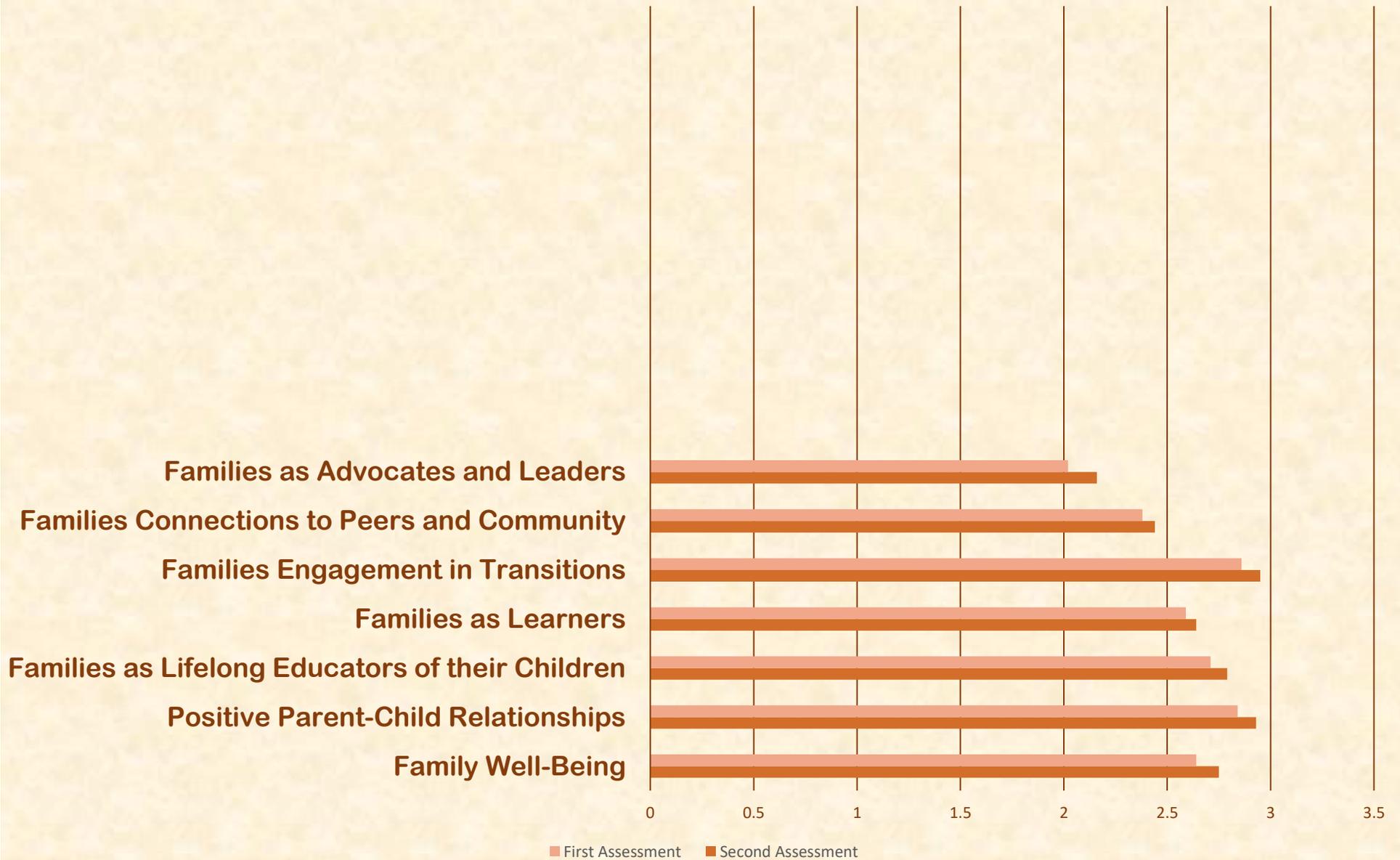
As requested, I have compiled and analyzed child outcome data for children enrolled in the Early Learning Center. It is important to remember that there are many factors that can contribute to child outcomes in all centers. We have children who have developmental delays, and we have centers that have been closed for a period of time due to lack of staff or staff illness. Therefore, children at the center that were closed may not have shown growth due to the center not being open. A full report of the domains, indicators and preschool readiness skills are available for review.

The overall progress of children age 0-1 in the fall of 2023 showed we had 2.62% of the children below average and in the summer of 2024 the number of children dropped to 1.13% while meeting expectations stayed consistent and more children exceeding which rose from 11.31% to 15.73%

The overall progress of children age 1-2 in the fall of 2023 showed we had 5.50% of the children below average and in the summer of 2024 the number of children increased to 6.66 which occurred during a time period where a center was closed due to lack of staff and the children did not attend the center. Meeting expectations stayed consistent and more children exceeding which rose from 16.23% to 17.51%.

