

Head Start/Early Head Start Board Report June / July / August 2018

Program Highlights:

- Construction continues on our new location "Genesee Head Start"
- HS/EHS staff received several pre-service trainings during the months of August/ September. Topics included: Tracking Training Hours – OCFS Requirement; ERSEA Expectations / Placement; Health / Nurse Expectations; Site Monitoring; Attendance – Friday Attendance; 90 Day Evaluations; Creative Curriculum Studies; Teaching Strategies GOLD® Using Your Observations to Individualize Instruction; Mandated Reporting/Child Abuse; Lighten Up Humor is Fundamental or Providing Quality Education and care to Young Children; The Playful Brain: Development of Young Children's Humor; Blood Borne Pathogens; NYS Shaken Baby; CACFP (which included: Civil Rights / Meal Schedule, Counts, Pattern, Components, Creditable Foods, Record Keeping / Serving Size / Developmentally Appropriate Foods / Meal Time Environment/Family Style Dining / Medical Confirmation of medical need for alternative food substitute / Sanitation, Safety, Food Handling Practices; Protect, Respond and Recover; HS Policies and Procedures; What if Everybody Understood Child Development; Active Learning across the curriculum; Creating a Literacy Rich Environment; Trauma and Brain Development, and How to Access and Utilize MyHeadStart (our electronic data base)

Child Development:

- Met with each of the teams the teachers that were coached and went over their CLASS observation scores with them. Met with teachers to be 1st year coaches, and Post Coaching Support teachers to make a schedule to observe and times for reflection
- Attended the four day training at NAEYC Professional Learning Institute in Austin, Texas which focused on coaching, incorporating math in the classroom, challenging behaviors, and working with using songs, games, and books to increase vocabulary in children. Was able to network with individuals and gather some ideas that they have had success with in their programs.
- School Readiness Plan and Goals updated for 2018/2019 Program year.
- Child Development Coach(s) viewed a webinar on Teaching Strategies GOLD lesson plan and the online digital resources to determine if this is the direction we would like to go. We believe that if we move in this direction that our assessment and the ability to individualize for the children when planning will be more valid and reliable.
- One child development coach has received her Toddler CLASS recertification.
- Participated in a Coaching Network meeting with Janette McCord (Regional Specialist). We reviewed the coaching process, the Performance Standards. Meetings will now be held quarterly.

Health:

- A total of 427 children were seen by dentist and hygienist in the Chompers dental Clinic 2017-2018.
- As a result of our partnership with the Syracuse Lion's Club vision screening clinic and the nurses using our new SPOT Vision Screening device 30 children program wide now have glasses and several more children are being monitored by their doctor.
- Chompers Dental Clinic schedule approved- new this year- all children in PEACE HS will have the opportunity to participate in the dental clinic. Bussing will be provided

