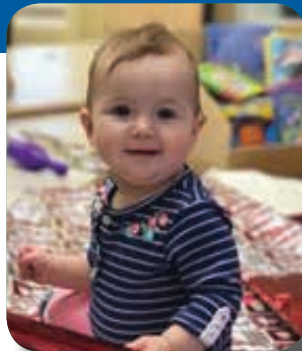




**KNOX COUNTY
HEAD START INC.**

2016-17 Annual Report



Serving Knox County Since 1965

From Our Director

It is my privilege and honor to work with the many dedicated and talented employees, board members and policy council members of the Knox County Head Start School Family. As we complete our 52nd year of service, we recognize our good fortune in collaborating to serve children and families in a special community. While Knox County faces many of the challenges in Ohio communities and the nation, the spirit of collaboration here is unique. I am thankful for the efforts of our community, and know that this collaboration, combined with the work of our KCHS School Family, promotes the accomplishments outlined in this annual report. Working together, we will continue to progress in supporting parents as the first and most important teachers of their children, and ensuring children are on the path to lead happy, healthy and meaningful lives.

Peg Tazewell, Executive Director

Our Mission & Guiding Values

Committed to the future of Knox County and its changing and diverse needs, Knox County Head Start works in partnership with the community to provide quality preschool, child care, and family services. Our purpose is to engage children, families, and staff in reaching their full potential. Together with parents and families, KCHS employees open doors for children's success in school and in life.

Educating Children. Empowering Families. Building Community.

1. We value families: fathers, mothers, and primary caregivers, as the first and most important teachers and advocates for their children.
2. We strive to make a difference through the education, care, and support of our children, families, and staff by:
 - Committing to provide quality services
 - Hiring, training, and retaining competent staff
 - Providing opportunities for personal and professional growth
 - Developing and nurturing trusting relationships built on honesty and open communication
 - Acknowledging and seeking diversity through our program design
 - Creating and maintaining healthy and productive community partnerships

Board of Directors

Mark Kohlman, Chairperson*
Chief Business Officer, Kenyon College

Noel Alden, Vice Chairperson*
Attorney, Zerkowicz, Barry & Cullers

Tina Cockrell*
Program Director, Knox County Chamber of Commerce

Todd Hawkins
Financial Officer, Certified Financial Planner, First-Knox National Bank

John Morgan
Elementary Principal, Centerburg Local Schools

Danielle O'Brien, CPA
Vice President of Finance, Knox Community Hospital

Ashley Rhodes*
Preschool Field Supervisor, Ashland University

Ellen Robinson
Advisor (Knox), Central Ohio Technical College

Kelly Welker*
Area Supervisor, McDonald's (Knox and Morrow Counties)

Barbara Wortman
Librarian (Retired)

Clorisha Arndt, Policy Council Representative

**Former Head Start parent*

Policy Council

Centerburg Parent Representative
Whitney Scarpitti, Secretary

Danville Parent Representative
Amber Jansen

Fredericktown Parent Representatives
Ronnie Walker
Deniese Stratford

Gambier Parent Representative
Courtney DeCosky

New Hope Early Education Parent Representatives
Derek Delano
Jennifer Cameron
Ilesha Stewart

Northgate Parent Representatives
Clorisha Arndt, Chair Person & Board Representative
April Thorpe

Home-Based Program Parent Representatives
Billie Richert
Ann Tope
Megan White

Community Representative
Patricia Ragor, Vice Chair Person

Alternates- Home Based Parent Representatives
Donald Bovinette
Patty Dawson

Key Leaders

Peg Tazewell, MA
Executive Director

Phillip Jones
Fiscal Officer

Julie Mickley
Human Resource Director

Donna Beckley*
Program Compliance Coordinator

JoAnn Clark, MBA*
Enrollment Coordinator

Cassandra Hoeflich, M.Ed.*
Child Development Coordinator

Lindsey Lamp
Early Childhood Center Coordinator

**Former Head Start parent*



Learn more about Head Start through this video: visit "Head Start: Leading the Way for Children, Families and Communities" at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kypFlrtRVTg>



Our Children

Monthly Enrollment

KCHS must track and report funded enrollment at the end of the month, reporting to the Board, Policy Council and the Office of Head Start, and create action plans to address under-enrollment. Average monthly enrollment in the Head Start program was 97% with a total of 251 children served during the year in 198 funded slots. Average monthly enrollment in Early Head Start was 100% with 106 children and 12 pregnant moms served in 66 funded slots. Average monthly enrollment in the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships program was 90.3% with 31 children served in 16 slots. This was the second year of the EHS-CCP program wherein children were served in three family child care provider homes and one classroom which opened in October 2016 at our Northgate Center. EHS-CCP serves children 6 weeks to 48 months in family child care, and to 36 months in the classroom. Once the classroom was opened in, monthly enrollment in EHS-CCP was 100% from November through July.

Services to Children Identified with Disabilities

KCHS collaborates with partner agencies, including the **Help Me Grow** program and **Early Intervention** with the **Knox County Board of Developmental Disabilities**, and with two local education agencies, **Knox County Educational Service Center** and **Mount Vernon City Schools**, to provide special education services to children with disabilities. Many children were able to receive special services for their individual, identified disabilities. In 2016-17, services to KCHS children with identified disabilities included:

- 49 children (19.5%) in Head Start received special education services under an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- 18 infants and toddlers (13.1%) in Early Head Start and EHS-CCP received services under an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

Children Served (8/1/16-7/31/17)

Head Start	251
Early Head Start	106
EHS Pregnant Moms	12
EHS CC Partnership	31
School Age	42
<u>Child Care</u>	<u>31</u>
Total	473

More than 111,413 meals/snacks served to children and families!



