



Head Start by the Numbers

377	Number of children funded
382	Average monthly enrollment
443	Number of children served during year
71%	Percentage of eligible children served
64	Number of teaching staff
23	Number of classrooms
1 : 5.9	Ratio of teaching staff to children
1.6%	Percentage of teacher turnover during the year
99%	Percentage of children who received medical exams
91%	Percentage of children who received dental exams
54	Number of children w/ disabilities who received special services
947	Number of volunteers
418	Number of families served
48%	Percentage of single-parent families
53%	Percentage of single-parent families in which the parent is not employed
84%	Percentage of two-parent families in which both parents are employed
27%	Percentage of families without a high school education
50%	Percentage of families requiring crisis intervention (food, clothing, housing)
14	Number of homeless children served

Head Start is operated by
**The Sequatchie Valley
 Planning and Development Agency (SVPDA)**

- In addition to the federal grant of \$2,893,623 for Head Start, SVPDA also receives
- \$178,408 from the U. S. Department of Agriculture as reimbursement for the cost of food used in Head Start;
 - \$733,094 in local matching funds from people who donate goods and services (usually rent on the classroom space we use), which funds are required in order to receive the main Head Start grant;
 - \$146,772 by providing day care services at Head Start (\$13,228) and KidsBank (\$101,220);
 - private cash and other donations which individuals and businesses make in support of the KidsBank pre-school program.

Sequatchie Valley HEAD START

Where it's all about
 children and families



Original artwork by Paige

Annual Report 2009-10

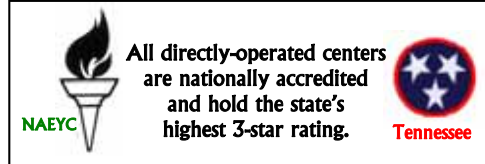
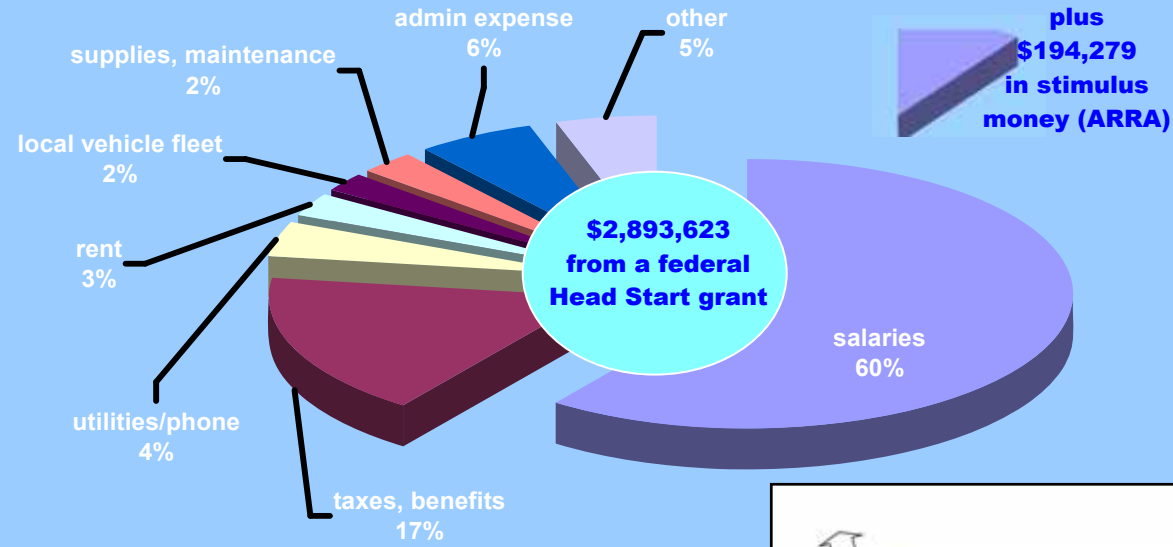
Information in this brochure is designed to fulfill requirements of Head Start federal law related to reports to the general public.

