

February Employee of the Month



Congratulations to Tracy Pistel, Head Start Family Administrator, on being selected as February's Employee of the Month!

Tracy's nomination was actually submitted by an employee who found the following comment on a response to the CMCA Member Survey, which the family gave permission to share:

"I came to the utility assistance office in JC when my electric was shut off. I had both of my kids with me. My daughter was sick. There was no one there but when I was about to leave Tracy came. I told her about my lights being off. I was crying and so was my daughter. She threw up in the parking lot. Tracy let us come in and held my baby while I changed my little girl. She even gave me clothes out of her own car to put on her. She helped me get everything I needed and called whoever is in charge and I got my lights back on. Later that day she came to my house and gave me Pedialyte for my little girl. She didn't have to do that. It was just really nice for a complete stranger to be nice to us for no reason. I wanted to thank her in some way and did not know how but I came in today to get help again so I asked to fill this thing out."

Congrats, Tracy! We are honored to have you as February's Employee of the Month!

Board of Directors Survey

The Board of Directors survey is closing soon! If you have not yet taken the survey, we encourage you to do so before March 31st using the link or QR code below. The survey should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

Our goal is to have 100% of our board members participate in the survey so we can ensure that each person's voice has been heard and each of our counties represented.

The survey results will allow us to ensure that our Board of Directors feels sufficiently informed to make decisions related to agency direction, provide financial oversight, and further CMCA's mission.



<https://questionpro.com/t/ATzzKZ1dSE>

Economic Stability

Agency Employment & Financial Coaching Outcomes October 2023-Present



10

Unemployed People
Placed in Jobs



5

People with an
**Increased Level
of Education**



4

People with
**Increased
Net Worth**



2

People with
**Improved Credit
Scores***



11

People with
Increased Savings



4

People with
Reduced Debt



4

**New Business
Started**



\$33.7K

Small business
Capital Infusions



2

**New Full-Time
Jobs Created
through small business**

The Shops at Sharp End

The Shops at Sharp End has received significant positive media attention over the past several weeks, including for the Storytime at The Shops at Sharp End event. Local authors and program participants Aaron Fox and Candace Hulsizer read to children and their families, followed by a book signing. The event generated \$700 in revenue for The Shops.



Left: Local authors pose for a picture with Manager Tanisha Simpson during Storytime at The Shops at Sharp End.

February Sales

\$7,254 in gross sales

257 transactions

525 items sold



Top 3 Participants:

Black Tea Bookshop

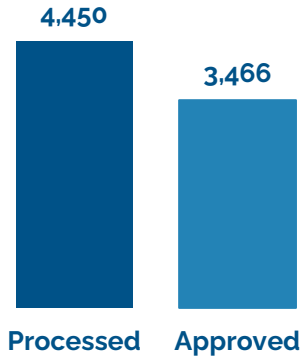
Aaron Fox Writes

Mya's Gourmet Popcorn

Economic Stability

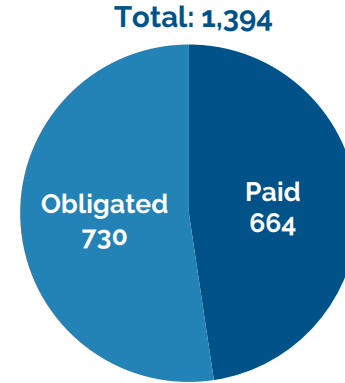
Total Energy Assistance Applications Processed (EA)

October 2023 - Present



Households Receiving Crisis Energy Assistance (ECIP)

