



Annual Report

2022-2023



Prepared By
Mary Varr
Timothy Brelsford

Table of

Contents

1	Vision & Mission	++
2	Financial Report	++
3	Head Start Demographics	++
4	Play and Learn	++
5	Family Engagement	
6	Kindergarten Readiness	
7	Child Outcomes	
8	Transition to Kindergarten	

Mission & Vision

Mission

We build enduring partnerships with families and the community through Comprehensive Early Childhood Education that improves the lifelong outcomes for the children we serve.

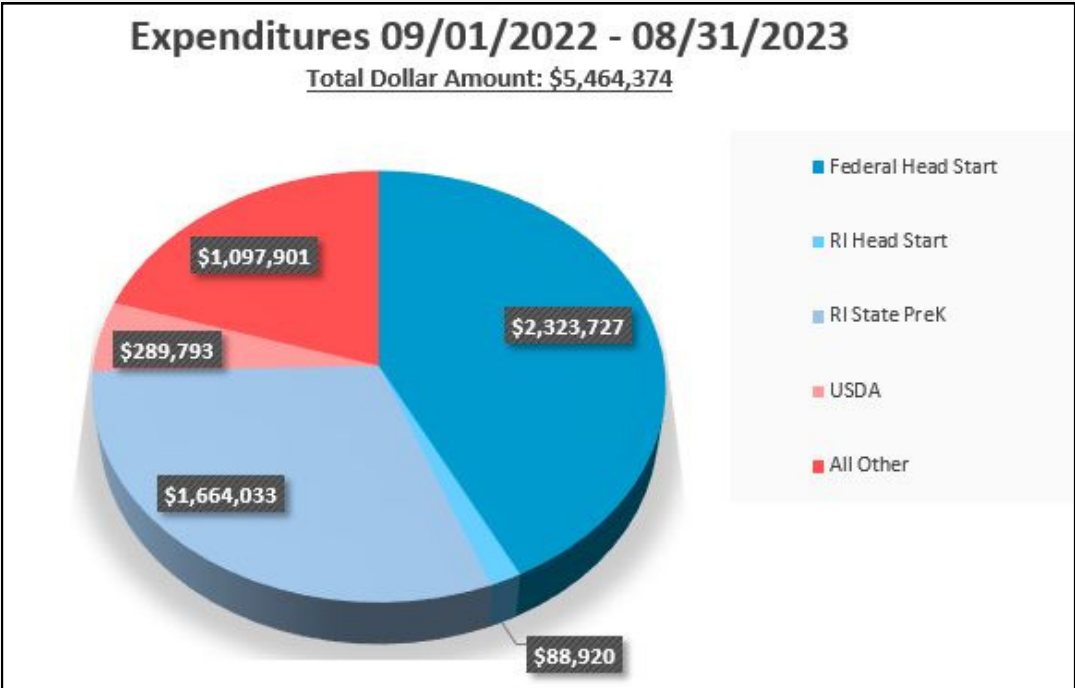
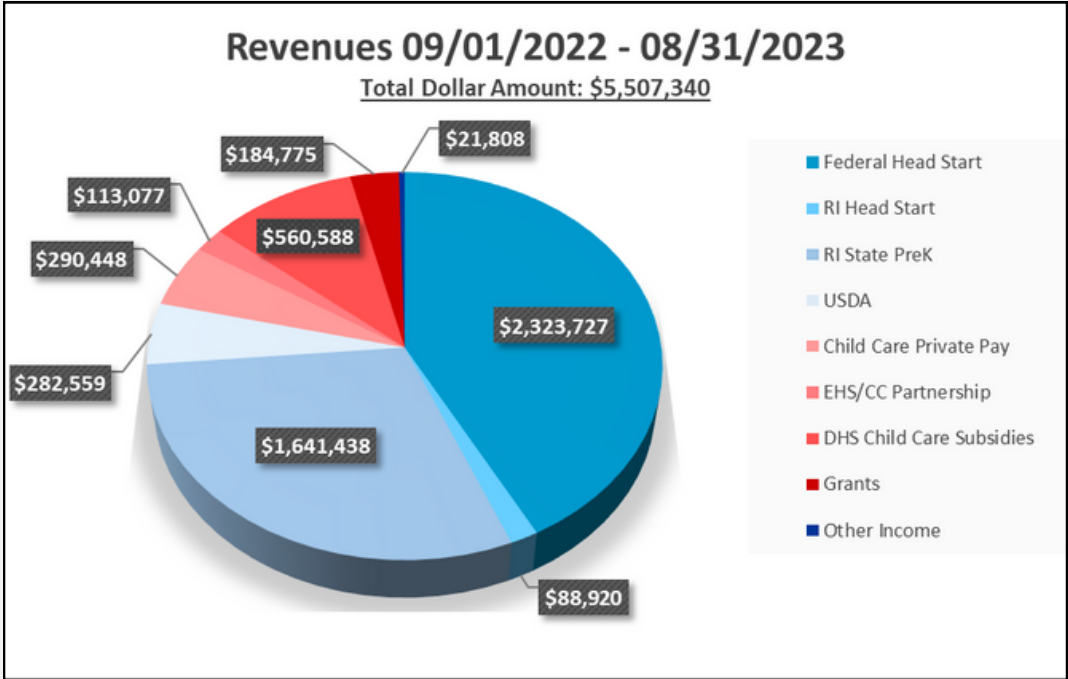
Vision

