Family Highlight

Early Head Start parent, Amarea Ringstaff, was facing some difficult times, including the passing of her mother, depression, and having to put her schooling on hold. Having reliable child care for her six month old son Mylo was something that would help Amarea breathe a little bit easier while trying to finish school and pursue her career.

Amarea learned about the OLHSA Early Head Start/Head Start program and could not believe it was offered for free. She cried on his first day of school, but now feels blessed that Mylo is able to experience the love and care that is given to him at school. She has complete trust in the teaching staff and says she would not be able to do half of the things that she does without the peace of mind from knowing her child is in a safe, clean, and most importantly, loving environment. Amarea also praises the child-focused HighScope curriculum that is offered and is amazed at how much Mylo has learned.

Mylo loves going to school each day, his face lights up when he sees his classmates and teachers. “As a parent that’s one of the most fulfilling things to witness, you know in your heart that you made the right decision in sending your child to school.” Amarea said.

Since enrolling Mylo in OLHSA’s Early Head Start program, Amarea has been able to work consistently, purchase a car and save money for a new home. She credits OLHSA’s wrap-around approach for helping her to meet their basic needs, like diapers and car seats and appreciates the family advocate staff for going above and beyond in making sure families have all the tools they need to be successful.

“Thank you for giving me the reassurance that my child is in the best of care, helping me stay focused every step along the way, and for being part of my journey!”

– Amarea Ringstaff
I am pleased to present the OLHSA 2018-2019 Head Start Annual Report. The success of the Early Head Start and Head Start program is based on its community involvement and local organizational partnerships to provide services and opportunities to over 1,179 local children and families throughout the course of the entire program year. OLHSA’s Early Head Start and Head Start program is also privileged to work with 20 School Districts, Charter Schools and Community Based Organizations in our service area of Oakland County. Together, we join in the quest to prepare the children in our communities for their entrance into Kindergarten.

Our program continuously provides families and children access to high quality early educational programs and comprehensive services in their earliest years. Each day, our staff make a positive difference in the lives of children by the dedicated work and educational experiences they provide. Providing children with quality early childhood experience is the foundation for building school readiness and future success for families. Young children today, are our future tomorrow. Investing in children is why we are committed to providing comprehensive services with excellence.

As we move into a new year, we would like to thank every volunteer that spends time in our classrooms; your support and presence is essential to our success. We are extremely grateful to our staff for their continued dedication to children and families each and every day. Lastly, we would like to acknowledge our Head Start Policy Council and OLHSA Board of Directors for their support and guidance. Through the ongoing efforts of our dedicated staff, parents, Policy Council, OLHSA Governing Board and community members, we have truly brought the Head Start model to life, ensuring every child will have the opportunity to reach their full potential. We look forward to continuing to work together in the upcoming school year and making a positive impact in the lives of the children and families we serve.

Best wishes,
Janice Smith
Early Childhood Services Director

Services provided to children and families

- 233 families received emergency services/crisis intervention
- 220 families received housing assistance
- 115 families were provided with adult education resources
- 177 families received parenting education
- 43 families with incarcerated individuals received assistance
- 167 fathers/father figures participated in father involvement activities
- 115 children received special education and related services
- 655 individuals volunteered in our Early Head Start/Head Start programs
Early Head Start and Head Start had a cumulative enrollment of 1,344 children during the 2018-2019 school year.

Healthy Children are Ready to Learn

With help from OLHSA Early Head Start and Head Start, by the end of the program year:

- **1,333** children had health insurance (99.2%)
- **1,276** children were up-to-date on immunizations (94.9%)
- **1,091** children were up-to-date on preventative health care (81.2%)
  - Of these, **262** children were diagnosed with a medical condition. Of the children diagnosed, **62.2%** received medical treatment
  - **968** children were up-to-date on preventative dental care (72%)
    - Of these, **151** children needed dental treatment. Of the children needing treatment, **55.6%** received dental treatment
- **1,329** children had a medical home (98.9%)
- **1,076** children had a dental home (80.1%)

Families and Children Served

During the 2018-2019 Program Year, our program served approximately 12.7% of the eligible children in Oakland County based on the *Kids Count Oakland County Michigan 2019 Trends*.

