

INDIANA COUNTY HEAD START, INC.  
2018-2019  
ANNUAL REPORT



Promotes the school readiness of children in partnership with their families through a variety of comprehensive services.

*Indiana County Head Start, Inc.  
528 Gompers Avenue  
Indiana, PA 15701  
724-349-6200*



The PA Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has awarded our three Head Start centers **STAR 4 designation**, the highest level achievable in Keystone Stars, Pennsylvania’s Quality Rating & Improvement System.

Keystone STARS is a quality rating system that promotes quality improvement in early learning and development programs and school-age child care. A Keystone STARS designation informs parents that their children are in a safe, respectful environment in which they are learning new things every day to support their current and future successes in school and in life.

**INDIANA AREA HEAD START** - 155 Clymer Ave., Indiana, PA 15701

**Part Day Options:** Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Transportation Available

September-May

**Extended Day Options:** Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.-Transportation Available

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.-drive in/pick up only

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.-drive in/pick up & limited bus area

September-May

Two 3 week summer sessions for 4.5 hours/day offered for 8-4 and 9-5 classrooms



**HOMER CITY HEAD START** – 30 West Elm St., Homer City, PA 15748

**Part Day Options:** Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

9:45a.m. – 1:15p.m.

12:00 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.

Transportation Available

September – May

**Extended Day Option:** Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Transportation Available

September-May



**CHERRYHILL HEAD START** – 184 Spaulding Rd., Penn Run, PA 15765

**Part Day Options:** Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Transportation Available

September – May

**Extended Day Option:** Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Transportation Available to those in service area

September-May



SERVICES PROVIDED FOR: Families with children 3-5 years old who reside in Indiana Co. and who meet the income guidelines.

- There is NO COST for our program

\*Child does NOT need to be toilet trained

## ***EARLY HEAD START***

Early Head Start is a unique program in that we bring our educational expertise to you right in the comfort of your home. We offer pre-natal education and support to expectant moms on a variety of topics throughout the duration of their pregnancy. We also deliver quality in home educational services to infant and toddlers up to age three. Our core belief is that parents are the first and foremost primary educator of their child.

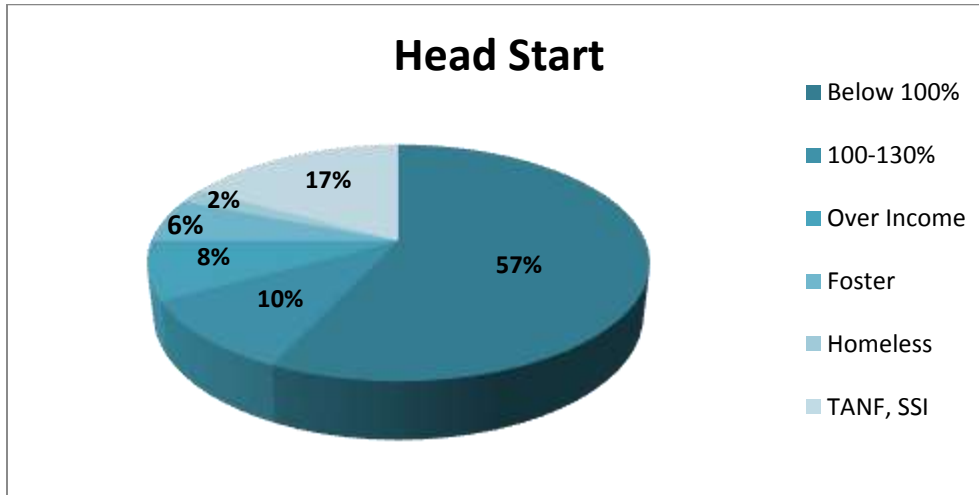
Our goal is to provide parents with one on one activities that promote parent interaction and positive bonding. Infants and toddlers up to age 3 receive one and a half hour individualized sessions once a week, where the Family Educator facilitates learning experiences with the parents.