October 2023 - Present

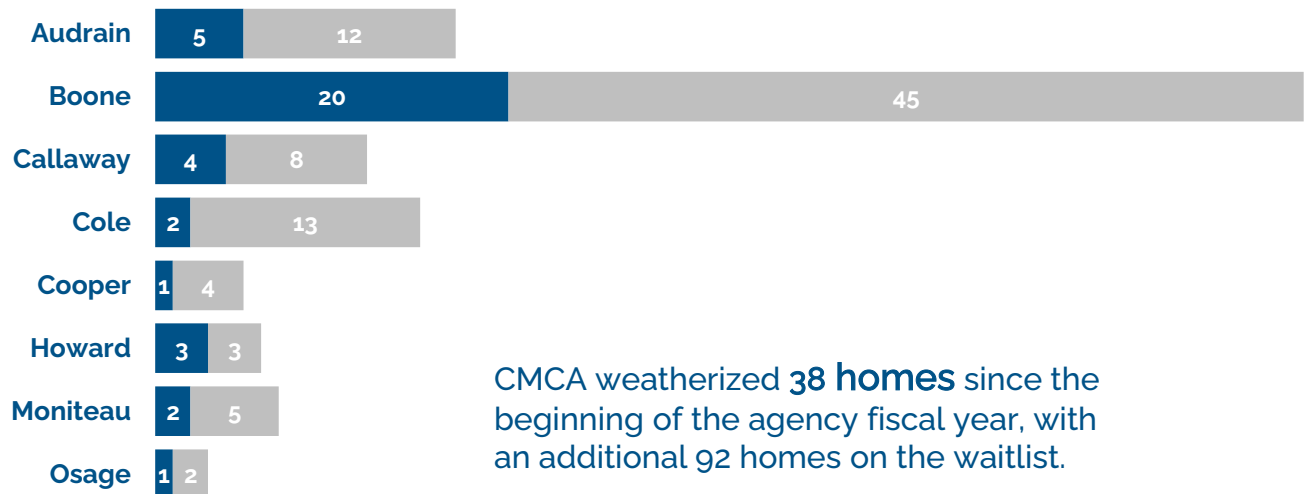


\$9,196

Average invested in each Weatherized Home
October 2023 - Present

Weatherized Homes

■ Homes Completed ■ Waitlist



CMCA weatherized **38 homes** since the beginning of the agency fiscal year, with an additional 92 homes on the waitlist.

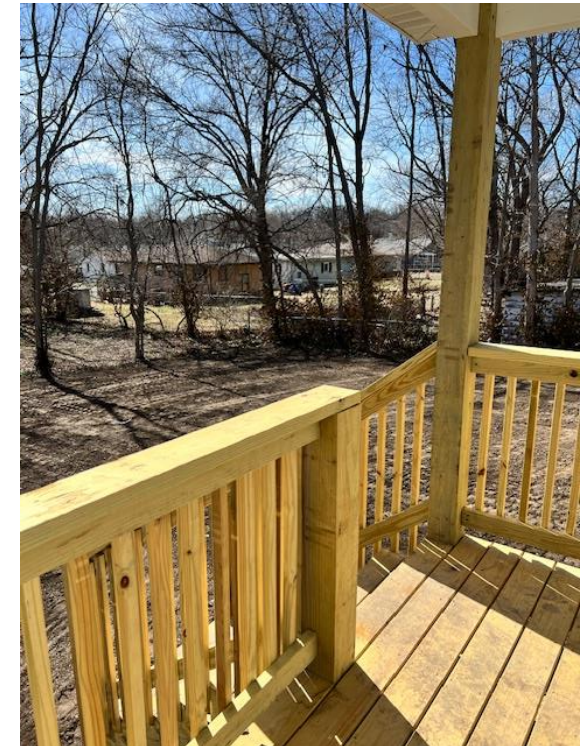
Housing Development Updates

We are close to completing the Hickman home builds – close enough that grass seed was spread in late February! Enjoy the attached pictures of the build.

The Weatherization department began weatherizing our first multi-family project which utilizes the priority list that was newly approved by DOE and DNR.



Housing Development applied for and was awarded another grant from Minnesota Housing Partnership to offer training and technical assistance to our staff. These funds will be utilized in assisting Housing Development staff to become HUD certified housing counselors and in pursuing certification for CMCA to become a HUD certified agency.