### Number of Children & Families Served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment Type</th>
<th>Early Head Start</th>
<th>Head Start</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funded Enrollment</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>1203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual Enrollment</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>1072</td>
<td>1344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Families Served</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>1014</td>
<td>1259</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*24 of these slots are funded through the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Grant Program.*

### Enrollment by Age

- Under 1 year old: 33.5%
- 1 year old: 7.7%
- 2 years old: 46.4%
- 3 years old: 8.7%
- 4 years old: 8.7%

### Average Monthly Enrollment

- Early Head Start - 73%*
- Head Start - 94%*

*Several Early Head Start classrooms were unable to open due to the lack of teaching staff.*
In the fall of 2019, there will be approximately 178 children transitioning to kindergarten from the OLHSA Head Start program. The Office of Head Start defines school readiness as “children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning and life.” Our teachers work directly with children and families to promote children’s progress toward school readiness goals. Children in our Head Start classrooms, primarily for 3 year old children, continued to make progress towards these goals throughout the program year. Children in our blended OLHSA Head Start/Great Start Readiness Program classrooms, for 4 year old children, made significant gains during the 2018-2019 program year in all of the school readiness goal areas, with item scores of 3.75 or above, reflecting kindergarten readiness for that particular goal area. Data shows that the longer children are in our Early Head Start/Head Start Program, gains made in school readiness goal areas continues to improve.
THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

OLHSA Early Head Start and Head Start want to thank our partners who assist us every year and help us to create a healthy and positive learning environment for the children in our programs.

Positive Emotional Development and Learning Skills (PEDALS) Program

OLHSA brought the PEDALS program to our Head Start classrooms through a grant made possible by a collaboration with Early Works to provide social-emotional training for Head Start teachers during the 2018-2019 school year. PEDALS coaches work with the teachers to support social emotional learning and compliment the Trauma Smart skills our teaching staff has already learned. Kindergarten teachers say the skills children need most to succeed in their classrooms are social-emotional skills. In fact, teachers say kids’ ability to make friends, manage strong emotions and communicate effectively are more important than academic skills at this age. Children with higher social-emotional skills do better in school. The lessons taught through the PEDALS program cover a range of topics such as identifying and naming feelings, asking for what you need, caring and helping, fair ways to play, and how to make friends in kindergarten, just to name a few.

Stage Nature Center

Troy Nature Society (TNS) received funding to underwrite educational nature programs at the Stage Nature Center for students enrolled in OLHSA Head Start. The Nature Center hosted OLHSA’s Winter Friends Events, three field trips to the Nature Center, offered in-house field trips, and came to OLHSA’s Back-to-School Bash as an interactive booth. The students were provided with hands-on learning experience in nature designed to increase their knowledge of nature, science, and the environment. The purpose of the project was to implement a targeted assistance program in Oakland County geared towards increasing the academic, social, and physical needs of at-risk preschool students from low-income families that are critical to their academic and social outcomes.

Head Start Innovation Fund Grant

OLHSA received a grant through the Community Foundation of Michigan, Head Start Innovation Fund. This grant award gave us the opportunity to focus on teacher recruitment and retention. Part of our strategy is partnering with Early Works to increase awareness of our available teaching positions within the communities where we need teachers. The other strategy, to increase staff retention, will include using funds from this grant award to provide internal referral bonuses as an incentive for current employees that refer candidates to us for open positions.
Results of OLHSA’s most recent financial audit

For the period ended December 31, 2018, Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency’s Single Audit was awarded an un-modified audit opinion from UHY LLP our audit firm. This is the best opinion the agency can receive. There was one finding noted on the single audit related to programs funded through the Area Agency on Aging 1-B.