We know that fathers are important in the lives of children. This year, 315 Head Start and Early Head Start fathers or father figures participated in family events and classroom activities.

Child Health Services

Child Health Services are designed to ensure children receive age-appropriate screenings, follow up for health and dental concerns when needed, and are healthy and ready for success in school.



Immunization Services

- 328 children (84.5%) are categorized as up-to-date on their required immunizations.
- 33 children (8.5%) are categorized as in-progress, having received all possible shots for their age group.
- 11 children (2.8%) meet Ohio's guidelines for exemption from immunization.



Nutrition

- 111,413 healthy breakfasts, lunches, snacks, and dinners were served to KCHS children and families this year.
- Several publications focused on nutrition/physical activity are sent home with all families monthly: "Nutrition Nuggets," "Color Me Healthy News," "Get Moving" calendar, and Scholastic's "Parent & Child" magazine.
- Promotional materials for the **5-2-1-0** program are sent home with all families, and discussed with parents in School Family meetings, encouraging families to practice healthy habits by eating **five** fruits/vegetables daily, limiting recreational screen time to **two** hours, getting **one** hour of vigorous physical activity, and consuming **zero** sugary drinks.



Medical Screenings

- 366 (94.3%) children received an annual physical and all medical screenings, including hearing, vision, lead, and hemoglobin
- 76 (19.6%) children needed medical follow-up
- 76 (100%) children received medical follow-up



Dental Services

- 209 Head Start preschool children (83.3%) received a dental exam
- 55 Head Start preschool children (21.9%) needed follow-up
- 38 Head Start preschool children (69.1%) received follow-up

Mental Health Services

KCHS partners with Behavioral Health Partners of Central Ohio (BHP) to provide play therapy in classrooms or in-home Jump Start services for children exhibiting ongoing, challenging behaviors at home and/or in the classroom. Our goal is to provide effective interventions at as early an age as possible.

- 64 parents were provided with consultations about their child's behavioral or mental health
- 51 Head Start children received mental health services from outside organizations, including BHP



Developmental Screenings

- 388 children (100%) received developmental screenings
- 47 children were referred for further evaluation (33 Head Start, 14 Early Head Start)
- 24 children entered the school year with an IEP or IFSP, and 43 children were newly qualified during the year due to referrals.



Promoting Excellence

Preparing Children for Success in Kindergarten

KCHS classrooms implement The Creative Curriculum for Preschool®; The Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers, and Two's®; the Conscious Discipline® philosophy of "brain smart" classroom management; and Handwriting Without Tears: Get Set for School focused on handwriting and fine motor skills, mathematics, and literacy. Teachers use The Creative Curriculum's® Objectives for Development and Learning to track individual child progress and to plan lessons for large and small groups as well as individualized activities specific to the child's developmental level. These objectives are aligned with Ohio Early Learning & Development Standards.

KCHS promotes overall wellness, including dental health, good nutrition, and the importance of movement and exercise with the I Am Moving I Am Learning program. A dental hygienist from the Knox County Health Department delivered dental education to all preschool children. All parents receive health, nutrition, and physical activity flyers monthly—"Get Moving" monthly activity calendar, Color Me Healthy NEWS, and Nutrition Nuggets.

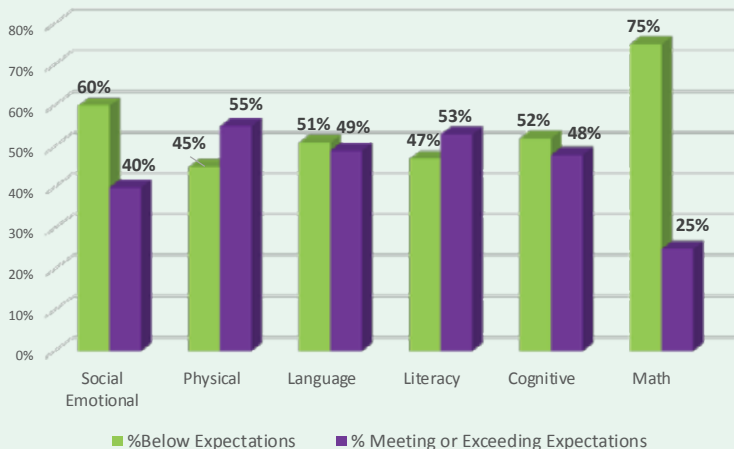
As shown in the chart (below, left), initial assessments in Teaching Strategies GOLD in fall 2016 showed a significant percentage of Head Start pre-kindergarten children entering the school year performing below widely held expectations, most significantly in math (25% meeting expectations) and social emotional (40% meeting expectations). By the end of the school year, in spring 2017, children improved in math with 68% meeting expectations and 83% meeting expectations in social emotional development, as shown in the chart (below, right). KCHS's agency goal is for 85%

of children transitioning to children meeting or exceeding widely held developmental expectations, and in 2016-2017 this goal was exceeded in physical, literacy and cognitive development, met in language development, but missed in social emotional (83%) and math (68%). KCHS is concerned with school readiness and with children's progress in math, language, and social-emotional development, particularly for children who have been exposed to trauma in their early years. To build the foundation for math, the Agency provided teachers High Five Mathematize training. KCHS worked with OCCRA to provide Ohio Early Learning & Development Standards training for preschool teachers focused on the domains of language, literacy, and math, and Early Head Start teachers on the physical well-being, motor development, and cognitive domains.