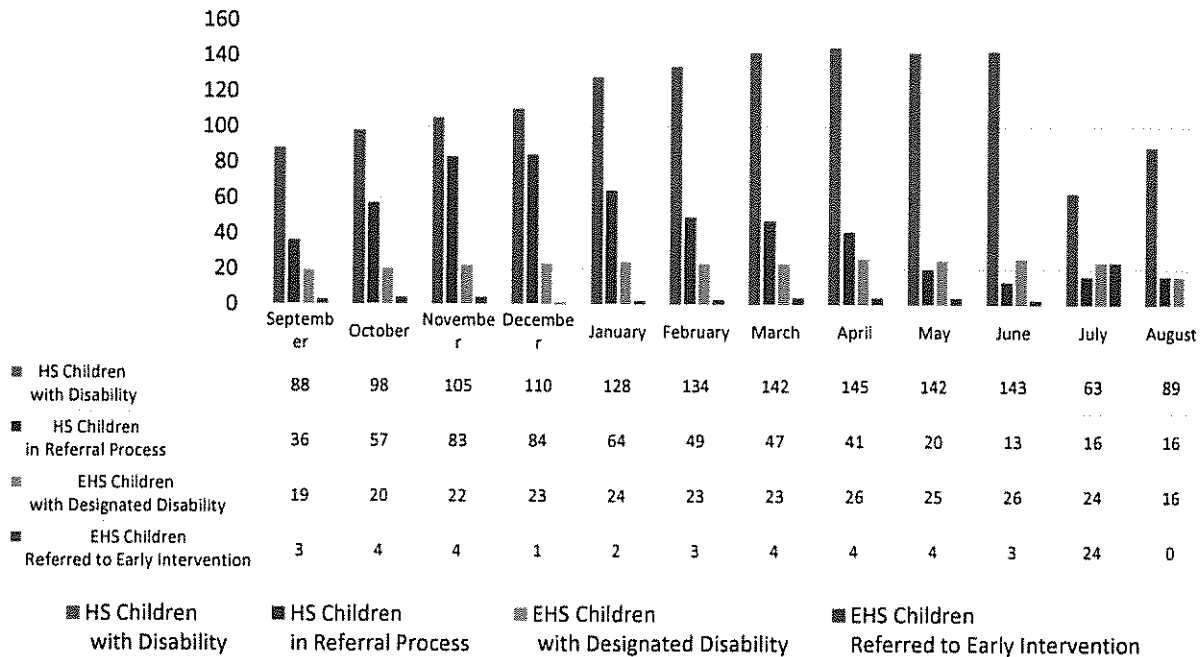
- James Street and Liverpool will be transported to Sumner
- Jordan will be transported to Baldwinville
- Lafayette will be transported to Rockwell
- Genesee will be transported to Merrick
- Lions club vision screening clinic schedule approved for James Street, Sumner, Merrick and Liverpool HS centers
- Purchased a Corti Hearing screening device for Home Based Program
- 20 staff completed CPR training in August
- 4 nurses completed Cavity Free Kids Curriculum

Mental Health:

- Attended 2018 Conscious Discipline training that reviewed CD tools and strategies to use in the classroom. The brain stage models were taught, examples were provided of adults and children in the flight or fight stage, emotional stage or executive phases of the brain. Circle up time was utilized to engage with others to learn new activates to engage with children.
- Attended a three hour DECA Analysis Professional Development training with Syracuse City School District to compare pre and post DECA ratings. Providing examples for teaching/support staff to learn new ways to utilize the data found to aid in children improving in social and emotional areas.

Disabilities:

DISABILITIES



- We are at 16% rate of HS/EHS children with a disability.
- The Disabilities Coordinator worked closely with the intake department this month assisting them with intakes that may involve suspected disabilities or those children who may have a diagnosed disability. It is important when it comes to selection and placement to know as much about the children as we can so that we can make informative decisions as we select and place children in our classrooms.
- The Disabilities Coordinator attended a meeting of the Early Childhood Alliance Committee. The group discussed the Help Me Grow system that the county is looking into implementing. It involves screening

children birth- 5. Head Start does play a role in this because we already are screening all of our children and we can share great insight on this to our community.

- The Disabilities Coordinator attended the annual Preschool Coalition of Young Children with Special Needs summer retreat. It was here where the group played “The Brain Architecture Game”. This involved breaking into small groups and trying to “build a brain”, with the use of straws and pipe cleaners. It also involved positive and negative card experiences that affected how the brain was developed from birth to three. It truly demonstrated what many of our families experience on a daily basis.
- The Disabilities Coordinator attended an Early Childhood Alliance (ECA) meeting where results of an assessment survey were discussed regarding what is currently being done on children in Onondaga County.

Nutrition:

- At the end of the 2017-2018 school year, there were 89 children who required a modified diet due to an allergy, intolerance, and/or cultural or religious preference. Many of these children have more than one restriction to their diet; on any given day they may need multiple substitutions. The number of special diets served for 2017-2018 school year is down from 176 in 2016.
- Monitored sites for end of year summary of compliance, equipment and staff needs.
- Met with Pickard Food Service Director to discuss strategies to lower sodium in HS menu.
- Followed-up with Health Department Registered Dietitian to assess our program’s progress and plans for next steps in implementing the CDC low sodium grant strategies in our HS menu.
- Nutrition Program Specialist completed continuing education requirements for Certified Lactation Counselor recertification.