We offer Group Experience Time (GET) twice a month at our childcare center. This provides the parents and children the opportunity to come together and socialize in a comfortable atmosphere. Parents can participate in workshops from a variety of topics such as creative cooking, positive behavior techniques, budgeting as well as many others. Infants and toddlers can interact with same age peers in a safe environment with staff facilitating interactions. Once the child turns three we begin the transition process to Head Start.



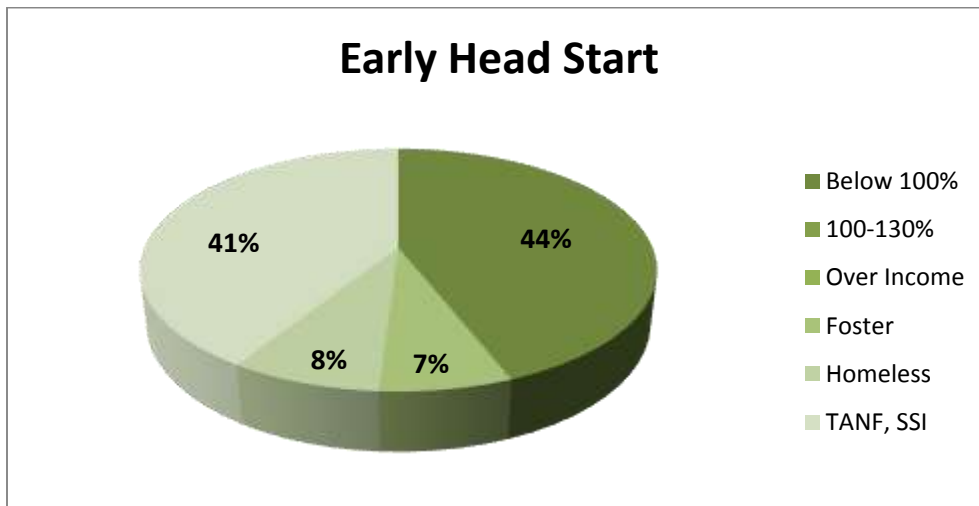
## ENROLLMENT

Our funded enrollment for Head Start is 283. 239 of these slots are federally funded slots and 44 slots are funded by the Pennsylvania Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program (HSSAP). Both the Head Start and Early Head Start programs were fully enrolled all year. Average Daily Attendance for the Head Start center based program was 87.7%.



Funded Enrollment: 239  
Cumulative Enrollment: 266

Our Early Head Start program is federally funded for 50 children.



Funded Enrollment: 50  
Cumulative Enrollment: 82

## **HEALTH SERVICES**

Head Start realizes the importance of the early identification of health problems in partnership with parents. We strive to promote optimal health and ensure that children have ongoing access to health care.



<b>Health Indicators based on cumulative enrollment</b>	<b>Early Head Start</b>	<b>Head Start</b>
Percentage of children with health insurance	100%	100%
Percentage of children with a medical home	98%	100%
Percentage of children up-to-date on a schedule of preventive primary health care per PA's EPSDT schedule	80%	92.5%
Percentage of children with up-to-date immunizations, all possible immunizations or are exempt	100%	99.6%
Percentage of preschool children completing professional dental exams	NA	89.6%
Of the preschool children receiving professional dental exams, percentage who needed treatment	NA	24.1%
Of the preschool children needing professional dental treatment, percentage of who received treatment	NA	86%



## ***SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS***

Head Start provides an inclusive approach for the education of children with disabilities or chronic medical conditions. This means that all children, regardless of differences or needs, receive education in regular classrooms and programs when determined appropriate for them. Head Start and Early Head Start staff screens every child for overall development of sensory, auditory, behavioral, motor, language, social, cognitive, perceptual and emotional skills within 45 days of enrollment. If the results from the screening indicate some difficulties, the child may be referred for a more in-depth evaluation to determine eligibility for special services due to a disability.