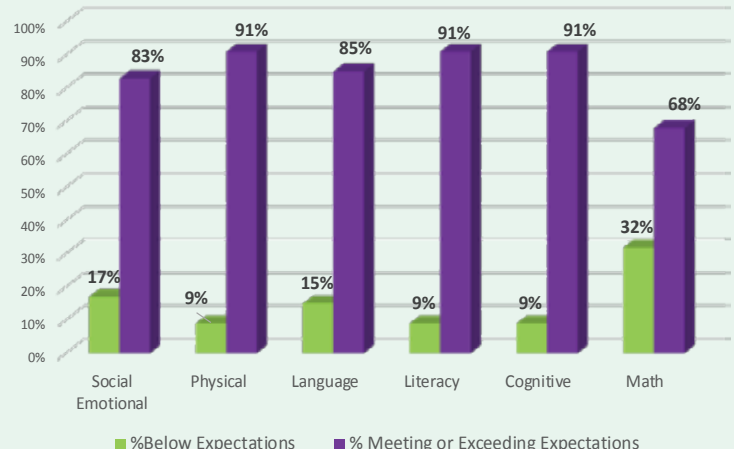
All KCHS teachers have completed professional development and testing in the Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment system to achieve inter-rater reliability, ensuring that child observation and assessment reporting is reliable. New teachers achieve inter-rater reliability within six months of service.

KCHS held kindergarten transition meetings with parents and teachers and invited kindergarten teachers and principals. During the meetings, parents were provided information on the kindergarten registration process and received a folder with resources to extend learning into the summer. KCHS provides children with a summer activity folder with scissors, crayons, writing paper, an informational letter from the Child Development Coordinator and resources with suggested daily activities. To provide a baseline of children's kindergarten readiness for

Fall 2016 Outcomes



Spring 2017 Outcomes



CLASS Domain Area	KCHS Federal Review April 2017	FY'17 National Domain Scores Mean	FY'17 National Domain Scores Lowest 10%
Emotional Support	6.20	6.07	5.7024
Classroom Organization	5.83	5.85	5.3264
Instructional Support	3.09	2.97	2.3095

Classroom Assessment Scoring System

KCHS' Teacher Mentor provides mentoring in support of high quality learning environments and purposeful interactions with children in support of kindergarten readiness. She observes and assesses preschool teacher performance twice a year to determine the quality of teacher/child interactions using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), and provides targeted mentoring for classroom educators throughout the year. CLASS Scores range from 1-7, with 7 being the highest. CLASS looks at 10 dimensions, including language modeling, positive climate, teacher support, productivity, and concept development. The chart to the left includes KCHS' average teacher CLASS scores from Federal CLASS Review in April 2017, the 2017 National Mean Average Summary, and the 2017 National Summary of Lowest 10%. KCHS teacher CLASS scores from April 2017 exceed the national mean in Emotional Support and Instructional Support, and are slightly below the National Mean in Classroom Organization. Head Start programs with scores in the lowest 10% of classrooms assessed are required to enter into competition for grant funding according to federal regulations.

Working With Our Families

Partnerships

- 327 families were served in Head Start and Early Head Start
- 247 families (81.3%) participated in a family goal setting process, which resulted in a family partnership agreement
- 208 families (84.2%) achieved or made progress toward their goals
- 30 families qualified for Head Start services due to homelessness, with 18 families (60%) acquiring housing
- 210 families received WIC services through the Knox County Health Department

Referrals

- 243 families (74.3% of families served) received more than 648 referrals for community supports
- 235 families (96.7% of families served) were documented to have received at least one successful service from a referral



2016-2017 Parent Survey Comments

"We have benefitted by receiving speech therapy, play therapy, with health checks/update; by receiving helpful bulletins about safety, health, physical activities to help our children to meet social, developmental, educational goals. The children in this family have received a Head Start to education."

"Has given us as parents more direction and confidence in the future of our children's education. The benefits to the children are just too many to list. This is one family that owes a Big Thank You to all involved in this program."

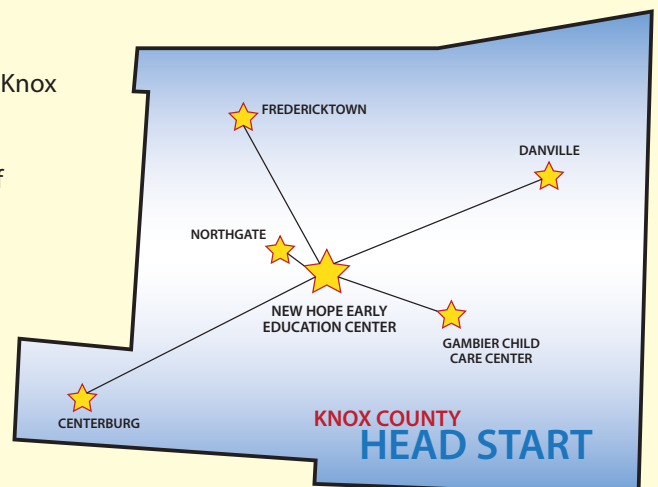
"The program has helped my children become ready for kindergarten. As a busy mom, this program has given me the opportunity to enjoy activities like Family Fun Night."

