

Highland Rim Head Start



About Us

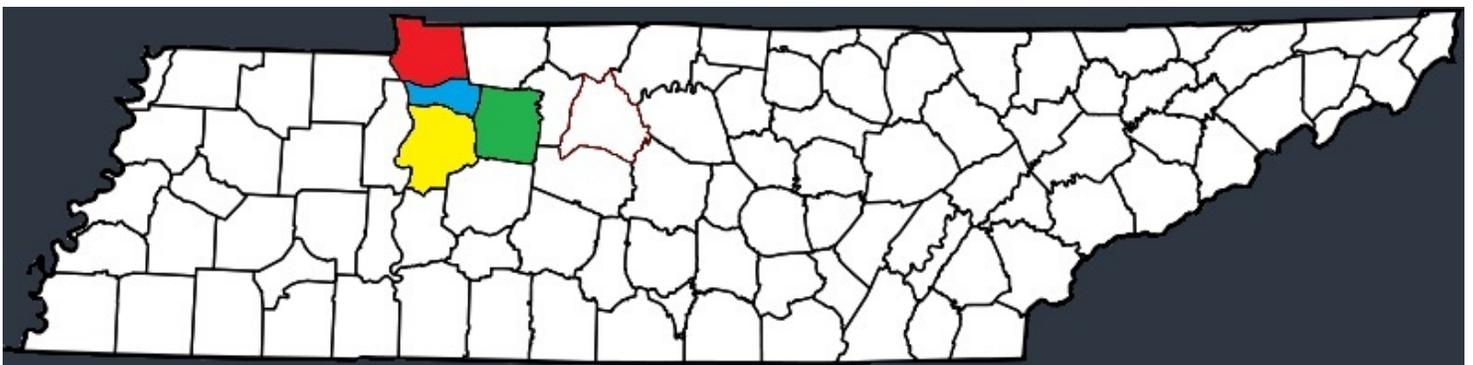
Highland Rim Economic Corporation provides Head Start services to four rural counties in northwest middle Tennessee. HREC Head Start is funded to provide comprehensive child development services to 230 eligible pre-school children and their families. In Dickson County, the program has one (1) complex which houses four (4) classrooms as well as two (2) outlying centers for a total of six (6) classrooms serving a total of 116 preschool children. In Houston County, the program has one (1) complex with two (2) classrooms serving 30 children while Humphreys County has two (2) centers with a total of two (2) classrooms servicing 32 children. Stewart County services a total of 52 children. Of these 52, 32 are located in one (1) complex with two (2) classrooms and another 20 are located in a Pre-K classroom in which Highland Rim collaborates with Dover Elementary.

HREC Head Start operates a center-based option, for six hours per day, five days a week. All centers operate classrooms from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. with the exception of one extended day classroom. HREC Head Start offers full day with extended hours for twenty (20) children, as approved by the Administration for Children and Families. HREC Head Start defines this model as ‘extended day’ which includes the six-hour, full day Head Start Program with up to five (5) additional hours to accommodate parents who are working full time, engaged in furthering their education, participating in training for employment, and/or other ‘Welfare to Work’ activities.

Our Mission

The mission of Highland Rim Economic Corporation is to coordinate resources to empower and inspire people to reach their full potential.

Service Area





School Readiness

Highland Rim Head Start takes great pride in its School Readiness Plan. During the Summer of 2015, the Office of Head Start released the Head Start Early Learning outcomes Framework which identified newly established school readiness goals. The agency took quick action to revise the earlier School Readiness Plan to incorporate these new goals. These goals encompass the areas of Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional Development, Language and Literacy, Cognition, and Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development.

The Highland Rim Economic Corporation Head Start School Readiness and Family Engagement Coalition met twice during the school year to review and discuss the current School Readiness Plan and any needed or recommended revisions.

Once approved by Policy Council, the School Readiness plan was introduced to parents, staff, community partners as well as our T&TA Specialist for feedback and input.

Tracking Children's Outcomes

HREC Head Start utilized the Learning Accomplishment Profile 3 (LAP-3) to complete ongoing assessment of children enrolled in the program. Beginning in August teachers began assessing children and documented their findings in both the assessment booklet and the Red-e Set Grow online program. In September, the first available data was used to establish a baseline. At that time, the data was analyzed and teachers were trained on how to use the data to plan meaningful activities that would enhance school readiness goals.

The LAP-3 assessment allows for a mid-year collection of data to determine what growth has been accomplished since the baseline data was collected. The education staff completed their observations and a second round of data was collected at the end of January. Having two checkpoints allowed for comparisons to be made, teachers to be mentored, and also allowed for provision of individual trainings for our teachers to enhance activities based on the data collected.

Our results for the year showed that our children were progressing towards a high level of competency in all mandated areas. The highest percentages of mastery were in the areas of social and emotional development and physical health and development for both three and four year olds. The lowest areas of mastery were in math and literacy. As such, the agency will focus its efforts on providing staff with the training and equipment needed to continue to strengthen these areas.

Ready for Kindergarten

HREC Head Start has a transition plan which outlines activities to help ensure children are ready to enter kindergarten. Such activities include assisting parents with registration, inviting kindergarten teachers to speak at parent meetings, and taking the children on a field trip of the local elementary schools.



CLASS Observations

Three times a year, during fall, winter and spring, Highland Rim Economic Corporation Head Start conducts observations and reviews CLASS scores program wide to gain a sense of how the entire program, as well as centers and individual classrooms, have fared so far in each of the three CLASS domains. After each review the Education Manager and Area Coordinator/CLASS observer, will implement methods and actions for success and make changes in the classroom as needed. This team also identifies those staff members who are reliable assessors, ensures their certification is current, and as necessary, takes steps to increase our pool of reliable scorers. We currently have four CLASS Reliable observers on our staff.