Criteria: The finding was related to 2 CFR 200.403 (a) and (g) costs must meet the following criteria in order to be allowable under Federal awards: (a) be necessary and reasonable for the performance of the Federal award and be allocable thereto under these principles. (g) be adequately documented.

Condition: The Agency contracted with a vendor to provide certain services for the Chore program to the older adult population, which is a subservice of the federal award noted above. The Agency did not have the proper internal controls in place nor did they perform sufficient oversight of the vendor to ensure that the services were properly performed and that the costs charged to the grant were allowable.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Agency implement policies and procedures to ensure that the Agency complies with all necessary provisions of the grant contracts, including ensuring that services are properly performed and approved, and payments to vendors are supported by appropriate evidence and documentation, and recipient feedback is acted upon in a timely and appropriate manner. The agency concurs with this recommendation and has put into place policies and procedures that support the recommendation.

Early Head Start & Head Start Financials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 Revenue</th>
<th>2018 Expenditures*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$8,815,499</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,801,411</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,240,553</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$555,903</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$238,660</td>
<td></td>
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Total Revenue: $14,128,489

Early Head Start & Head Start Financials

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<td>CACFP</td>
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TOTAL PROPOSED FUNDING: $13,178,785

*Funding sources include US Department of Health and Human Services, USDA, Michigan Department of Community Health.

2020 Proposed Budget

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TOTAL PROPOSED FUNDING: $13,178,785

During the 2018-2019 program year, the OLHSA Early Head Start/Head Start program received two Office of Head Start Federal Reviews under the Aligned Monitoring System.

**CLASS Review**
The first monitoring review, in November of 2018, was a Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) review of each of our Head Start classrooms. The CLASS is an observation instrument that assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions in center-based preschool classrooms.

CLASS includes three domains or categories of teacher-child interactions that support children's learning and development:

1) Emotional Support, 2) Classroom Organization, and 3) Instructional Support.

The CLASS dimensions are based on developmental theory and research suggesting that interactions between children and adults are the primary way of supporting children's development and learning, and that effective, engaging interactions and environments form the foundation for all learning in early childhood classrooms.

As shown below, OLHSA scores during this review were above the 2018 National Average Median Scores in all three domains.

![Graph showing CLASS scores](image)

**Focus Area Two Review**
The second monitoring review, in March 2019, was a Focus Area Two (FA2) review under the Aligned Monitoring System. The FA2 review is an opportunity for grantees to demonstrate their effectiveness in implementing a high-quality program to promote positive outcomes and school readiness for children and their families. This review consisted of monitoring all programmatic content areas for compliance, including enrollment and eligibility.

The results of the review found compliance throughout our program with all Head Start Program Performance Standards.
PARENT POLICY COUNCIL
Policy Council members were elected from all of our programs across Oakland County to represent the OLHSA Early Head Start and Head Start Programs. They met monthly and shared in the decision making process regarding quality programming for themselves and their children. Policy Council members’ decisions affected program budgets, evaluations and assessments, grant development, and bylaws. Members were also involved in the Parent Personnel Committee, receiving specialized training to be an integral part of the EHS/HS employee hiring process.

Thank you to the 2018-2019 Early Head Start/Head Start Policy Council Members and special appreciation to the Policy Council Officers:

Chairperson
Jennifer Agosta-Price

Vice Chairperson
Kristina Hill

Secretary
Amanda Kellar

Vice-Secretary
Monica Henry

OLHSA Board of Directors Representative
Ronda Dawson

OLHSA Board of Director Replacement
Amanda Kellar

MI Head Start Association Representative
Ronda Dawson

MI Head Start Association Alternative Representative
Jennifer Agosta-Price

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Community Action Since

Visit our website at www.olhsa.org or find us on Facebook at facebook.com/OLHSA

For more information on Early Head Start and Head Start visit www.olhsa.org/earlychildhoodprograms.