



GENESEE COUNTY
COMMUNITY ACTION
RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
HEAD START

2024-2025
**ANNUAL
REPORT**



Visit Our Website
www.gccardheadstart.com



Contact Us
(810) 235-5613

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dear Friends and Partners,

In reflecting on the 2024-2025 program year, we are proud of the progress our Early Head Start and Head Start Preschool programs have made in serving the children and families of Genesee County. The provision of developmentally appropriate education, nutrition, health and family services ensures children are prepared for school success and increases family stability.

Collaboration is key to this continued positive impact on children and families. We thank the dedicated staff, involved families, local school districts, parent policy council members, community partners, and the Genesee County Board of Commissioners for their ongoing commitment to this vital work. Through combined efforts, futures are being changed each day, as evidenced by the following key accomplishments achieved over the past year.

Please review this report and take pride in the role you have played in supporting the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department (GCCARD) Head Start Program.

Kelli Webb, Head Start Director



VISION

Believing in the worth of all people, Head Start will work in partnership with families to support the achievement of their goals and their children's educational attainment.

MISSION

Head Start is a family focused birth through five program that promotes school readiness, advocates, supports and provides comprehensive quality services for children and families through school, community, and family partnerships.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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PARENT POLICY COUNCIL

Policy Council members were elected from the Beecher EHS, Mott EHS, and Grantee Programs to represent the total Genesee County HS/EHS Program. They met monthly and shared in the decision-making process regarding quality programming for themselves and their children. Members were also involved in the following committees: personnel, budget, program evaluation and assessment, grant development, school readiness, and bylaws. Thanks to the Policy Council Members and special appreciation to the Policy Council Officers. You are the heart of the program!



Danyell Wheeler
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Rashida Staten
Vice-Chairperson



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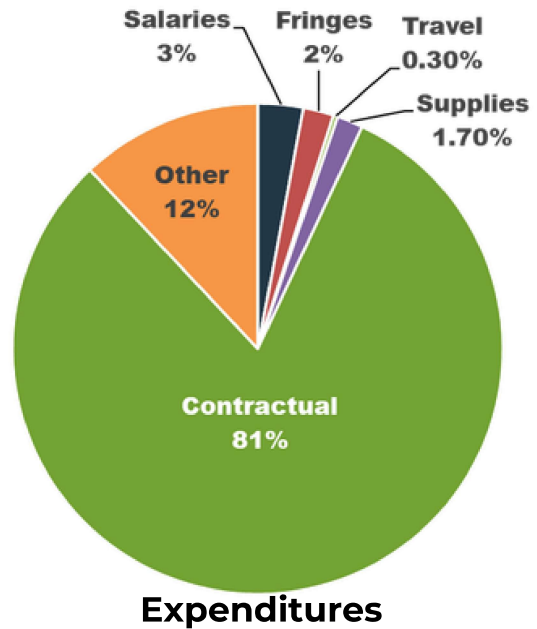
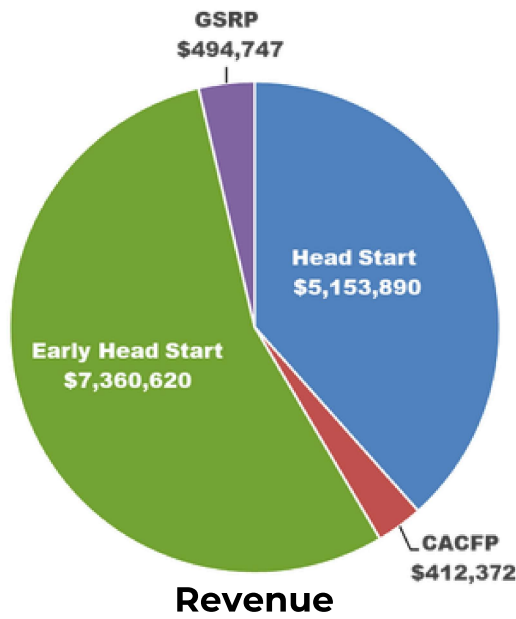


