Tri-County CAP Head Start: 2020-2021 Annual Report

610 Sullivan Street Berlin, NH 03570 *603-752-7138 and equal opportunity employer and educator
MISSION

Tri-County CAP is dedicated to improving the lives and well-being of New Hampshire’s people and communities. We provide opportunities and support for people to learn and grow in self-sufficiency and to get involved in helping their neighbors and improving the conditions in their communities.
Director's Message

Dear Community,

The Tri-County CAP Head Start Program has been serving preschool children and their families in Carroll, Coos and Grafton counties for over 55 years. We are committed to making a difference in the lives of children and strive to serve the most vulnerable and at-risk children and their families in our community including children who are homeless, in foster care, and with special needs.

Head Start has a history of achieving long-term outcomes for children both by supporting their health and learning and by enabling their families to achieve their own goals for education, employment, stability and success.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents who serve in our Site Committees and Policy Council, our CAP Board, our many community partners, and Regional Office (Region I) staff for their expertise, guidance and continuous support. An extra special thank you is extended to our hard working resilient and motivated staff who have worked tirelessly and continue to do so, throughout this pandemic. It takes all of us working together to provide high-quality programs to children, equipping them with the foundation for lifelong learning and success.

This past year has proven to be a very challenging one for all of us, as we have never experienced anything quite like COVID-19. Tri-County Head Start is extremely proud to report that we were able to have in-person learning for all children this year. Throughout the pandemic, we only converted to remote learning a few times when we had to place our staff in quarantine due to COVID outbreaks. We are proud of our accomplishments and want to share them with you. Please take time to learn about the great work we are doing for children and families in Carroll, Coos and Grafton Counties. You may access this annual report online @ www.tccap.org.

Thank you,

Karen Thomas

Director

Tri County CAP Head Start
Head Start is a national program that promotes school readiness of children ages birth to five from low-income families by supporting the development of the whole child. Tri County Community Action Program Head Start (TCCAP) offers preschool programs at various locations to over 217 children and their families throughout Carroll, Coos and Grafton Counties. TCCAP Head Start supports the entire family through a whole family approach.

POLICY COUNCIL

Chairperson: Tiffany Mooney

Policy Council Representatives: Bonnie McKenzie, Amber Strout

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson: Sandy Alonzo

Treasurer: George Sykes

CAP CEO: Jeanne Robillard

Director: Karen Thomas

Operations Managers: Lisa Couture & Jaimie Olden
Children and Families Served

Tri-County CAP Head Start Provided services to 192 children and their families in the 2020-2021 Program Year. Children are eligible to attend Head Start upon their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday and may remain in the program until they are eligible for Kindergarten.

**Ages of Children Served**

- 3-4 Year Olds: 49%
- 4-5 Year Olds: 51%

**Number of Years Students were in Program**

- 39% First Year Students
- 54% Second Year Students
- 7% Third Year Students
Children and Families Served

Head Start offers preschool and family development services to income eligible families. The Head Start ERSEA Manager reviews family applications and enrolls classrooms using a needs based criteria.

**Enrollment Eligibility**

- 130% and Above Poverty Guidelines: 29%
- 100-130% above Poverty Guidelines: 14%
- Low Income: 11%
- Catagorically Eligible: 46%

**Explanation of Catagorically Eligible**

- Foster Children: 62%
- Homeless: 25%
- Public Assistance: 13%
Enrollment

Tri-County CAP Head Start offers services to 217 children in 9 Locations at Thirteen center based classrooms and one home based option.
Child Outcomes and School Readiness

Tri County CAP Head Start focuses on school readiness and efforts to prepare children for kindergarten; TCCHS recognizes that school readiness supports lifelong success for children.

TCCHS utilizes *The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool*, a comprehensive, research-based, research-proven, curricula featuring exploration and discovery as a way of learning.

### Fundamental Principles of the Creative Curriculum

- Social-emotional competence is a significant factor in school success;
- Constructive, purposeful play supports essential learning;
- The physical environment affects the type and quality of learning interactions
- Teacher-family partnerships promote development and learning.

Teachers use Curriculum and Teaching Strategies Gold Child Assessments to plan for all areas of development.

Areas of Development guide the provision of materials and activities in the environment.