48 Children had disabilities identified BEFORE entering Head Start  
32 other children were identified with a disability AFTER enrollment

<b>Disability Categories</b>	<b>Total for Head Start</b>
Autism	4
Health Impairment	4
Developmental Delay	32
Speech or language Impairment	38
Orthopedic Impairment	1
Visual Impairment	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>

10 infants/toddlers had disabilities identified BEFORE entering Early Head Start  
3 infants/toddlers had disabilities identified AFTER enrollment.



## FAMILY SERVICES

Indiana County Head Start (ICHS) staff works in partnership with parents to achieve positive outcomes for the families, resulting in children who are healthy and ready for school. We offer opportunities for them to become involved in classroom activities; socialize with other families in a variety of family engagement events; direct involvement in the decision making of program planning and operation; and in making connections with community partners.

### **ACT: Raising Safe Kids Program**

ICHS offered a series of workshops based on the ACT: Raising Safe Kids Program. These workshops were presented by an in-house staff member trained on this program. The classes focused on behaviors, exposure to violence, anger, electronic media, discipline and parenting styles. Families who attended all 8 workshops had the opportunity to win a \$150 Wal-Mart Gift Card.

### **Family Bowling Night**

The end of our school year was celebrated at a Family Bowling Night, sponsored by the Head Start Policy Council. Many families came to Mohawk Lanes and enjoyed an evening of free activities and dinner for children and adults.

### **Family Literacy Program**

The Family Literacy Program offers the families an opportunity to earn books. When a family reads 15 books to their child/children, they receive a free book.

### **Salvation Army Partnership**

Indiana County Salvation Army “Treasures for Children” links donors with a specific child or family. ICHS assisted with completing applications, collecting and delivering the toys and gifts. ICHS also helped with the “Kicks for Kids” program which offered free shoes for Head Start children.

### **Indiana Lions Club Partnership**

The Indiana County Lions Club hosted “Santa’s Adventure” for Head Start children and their families. Families enjoyed an evening of free activities and dinner.

### **Indiana County Aging Services Partnership**

Indiana County Aging Services provided handmade crocheted hats and scarves to the children at our Indiana Area Center. They also invited children from that center to attend an activity where they read a story and had a snack with the elderly residents.



## TRANSITION TO KINDERGARTEN

Our Head Start program recognizes the importance of promoting effective transition from our centers to the school districts' kindergarten programs.

- Our curriculum is aligned with the Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood.
- Lists of Head Start enrollees are sent to each school district in February.
- Kindergarten registration and orientation information is given to Head Start families.
- School district personnel visit Head Start classrooms in the spring.
- Head Start children visit kindergarten classes in the spring.
- Classroom lesson plans include Kindergarten readiness and transition activities.
- Parents are provided with information via workshops and written material pertaining to school readiness and kindergarten expectations.
- Families are given a *Summer Packet* of materials, including books and activities to use with children over the summer months to sustain skill development.
- Written summaries of school readiness skills of individual children are sent to kindergarten teachers.