Lynnette Fronsee
Corresponding
Secretary

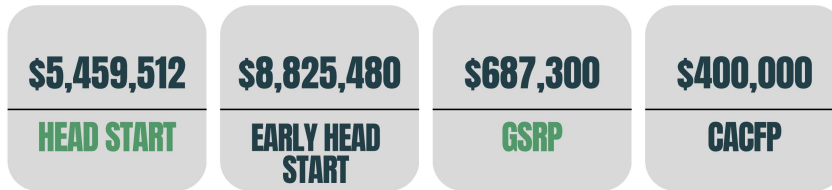
AUDIT FINDINGS

GCCARD Head Start audit was completed by Plante Moran, PLLC on May 14, 2025. There were no findings related to Head Start.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



PROPOSED BUDGET 25-26



REVIEWS FROM THE SECRETARY (ACF)

The Office of Head Start performed the CLASS Video Review from 11/25/2024 to 2/07/2025. GCCARD Head Start scored well above the thresholds established as a condition for competition and quality.

<u>Domain</u>	<u>GCCARD Head Start Score</u>	<u>Quality Threshold</u>	<u>Competitive Threshold</u>
Emotional Support	6.4531	6	5
Classroom Organization	6.4375	6	5
Instructional Support	3.6563	3	2.3

An unannounced Focus Area 2 monitoring review was conducted May 5-9, 2025. Reviewers monitored the following areas: program design, management and improvement; education and child development services; health services; family and community engagement services; fiscal infrastructure; and ERSEA. GCCARD Head Start had no deficiencies, one area of non-compliance, and two areas of concern in health services. Area of non-compliance - 1302.101(a)(2); Finding Details: The grant recipient did not implement a management system promoting regular and ongoing supervision of ERSEA and other staff members. Review of existing policy showed an evaluation required at the end of the probationary period. After that, the policy required completion of annual professional development plans. Correction: The program implemented a management system promoting clear, reasonable roles and responsibilities for all staff and providing ongoing staff supervision with meaningful, effective employee engagement practices, inclusive of annual evaluations and professional development plans. The first area of concern related to child health and oral health status and care. The grant recipient should improve efforts to obtain medical and oral health determinations from a health care professional for children and improve timeliness of efforts to obtain or perform evidence-based vision and hearing screenings for all children within 45 days of enrollment. The second area of concern related to safe and sanitary environments. The grant recipient should develop and implement a written preventative maintenance plan to ensure safety of facilities. Both areas of concern were related to tracking of work being completed. New tracking allows existing efforts to be easily recognized.

Gardening Amusement

The Fenton EHS classroom worked on their classroom garden throughout the year, learning parts of the plant, what plants need to grow, and the plant life cycle. The children shoveled dirt

into the planters, mixed the dirt, planted seeds and plants, watered the garden, and made observations. It has been a wonderful addition to the classroom outside space!



Dental Day Delight

Mott Community College Dental Program visited the Mott EHS classroom on April 8, 2025, engaging with the children through activities and discussions about oral health. The dental assistants worked with the children during the activities and then handed out toothbrushes and items to each child. They also educated parents on the dental program services offered to families.



Longway Planetarium Fun

Beecher EHS families attended a sensory friendly socialization at the Longway Planetarium on March 20, 2025. Families were engaged in the "In My Backyard" interactive show inside the famous large screen dome. Students learned about things that could be seen in the backyard such as all four seasons, plants, creatures, the moon, stars and our solar system. The show concluded with a thrilling virtual roller coaster ride. Students posed like an astronaut in space and got a photograph. Families developed social connections by meeting new friends in the program.



Hall of Fame Award



GCCARD Head Start Health Coordinator, Aimee Allor, was the recipient of an award from Genesee Health Plan's Health Care Hall of Fame on Thursday, August 1, 2024. She was honored for the work she has completed as a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician. She works as part of a team to host community car seat checks and installations and enables at-risk families to receive free car seats, if needed. She works to empower families to advocate for themselves and the safety of their children. Her dedication is so important and much appreciated!





Community Outreach

Joan and Al Stauffacher reached out in 2006, looking for a way to bless children in need. Our children play outside daily – even when it’s very cold – so a good coat is absolutely necessary. Joan and Al partnered with Macy’s to provide coats at cost and have stayed true to the mission ever since – donating over 700! They also found other ways to serve our families. They delivered 250 teddy bears through a connection with Zales Jewelry Store. During the Flint Water Crisis, they recruited Stanley Moving (donating trucking services) and Corunna Road Kroger Store (selling discounted water), providing 564 gallons of fluorinated nursery water. As Al and Joan’s health declined, their daughters assured them they would continue their coat legacy. Donated coats during the 2024-2025 were delivered by Al, Joan, and two of their three daughters. To describe their story, one daughter said,

“The Stauffachers do not feel that what they’ve done is extraordinary, but they are clearly proud of their efforts.” Al added, “We’re just ordinary people, but accomplishing this feels like something important. I think both of us feel that we’ve contributed in a positive way to Flint’s challenges, especially those of very young children, so that they have a better start to life. And seeing the photos of smiling children in their warm coats is a great reward.”