EVERY YEAR IN BLEDSOE, GRUNDY, MARION, RHEA, & SEQUATCHIE COUNTIES PROVIDING

- pre-school education and family support to more than 400 of the most vulnerable children in our area
- the best pre-school academic program available
- preventive health care for each child
- free dental exams & treatment
- health insurance referrals
- family goal planning and other social services
- emergency assistance via referrals to local resources
- bus transportation (in many areas)
- special education services for children with disabilities
- well-supervised staff with degrees or CDA credentials
- superior staff-to-child teaching ratio of 1 : 5.5
- average class size less than 17 children
- nutrition services
- mental health services with on-site consultations
- hearing, vision, speech, and language screenings
- highest average ECERS scores of any Head Start program in Tennessee



Where the Money Comes From ... And Where It Goes



Sequatchie Valley Head Start

... provides, quite simply, the very best preschool experience children in our area can have.

Sequatchie Valley Head Start operates 23 classrooms in five counties spread across the Sequatchie Valley and its flanking mountains to the west and east.

Half the classrooms are in Marion, Sequatchie, and Bledsoe counties, including two classrooms each in centers in the communities of **South Pittsburg**, **Jasper**, **Whitwell**, **Dunlap**, and **Pikeville**, plus an additional classroom at **Griffith Creek**. On the mountain to the northwest in Grundy County are two classrooms each in both **Tracy City** and **Altamont**. On the ridge top that flanks the Sequatchie Valley to the east lie two more centers, each with single classrooms, one at **Lone Oak** on Signal Mountain and one at **Rigsby Elementary**, our public school-based location. Finally, east from Pikeville and up over the mountain ridge lie six more classrooms, including four at **Dayton** and two at **Spring City**.

Classrooms typically include about 16 children and are staffed by a teacher and an assistant. In addition, a family partnership assistant is assigned to provide social services and parent involvement activities while working directly with our families. Except at our school-based location, children enjoy meals cooked at their own centers, with meals and snacks designed for pre-schoolers - nutritious foods that are low in fat, salt, and added sugar. Classroom aides are usually available as needed.

The administrative office is in South Pittsburg and includes a management team and support staff.

At Head Start, children learn many **language skills** that help them talk about their ideas and feelings and about the world around them. They develop early **reading skills** and **writing skills** that stay with them the rest of their lives. They also learn fundamental **math skills** so they can recognize patterns — as well as sort and count things. This leads directly to basic math, like adding and subtracting. Children also develop basic **science skills** so they can explore and organize the world around them.

Head Start goes far beyond these traditional academic areas. Our program helps children develop their **emotional skills** and **social skills** so they can have a strong concept of “self.” This helps them become independent and confident about themselves. As a result, they develop self-control, an ability to cooperate with others. Their growing social knowledge and awareness helps them do well in their families and in their communities.

Head Start also emphasizes **physical development skills**. Our children get daily practice at *gross motor skills* that include running, playing, jumping, climbing, catching and throwing on well-equipped playgrounds. In addition, we emphasize the development of a child's *fine motor skills* with activities such as working with scissors and glue or a hammer and screwdriver. Your child will also develop *good health practices* like tooth-brushing, washing, toileting, and personal hygiene.

Federal Review, Audit Indicate Excellence

In March 2007, a federal review team congratulated the staff, parents, and board members on the agency's practices, procedures, and successes. The federal team issued a final report, with no deficiencies at all. The 2008-09 fiscal audit also gave us a perfect “bill of health.”

All of our documents are available for public inspection.

In addition to academic and social services to children, Head Start also provides many services to families, about half of whom are single-parent families.