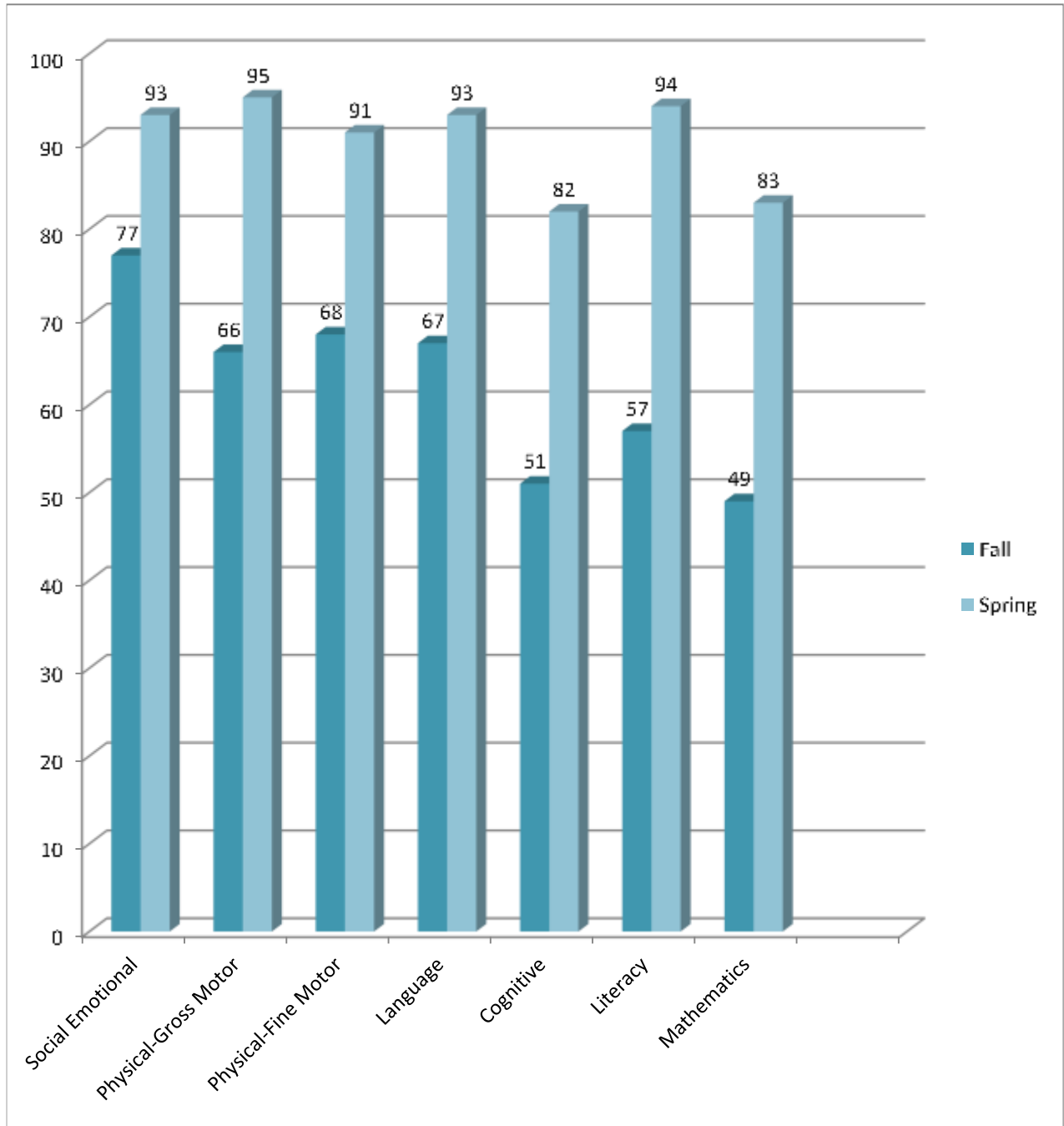




# Progress Towards Achieving School Readiness Goals

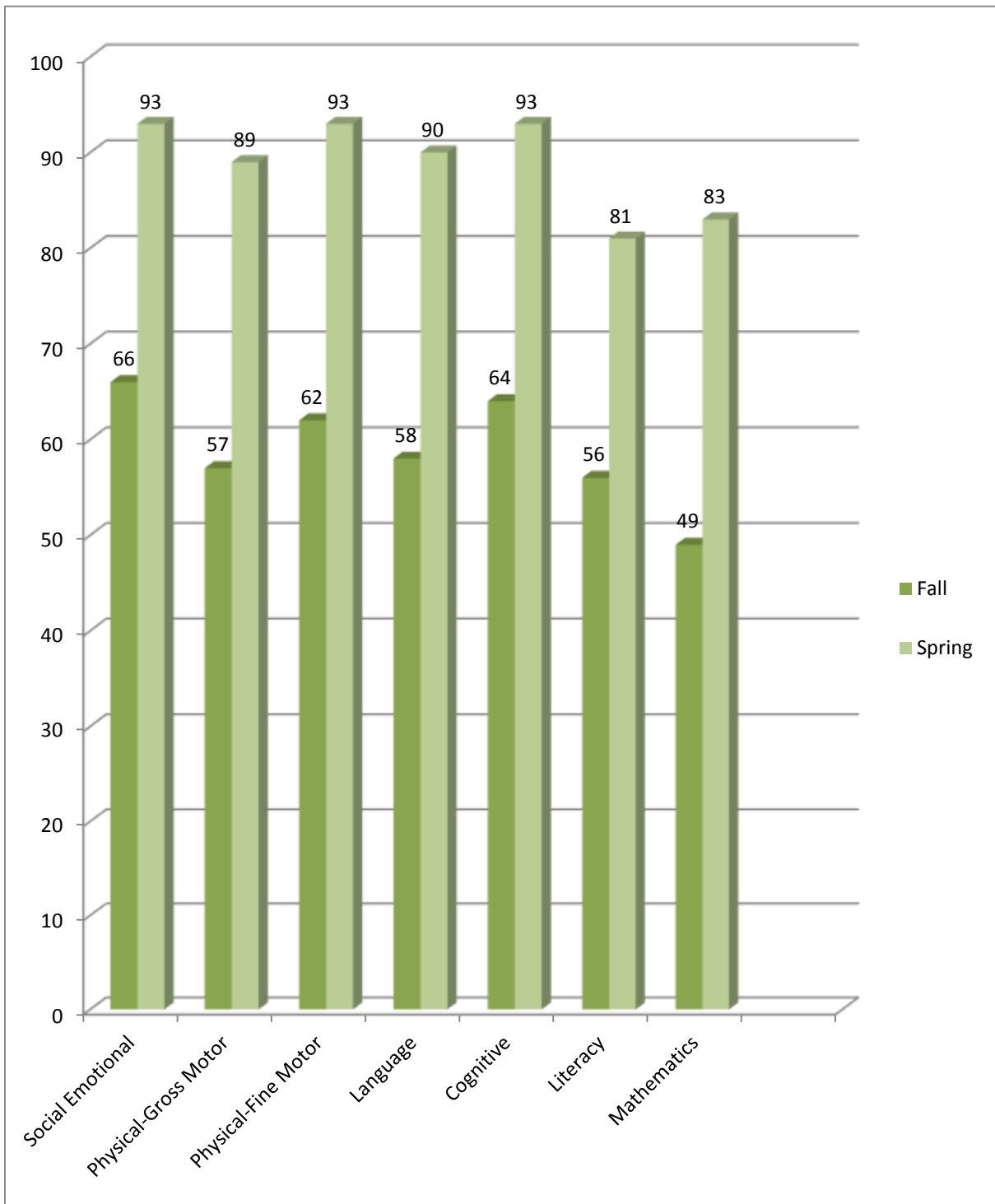
## Four Year Olds

Teaching staff in the preschool classrooms use Teaching Strategies GOLD to measure the developmental progress of the children at three checkpoints throughout the school year. Data is analyzed to determine the progress made towards achieving the school readiness goals, particularly for the children who will be entering kindergarten. The following graph displays the percentage of 4 and 5 year old children who met or exceeded the widely held expectations for children the same age.



### Three Year Olds

The following graph indicates the percentage of three year old children who met or exceeded the widely held expectations for children the same age.



## MONITORING OF PROGRAM SERVICES

### Federal Monitoring

#### *Noncompetitive Five Year Grant*

Indiana County Head Start (ICHS) is entering the fifth year of its current 5 Year Grant Cycle. During the past several years our program has been monitored by the Office of Head Start (OHS) to determine if we are providing quality services to the children and families enrolled in our program. The following on-site monitoring reviews have occurred:

- March 2017 Environmental Health & Safety Review
- December 2017 Focus Area 2 Review
- December 2017 CLASS Review

In addition to these on-site reviews we have also successfully completed annual financial audits, enrollment reports and Program Information Reports, among others.