Woonsocket Head Start Child Development Association, Inc. inspires families and children to build strong sustainable relationships that promote self-confidence, resiliency, and lifelong success.



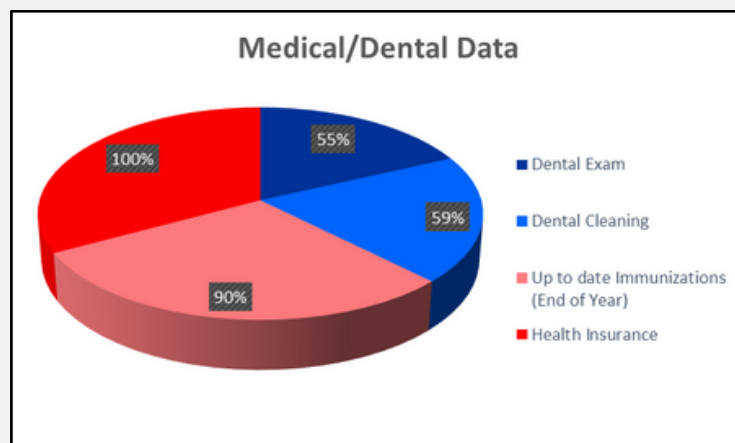
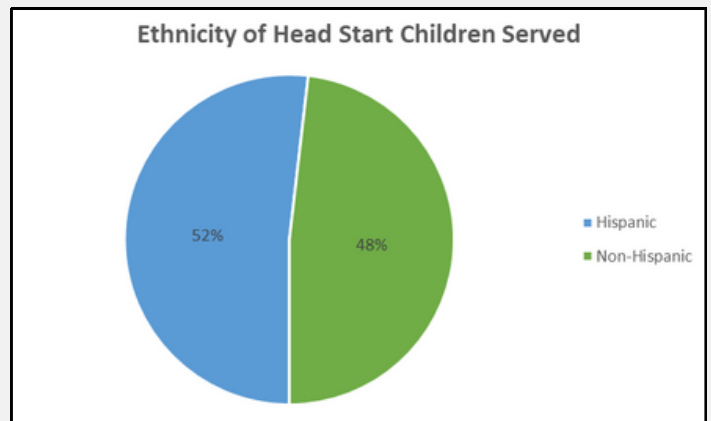
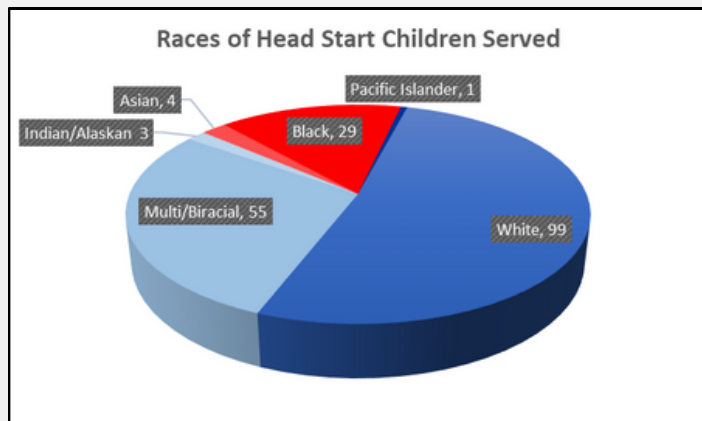
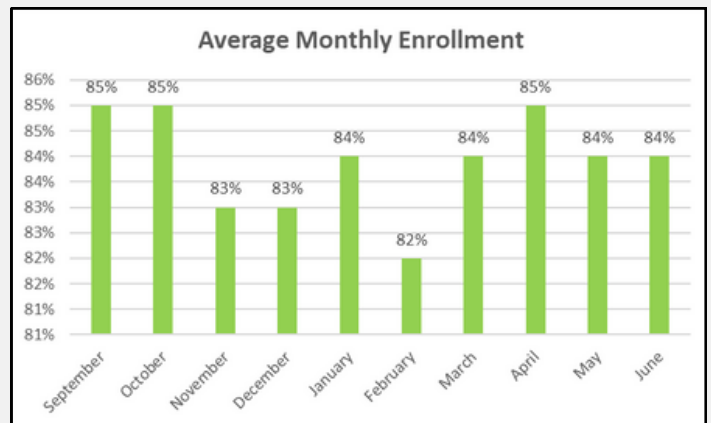
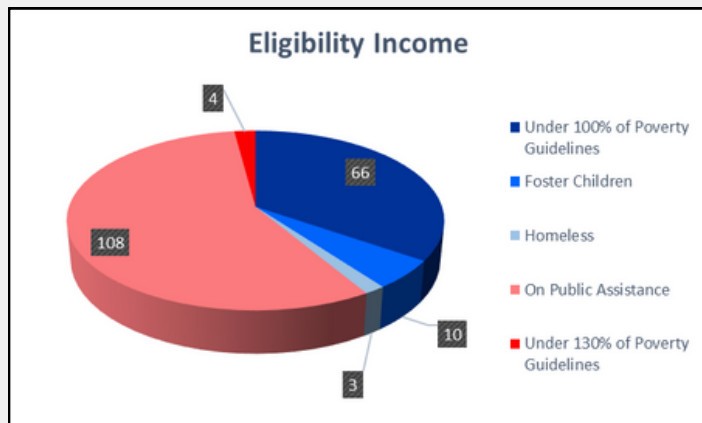
Financial Report