"Very caring teachers and staff for each and every student."

"The abundance of well qualified staff. Ability to handle all situations in getting the child ready for school."

About Knox County Head Start, Inc

- KCHS was founded in 1965 as Kokosing Day Care Centers, Inc.
- KCHS is the largest single provider of early care and education services in Knox County with 88% of children qualifying as low-income. A total of 388 children and twelve pregnant women were served in Head Start, Early Head Start and in Early Head Start -Child Care Partnerships, a total of 461 children were served across all programs in 2016-17.
- Largest child care provider since 1998 with full-year programs for 132 children in four centers (Fredericktown, Gambier, and Mount Vernon).
- 172 volunteers provided over 15,106 hours of service.
- All six centers have the highest Five Star rating through "Step Up To Quality".



Parent Training Attendance

Conscious Discipline®

- 62 Parents Attended
(37 KCHS Parents/25 Community Parents)
- 343 Parent Training Units (2 six-week sessions)
- 66 Children provided child care during the trainings
(397 Child Care Units Provided during training)
- 1149 Meals were served during the trainings
- 79 Children in Attendees' Families

Healthy Relationships and Infant/Toddler Training

- 89 Parents attended 5 trainings
(34 KCHS Parents/55 Community Parents)
- 90 Children were provided care during trainings
- 237 Meals were served
- 150 Children in Attendees' Families

Nurturing Potential Through Conscious Discipline® and Triple P

KCHS has implemented the Conscious Discipline® (CD®) philosophy since 2004, providing a comprehensive and holistic approach to child and family mental health and improving classroom management. CD® gives staff and parents tools to promote healthy relationships and behaviors.

Teachers and support staff are trained to intentionally create classroom safety, to develop rituals and structures for creating a school family, and to increase the use of movement and music to encourage healthy brain development in young children. The common language used in CD® provides cohesiveness and safety for collaborators working within the classrooms, children transitioning between centers due to family changes or transitioning from infant/toddler classrooms to preschool classrooms and substitute employees moving between classrooms/centers.

In 2005, because of repeated results of community assessments, self-assessments, and employee and parent surveys identifying a critical need for support for behaviors and classroom management, KCHS began offering CD® parent trainings in partnership with the United Way of Knox County. Since 2005, 187 two-hour sessions have been held training 731 parents while providing 3,388 units of child care and dinner during the sessions. Parents surveyed this year said that CD® "has greatly helped me to communicate with my daughter"; "I learned how to respond rather than react and I learned amazing steps for active calming" and other parents indicate a stronger connection has been made with our children and we feel like better parents; this class has been life changing for myself as well as my child; the tips have really impacted our family's lives in such a positive way – I feel like I now know better techniques that has really made me a better parent as well. Results from the survey indicated that parents strongly agreed that they would recommend this class to a friend.

The Resilience Team, a sub-committee of the Knox Health Planning Partnership identified a need to further increase the availability of training and supports for parents in Knox County in 2015, and researched evidence-based parenting programs. The team identified Triple P – the Positive Parenting Program – as an evidence based intervention that would provide multiple levels of support for Knox County parents. KCHS was selected as the lead agency to seek funding to expand parents supports for all parents in Knox County. In February 2016, Ariel Foundation awarded a Parent Support Initiative (PSI) grant to establish a foundation of qualified practitioners and infrastructure to support training and implementation of effective parent education and support for years to come in Mount Vernon and Knox County. The PSI's primary focus is bringing multiple levels of Triple P to Knox County.

Triple P provides creative solutions to equip confident, competent and resilient parents and caregivers in Knox County. Parents are encouraged

to set their own goals and to use strategies and skills in keeping with their own family values. It is tailored to the needs of every family situation, providing solutions for parents who need a lot of support and those who just need a little.

Triple P provides five intervention levels delivered one-to-one, in small groups or large groups. It provides parenting support throughout the life of a child, from infant through the teen years for parents and caregivers with parent resources such as workbooks, tip sheets, and booklets. The PSI grant will provide the sustainability with a cohort of trained practitioners across multiple levels reaching parents of children from infants through teens. Triple P accreditation does not expire, and remains with the practitioner.

The PSI officially kicked off in 2017, with the hiring of a coordinator who worked to plan initial trainings and to develop partnerships with education, health and social service organizations, colleges, faith-based organizations and the business community. Twenty local providers were trained in July 2017 to deliver seminar trainings and one-on-one primary care supports to the parents of children birth to age 12. Further information regarding the Parent Support Initiative will be provided in the 2017-2018 Annual Report.

Collaborating agencies and organizations in Year One of the Parent Support Initiative include funding partners Ariel Foundation, United Way of Knox County, the Knox County Family & Children First Council, Knox Substance Abuse Action Team, and Mental Health & Recovery of Licking & Knox Counties. Practitioners were trained from Behavioral Healthcare Partners of Central Ohio, Knox County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Knox Community Hospital, Knox County Head Start, and New Directions. Additional program partner sites included the Danville Elementary School and the Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County.

