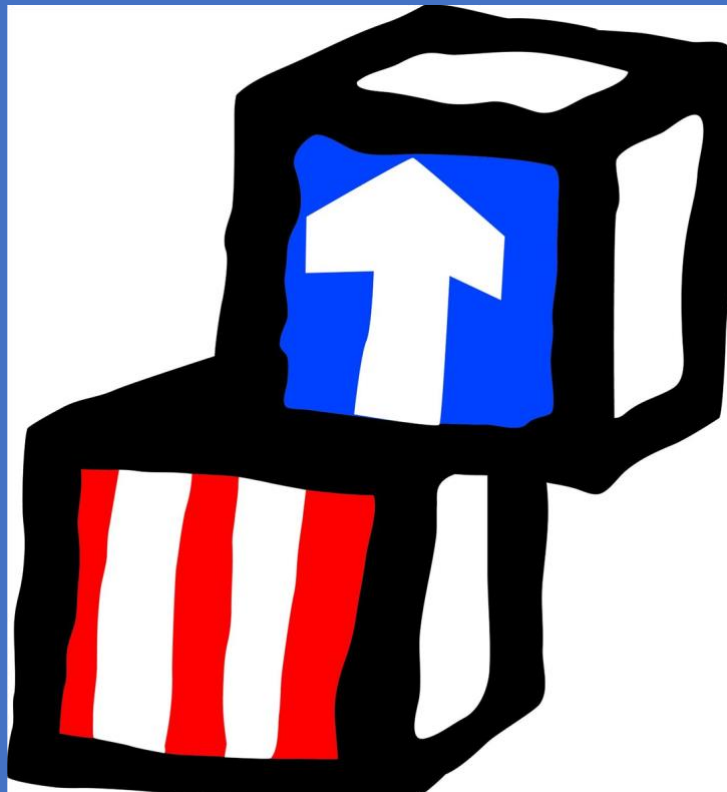


2023-2024  
ANNUAL REPORT

ROCK - WALWORTH COMPREHENSIVE  
FAMILY SERVICES INC.  
HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START



# Our Mission

In partnership with parents, and collaborating with stakeholders, RWCFS will support children's readiness for school and life success, by developing independence and self-sufficiency, strengthening families, and promoting social justice.



# Our Core Values

1. We celebrate every individual's strength, as well as each family's definition of itself.
2. We believe in providing healthy, safe environments and encouraging life-long learning.
3. We believe in shared leadership where opportunities are present for everyone to develop to their fullest potential.
4. We believe every family is its child's most influential teacher and most powerful prevention mechanism.
5. We know we are stronger when we have meaningful partnerships within the community.
6. We believe healthy relationships will result when we reflect compassion, dignity and mutual respect for diversity.
7. We believe all activities should promote the wellness and growth of our communities.
8. We embrace and encourage change to improve opportunities for our staff, children and families.
9. We believe that our children and families deserve excellence in service provision.

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

Interim Executive Director

**Vicky Mortimer**

Finance Director

**Aimee Walker**

Program Design Director

**Chelsea Miller**

EHS Child Development Manager

**Tamara Johnson**

HS Child Development Manager

**Michelle Genthe**

Health & Nutrition Manager

**Erik Perez**

Family Services Manager

**Janice Kuchelmeister**

ERSEA Specialist

**Christopher Koepke**

Maintenance Coordinator

**Eileen Scheehle**

Transportation Coordinator

**Allison Kestol-Bauer**

HS Site Team Leader

**Angelita Richardson**

HS Site Team Leader

**Jennifer Webb**

HS Site Team Leader

**Pamela Allcorn**

EHS Site Team Leader

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR:

I am pleased to share the Rock-Walworth Comprehensive Family Services, Inc 2023-2024 Annual Report. I would like to thank our HS & EHS staff, Board of Directors, and countless community stakeholders, including health and dental professionals, school districts, volunteers etc., to support success to some of our communities' most vulnerable families. RWCFS, Inc. remains dedicated to service delivery and maintaining a positive voice in the communities we serve. We acknowledge all of you, our community partners, for your tireless efforts to ensure our students and their families continue to receive the educational opportunities that are so needed during these times. Thank you staff and partners. The future is bright, and we are ready to continue to serve our communities.