Economic Stability



5 Tenants Paying Full Rent

Will graduate HCV after six months of paying full rent



205

Households on HCV Waitlist

Housing Choice Voucher

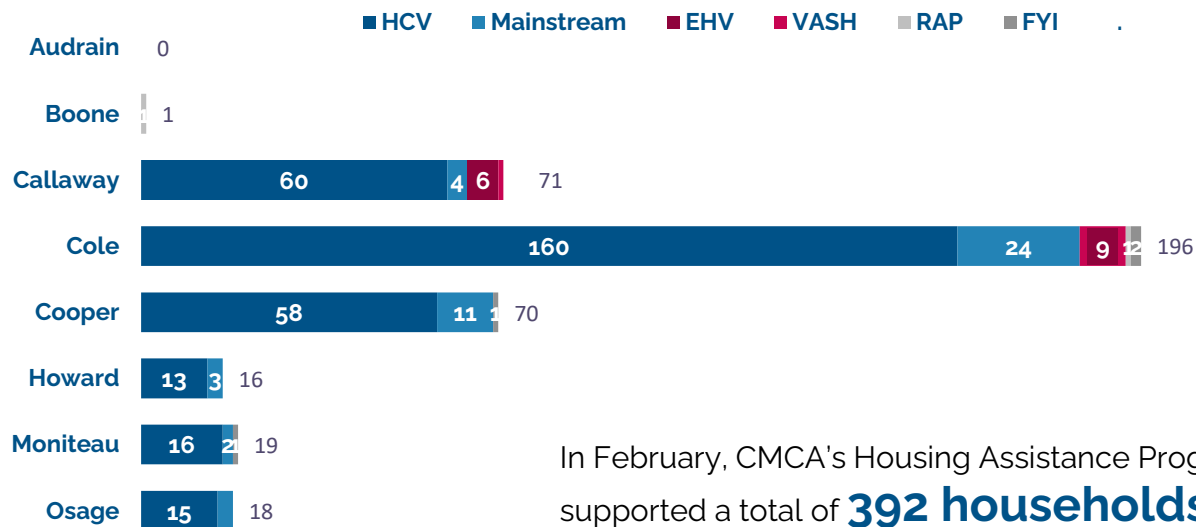


41

Outstanding Housing Vouchers

Includes 27 households who are unhoused and 14 who are presently housed

Households Receiving Housing Assistance Payments



In February, CMCA's Housing Assistance Program supported a total of **392 households**.

Strengthening Communities



Audrain County

Head Start families at the Williams Family Support Center received a generous donation of hats, gloves, and blankets from the Altrusa International Foundation of Mexico.



Boone County

The City of Columbia Employment & Training ARPA grant has been finalized and approved by the city. This grant allows the Financial Opportunity Center to serve individuals living within the Columbia city limits who seem employment and income and whose income does not exceed 185% of FPL. It is particularly focused on those who need to enhance their job skills, obtain vocational training, and overcome barriers to employment. More information to come!



Cole County

Getting Ahead classes continue to go well at Algoa correctional facility. The classes help inmates in the re-entry program set goals and learn skills to help them "get ahead" upon release. Participants are also receiving employment and financial coaching through the Financial Opportunity Center. Graduation will be held at the end of March but is not open to the public.



Callaway County

Both the Housing Taskforce and Childcare Workgroup continue to meet to develop community-wide plans to address these issues.

CMCA hosted a poverty simulation for school health personnel in Fulton, and kicked off a 12-week class that combines Getting Ahead, CAREERS, and Building Strong Families.

Community Organizer Tad Dobyns poses with members of Altrusa beside their donation of hats, gloves, and blankets for Head Start families.



Strengthening Communities



Cooper & Howard Counties

The Boonville Vehicle Maintenance Program closed, and the project assessment funding report was submitted. The program will continue through June with a \$2,500 award from the Boonville Community Foundation.

The Cooper County government and County Commissioners donated \$5,000 for CMCA to use toward county initiatives related to workforce development and for the Boonslick Education & Employment Expo.

The Expo will be held on March 27th, from 9am-11am at the Isle of Capri Casino. The Expo will expose participants, including community members and students who wish to enter the workforce, to interact with a range of entry-level employers, apprenticeship opportunities, "learning while earning" opportunities, and short-term skills training options. Career paths that will be represented include manufacturing, construction, health and human services, agriculture, and business. We will have 11 exhibitors dedicated to resources and training opportunities, including union and apprenticeship programs.

Cooper/Howard County Community Organizer Cheri Cherry receives a donation from Cooper County Commissioner Charlie Melkersman.



Moniteau & Osage Counties

CMCA helped organize the Moniteau County Career Fair held at the California High School. The event was full of booths from employers, colleges, military recruiters, and other organizations. High school students visited with booth representatives to learn about some of the options available to them after graduation.

The Promise
Action *changes* people's lives, *embodies* the spirit of
communities, and *makes* America a better place
for the *entire* community, and we are *dedicated* to
helping people *help* themselves and each other.





Top left: State Representative Willard Haley poses with Community Organizer Jenn Millard and other event organizers.



Top right & bottom: California High School students explored a variety of education & employment options at the Moniteau County Career Fair.