The short-term goals of the PSI program are to establish a cohort of trainers that will enable long-term sustainability of parenting supports, to train 500 Knox County parents annually, and to influence perspectives about parenting for the entire community with the multimedia Stay Positive campaign. In the long-term, the PSI intends to improve overall healthy relationship in Knox County, by teaching Triple P's self-regulatory reflective model, equipping parents to control their own emotions, to develop and sustain healthy relationships with their children, and to use those skills to impact the community and in the workforce. Ultimately, the PSI is designed to contribute to lowering the incidence Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and lessening continued exposure to ACEs across generations in Knox County.



Our Staff

Teacher Qualifications and Professional Development

KCHS exceeds the requirement of the Head Start Act of 2007 that 50% of preschool teachers have bachelor's degree with 73% of Head Start preschool teachers having a bachelor's degree and 18% having an associate degree in early childhood education in 2016-17. KCHS received a waiver for one teacher with a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, who was in the process of completing a BS in ECE, which was awarded in August 2017. In Early Head Start, teachers are only required to hold a CDA credential, but 60% of infant and toddler teachers held two- or four-year degrees. All teacher assistants hold degrees or CDAs, or are working towards a CDA.

Twenty-two KCHS employees have achieved degrees over the last 10 years while employed by the Agency.

27 employees are current or former Head Start parents!

17 obtained or are working toward a degree or certification while employed!

Step Up To Quality

Since 2009-10, Knox County Head Start Centers have been annually recognized with Step Up To Quality awards by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services – Bureau of Child Care and Development for exceeding state licensing standards and providing high-quality early childhood services. During 2016-17, all 6 centers maintained a five-star rating, which is the highest possible rating. Our dedication to providing quality services to Knox County is rooted in the Guiding Values of our mission statement.



Two Generational Approach = Hidden Successes

Head Start works closely with parents in developing goals and encouraging parents to identify strengths and opportunities for self-sufficiency. Over the last eleven years, 60 current or former Head Start parents have worked for Knox County Head Start. Of those parents, 35 have attained a professional certification, CDA, CDL, or an advanced degree. In 2016-17, 27 of 85 employees (31.8%) were current or former Head Start parents. 17 of those employees (76.3%) attained a degree or certification while employed, or were in process. Head Start's two generational approach opens doors for child and family successes - concurrently supporting children's school readiness and providing opportunities for family stability and success.

Encouraging Literacy

Partnering with United Way of Knox County's Imagination Library

The United Way of Knox County, in partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Foundation, continues to provide a literacy program wherein each child in Knox County up to age five is eligible to receive a FREE age-appropriate book delivered to his/her home each month (up to 60 books over 5 years).

KCHS' staff make referrals, with parent permission, as soon as possible after entrance into KCHS. United Way identified 509 referrals from KCHS during the past three years providing as many as 5,500 books to those children. KCHS believes participation in the Imagination Library has improved literacy development, with 91% of KCHS pre-kindergarteners meeting or exceeding developmental expectations in literacy, according to the final 2016-17 assessments.

Other community partners include AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Post 95, Ariel Corporation, Ariel Foundation, Central Ohio Technical College, Community Foundation of Mount Vernon & Knox County, The Energy Cooperative, First-Knox National Bank, Kenyon College, Kiwanis Club of Mount Vernon, Knox County Board of Developmental Disabilities, McDonald's, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Mount Vernon Rotary Foundation, and Psi Iota Xi Sorority.



Knox County children have received 125,781 books since June 2010.



Volunteer Services

KCHS is grateful to have a variety of volunteers supporting all the centers throughout the year. Many Head Start parents and extended family members along with two volunteers from the Ohio Appalachian Development Foster Grandparent Program, two individuals served by the Knox County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Knox County Career Center nursing students and students from the Knox County Career Center Volunteer Placement program, and several Kenyon College students provided 15,106 hours of service from a total of 172 individuals. Volunteers assist in the classrooms, spend one-on-one time with children, attend Parent Policy Council meetings, represent Policy Council at Board Meetings, accompany field trips, and do maintenance projects at the centers. These volunteers make a positive difference in the lives of children while obtaining valuable professional experience and skills and being more actively involved in the community.



Community Assessment

KCHS conducted a comprehensive community assessment in 2014, and collaborated with the Knox County Health Planning Partnership in the 2014 Community Health Assessment (CHA), and the KCHPP's Resilience Team in the 2014 Knox Parent and Caregiver Survey. KCHS utilized results from the community surveys and conducted an internal analysis of community resources, along with data related to the strengths and needs of eligible infants, toddlers and preschool aged children, and expectant mothers, and their families in the Knox County community. Annual updates are completed analyzing significant changes in community resources, demographics or the strengths and needs of eligible children and their families. KCHS' program planning considers results of the community assessment in determining program options and the location of services in Knox County.