The figures below depict a comprehensive breakdown of WHSCDA's total Revenue and Expenditures.



Head Start Demographics

Eligibility, Enrollment, Race, Ethnicity, Medical, and Dental information for 191 Head Start Children



Play and Learn

WHSCDA and Woonsocket Education Department partnered together to run a series of Play and Learn sessions that highlighted a Basic principle. Many of the participants were on the Head Start waiting list. These sessions allowed our Enrollment Specialist to engage/assess potential WHSCDA students firsthand, prior to enrollment. **During that process, our Enrollment Specialist is able to offer referral supports and think of potential classroom placement.**

The process entails 6-week sessions at different locations throughout the city with morning and afternoon sessions. To ensure the successful outcome of a session, weekly reminders are sent out via phone calls, in-person reminders, emails, and messaging through an agency database. **While running these Play and Learn sessions, families who went onto enroll in our program already felt connected to our agency and other families.**



- Since January 2023, there have been 8 Play and Learn Sessions
- 72% of children that signed up attended one session
- Over half of the children that attended a Play and Learn enrolled in one of our programs (Head Start or State Funded Pre-K)



Family Engagement



Family Engagement has been a cornerstone of the Head Start program since its founding. Family Engagement honors parents and caregivers as children's first teachers and supports such relationships which are central to a child's wellbeing.

In 2022-2023, WHSCDA, Inc. offered both in-person and virtual family engagement opportunities for families. Topics included ways to support their children's learning, improve their parenting skills, advocacy skills, economic mobility and mental health. ***Through our community partnership with Child & Family of Rhode Island and FCCP (Family Care Community Partnerships), we began offering Circle of Parents®***, a parent lead self-help support group. ***Additionally, in 2022-2023 WHSCDA, Inc. was awarded the opportunity to participate in the Family Economic Mobility Academy offered by the Office of Head Start.*** Through this, families and staff were provided with an array of resources and workshop opportunities to better support and strengthen financial wellbeing.

95% of WHSCDA, Inc. families (annual Parent Survey) reported that educational home activities provided to them were aligned with the goals they had for their child's development and learning. Literacy and math activities were the most common domains reflected in home activities.