The overall progress of children ages 2-3 in the fall of 2023 showed that 7.54% of the children fell in the below average range and in the summer of 2024 the number of children increased to 8.94%. This number could have fluctuated due to children aging out of the program or dropped the program to being closed and lack of staff when reopened. Meeting expectations stayed very consistent throughout the year as well as exceeding expectations.

# Head Start Family Outcome 2023-2024



# Family Outcomes:

The assessed areas represented in the chart are tied to the National Head Start “Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework (PFCE)” Family Outcomes. Family progress checkpoints were obtained two times through the span of the 2023-2024 school year. New families enroll into Head Start throughout the year at different times allowing some families to only have one check point, though all still can achieve progress!

**Family Well-Being-** Families will become safer and healthy and have increased financial security.

**Positive Parent-Child Relationships-**Parents and families will develop an increase in warm relationships that nurture child’s learning and development.

**Families as Lifelong Educators of their Children-** Parents and families will participate in the everyday learning of their children at home, school, and in their communities.

**Families as Learners:** Families will advance their own learning to support their careers, parenting and life goals.

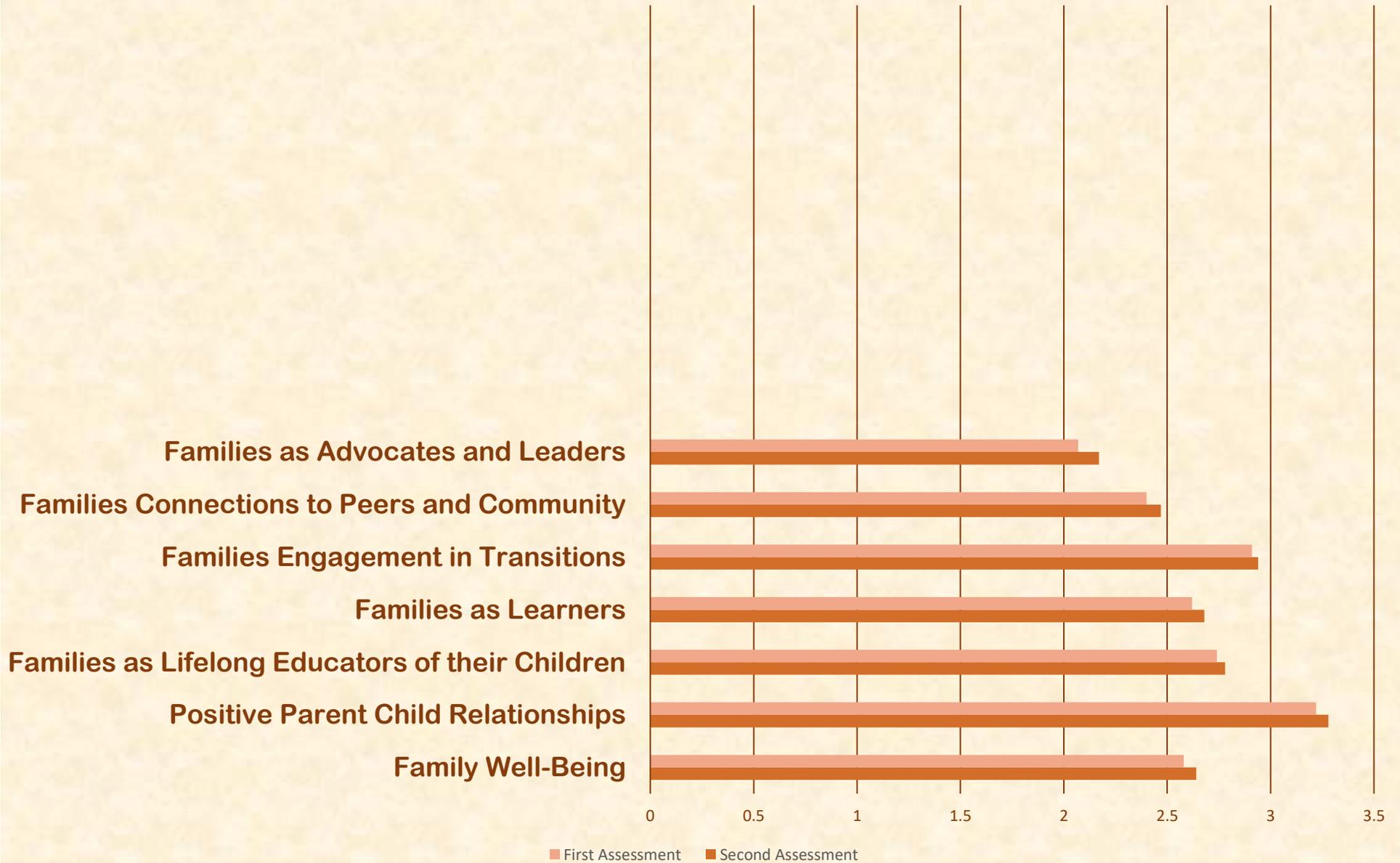
**Families Engagement in Transitions:** Families continue to advocate for their children as they grow and enter new and different schools, childcare facilities or experiences other transitions within the home or family.