The community assessment utilizes demographic data, surveys, community collaboration data as outlined above, and trend data regarding Head Start children and their families as collected in the Child Plus information system, the annual Program Information Report (PIR) and Teaching Strategies GOLD. Knox County, Ohio is a rural community of 60,810 (2013 Quick Facts, US Census) with only slight gains in population noted (2016 American Community Survey 5-Year population estimate of 60,878). Located in the geographical center of Ohio, population is divided between one city, six villages and 22 townships. The estimated number of children under the age of 5 years is 6.3%, or 3,383 children. Updates to the community assessment for 2016-2017 showed a reduction in the rate of child poverty in Knox County, based on the American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, from 26.6% for children under age six between 2009-2013, and 22.3% in data reported at the end of 2013. In the 2014 assessment, KCHS estimated 437 infants and toddlers eligible for Early Head Start, and 291 preschool-aged children eligible for Head Start. Reductions in child poverty levels reduce the number of eligible children in the Knox County community. KCHS also identifies saturation in preschool slots due to Head Start enrollment, combined with a significant number of publicly funded (state or local) preschool slots (316 funded slots estimated in 2016-2017).

26 Years of Partnership with Kenyon College's DKE's

The Kenyon College's Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and Kenyon College co-hosted the 26th Annual Shawn Kelly Memorial Holiday party in Gund Commons on November 29 and 30, 2016 with 601 attending. Kenyon students provided age and gender specific gifts from Santa (aka Tom Lepley) to 253 children. The Fraternity raised the funds for the gifts and provided countless hours shopping and wrapping the gifts. Much planning goes into the event on the part of the students, College staff and KCHS staff. The event includes a dinner in partnership with Smithhisler Meats, McDonalds, Nickles Bakery, Lannings Foods, Tim Horton's, AVI Food Service, and the Harcourt Parish Rummage Sale. Each evening a Kenyon acapella group, the Kokosingers and the Owl Creek Singers, serenade the crowd with festive carols. This event is a holiday event for all of KCHS' children and their families and includes engaging activities for the children with the support of Kenyon students.



Key results from the 2014 CHA identified strengths, including appreciation for the beautiful rural landscape, a close-knit community, the ability to be close to family members, and the relative safety and hospitality of the local community. KCHS families also identify the ability to spend time together as a family, outdoor spaces for family activities in the community, and their connections with KCHS educators in supporting their children's learning and encouraging healthy habits for children and families as strengths.

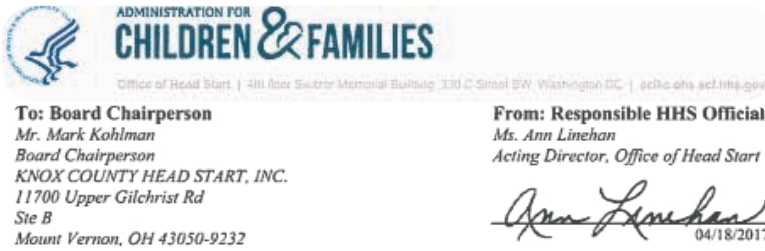
Around community concerns, the 2014 CHA identified five top issues raised by households, with data disaggregated for low-income households with children, as follows:

- Stress (17.2%; 33.9% for low-income respondents with children);
- Obesity (13.9%; 17.7% for low-income respondents with children)
- Access to dental care (10.2%; 26.3% for low-income respondents with children)
- Anxiety (10.1%; 25.1% for low-income respondents with children)
- Depression (8.9%; 22.7% for low-income respondents with children)

KCHS families agreed with the concerns around stress and mental health and access to dental care, and identified the need for parenting support, and financial needs around housing/utility costs and reliable transportation.

One significant change identified between the 2014 Community Assessment and the 2016-2017 update is noted in the higher rates of children with identified disabilities, with school districts serving from 16% to 20% over the last three years, and KCHS reporting an increase in preschool aged children on Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) from serving 13.2% of enrolled preschoolers on IEPs in 2014-2015, to 19.9% in 2016-2017. The rate of children on Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) has increased from 13.7% of enrollment in 2014-2015, to 16% of enrollment in 2016-2017.

National HS Center of Excellence



Administration for Children and Families On-Site Monitoring Review

From 4/03/2017 to 4/06/2017 the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted an onsite CLASS® review of KCHS' Head Start program. The Acting Director, Office of Head Start, wrote, "Observations were conducted in preschool center-based classrooms using the Pre-K Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®). The CLASS® tool looks at three domains and ten dimensions of teacher-child interactions and measures those observed interactions on a seven-point scale." "Please share these results with the appropriate governing board, policy council, management, staff and stakeholders".

Domain	Score	Domain	Score	Domain	Score
Emotional Support	6.2045	Classroom Organization	5.8333	Instructional Support	3.0909
Positive Climate	5.91	Behavior Management	5.64	Concept Development	2.59
Negative Climate*	1.05	Productivity	6.09	Quality of Feedback	3.00
Teacher Sensitivity	5.86	Instructional Learning Formats	5.77	Language Modeling	3.68
Regard for Student Perspectives	6.09				

Note: to calculate the Emotional Support domain, subtract the Negative Climate score from 8, add the Positive Climate, Teacher Sensitivity, and Regard for Student Perspective scores, then divide by 4.



For comparison of KCHS CLASS Scores with National Mean scores see section on page 5 of this Annual Report.



Independent Auditor's Report

In letters dated December 4, 2017, to the Board of Directors, Laura MacDonald, CPA, wrote that she has audited the Agency's financial statements for year ended July 31, 2017. The audit was conducted for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements of Knox County Head Start, Inc. The audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the U.S. and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the U.S. Comptroller General. It involved performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in financial statements. The auditor considered internal control relevant to the Agency's preparation and fair presentation of financial statements. The audit included evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by KCHS management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. She stated "in my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of KCHS as of July 31, 2017 and 2016, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the USA."

