2022-2023 Community Report:

Early Head Start, Head Start, and PA Pre-K Counts in Lebanon & Lancaster Counties







Early Head Start:

Lancaster-Lebanon IU13 provides Early Childhood Education to families and children birth through age five in Lancaster and Lebanon counties. These programs are federally grant-funded and provided in partnership with the Office of Head Start, Community Action Partnership, and the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning. The following provides information on each program. The information includes the number served by each grant at any moment in time along with the cumulative total served throughout the year.

Early Head Start:

The **Early Head Start (EHS) Home-based** programs provide services to pregnant women and children through the age of three. Weekly 90-minute home visits are done with families to assist them in their role of being their child's first teacher. The Lebanon County EHS Home-based program serves 76. During 2022-2023, a cumulative total of 134 pregnant women and children were served. The Lancaster County EHS Home-based program provides services to 48. In 2022-2023 a cumulative total of 76 pregnant women and children were served. For both programs, the numbers include children who transitioned to Head Start in August 2022.

In Lancaster County, the **Early Head Start Child Care Partnership** program provides care and developmentally appropriate education for 80 children from birth to age three by partnering with parents and childcare partners. The program served a cumulative total of 118 children in 2022-2023.

Head Start and PA Pre-K Counts:

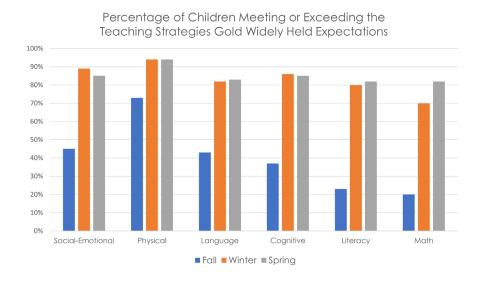
Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts programming provides developmentally appropriate education to children three-to-five years of age in both Lancaster and Lebanon counties through various partnerships with school districts and childcare centers.

In 2022-2023, **Lebanon County's Head Start** program utilizes funding from PA Pre-K Counts, Pennsylvania's Head Start Supplemental, and Federal Head Start. The Head Start program serves 383 children in 14 classrooms throughout the county and through a partnership with the Lebanon School District K4 program on a daily basis. Head Start participants are selected based on income guidelines set forth in the Head Start Performance Standards and additional eligibility criteria established by a committee of parents, community representatives, and staff.

The Head Start program works with the family to prepare their child for kindergarten. Family service staff work with the family to develop family goals. Parents participate in monthly parent meetings and family days. In addition, two parent trainings are held during the year. At the beginning of the year, parents at each site select parents to represent them on the Head Start Policy Council, which meets monthly to provide oversight for the program.

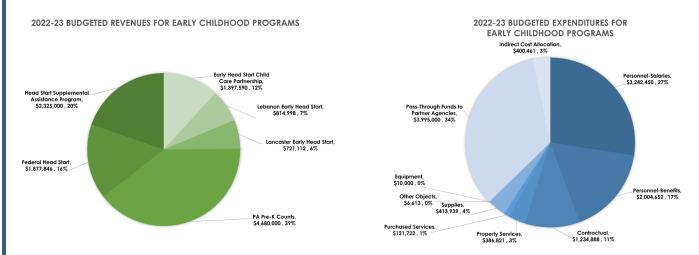
A total of 356 children were served in the IU13 Head Start preschool classes during the 2022-2023 year (12% of children age 3-4 in Lebanon County). The classrooms served 124 (including 17 Pre-K Counts-funded) children with individual education plans, which represents 30% of the program. The Head Start curriculum and instruction provided for young learners is designed to support

kindergarten readiness. Areas of concentration include the growth of early literacy skills, math skills, and other key developmental areas including physical, cognitive, language, and social-emotional development. The program went to a four day in-person, one day at-home learning model due to staff shortages. The program temporarily relocated six classrooms to Myerstown to complete needed repairs on the IU facility located in the city of Lebanon. The program plans to return to the Lebanon location in January 2024.



Funding:

Funding and expenditures for the program are as follows:



Program Review:

The Administration of Children and Families conducted a monitoring review of the program in the spring of 2020. The program was found to be in compliance in all areas.

For more information about this report, please contact:

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