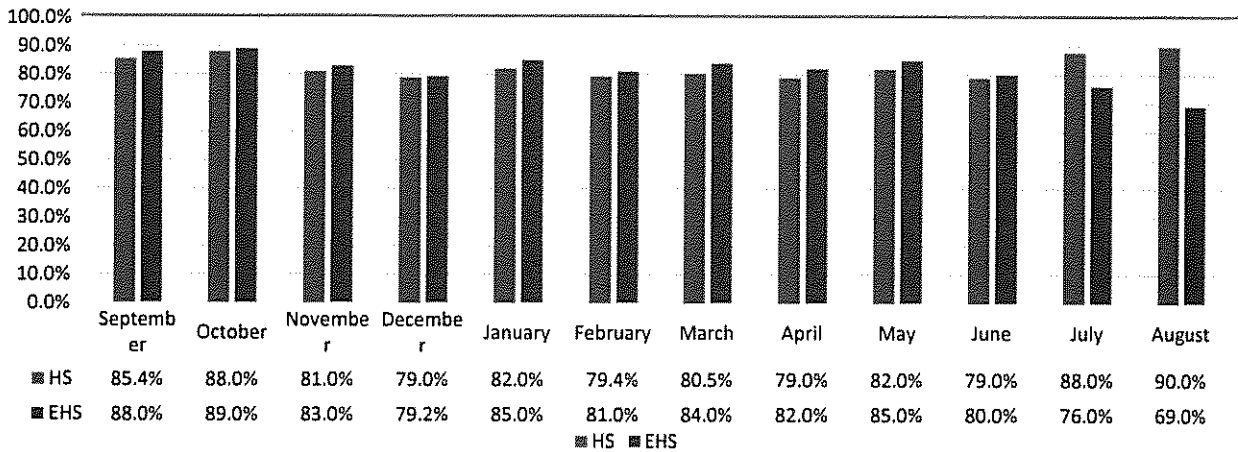
Program Operations:

- No Site Supervisor meeting scheduled for June due to the staggered lay off dates for Site Supervisors. Some of them left right after the last day of HS children. Meetings will resume in August upon their return.
- Associate Director and Director met with staff at St. Brigid’s to talk about details of the move to our new Genesee site in the fall. The 3pk and UPK staff were informed they will move to Merrick for one program year then move back to their original site. The reason for this is, in order to meet the requirement for the number of days needed for UPK, those classrooms must open on time in Sept. so therefore the decision was made to swap the 2 UPK classrooms of staff at St. Brigid’s with 2 classrooms of regular HS staff just for one program year.
- St. Brigid’s site has been all cleared out and all materials stored in PODS until we can open the new site. Application process to apply for a new day care license will begin in August.
- Site Supervisors laid off for the month of July. Merrick, Sumner, and UUMC remained open with EHS classrooms. Associate Director tracked children’s attendance for the first 4-5 weeks of the summer enrollment session. Attendance was maintained in all classrooms with the exception of the infant room at UUMC. A few of the children were experiencing transportation problems.
- Associate Director created a new Site Inspection Report which will be used for monitoring purposes at all HS/EHS sites beginning in September. Items to be observed were taken directly from our OCFS licensing guidelines and focuses primarily on safety.
- No transportation provided in July and August since only EHS in session. One Bus Driver works 52 weeks in order to continue providing transportation for Home Base socializations over the summer months.