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether KCHS's financial statements are free from material misstatement, tests were performed on KCHS' compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. The Auditor identified "no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards." Further, she states "that my audit provides a reasonable basis for an opinion on compliance for this Organization's major Federal programs." In her opinion, "KCHS complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements" described in the OMB Compliance Supplement that could have a direct and material effect on KCHS' major Federal program for the year ended July 31, 2017. KCHS is identified as a low-risk auditee with no audit findings reported for the year ended July 31, 2017. The Auditor met with the Board on December 6, 2017 and the Board approved the audit as presented.



Summer Camp at Gambier Center

For the fifth year, school age children enjoyed 11 weeks of summer camp at the Gambier Child Care Center with 42 children participating in 954 units of camp. Each week had a theme starting with *Team Building* and a trip to the Columbus Zoo, *Dancing and Drawing* week they made a trip to the Columbus Museum of Art and created arts and crafts, *Pay It Forward* week focused on service both to one another and to the community through such organizations as the Humane Society and local law enforcement, and *Around the World* week was a cultural journey exploring nature, music, history, foreign languages and art. They found time to develop their literacy through the Gambier Public Library's summer reading program along with daily reading time and splashed around on weekly water days as well as a themed week devoted to water play.

Our Financials

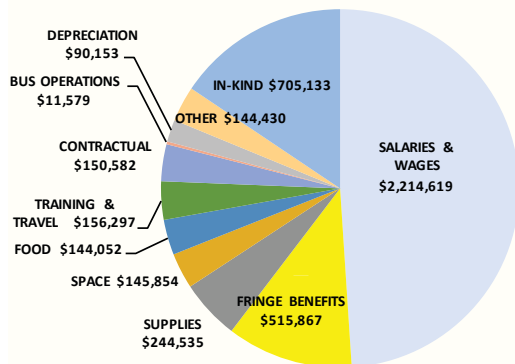
Knox County Head Start and our local community benefit from federal funding to support Head Start (HS) preschool services to 198 children and families, Early Head Start (EHS) services for 66 pregnant mothers, infants, toddlers, and their families, and Early Head Start Child Care Partnership services for 16 infants and toddlers (6 weeks to 4 years of age) in ODJFS licensed Type B provider (family child care) homes throughout Knox County. (Funding is based on available slots; the actual number of children and pregnant moms served in HS/EHS/EHSCCP programs last year was 400).

The United Way grant operates on a calendar year providing support for Head Start and Early Head Start programs including partial funding for a child mental health consultant; a health services specialist to support required medical, dental, vision and physical development screenings/follow up and parent education; transportation support for families; food services, and support for a third person in village classrooms in Centerburg, Danville, and Fredericktown. The United Way grant also funds 16 parent training sessions annually. It provides in-kind local match to both the Federal grants and The Ariel Foundation Parent Support Initiative grant. Additional local grants as listed on the bottom of this page provide support for family events, trainings, and facility improvements at the centers.

2016-17 Funding by Revenue Source: \$4,696,545

FEDERAL HEAD START	\$1,593,056	UNITED WAY OF KNOX COUNTY	\$127,623
FEDERAL EARLY HEAD START	\$823,045	INTEREST INCOME	\$0
FEDERAL EHS CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP	\$251,436	LOCAL FUNDING/ REVENUE	\$42,173
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	\$60,000	IN-KIND	\$705,133
USDA	\$128,398	RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(\$60,084)
STEP UP TO QUALITY	\$29,611	MISC REVENUE	\$39,699
FEDERAL EXPANSION	\$24,319	PARENT SUPPORT INITIATIVE	\$105,225
CHILD CARE REVENUE	\$826,911	TOTAL FUNDING	\$4,696,545

2016-17 Expenses: \$4,523,101



*Other expenses include: volunteer costs, parent services, accounting and legal services, publications/advertising/printing, staff costs (including advertising and pre-employment screenings), training and staff development (including college coursework), insurances (bonding, directors' and officers' liability, and general liability), and interest expense.

2017-18 Federal Budgets: \$3,571,949

	Head Start	Early Head Start	EHS Child Care Partnership	TOTAL
Salaries	\$1,155,294	\$534,933	\$101,404	\$1,791,631
Fringes	\$324,384	\$182,879	\$29,914	\$537,177
Supplies	\$44,015	\$33,586	\$7,972	\$85,573
Occupancy	\$91,408	\$24,020	\$3,354	\$118,782
Food	\$22,000	\$10,000	\$4,000	\$36,000
Contractual	\$51,787	\$16,654	\$92,523	\$160,964
Travel	\$6,106	\$5,827	\$2,003	\$13,936
Renovation	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$2,534	\$7,534
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Training	\$9,328	\$8,181	\$2,666	\$20,175
Other	\$51,197	\$28,816	\$5,774	\$85,787
Total Estimated Funding	\$1,759,519	\$845,896	\$252,144	\$2,857,559
Local Match Funds	\$439,880	\$211,474	\$63,036	\$714,390
TOTAL	\$2,199,399	\$1,057,370	\$315,180	\$3,571,949

Local Funding Sources for 2016-17

The **United Way of Knox County** provided significant funding for Head Start and Early Head Start programs and parent trainings. This funding is an important part of the required 25% local match of federal funding.