Family Services

Parent Involvement through Family Engagement continues to be a vital piece of the Highland Rim Head Start Program. Developing healthy relationships between the home setting and the academic setting is both crucial and necessary for the child to have a solid family and educational foundation. We welcome and encourage parents to participate in daily and special activities within the classroom, thus making the learning process a family experience. Upon entering the classroom, one may find a parent engaging with their child through science exploration, helping to build a sky scraper in the block area or painting a master piece unlike anything Leonardo Da Vinci ever created! Family engagement is also encouraged through activities that cross over from the classroom into the home setting and include literacy, mental health, and advocacy aspects that are key to several areas of the Head Start program. Parents currently participate in Policy Council, monthly parent meetings with encouraging educational and social activities, as well as, providing feedback and perspective on the different components of our program.

The sky is the limit for children whose parents are involved in their educational experience!



94% Eligible children served
 255—Families served
 40% - Two parent families
 60% - Single parent families
 13% - Families who received services
 732—Volunteers
 338—Parent or former parent volunteers



Health Services

Head Start Health Services works in collaboration with parents in effort to provide children comprehensive health services including medical, dental, mental health, and nutritional services. Parents are encouraged and assisted to ensure their children are up to date and on schedule with the State EPSDT schedule. Follow-up treatment, dental care and psychological services are provided as needs are identified.

Overview of Health Services

Funded Enrollment	230
Total Cumulative Enrollment	278
Average Monthly Enrollment	98%
Number of Children with Disabilities	45 (17%)
Up-to-Date Immunizations (at end of enrollment)	274 (99%)
Children with Health Insurance (at end of enrollment)	277 (99%)
% of Children Receiving Medical Exams (since last PIR was reported)	51%
% of Children Receiving Dental Exams (since last PIR was reported)	54%

By the Numbers...

Proposed Budget...

Personnel— 967,061

Fringe— 397,118

Mortgage—89,410

Utilities— 85,000

Supplies— 51,000

Maintenance— 42,100

Transportation—25,364

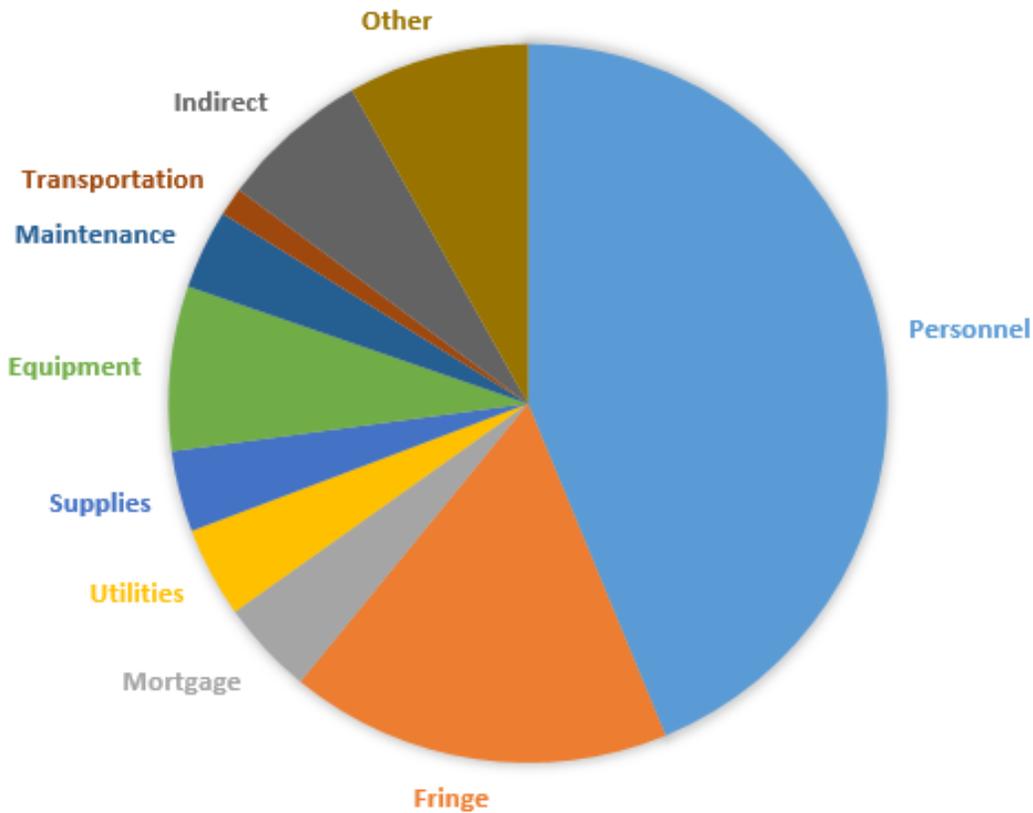
Indirect—180,840

Other— 99,041

Highland Rim Head Start received funding from

Federal Head Start Grant: PA22	\$2,108,934
PA20	24,899
In-Kind	202,703
USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program:	142,350

2015-2016 EXPENDITURES





Federal Review

Highland Rim Head Start underwent CLASS Review, a Comprehensive Services and School Readiness Review as well as a Leadership, Governance, and Management Systems Review during the 2015-2016 school year. While there were no concerns with the CLASS review, there was one concern and one noncompliance in the CSSR review and three areas of noncompliance in the LGMS review. Correction plans have been completed for each finding.

Financial Audit

The independent audit for 2014-2015 resulted in zero findings. The 2015-2016 audit is in the process of being completed.





Highland Rim Head Start

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