WHSCDA, Inc. launched The Basics app during the 2022-2023 program year, in alignment with our community's First Ten Initiative. ***The Basics principles (Maximize Love, Manage Stress; Talk, Sing and Point; Count, Group and Compare; Explore Through Movement and Play; Read and Discuss Stories) are science based parenting themes that support the social, emotional and cognitive development of young children.***



Kindergarten Readiness

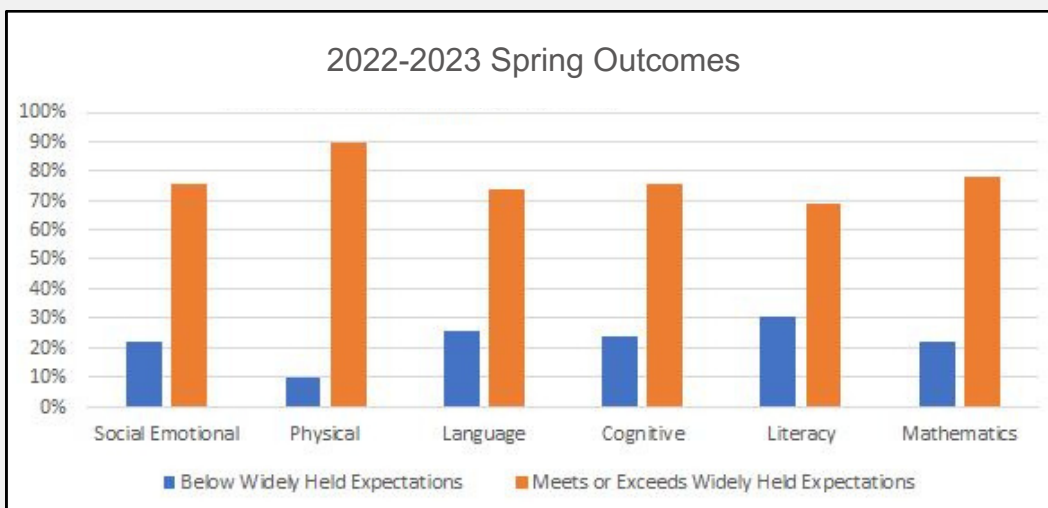


We welcome all children and their families, including, but not limited to, those with developmental delays and disabilities, mental health diagnoses and behavioral challenges, into our program and ensure they fully participate in all aspects of the educational program.

- WHSCDA works with Child Outreach to complete screening on all children within their 1st 45 days of school, ensuring any learning delay is discovered and addressed within a timely manner.
 - WHSCDA works closely with WED to provide special education services in the classroom. Teachers and itinerants meet weekly to individualize plans for children with IEP's.
 - Creative Curriculum, the R.I. Early Learning and Development Standards and The Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework are used as a framework for implementing high-quality early childhood programs.
 - Teaching Strategies Gold is used as an assessment tool to inform planning and to help identify children that are falling below widely held expectations.
 - Teachers participate in a data day, providing the opportunity to analyze TSG data. This opportunity gives teachers the chance to create lesson plans specifically designed to move a majority of the children into widely held expectations along the TSG continuum.
 - Conscious Discipline was utilized to create classroom communities and improve the social emotional outcomes of all children.
-

Child Outcomes

At the end of the 2022-2023 school year 78 Head Start children were moving onto Kindergarten in the fall. Of those 78, 24 had an Individual Education Plan and 13 were English Language Learners. From Spring 2020-Spring 2022, the objectives assessed were modified due to COVID. The 2022-2023 school year was the 1st year WHSCDA returned to assessing all objectives. The graphs below show both Fall and Spring outcomes. While a small number of children remained below widely held expectations, most made huge gains throughout the school year.



Transition to Kindergarten

WHSCDA collaborates closely with the Woonsocket Education Department and RISE to ensure a seamless transition for both children and families as they prepare for Kindergarten. Beginning in February, WHSCDA staff assists families in registering their children for Kindergarten. From March to June, the Woonsocket Education Department and WHSCDA jointly organize two Passport to K events in all public schools, offering families the chance to familiarize themselves with their local school environment and gain insight into a typical Kindergarten day. Children enrolled at WHSCDA receive personalized postcards featuring their home school, inviting them to these events.

Starting in May, classroom teachers engage in transition activities, such as reading a specially created book featuring real pictures from public schools and viewing a video made by Kindergarten students, aimed at preparing incoming Kindergarteners for the upcoming school year. In addition, teachers complete transition forms highlighting each child's strengths and needs, which are then shared with their Kindergarten teachers. WHSCDA's Mental Health Specialists create additional folders for children requiring extra support throughout the year, aiding in their placement in public schools.

By late July, WED provides WHSCDA with a list of children still not registered, prompting a final push to assist these families in completing the registration process. At the beginning of the new school year WHSCDA teachers attend the first day of Kindergarten at all elementary schools, providing a familiar face to ease any anxieties for the children and families. Furthermore, WED and WHSCDA staff collaborated to identify the most vulnerable children entering Kindergarten in the 23/24 school year, enabling them to participate in a summer program aimed at preventing learning loss.