Joan Stauffacher passed away in June 2025 at age 91. The GCCARD Head Start staff already miss her excitement about the quality of the adorable coats, her warm hugs and huge smiles. What a legacy she leaves of serving our program!

Welcome Back to Math

Mott Early Head Start invited families to enjoy the parent education room to explore math activities on January 22, 2025. We had several math activities set up in the room, such as the rich texture table with a “number find,” collage numbers for one to one correspondence, and easy math games that children could create their own rules. Parents were able to take home a story board of the “Five Little Ducks.”



End of the Year Fun!

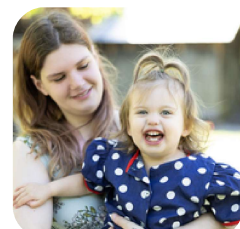
On May 16, 2025 over 800 children, their families, and our staff took a trip to Genesee County's own Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad. We watched history come alive as we took part in the daily activities of a 19th century Michigan Great Lakes community. We toured the historic homes, shops and trades buildings (over 30 authentic and historic structures) that date back to the days of Thomas Edison and Sojourner Truth. Many enjoyed a magic show in the Colwell Opera House and most of them took a ride on the Huckleberry Railroad, featuring the narrow-gauge railroad’s collection of cars including 11 original and replica wooden coaches plus a classic red wooden caboose. Representatives from many community partners attended the event and distributed information to children, families, and staff about the services that they provide here in Genesee County. Many families reported that they had never had the opportunity to come to Crossroads and appreciated the opportunity to visit such a gem in our own community.



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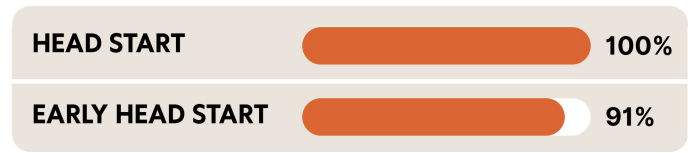


