



**GENESEE COUNTY**  
COMMUNITY ACTION  
RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

# 2021-2022

## Head Start Annual Report


### **GCCARD HEAD START**

601 N. Saginaw St., Ste. 1B  
Flint, MI 48502

☎ **810-235-5613**

🌐 [www.gccardheadstart.com](http://www.gccardheadstart.com)

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# Director's Report

Despite the ongoing impacts of Covid-19 in the 2021-2022 program year, Head Start continued its dedication to the mission of providing services to Genesee County children and families. Staffing shortages, vaccine mandates and masking mandates have required ongoing shifting of gears to provide comprehensive care and education in safe, healthy environments. Head Start staff provided experiences and opportunities for children to develop skills necessary for school readiness and assisted families in acquiring resources necessary to achieve family goals.

This report emphasizes the ongoing efforts to build a better community and future for all. A special thank you to the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department, additional funding sources, school districts, community and agency partners, the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, the Parent Policy Council, and Head Start staff and families for rising to meet the challenges during uncertain times. Our continued collaboration will make lasting impacts.

Again, thank you to all!

Kelli Webb  
Head Start Director



## Mission

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



## 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.

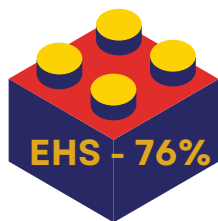


## Child/Family Facts

### CHILD DATA

- 97% Had insurance at year end
- 94% Had up to date immunizations
- 98% Had a medical home
- 85% Obtained dental exams/dental care
- 72 % Obtained complete physicals
- 218 children transitioned to kindergarten

### AVERAGE MONTHLY ATTENDANCE



### FAMILY DATA

- 182 received emergency intervention
- 150 received mental health services
- 109 received housing assistance
- 868 received parenting and health education
- 200 males were actively involved in the program
- 162 received education on health consequences of tobacco product use



## Demographics

**925**

**Funded Enrollment**

**1,020**

**Actual Enrollment**

**889**

**Families Served**



## Board of Commissioners



- District 1: Bryant Nolden, Commissioner
- District 2: Charles Winfrey, Commissioner
- District 3: Ellen Ellenburg, Commissioner
- District 4: Domonique Clemons, Commissioner
- District 5: James Avery, Commissioner
- District 6: Shaun Shumaker, Commissioner
- District 7: Meredith Davis, Commissioner
- District 8: Debra Newman, Commissioner
- District 9: Gary Peppin, Commissioner

## SLOAN MUSEUM FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EVENT

On Thursday, April 21, 2022 Beecher Early Head Start children and families went to the Sloan Museum at the Courtland Center. Thirty-nine attendees engaged in the brand-new Hot Wheels exhibit. Children and families had hands on experiences like being a part of the “Pit Crew” by changing tires and filling gas tanks. Parents experimented speed, power, and performance as they safely raced their children on the virtual racetrack. Children pretended to cook for parents and teachers in the playhouse. This trip was a great experience for families to engage in the local community.