Early Childhood Program Updates

It's almost time for our 100 Man Lunches! Head Start centers will host the lunches to encourage fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other males to be involved in their child's school experience. Research shows that children whose fathers are involved in their schooling demonstrate improved grades and test scores, increased attendance, and greater school involvement. The goal is for each center to host 100 Men during the event. Please join us if you can!

CMCA celebrated several Head Start staff who reached milestones in their years of service with CMCA:

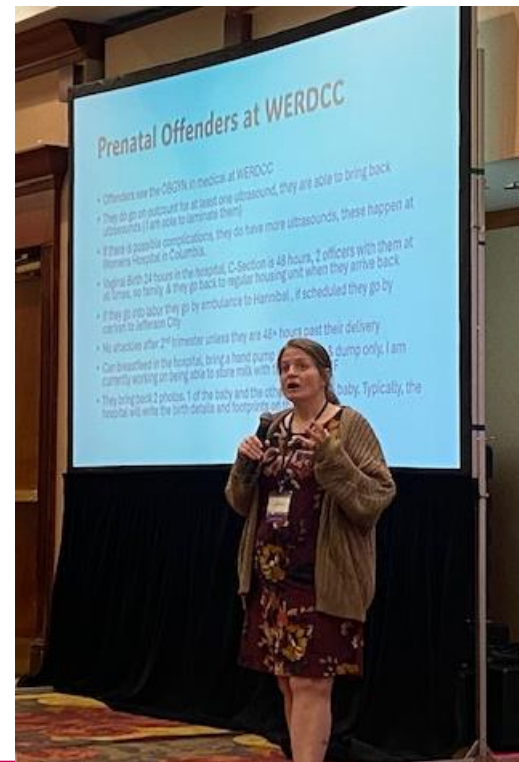
- Shanna Dixon – 10 years
- Myriam Dominguez – 10 years
- Tracy Pistel – 10 years
- Brandy Cotten – 15 years
- Melissa Scheer – 20 years
- Judy Zemmer – 25 years
- Shelly Weed – 30 years
- Krescenz Hundley – 35 years



Left: Jackie Rivera and Michelle Clark present a poster session on the Women & Infant Relief Fund (WIRF).

Below: Amber Snyder presents on the Early Head Start prenatal education program at the WERDCC women's correctional facility.

Health Administrator Jackie Rivera and Health Assistant Michelle Clarke presented a poster session on the WIRF program at the Uplift Conference on Maternal & Infant Health. At the same conference, Prenatal Parent Educator Amber Snyder presented on our partnership with the WERDCC women's prison in Vandalia. Both sessions were very well received.



Prenatal Offenders at WERDCC

- Offenders see the OB/GYN in medical at WERDCC
- They do go on-outpatient for at least one ultrasound, they are able to bring back ultrasounds (I am able to transport them)
- If there is possible complications, they do have more ultrasounds, these happen at Werners Hospital in Columbia.
- vaginal birth 24 hours in the hospital, C-Section is 48 hours, 2 officers with them at all times, no family & they go back to regular housing unit when they arrive back
- If they go into labor they go by ambulance to Hannibal, if scheduled they go by car to Jefferson City
- No visitation after 2nd trimester unless they are 48+ hours past their delivery
- Committed in the hospital, bring a hand pump currently working on being able to store milk with
- They bring back 2 photos, 1 of the baby and the other of the baby. Typically, the teacher will write the birth details and forego the other photo.