Respectfully,

Vicky Mortimer

# Financials

We received funding for the fiscal year 2023-2024 from the Department of Health and Human Services to serve 259 Head Start Children and 110 Early Head Start Children from February 1, 2023, to January 31, 2024. In October 2023, RWCFS received approval for a reduction in slots for Head Start 195 and Early Head Start 98. Federal funds, through the State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, provided funding for our child nutrition program. The State of Wisconsin funded 8 additional Early Head Start children under a Head Start Supplemental Funding grant. We also received stipends from the School District of Beloit, and the School District of Janesville for 4-year-old kindergarten collaboration.

Revenues 2023-2024	
<b>Federal Head Start/Early Head Start</b>	\$5,539,088
<b>School Districts 4K</b>	\$137,920
<b>USDA Child Nutrition</b>	\$196,229
<b>Wisconsin State Head Start Supplemental</b>	\$136,453
<b>Child Care Counts</b>	\$465,811
<b>Other Grants</b>	953
<b>Donations</b>	2,486
<b>Program Revenue</b>	\$7,524
<b>In-Kind Contributions*</b>	\$797,430
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$7,283,894</b>

Expenses 2023-2024	Budgeted	Actual
<b>Personnel</b>	\$3,475,384	\$3,759,351
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>	\$1,227,170	\$1,434,921
<b>Contractual</b>	\$ 389,413	\$ 367,342
<b>Travel/Transportation</b>	\$ 162,128	\$140,508
<b>Supplies/Food</b>	\$ 325,204	\$325,719
<b>Facility/Construction</b>	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Space/Occupancy</b>	\$ 231,809	\$209,977
<b>Minor Equipment/Equipment</b>	\$ 50,281	\$48,835
<b>Other (includes insurance, phone, etc.)</b>	\$ 183,516	\$198,054
<b>Other (Donations)</b>	0	\$ 2,205
<b>In-Kind Contributions*</b>	\$656,104	\$ 797,430
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,701,009</b>	<b>\$7,284,342</b>

\* Federal requirements stipulate that our agency must gather in-kind in the amount equal to 20% of the financial award granted. In-kind is not comprised of actual dollars, but rather a value of donated services, materials, and space.

## Results of FY 2023-2024 Independent Fiscal Audit by WIPFLI LLP:

- Met/exceeded all necessary audit requirements.
- No audit exceptions or recommended changes
- Major federal award programs audit: Questioned Costs, none
- Low risk audit

# Programming

RWCFS operated a variety of program options designed to meet our community needs, including home-based and center-based options.

Head Start	Number Of Classrooms	Total Funded Enrollment
<b>Beloit Child and Family Center</b>	5	81
<b>Elkhorn Child and Family Center</b>	1	16
<b>Janesville Child and Family Center</b>	3	50
<b>Lake Geneva Child and Family Center</b>	1	16
<b>Delevan/Whitewater Child and Family Center</b>	1	16
<b>Merrill SDB Child and Family Center</b>	1	16
<b>Total</b>	12	195



Head Start serves children ages three to five, classes run five days a week for a minimum of 1,020 hours per year. A minimum of 3 family nights are provided each year along with daytime events that parents are invited to.

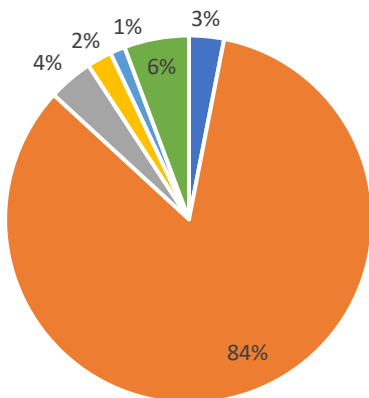


Early Head Start serves infants and toddlers under the age of three as well as pregnant women. We offer both center and home base options. Home base families receive weekly home visits as well as two play group opportunities per month for socialization. Center base children attend 6 hours per day with the opportunity for wrap-around care provided by our community partner.

Early Head Start	Number of Classrooms/Home Visitors	Total Funded Enrollment
<b>Beloit Child and Family Center (Center-Based)</b>	4	32
<b>Rock County Home-Based</b>	6	67
<b>Walworth County Home-Based</b>	2	22
<b>Total</b>	12	89
<b>Combined Total</b>	121	

# Enrollment

## HEAD START ENROLLMENT BY ELIGIBILITY



- Below 100% poverty
- Public Assistance
- Foster Child
- Homeless
- 101% - 130% Poverty
- Other Need

Spanish = 34

American Sign Language = 1

Learning a Second Language = 6

### Primary Language Spoken: Early Head Start:

English = 132

Spanish = 29

American Sign Language = 3

Learning a Second Language = 5



## Head Start

Total number of children served:

228

Average Monthly Enrollment:

94.3%

## Early Head Start

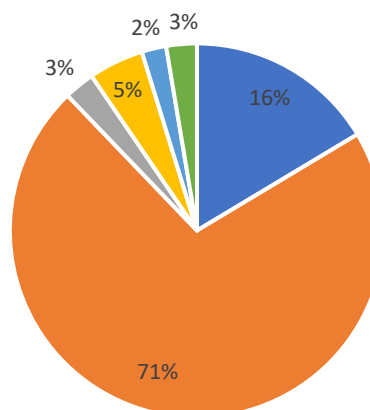
Total number of children served:

189

Average Monthly Enrollment

91.8%

## EARLY HEAD START ENROLLMENT BY ELIGIBILITY



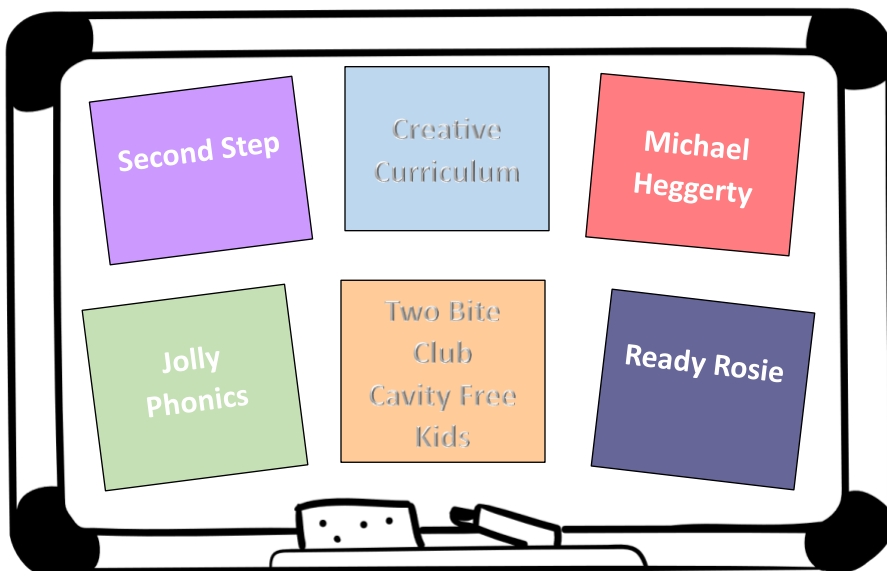
- Below 100% poverty
- Public Assistance
- Foster Child
- Homeless
- 100% - 130%
- Other Need



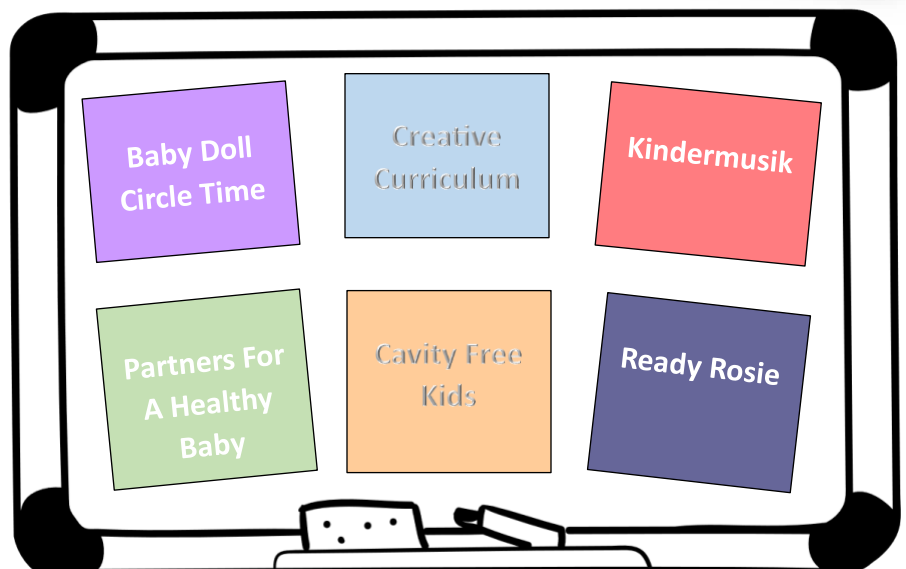
# Curriculum

RWCFS, through foundational learning experiences for all young children including dual language learners and children with disabilities, prepares and supports children and families to be school ready. With a focus on six essential domains, the program works hard to ensure school readiness skills for every student while fostering strong partnerships with families. All curricula used in RWCFS programming are research-based and support the agency in meeting and exceeding expectations of Head Start Program Performance Standards, the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and Wisconsin Early Model Learning Standards. In all program options, instruction is intentional and individualized to meet each child and family's unique needs and developmental goals.