**Families Connections to Peers and Community:** Families connect to others in their community and receive positive support.

**Families as Advocates and Leaders:** Families participate in leadership development and decision making with the Head Start program and community.

Two hundred thirteen families completed both assessments and are represented in this graph. Of those families, one hundred ninety four or 91% reported an increase on the self-sufficiency matrix scale. Through strengths-based partnerships with families, many families reported gains and increased their level of stability and safety. Some individual families gained in numbers as high as 139, 115, & 75 points across the board.

# Early Head Start Family Outcome 2023-2024



# Family Outcomes:

The assessed areas represented in the chart are tied to the National Head Start “Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework (PFCE)” Family Outcomes. Family progress checkpoints were obtained two times through the span of the 2023-2024 school year. New families enroll into Early Head Start throughout the year at different times allowing some families to only have one check point, though all still can achieve progress!

**Family Well-Being-** Families will become safer and healthy and have increased financial security.

**Positive Parent-Child Relationships-**Parents and families will develop an increase in warm relationships that nurture child’s learning and development.

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**Families Connections to Peers and Community:** Families connect to others in their community and receive positive support.

**Families as Advocates and Leaders:** Families participate in leadership development and decision making with the Head Start program and community.

During the 2023-2024 year, a total of 88 families completed at least one self-sufficiency matrix scale. Out of these, 52 families reported an improvement on the matrix scale. The graph above highlights those families who participated in two assessments. Thanks to strengths-based partnerships, many families achieved notable gains and enhanced their stability. Some families saw increases of up to 38, 37, or 35 points.

MVCAA Early Childhood Program Enrollment Report 2023-24

**07CH7083**

**Head Start** funded enrollment was 431. In February a change in scope was approved and funded enrollment was reduced to 391. Total children served was 477.

Average monthly enrollment

Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
37%	80%	83%	81%	83%	87%	97%	97%	97%	94%

**Early Head Start - CH** funded enrollment is 4. Total children served was 5.

Average monthly enrollment

Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%

**07HP0006**

**Early Head Start Expansion / Childcare Partnership grant** funded enrollment is 34. Total children served was 51.

Average monthly enrollment

Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	97%	94%	94%	94%	94%	94%

Through the expansion grant 17 slots are served through our Richmond Early Learning Center, Salisbury Early Learning Center, and Carrollton Early Learning Center. The remaining 17 slots are served through childcare partnerships in Lafayette County with Bright Beginnings Academy, Little Steps Learning Center, and Appleseed Daycare LLC.

**Early Head Start State Childcare** funded enrollment is 45 children and 4 pregnant participants. 37 of the childcare state slots are supported with federal funds. Total children served 65. Total pregnant participants served were 9. State contract runs from July 1 to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Average monthly enrollment

July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
61%	65%	61%	67%	67%	71%	73%	71%	73%	75%	73%	71%

During the 2023-24 program year staffing vacancies affected enrollment processes.

The percentage of eligible children served in 2023-24 was 24%. Data was figured using Kids Count (datacenter.aecf.org) which showed 2,508 children in poverty, birth to age 5, in counties within our service area. The percentage was determined from the 598 total of children served by MVCAA Early Head Start / Head Start program.

**MISSOURI VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY**  
Marshall, Missouri

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
For the Year Ended August 31, 2024

**I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

**Financial Statements:**

The auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the consolidated financial statements of Missouri Valley Community Action Agency

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting:**

Material weakness(es) identified?	_____	Yes	_____ <u>X</u> _____	No
Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	_____	Yes	_____ <u>X</u> _____	None Reported
Non compliance or other matters required to be reported under <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	_____	Yes	_____ <u>X</u> _____	No

**Federal Awards:**

Internal control over major programs:				
Material weakness(es) identified?	_____	Yes	_____ <u>X</u> _____	No
Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	_____	Yes	_____ <u>X</u> _____	None Reported

The auditor's report on compliance for the major federal award programs for Missouri Valley Community Action Agency expresses an unmodified opinion.

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	_____	Yes	_____ <u>X</u> _____	No
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Identification of major programs:

**U.S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Community Services Block Grant CFDA 93.569

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

Housing Voucher Cluster  
Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers CFDA 14.871  
Home Investment Partnership Program CFDA 14.239

The threshold for distinguishing Types A and B programs was \$750,000.00.