Family Well-Being



10 Years
Tracy Pistel
Shanna Dixon
Myriam Dominguez

15 Years
Brandy Cotten

20 Years
Melissa Scheer

25 Years
Judy Zemmer

30 Years
Shelly Weed

35 Years
Krescenz Hundley

Head Start Enrollment & Attendance February 2024



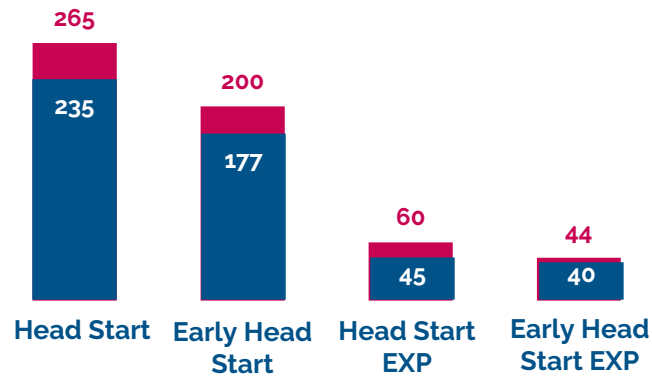
9 classroom closures

Children Affected by Site Closures

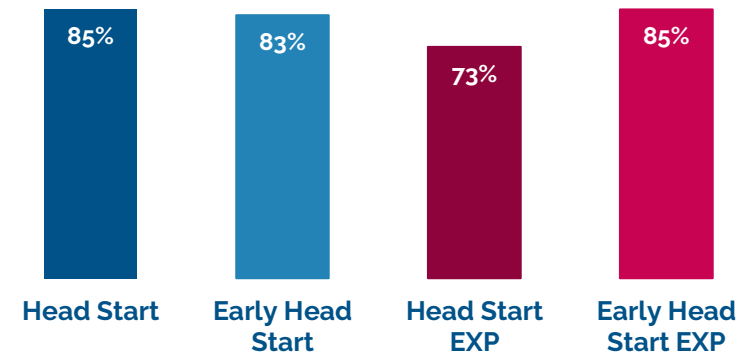


Actual Enrollment

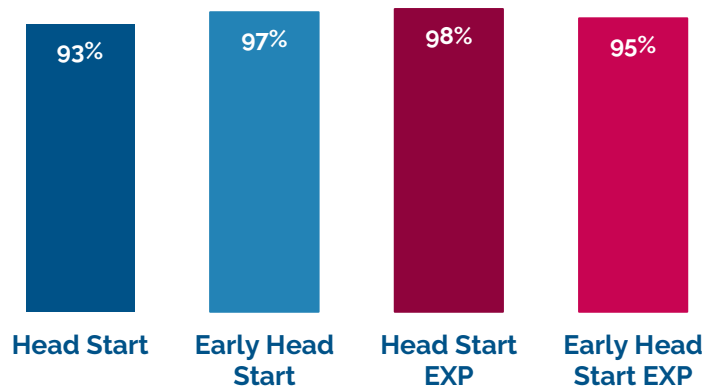
■ February ■ Target



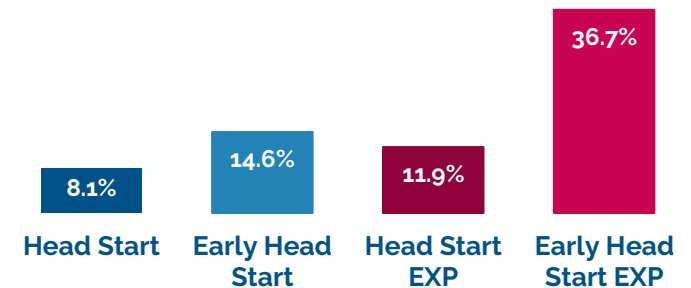
Average Daily Attendance



Income Eligible Enrollment



Disabilities Enrollment





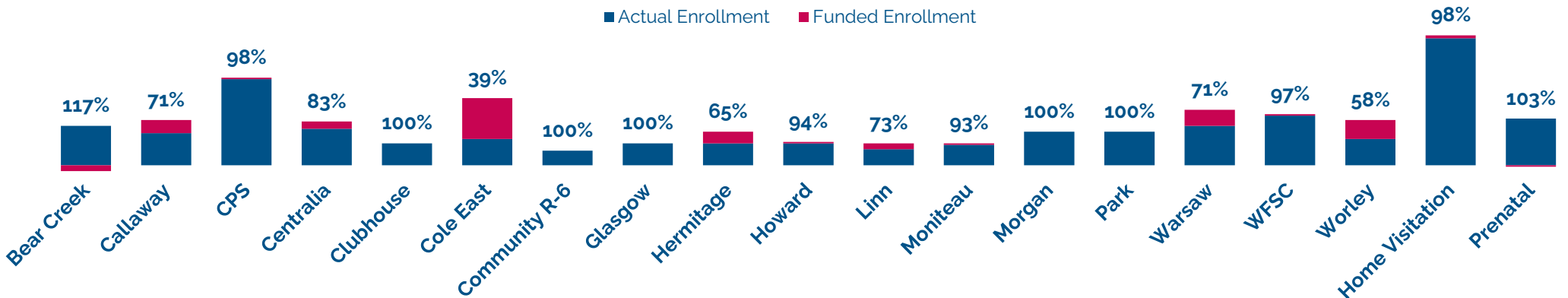
Family Well-Being

Head Start Enrollment & Attendance by Site February 2024