Head Start Curriculum



Early Head Start Curriculum



# School Readiness

School readiness occurs when children have the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in primary school, later learning, and life. The Head Start philosophy of school readiness includes educating and supporting not only children, but families, schools and the larger community. Our six school readiness goals are based on the essential ingredients of school readiness: physical, math, language, literacy, cognitive, social, and emotional development.

To support collaboration between early childhood programs, our school readiness goals align with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, Wisconsin state early learning objectives and our Birth to Five assessment system, SmartTeach, formerly known as Teaching Strategies Gold.

"Saw you've had a long day. Thought this may brighten it. 2 of your former Head Start kiddos have their choice of multiple colleges to choose from...It got me thinking back to those days and how far Carly has come. And I know it all started with you. So, thank you for doing what you do." ~ Megan Vandyke

# Assessments

% Of Children Meeting or Exceeding Expectations		
Spring Program Year 2023-2024		
	EHS	HS
<b>Social/Emotional</b>	83%	93%
<b>Physical</b>	96%	99%
<b>Language</b>	80%	91%
<b>Cognitive</b>	93%	92%
<b>Literacy</b>	89%	84%
<b>Math</b>	80%	89%

By promoting school readiness with an annual focus on student social and emotional development, RWCFS utilizes assessment data to determine child progress on School Readiness Goals. Assessment data also helps us strategically prioritize educator professional development and informs our research-based coaching strategy, Practice-Based Coaching, that further supports all child development staff.



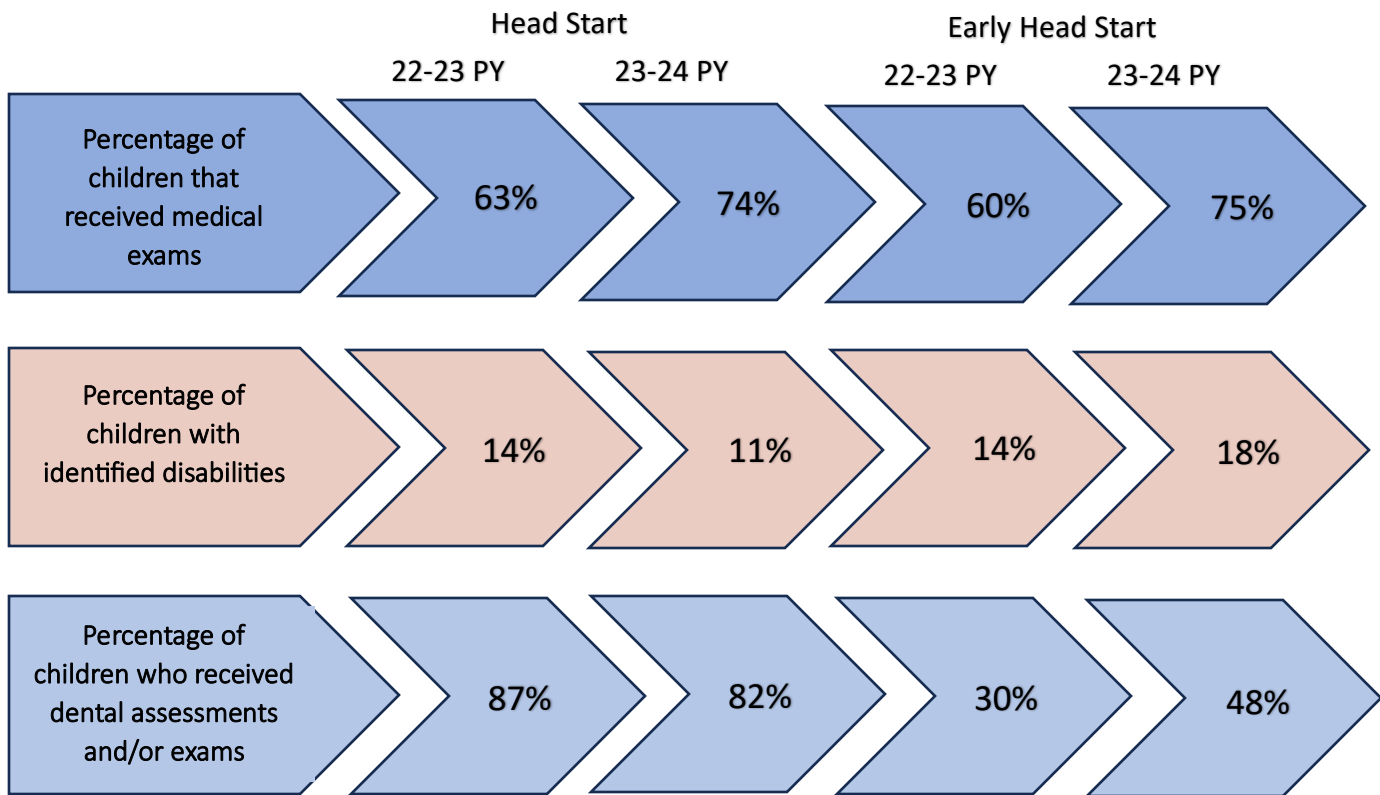
**We at RWCFS continue efforts to maintain strength-based relationships between Head Start and Early Head Start staff and families, community members, and agencies. These relationships support parents' roles as valued community members and their progress toward their goals for themselves and their children. Our collaborations with families, community members, and other local agencies help us identify family goals, align resources, and collect data for continuous improvement and effective partnerships.**