Auditee qualified as a low risk auditee?	_____ <u>X</u> _____	Yes	_____	No
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**II. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS**

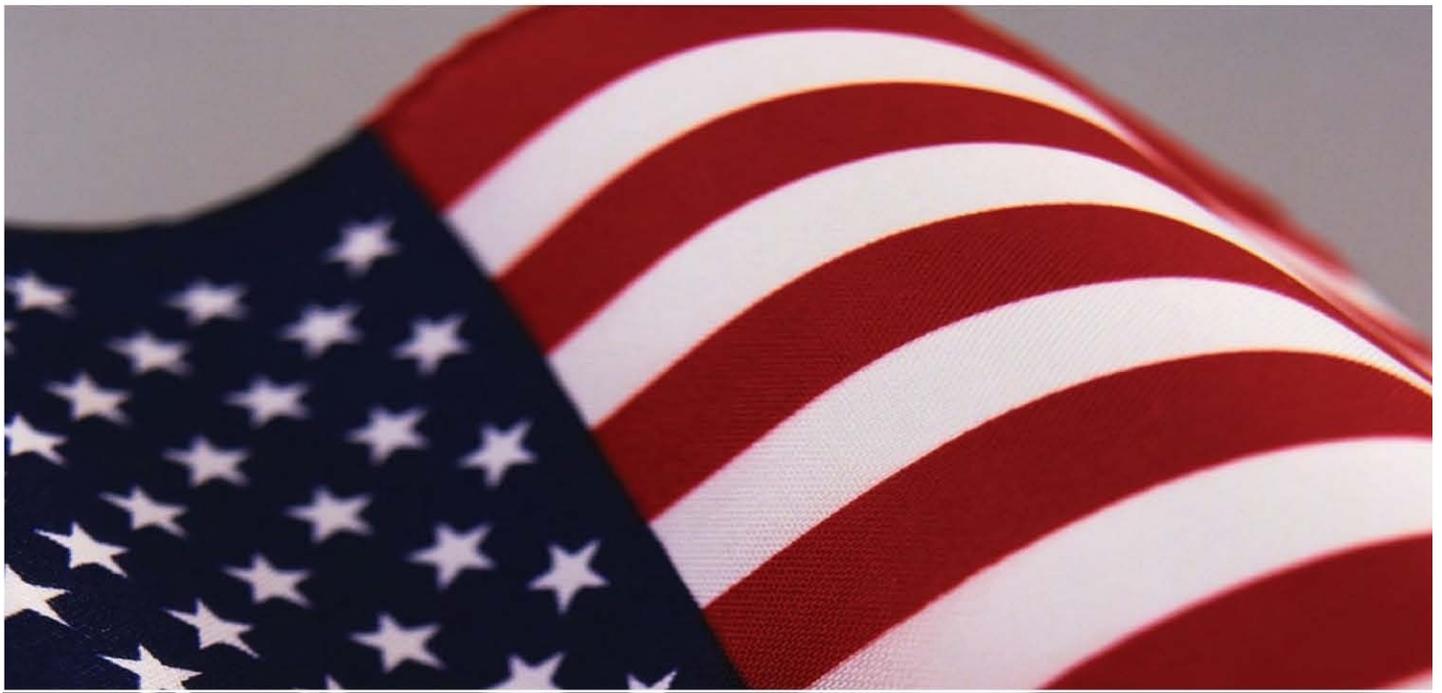
NONE

**III. FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

NONE



**Missouri Valley Community Action Agency**



**2023 - 2024  
Funding and Expenditures  
Annual Report**

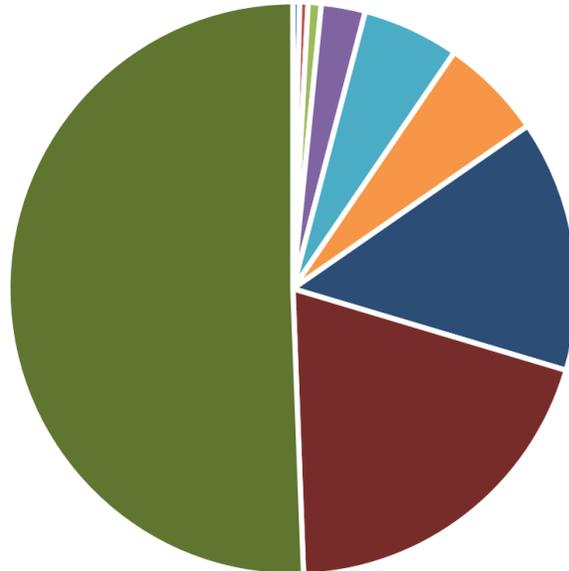
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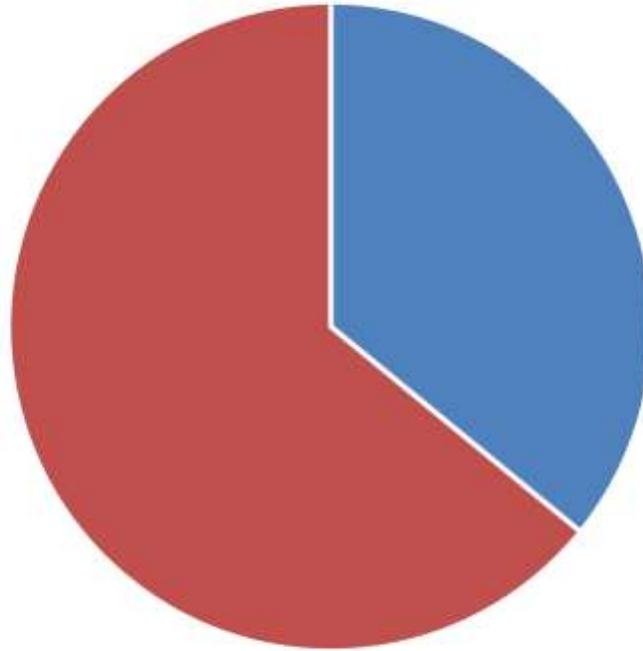
Serving Carroll, Chariton, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis, Ray, and Saline Counties since 1965