Community Foundation of Mount Vernon & Knox County provided a generous grant in support of the Northgate Expansion project. Due to delays in the start of construction these funds will be expended in FY' 17-18.



Staples Foundation provided funding in support of parent events.



The Harcourt Parish Episcopal Church 2016 Rummage Sale provided funding for food for monthly Family Events at the six centers.



Kenyon College and the **Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity** hosted the 26th Annual Shawn Kelly Memorial Holiday Party for Head Start children and their families in Gund Commons on November 29 & 30, 2016.

The **Gambier Chapter of Pythian Sisters** made a generous donation to the Agency.



Mental Health & Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties provided funds for a six-week Active Parenting for Teens and Parents completed Fall 2017.



The **Walmart Foundation** through the local Walmart Store and Sam's Club provide generous funding for food and supplies for monthly family events at the six centers.



Kokosing Construction Company provided funding in support of the roof repair and other facility projects at the Fredericktown Center.



The **Energy Cooperative Round Up Foundation, Inc.** provided funding in support of a replacement dishwasher at the Fredericktown Center.



Our Thanks!

...to the individuals, businesses, and organizations who have contributed cash, goods, and talents, enabling KCHS to offer quality child care programs to the community and to the nearly 500 children and families we serve annually.

Individuals

Abigail Clark
Alanna Persinger
Alayna Anderson
Andrew Denning
April Woodward-Ginther
Barbara Kakiris
Beau Ferguson
Bill Heiser
Brittany Moreland
Bruce Kinzer
Cara Good
Charles Jacobs
Dan Jacobs
Deb Creager
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Evelyn Chalfant, RN
Farrah Shoemaker
Gary Phalen
Holly Trask
Jarrod Gump
Jean Scott
Joan Heiser
John Elliott
Katlyn James
Kay Fry
KCHS Parents
KCHS Staff
Kent Woodward-Ginther
Laura Ackerman
Louise Teeple
Mary Breece
Michael Earnst
Michelle Carpenter, DDS
Mike Whitaker
N.J. Burley
Robert Knox
Sabrina Schirtzinger
Shawn Kelly Family
Sheila Lambert
Steve Faulkner
Tami Ruhl, R.D.
Thomas Glibert, DDS
Tom Lepley
Valerie Price

Businesses

Alfred Nickles Bakery
American Electric Power
Brenda Grandstaff, DDS
Centerburg Senior Services Center
CES Credit Union
ChildPlus
ComDoc
Danville Family Dental
David Pressler, DDS
Discount School Supply
Eve's Honey Farms
Fireguard LLC
First-Knox National Bank
Hometown Market
InfoLink Technologies
Kennon Osburn & Associates
Knox County Dental
Kokosing Construction
Lanning's Foods
McDonalds
Morgan Stanley
Mount Vernon News
Ohio Distinguished Young Women Scholarship Program
Papa John's Pizza
Pirate's Cove
Sam's Club
Smithhisler Foods
State Farm Insurance Co.
The Village Market
Tim Horton's
Walmart Foundation
Woodforest Bank



Artwork provided by Knox County Head Start preschoolers.

Partner Agencies

Alcohol & Drug Freedom Center
American Legion of Danville
Ariel Foundation
Behavioral Healthcare
Partners of Central Ohio
Centerburg Church of Christ
Centerburg Fire Department
Centerburg Pointe
Centerburg Schools
Central Ohio Technical College
College Township Fire Department
Corporation of Ohio
Appalachian Development
The Diversity Coalition of Knox County
Danville Schools
East Knox Schools
Energy Cooperative
Roundup Foundation
Faith Lutheran Church
Fredericktown Fire Department
Fredericktown Schools
The Freedom Center of Knox County
Gambier Library
Gambier Pythian Sisters
Harcourt Parish
Harcourt Parish Rummage Sale
Help Me Grow
Interchurch Social Services
Kenyon College
Archon Society
Athletic Department
Circle K
Crozier Center
Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity
Epsilon Delta Mu Sorority
Football Team
Grounds & Maintenance Staff
Kenyon Community Service
Kenyon Days of Service Volunteers
Kenyon Student – Athletic Association
The Kokosingers
Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Owl Creek Singers
Pre-Orientation Volunteers
Psychology Department
The Ransom Notes
Student Affairs Staff
Women's Soccer Team
Volleyball Team
Knox Community Hospital
Knox County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Knox County Career Center
Early Childhood Education
GRADS Program
Nursing Program
Knox County Chamber of Commerce
Knox County Department of Job & Family Services
Knox County Educational Service Center
Knox County Family & Children First Council
Knox County Health Department
Knox County Juvenile Courts
Knox Area Transit
Lakeholm Church of the Nazarene
Mount Vernon City Schools
Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Mount Vernon Fire Department
Mount Vernon Police Department
New Directions
New Life Church of the Nazarene
Ohio Eastern Star
Pathways of Central Ohio
Public Libraries of Mount Vernon and Knox County
St. Vincent de Paul School
Salvation Army of Mount Vernon
SPI Spot
The Sanctuary - Danville
Touche Point Family Life Center
United Way of Knox County
Village of Gambier
Winter Sanctuary Homeless Shelter
YMCA of Mount Vernon



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