Family and Community Services:

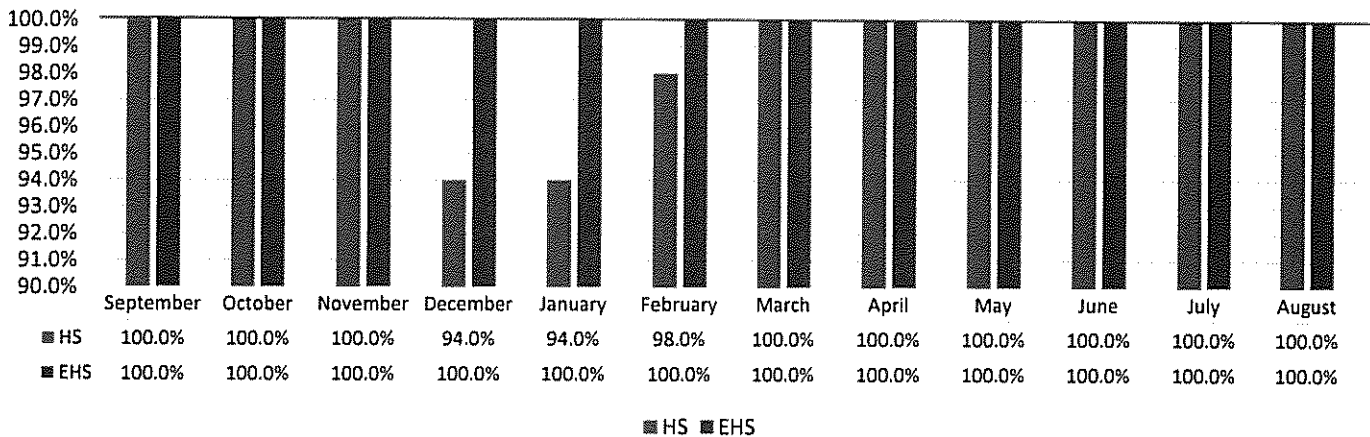
- Congratulations to Baldwinsville, James Street and St. Brigid’s for meeting their in-kind goals in May.
- Partnerships Coordinator met with the Atonement, Cab Horse to discuss a plan to maintain enrollment.
- F&C Manager, Partnerships Coordinator, and Transition Coordinator attended a “Trauma Training” workshop at OCC.
- Final registration and orientation were completed at sites.

ATTENDANCE

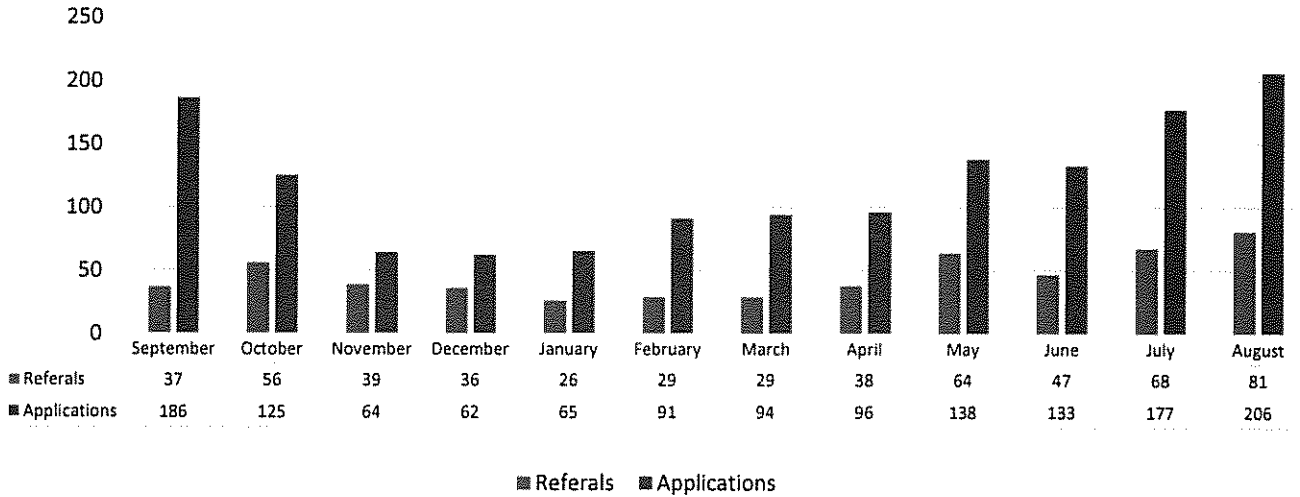


Reasons for lack of attendance were health and many no call / no call reasons with partnerships