## Federal Funding - \$11,997,698



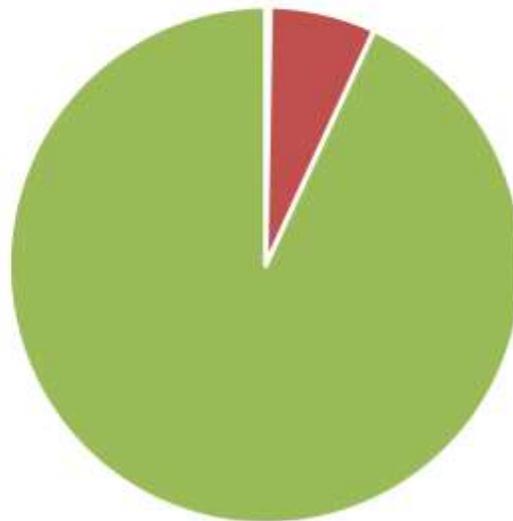
- \$45,225 - Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO)
- \$57,548 - LIHWAP - U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services
- \$88,882 - MO Community Action Network - Skillup
- \$299,763 - Child and Adult Care Food Program - U.S. Dept of Agriculture
- \$658,630 - Weatherization - Dept of Energy
- \$697,240 - Community Service Block Grant - U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services
- \$1,702,945 - Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers - U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Dev
- \$2,376,962 - LIHEAP - U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services
- \$6,070,503 - Head Start - U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services

### State Funding - \$1,301,242



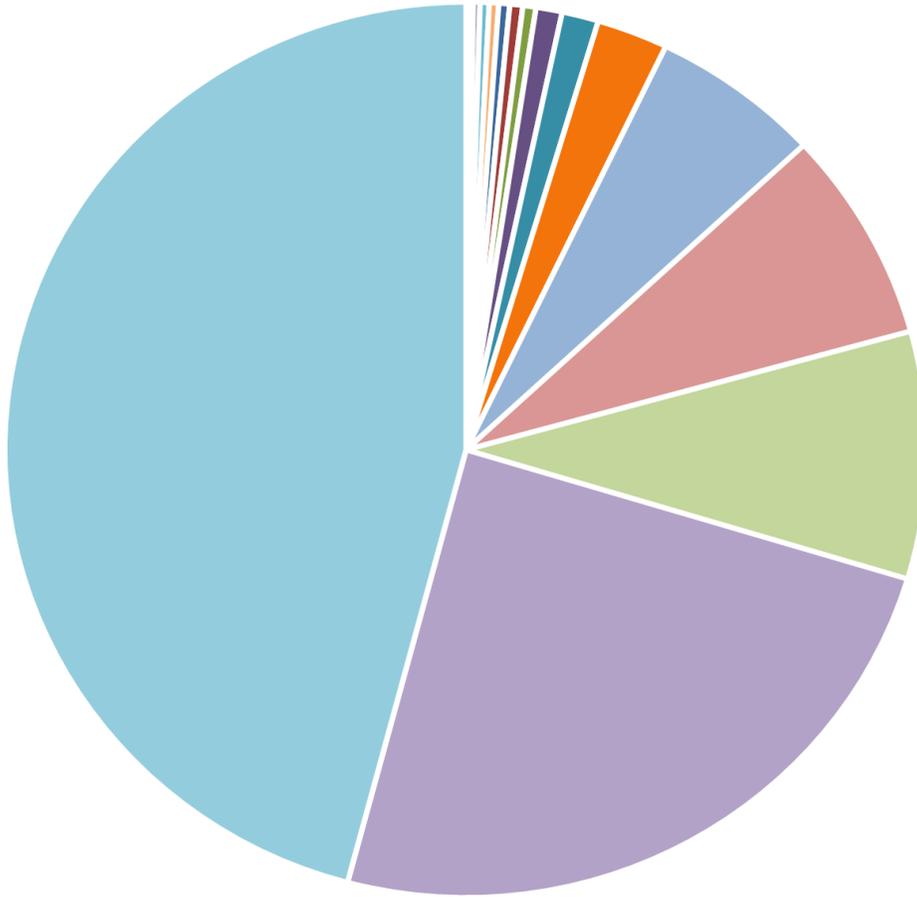
- \$467,050 - Missouri DESE Office of Childhood
- \$834,192 - Early Head State - State of Missouri