## Parent Policy Council

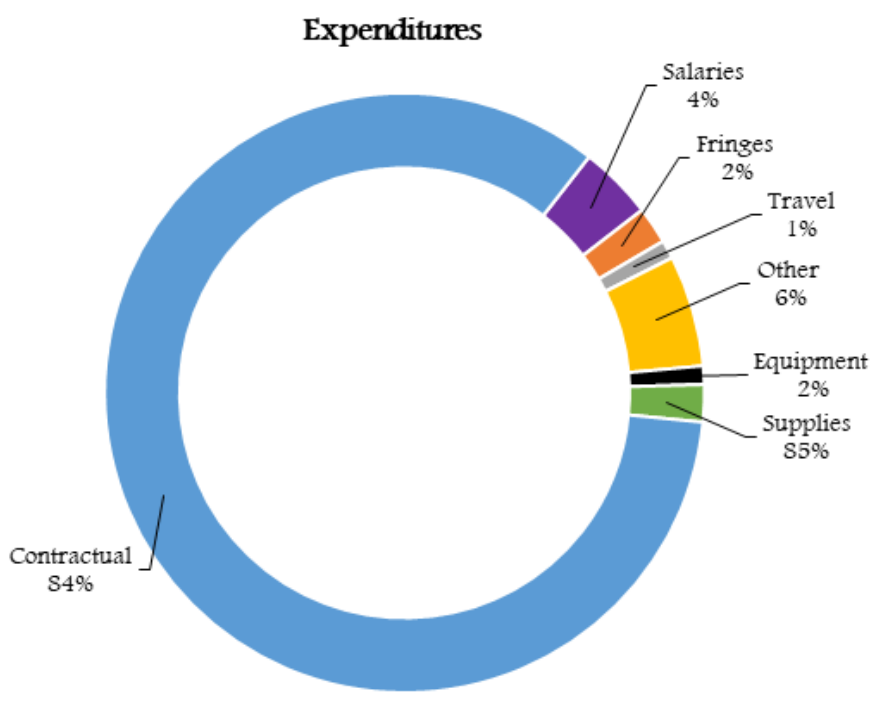
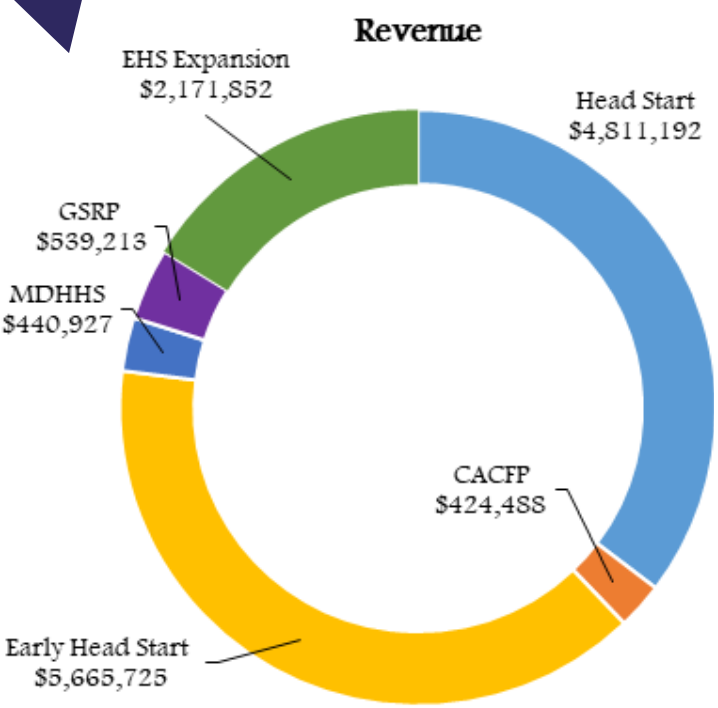
Policy Council members were elected from the Beecher EHS, Mott EHS, and Grantee Programs to represent the total Genesee County HS/EHS Program. They met monthly and shared in the decision-making process regarding quality programming for themselves and their children. Members were also involved in the 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.

-  Tracy Cudd, Chairperson
-  Desara Stephens Vice-Chairperson
-  Judy Thornton, Treasurer
-  Katie Roberts, Recording Secretary
-  Erick Hamilton, Corresponding Secretary
-  Brequel Kelley
-  Latishya Merrell
-  Emily Maziarz





## 21-22 REVENUE/EXPENDITURES



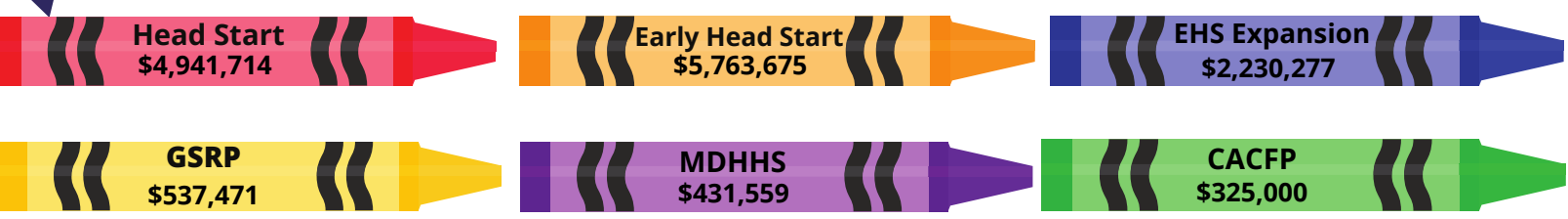
## REVIEWS FROM THE SECRETARY (ACF)

The final report for the Enhanced Financial Review through the Administration for Children and Families Office of Grants Management was completed in the 2021-2022 program year. It was determined that no follow up actions were needed. The Focus Area 1 Review event is coming up in December 2022.

## AUDIT FINDINGS

GCCARD Head Start audit was completed by Plante and Moran, PLLC on March 11, 2022. There were Head Start findings related to the SEFA that were corrected and no longer an issue.

## 22-23 PROPOSED BUDGET





## What Does Head Start Mean to Me?

By: Susan Dominy

Head Start is a great program that helps support parent-child interaction. I love the ideas and suggestions that our home visitor provides us with. The simple ideas that become fun and engaging activities for my daughter and I. Amelia loves to repeat many of the activities that are shared with us. One of her favorite games right now is when we take turns hiding a toy around the house and trying to find the toy. Our home visitor always makes things creative and entertaining.