End of Month Enrollment by Site

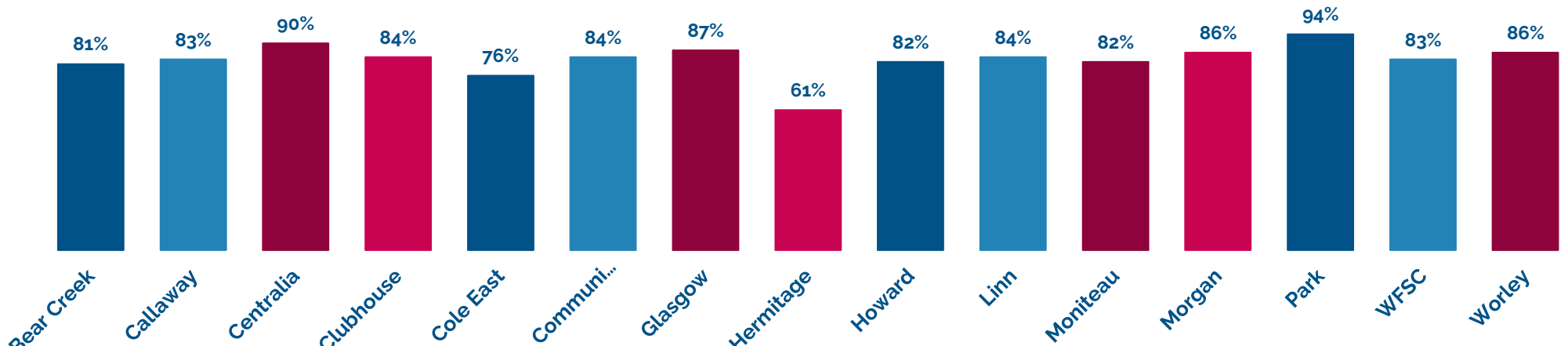
as a Percentage of Funded Enrollment

■ Actual Enrollment ■ Funded Enrollment



Average Daily Attendance by Site

as a Percentage of Actual Enrollment



Note: Attendance for children enrolled in Columbia Public Schools is tracked by the school district.

Head Start Report requiring Board & Policy Council approval

Family Well-Being

Head Start Classroom Snapshot

February 2023



23

Behavior Reports
for Classroom Behaviors



29

**Active Head Start
Staff Vacancies**
All HS Positions



5

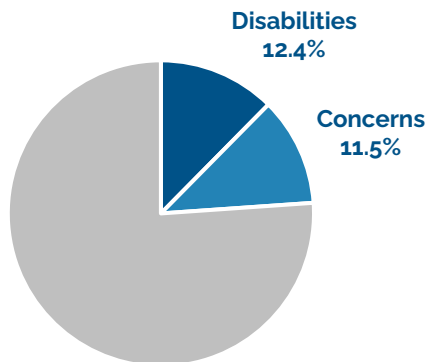
**Staff Receiving
Intensive Coaching**
on Education &
Mental Health Topics