### Admin Program - \$14,062,641



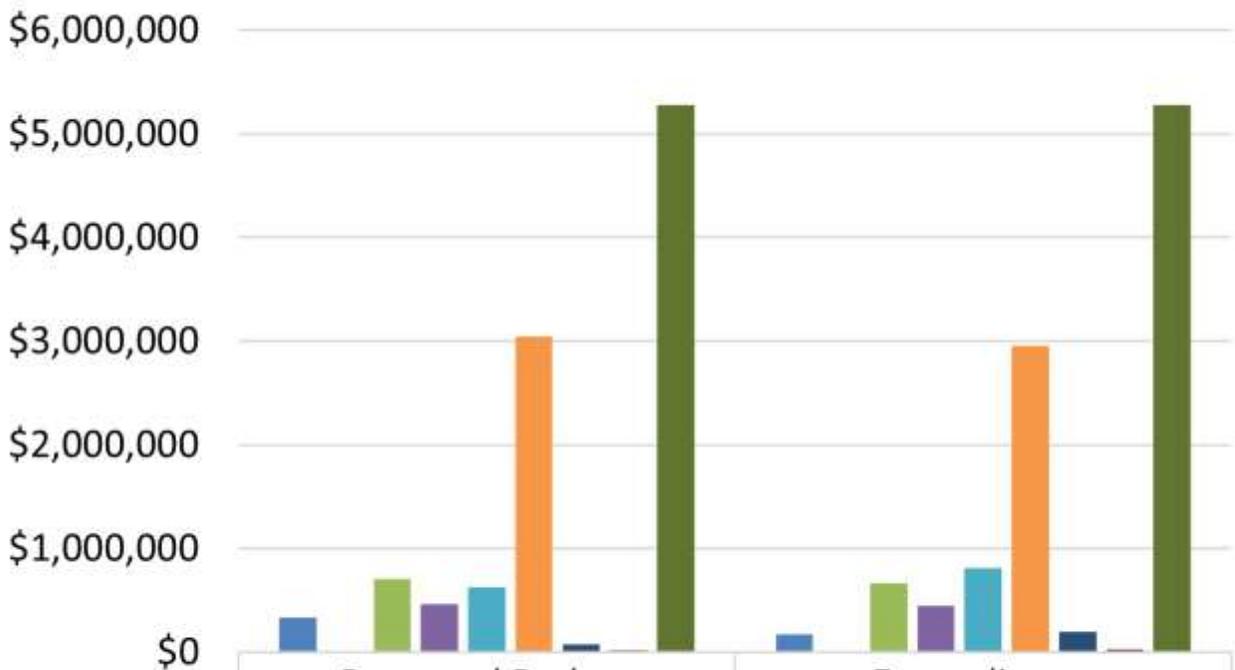
- \$38,813 - Fundraising
- \$934,827 - Management and General
- \$13,089,000 - Program Services