It amazes me how easily trash can be turned into educational activities. We now have some adorable keepsakes that I would have never thought about and I will treasure them. I appreciate the consistency of the program. Our home visitor will come back and revisit or repeat activities that Amelia truly loves or needs more time with. She notices when Amelia may need more time to accomplish a goal. We are given reminders, suggestions and support for areas we are still working towards.

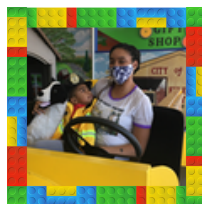
I've enjoyed the few PALS meetings that we've attended and admit that we need to get better at attending more of those activities. GCCARD provides some great field trips, educational suggestions for parents and socialization for our little ones. A lot of resources are available to our family because of GCCARD. One thing I am really looking forward too is the upcoming Lullaby Project. Our home visitor spoke so highly of this opportunity that we couldn't say no.

Most importantly, our home visitor becomes family-like. She really cares about my child and me. I've had some health issues this year and she is always checking in and offering suggestions that could benefit me. She has been so supportive during a challenging time in my life. She is a listening ear to real life situations we are dealing with. She will remind me about things I've forgotten about and support me in calls to difficult doctor's offices. Our visits aren't just about my child. She cares for the whole family. Recently, my brother's grandson had to move in, and she makes sure to include him, so that he won't feel left out. He's just as excited about her arrival as Amelia is.

We couldn't be happier with the GCCARD Head Start program. We are grateful they came into our life.

## CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OUTING

Beecher EHS families enjoyed a day at the Flint Children's Museum April 12, 2022. Forty-five parents, children, and staff attended. They experienced the preparations for taking a plane ride. Little hands helped dinosaurs explore topography and geography in a lighted sand table. Predictions were made while racing cars on various ramps. Cool designs were made by gathering and moving magnetic particles on the magnet table. Little ones explored being a fire fighter, musician, grocery shopper, pizza chef and dental hygienist.



## THE LIFE CYCLE OF A BUTTERFLY

Children at Bentley Head Start learned about the life cycle of a butterfly. They watched them grow through all four stages of metamorphosis with lots of learning, guessing and a list of predictions when the butterflies would come out of their chrysalis. There were multiple discussions taking place as they transformed from caterpillars to butterflies. At the end, the children participated in releasing them into the sky.





## ORCHARD EXPLORATION



Beecher EHS visited the orchard on October 14, 2021. Parents and children walked through a pumpkin patch near the playground at Dailey Elementary School and each child picked out the perfect pumpkin, along with paint and stickers. Families took fall pictures together and also received a photo frame with items to decorate together at home along with their pumpkin.



## Congratulations!



Nerita Adams-Spillers, Beecher Community School District Alumna and Beecher Early Head Start Program Manager for being appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to represent Head Start Programs on the Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Developmental Disabilities. This is a great honor, Mrs. Spillers has been employed with Beecher Early Childhood Programs for 20 years. We are very proud of her appointment and wish her well as she continues to serve the community!



## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT DAY AT CROSSROADS VILLAGE



The GCCARD Head Start and Beecher Early Head Start children and families attended Crossroads Village on June 24, 2022. Roughly 700 children, families, and staff attended and rode the Huckleberry Railroad train that day – what a turnout!!

Crossroads Village is operated by the Genesee County Parks and includes an authentic Great Lakes town from the turn of the last century, with over 34 historic structures. It's a place out of history where children and families can make a little history of their own. The narrow-gauge railroad's collection of cars includes 11 original and replica wooden coaches plus a classic red wooden caboose. Each 40-minute journey on the train sent our children and families behind our authentic Baldwin steam locomotive, along the shores of Mott Lake, down a stretch of the historic Pere Marquette roadbed and back into the heart of Crossroads Village. Children and families were also provided a ride on one of the vintage amusement park rides, the carousel.

Our program also enlisted the help and support of our community partners to help educate families about many resources available to them in the community. We had a wide variety of support, including legal services from Legal Services of Southeastern Michigan; emergency clothing services from Crossover Ministries; mental health and disabilities services from Easter Seals; health support from Mott Children's Health Center, Blue Cross Complete, and the Genesee County Health Department; literacy support from the GISD; nutrition, health, and mental health services from MSU-Extension; job training services from Flint/Genesee Job Corps; and many more. Families left the park with many books to read to their children as well as other give aways and important information. Special thanks to all of our community partners who were able to join us at Crossroads, donating their time, talents, and resources to make our event extra special. What an excellent family engagement event! We want to say a big GCCARD Head Start thank you to Crossroads Village staff and administration for welcoming our group again this year!



## School Readiness Goals

### APPROACHES TO LEARNING

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

### LANGUAGE & LITERACY

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

- 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
- 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

### PERCEPTUAL, MOTOR & 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

### COGNITION



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.

- Counts. (20a). HSELOF: IT-C 8/P-MATH 1
- Quantifies. (20b). HSELOF: IT-C8/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

### SOCIAL & 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