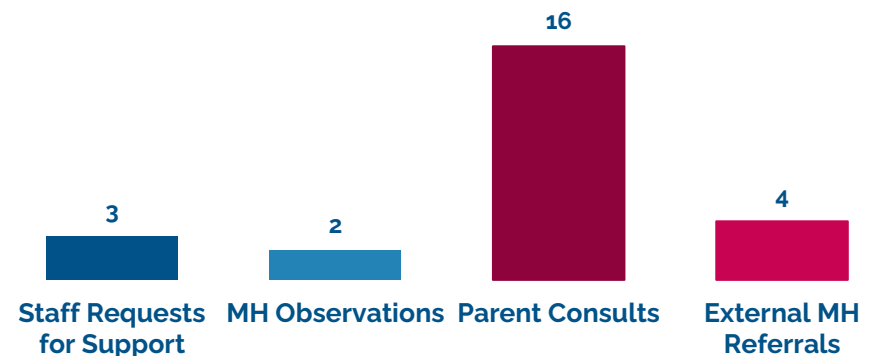
34

Families participating in
Parenting Curriculum

Classroom Children with Disabilities & Disabilities Concerns



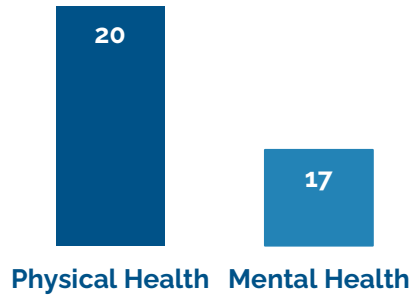
Classroom Mental Health Supports



Family Well-Being

Health & Wellness

People with Improved Health



547

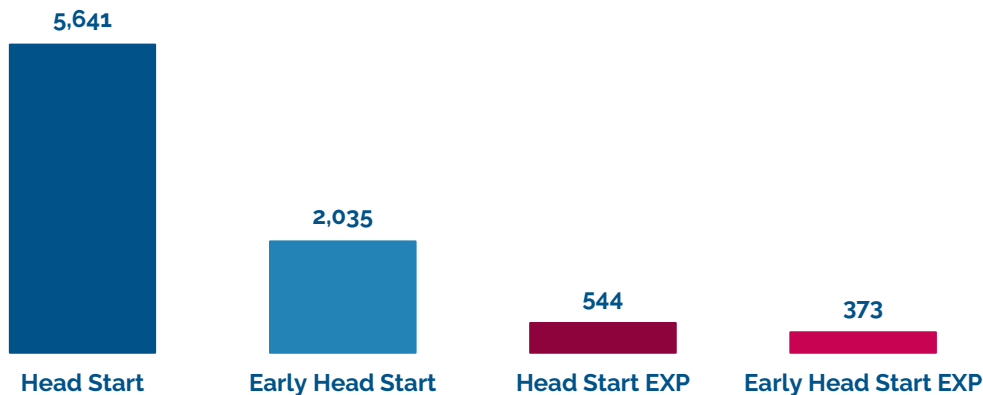
Children received
Health Screenings
September 2023 - Present



22

Children received
Follow-Up Medical or Dental Care
September 2023 - Present

Head Start Meals Served (Determines CACFP Reimbursement)



Children in the Early Head Start Home Visitation program practice hand-eye coordination and strengthen their arm muscles during a home visit.



Social Connections

Making a Difference

In February, CMCA hosted a poverty simulation in Fulton that was attended by 87 school employees, student teachers, administrators and board members. We had 24 community volunteers who assisted during the simulation.

A 12-week Getting Ahead class began in Callaway in late February, with 11 members enrolled and 8 attending classes. Participants have set goals, completed CareerScope assessments, and begun learning about the Theory of Change. Participants are also supported with employment and financial coaching through the Financial Opportunity Center.

ShowMe Healthy Relationships and the Boone County Community Organizer will hold a booth at the Central Missouri Food Bank once a month to provide information about CMCA programs.





Families enjoyed crafts, berry tasting, and other activities during a Friendship Day Parent Celebration at the Williams Family Support Center.





Social Connections

Save the Date!

Join us for our 100 Man Lunch events happening at our Head Start centers! Spend some quality time with the children and enjoy a delicious meal!

Audrain County

Williams Family Support Center – 4/25 at 8am

Boone County

Bear Creek – 3/22 at 8:30am

Centralia – 4/19 at 11am

Park – 4/24 at 10:30am

Worley – 4/5 at 11:30am

Callaway County

Callaway – 4/19 at 11am

Cole County

Cole East – 3/15 at 11am

Cooper County

Clubhouse – 4/11 at 8am

Morgan County

Morgan – 3/21 at 8:30am

Moniteau County

Moniteau – 3/21 at 8am

Osage County

Linn – 4/19 at 8:30am

A colorful graphic for the "Bingo for Babies" event. It features a dark blue background with a yellow border. The text "BINGO FOR BABIES" is prominently displayed in large, bold, yellow and white letters. Below this, it says "BENEFITING THE WOMEN AND INFANT RELIEF FUND OF CENTRAL MISSOURI COMMUNITY ACTION" in white. The date and time "MAY 9, 5:30 P.M." and the location "SENTINEL PARK | ARCADE DISTRICT" are also in white. The graphic is decorated with various bingo-related items: several bingo cards in purple, blue, and orange, some with red 'X' marks; colorful bingo balls with numbers like 7, 19, 35, and 36; a cartoon baby holding alphabet blocks (A, B, C); and yellow stars. The Central Missouri community Action logo is in the top right corner of the graphic area.

BINGO FOR BABIES

BENEFITING THE WOMEN AND INFANT RELIEF FUND
OF CENTRAL MISSOURI COMMUNITY ACTION

MAY 9, 5:30 P.M.
SENTINEL PARK | ARCADE DISTRICT