## Donated Local Funds - \$653,638



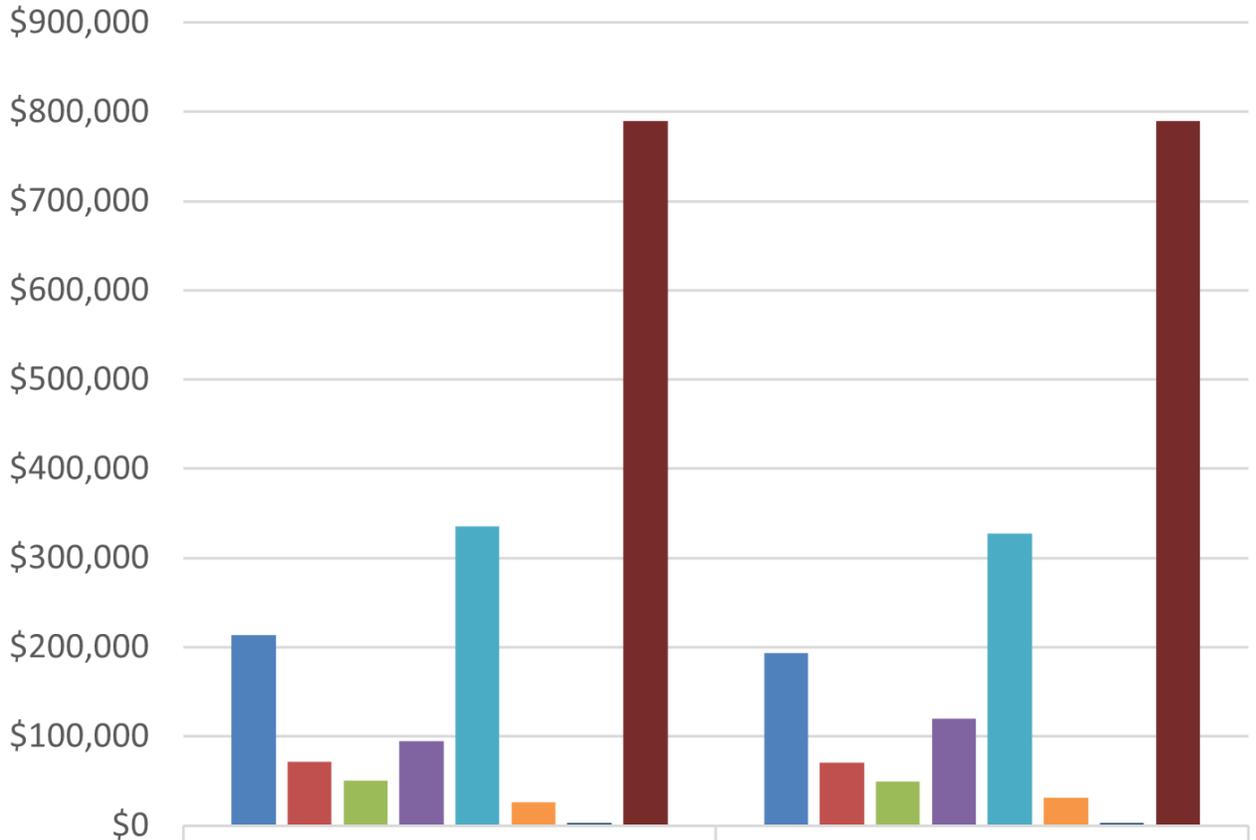
- \$0 - Carroll County School Supplies
- \$0 - Lafayette County School Supplies
- \$0 - Ray County Help Now
- \$0 - Saline County Family Support
- \$0 - Saline County Domestic Violence
- \$10 - Local Direct
- \$300 - Johnson County School Supplies
- \$858 - Carroll County Helping Hands
- \$2,088 - Lexington Ministerial Alliance
- \$2,500 - Weatherization
- \$3,000 - Pettis County Family Support
- \$8,403 - HEAT
- \$38,903 - Every Missouri Metro
- \$58,350 - Liberty Gas
- \$299,763 - Spire
- \$0 - Chariton County School Supplies
- \$0 - Chariton Help Now
- \$0 - Lafayette County Family Support
- \$0 - Lafayette County Health
- \$0 - Ameren Block Grant
- \$10 - Johnson Help Now
- \$469 - Lafayette Help Now
- \$1,523 - AWARE
- \$2,146 - Johnson County Family Support
- \$2,967 - Pettis Help Now
- \$6,000 - Missouri American Water
- \$16,339 - Head Start
- \$50,000 - Evergy
- \$160,009 - Evergy Missouri West

## Head Start



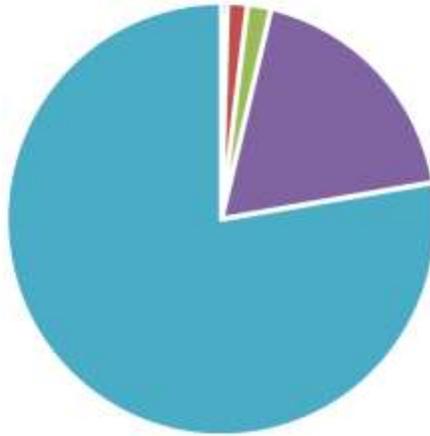
	Proposed Budget	Expenditures
Contractual	\$337,827	\$168,523
Equipment	\$13,582	\$13,582
Fringe	\$703,114	\$668,757
Indirect Cost	\$460,899	\$445,683
Other	\$627,844	\$808,180
Personnel	\$3,044,041	\$2,954,681
Supplies	\$76,648	\$193,315
Travel	\$15,668	\$24,902
Total	\$5,279,623	\$5,277,623

## EHS-Exp and CC Partnerships



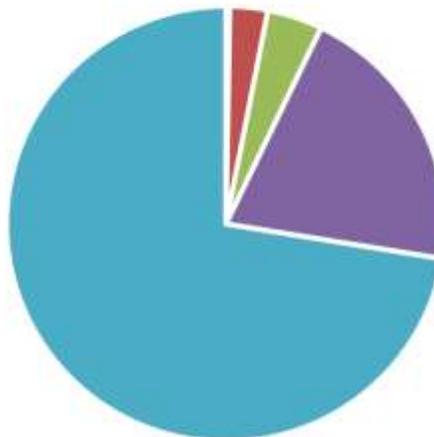
	Proposed Budget	Expenditures
■ Contractual	\$213,217	\$192,959
■ Fringe	\$71,197	\$70,017
■ Indirect Cost	\$49,966	\$48,902
■ Other	\$94,214	\$119,525
■ Personnel	\$335,028	\$327,560
■ Supplies	\$26,356	\$31,047
■ Travel	\$2,902	\$2,870
■ Total	\$789,978	\$790,010