Based on the review of all of the monitoring data, OHS has determined that ICHS is currently eligible for a non-competitive five year grant award to operate the Head Start program. We will submit the baseline application by February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

- Emotional Support assesses the degree to which teachers establish and promote a positive climate in their classroom through their everyday interactions.
- Classroom Organization assesses classroom routines and procedures related to the organization and management of children's behavior, time, and attention in the classroom.
- Instructional Support assesses the ways in which teachers implement the curriculum to effectively promote cognitive and language development.

A comparison of our program's CLASS scores with the national averages is shown here.

Domain	National Grantee Level Mean CLASS Score	Indiana County Head Start December 2017 Score External assessor	Indiana County Head Start Spring 2019 Score Internal Assessor
Emotional Support	6.09	6.13	6.06
Classroom Organization	5.82	6.14	5.58
Instructional Support	2.89	3.4	4.45

### Independent Fiscal Audit

An independent audit was conducted for the Fiscal Year May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019. The auditor's report was issued on July 8, 2019. The results of the audit tests revealed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* or *The Uniform Guidance*

## **COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT**

### ***Top Issues Identified for Indiana County 2018***

Over the course of the past two years, three community wide surveys were conducted:

- Indiana County Speaks Up Survey
- Indiana Regional Medical Center (IRMC) Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)
- United Way of Indiana County (UWIC) Community Needs Assessment

The results of all 3 surveys were reviewed and compared to develop a list of the top ten issues in Indiana County.

1. Reduce drug and alcohol use/abuse among youth and adults
2. Help youth develop life skills to become successful in school, work and personal independence
3. Reduce the top health concerns which include mental health, obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and strokes
  - a. Increase access to mental health, primary and specialty care for both prevention and treatment
  - b. Provide recreational opportunities
  - c. Increase education about healthy lifestyle choices with regard to physical activity, nutrition, smoking, etc.
4. Decrease domestic violence and abuse
5. Increase Suicide prevention education in schools and community
6. Reduce juvenile delinquency
7. Strengthen parental engagement in building strong families
  - a. Provide parenting education
8. Increase access and awareness of emergency food and locations
9. Increase family support and caregiving services for the elderly
10. Increase affordable housing for low to moderate income households

## BUDGETARY INFORMATION

### Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

Category	Head Start Federal	Head Start State	Early Head Start Federal
	May 1, 2018 - April 30, 2019	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	May 1, 2018 - April 30, 2019
Personnel	\$1,212,677	\$147,125	\$263,438
Fringe Benefits	831,774	83,450	161,318
Travel	778	850	283
Equipment	4000	0	22,146
Supplies	71,560	10,765	12,748
Contractual	31,863	3900	6,418
Construction	0	0	0
Other	324,159	49,828	42,595
Training	31,010	3800	10,335
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,507,821</b>	<b>\$299,718</b>	<b>\$519,281</b>

### Proposed Budgets for Fiscal Year 2019 - 2020

Category	Head Start Federal	Head Start State	Early Head Start
	May 1, 2019- April 30, 2020	July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020	May 1, 2019- April 30, 2019
Personnel	\$1,275,828	\$182,682	\$303,806
Fringe Benefits	758,049	112,833	142,984
Travel	0	1,525	0
Equipment	20,000	50,000	0
Supplies	104,123	13,241	14,476
Contractual	34,450	5,133	5,340
Construction	0	0	0
Other	328,201	59,304	64,816
Training	31,010	0	12,006
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,551,661</b>	<b>\$424,718</b>	<b>\$543,428</b>

The PA Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) awarded our state funded Head Start program \$125,000 of expansion for the 2019-2020 program year.



# **INDIANA COUNTY HEAD START, INC.**

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[www.indianacountyheadstart.org](http://www.indianacountyheadstart.org)