Staff observe and support the children's efforts and abilities as they participate in classroom experiences.

The environment and activities inform the experiences of children in the program.

Staff observations are the basis for Teaching Strategies Gold Child assessments.
Child Outcomes and School Readiness

Child outcomes data is shared with all staff, families and Policy Council outlining strengths and areas for improvement. Staff and families review child specific reports to share each child’s strengths and set goals together.

- Observations and assessments by Teaching Staff collected tri-annually using Teaching Strategies Gold
- Developmental Screenings completed within 45 days of enrollment
- Observations and goals shared by families at quarterly parent-teacher conferences

Individualized Strength Based Education Services for Children

*Social & Emotional Development
*Approaches to Learning,
*Language and Literacy
*Math, Logic and Reasoning
*Social Studies
*Creative Arts
*Physical Health
Child Outcomes and School Readiness

Teaching Strategies GOLD is used to track and measure school readiness goals. Individual Child, Classroom, and Program profile reports are generated to help guide curriculum for specific groups, and identify areas for support and supervision. The Education Manager analyzes data and generates individual classroom and program-wide TS GOLD reports three times per program year. Child outcomes data is shared with all staff, families and Policy Council outlining strengths and areas for improvement.

Percentage of Children Meeting or Exceeding Widely Held Expectations
2020-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social-Emotional</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>66%</td>
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</tbody>
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Child Outcomes and School Readiness

High quality teachers positively affect Child Outcomes and School Readiness. Tri County CAP Head Start ensures that teachers are obtaining the skills and support to provide a high quality classroom and successful environment for children by providing ongoing monitoring, training and support with Teaching Strategies Gold, CLASS and Active Supervision.

Professional Development Opportunities 2020-2021

- Individualized Coaching
- Professional Development Days- monthly for self-study topics
- CLASSROOM Management with Brandon Williams
- Pyramid Model through Pro-Solutions
- Observations and Assessment
- CLASS Primer for teachers
- Motivational Interviewing
Services
The Head Start Health & Safety Manager, Nutrition Services Manager, and Disabilities & Behavioral Health Manager all work closely with the local LEAs, Mental Health Services, and other community health organizations to provide high quality health and nutrition services to children and families. They also work collaboratively with Head Start Family Workers to connect parents to resources in the community in order to get their immediate, short and long term needs met.

Health Services Summary:

Children with current dental exams increased 12% in the 2019-2020 Program Year

Children with up to date immunizations increased 12% in the 2019-2020 Program Year

As of March 2020 all enrolled children had physicals. At the end of the program year 86% of students had physicals. 30 students were unable to attend well child checks on time due to COVID-19.

Comparison of Children's Health Status

Dental Exam

- Current at Enrollment
- Current at End of Enrollment

Physicals

- Current at Enrollment
- Current at End of Enrollment
Services

Disabilities Services Summary:

Head Start staff work with local SAUs and Healthcare providers to identify students with special education needs. Head Start Staff collaborates with families during the referral process to ensure that children receive targeted, individualized services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disabilities Serviced in the 2019-2020 Program Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Delay: 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech and Language: 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autism: 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Health Impaired: 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual Education Plans</th>
<th>At Enrollment</th>
<th>At End of Enrollment</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Financial Overview

Funding Source Amount:

*$2,696,552 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

*$28,569 U.S Department of Health and Human Services- Training and Technical Assistance

*$613,108 in Non Federal Match for FY ending Jan 2021

*$32,898 U. S Department of Health and Human Services- COLA

*65,100 U. S Department of Health and Human Services -CRRSA funding

*259,647 U.S Department of Health and Human Services -American Rescue Plan (2 year funding)

*$199,000 U.S.D.A.
Parent, Family, and Community Involvement

Head Start Families Contributed **176 hours** of their time attending Virtual **Parent Group Meetings**. Parent Group plans engaging and educational opportunities for children and families; bridging the connection between home and school.

Androscoggin Valley Farm to School

Tri-County Cap Nutrition Services Manager, Susan Blanchett is one of the original members of the Steering Committee which works to bring farm fresh foods to local schools. The organization connects schools, community organizations, 4-H programs, nursing homes, and the NH food bank and supports these organizations grant proposals and community projects.

Tri Count Head Start participates in both the Berlin and Milan Farm to School grants.