### Head Start In-Kind - \$1,614,053



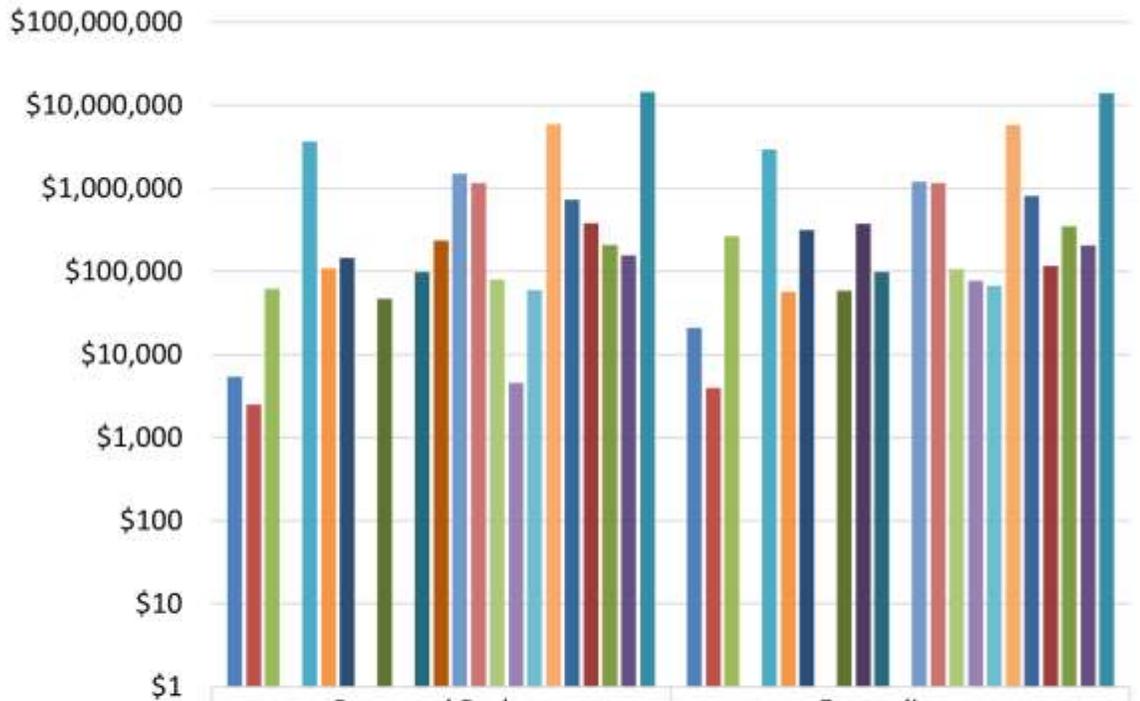
- \$7,038 - Other
- \$24,275 - Professional Volunteers
- \$28,600 - Space
- \$299,763 - Supplies
- \$1,254,377 - Non-professional Volunteers

### Early Head Start In-Kind - \$368,058



- \$1,035 - Other
- \$10,291 - Supplies
- \$14,983 - Professional Volunteers
- \$75,109 - Space
- \$266,640 - Non-professional Volunteers

## Agency Expenditures



	Proposed Budget	Expenditures
Advertising/Public Relations	\$5,439	\$20,823
Board Expense	\$2,500	\$3,987
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$61,328	\$264,220
Capacity Building	\$0	\$0
Client Assistance	\$3,687,347	\$2,926,512
Communications	\$108,155	\$56,326
Computer Expense/Maintenance	\$144,883	\$315,894
Construction	\$0	\$0
Contractual/Consultant Expense	\$46,900	\$58,496
Day Care Providers	\$0	\$377,511
Dues/Fees/Subscription	\$97,896	\$97,847
Equipment	\$235,252	\$0
Fringe	\$1,504,150	\$1,207,236
Housing Assistance Payments	\$1,154,292	\$1,154,292
Insurance & Taxes	\$79,890	\$107,044
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$4,550	\$77,922
Postage & Printing	\$59,881	\$67,111
Salary	\$5,876,819	\$5,845,049
Space Cost	\$727,492	\$809,359
Staff Development	\$382,584	\$117,032
Supplies	\$209,625	\$350,613
Travel	\$156,488	\$205,367
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,545,472</b>	<b>\$14,062,641</b>