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ENROLLMENT OVERVIEW



AVERAGE MONTHLY ENROLLMENT



FAMILY OVERVIEW

Education Support



833

Families Served

833 received parenting & health education

203 received education on health consequences & tobacco use

Skills Training

29

Enrolled in education or job assistance program

18

Received asset building services

Health & Wellness

205 received emergency intervention

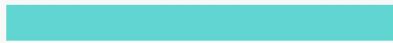
55 received mental health services

44 received housing assistance

Community Engagement

1,376 volunteered

325 males involved in the program

 **99%**
Made progress or achieved their goals

 **99%**
Parents overall impression of our program was good/excellent

CHILD OVERVIEW

96%
Had insurance at end of year

83%
Obtained dental exams/dental care

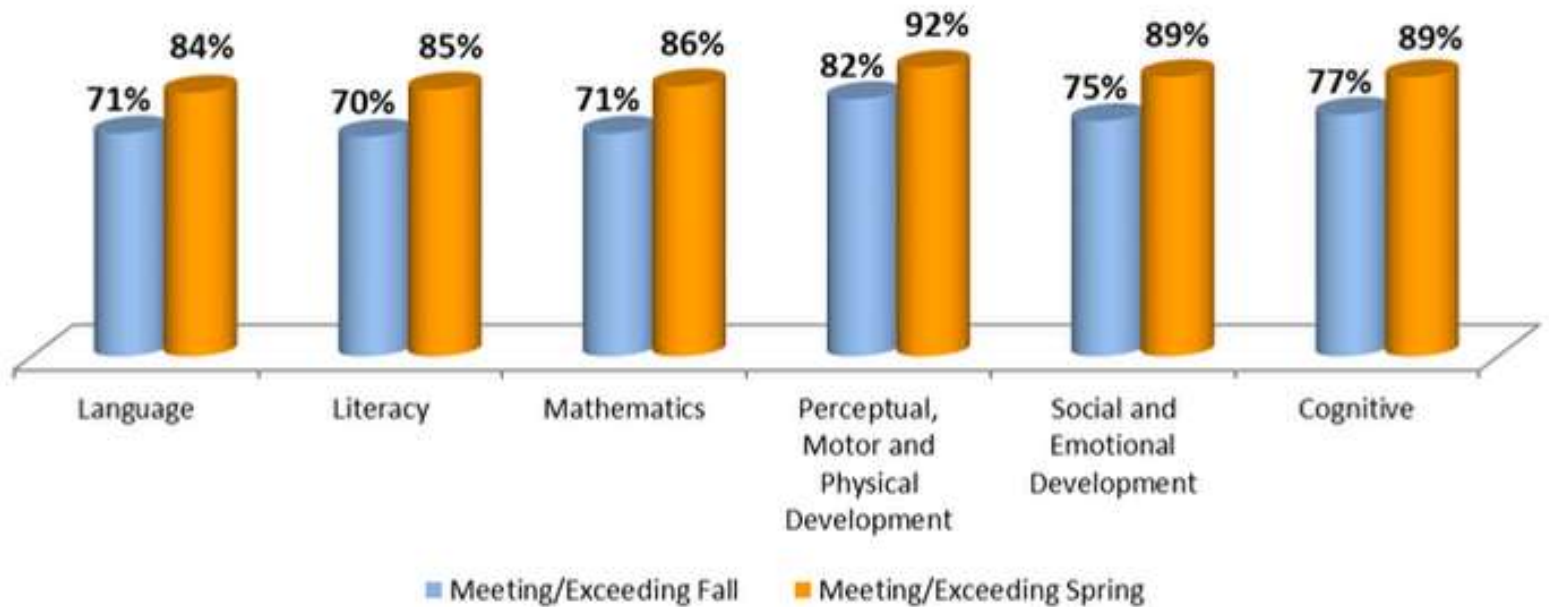
85%
Had up-to-date immunizations

96%
Had a medical home

83%
Obtained complete physicals

169
Children transitioned to kindergarten

SCHOOL READINESS GOALS



Social and Emotional Development

Children will develop a healthy sense of self concepts, practice self-regulations and will be able to establish and maintain positive relationships with adults and peers.

- Balances needs and rights of self and others (3a). HSELOF: IT-SE 5/P-SE 4
- Solves social problems (3b). HSELOF: IT-SE 3/P-SE 1
- Takes care of own needs appropriately (1c). HSELOF: IT-SE 12/P-SE 10

Cognitive

Children will develop reasoning, memory, problem solving and thinking skills to help understand & organize their world.

- Solves Problems. (11c). HSELOF: IT-C11/P-SCI 4

Language

Children will develop the ability to listen, understand and use language.

- Uses an expanding and expressive vocabulary. (9a). HSELOF: IT-LC 7/8
- Engages in conversations of at least three exchanges. (10a). HSELOF: IT-LC 4/P-LC 4
- Uses social rules of language. (10b). HSELOF: IT-LC 4/P-LC 4

Literacy

Children will move along the continuum of emerging literacy and will develop competence as listeners, speakers, readers, writers, and viewers.

- Notices and discriminates rhyme (15a). HSELOF: IT-LC 9/P-LIT 1
- Interacts during read alouds and book conversations. (18a). HSELOF: IT-LC 13/P-LIT 6
- Writes to convey meaning. (19b). HSELOF: IT-LC 13/P-LIT 6

Mathematics

Children will develop math knowledge in part through active participation and exploration of the world around them. Children need opportunities to expand their knowledge through a variety of hands-on experiences.

- Quantifies. (20b). HSELOF: IT-C8/P-MATH 3
- Connects numerals with their quantities. (20c). P-MATH 3
- Understands spatial relationships. (21a). HSELOF: IT-C9-P-MATH 10
- Demonstrates knowledge of patterns. (23). HSELOF: IT-C 10/P-MATH 7

Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

Children will develop overall physical growth including muscle control, fine and gross motor development and the acquisition of the self-help skills. Children will gain knowledge of healthy practices.

- Uses fingers and hands. (7a). HSELOF: IT-PMP 6/P-PMP 3
- Demonstrates gross motor manipulative skills. (6). HSELOF: IT-PMP 4/P-PMP 2