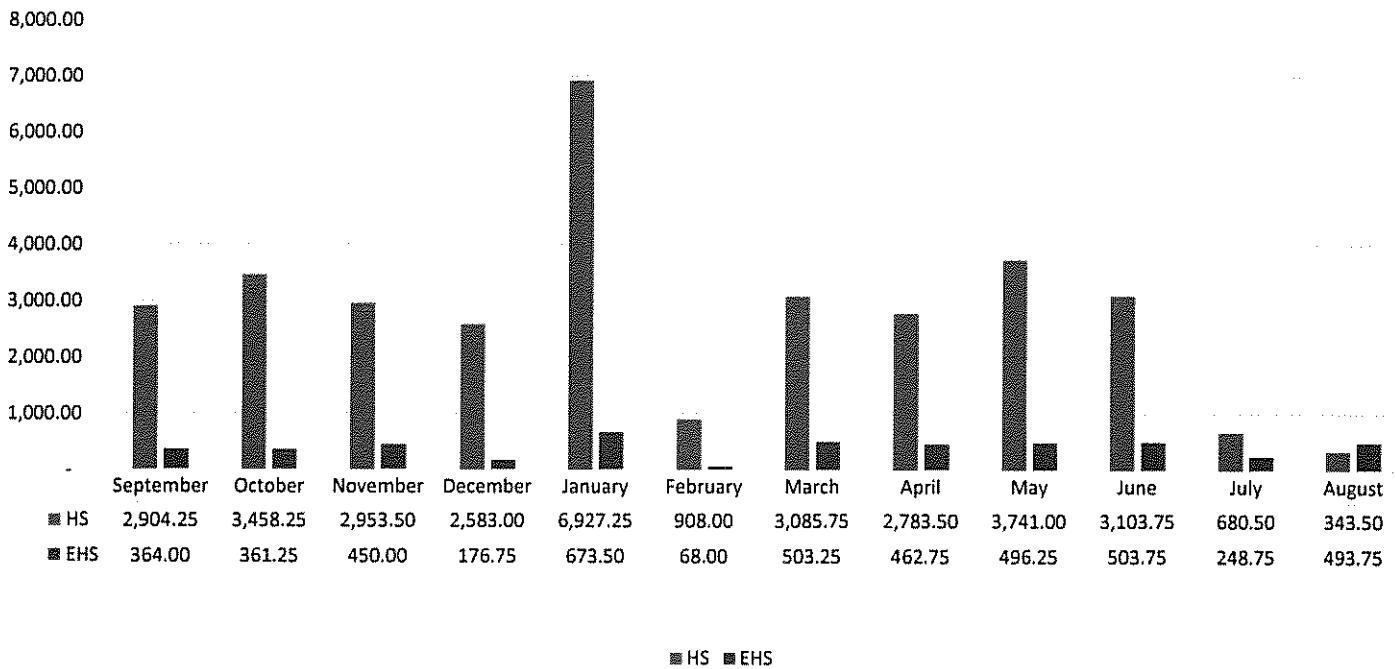
ENROLLMENT



REFERRALS and APPLICATIONS



FEDERAL MATCH - HOURS



SUCCESS STORIES:

- One of the teachers I am working with had struggled with the transition into lunch. After several meetings, suggestions, failed attempts, and some modeling, she was able to have some of the smoothest transitions that I had seen all year. She told me that it took the children a week or two to really get the hang of it, but knowing how important repetition is, she persisted and now has a smoother lunch transition.