*"Policy Council is a great way to get involved in your child's school life, also getting to meet and know who else is making the tough decisions on who gets hired or where the money goes etc. These are a few reasons why I enjoy being on Policy Council."*

*~Nydia Perez PC Member*



# Comprehensive Services



"Ms Fay was checking on us last night. She's a sweetheart and really cares about her families. Head Start, is the best!"

~ Helena Fatoba

6% of Head Start children wear glasses



# Parent, Family & Community Engagement

## Family Nights



## Elected Policy Council Leaders 2023-2024

Chairperson: Nailah Adama – Beloit HS

Vice Chairperson: Lori Harvel – Beloit EHS

Treasure Lopez – Rock County Community Rep

Alejandra Santos – Walworth Co. Community Rep

## Community Partners



**Our Community Partners play a crucial role in driving success in the community. They facilitate the pool and leveraging of resources, expertise, and networks, amplifying the impact and reach of their initiatives.**



# Parent, Family & Community Engagement

A small sample of our Community Partnerships for 2023-24. Some of our community partners have been part of RWCFS for more than a decade!!

Youth 2 Youth 4 Change, University of Whitewater Wisconsin, PBS Wisconsin, Rock County Human Services, Open Arms, Beloit Police Department, South-Central Area Health Education Center, Beloit College, Hedberg Public Library, Welty Center, Beloit and Janesville School District, Community Action, Grand Geneva Resort, Slumberland, Frito-Lay & Pepsi, Ecolab Inc., Whitewater Chamber of Commerce, Beloit Area Community Health Center, Kerry Ingredients, QPS of Walworth County, UW-Extension BookWorms™ Rock & Walworth County, SSM Heath, Rock & Walworth county WIC programs, La Preferida Latin broadcasting (radio).



Frito Lay



Kerry Ingredients



Fairbanks Morse Defense



# Outdoor Classrooms



# Transportation



We transport Head Start Children to and from our schools when it works with routing. We provided bus transportation for 90 children for the 23-24 school year.

We offer our Early Head Start home based family's transportation services to and from one play group per month.

We can if staff available provide individual transportation services for dental appointments and/or dental surgery.



In addition to our fleet of 11 buses, we maintain four other vehicles.

Our buses meet the highest safety standards in the public transportation industry, all are equipped with child safety restraints.

Two trained adults are on every bus each day to ensure the safety of the children we transport.

In the program year 2023-2024 our buses traveled 322 miles per day.





# Health

2023-2024	HS	EHS
Well-Child Exams	69.3%	71.9%
Dental Exams	82.5%	55.5%
Dental Treatment Needed/Received	69/25	16/5
Lead Checks	85.1%	74.0%

**Partners: Beloit Area Community Health Care Center, Nutrition and Health Associates/Rock County WIC, Rock County Health Department, Health Equity Alliance of Rock County (HEAR), UW Extension, SSM Health**

**Fred's Learning Garden located at the Beloit Child and Family Center**