Typical Services Offered to Families

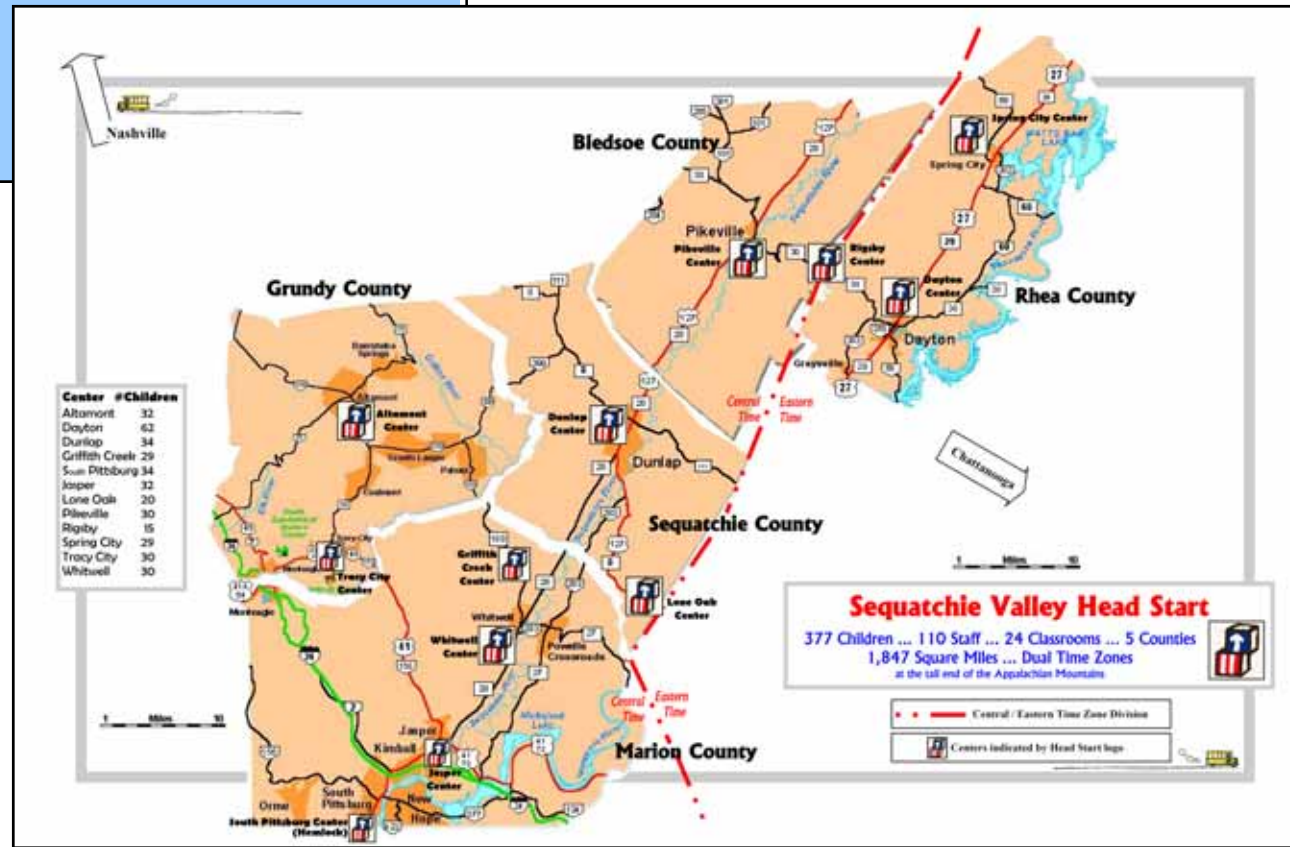
- adult education
- job counseling
- job training
- job search
- marriage enrichment
- parenting
- fathering
- counseling
- child support
- food
- shelter
- clothing
- utility payments
- medical services
- dental services
- home safety
- car seats

... and much more



Typical Parent Involvement Activities

- springtime egg decorating
- end-of-year Kindergarten registration with teachers
- Book-A-Night loans encouraging reading
- kit-building of cars, pencil holders, flower pots
- father & child flower plantings, birdhouse building
- medical & dental appointments & follow-ups
- visits from musicians
- Valentine projects for parent and child
- mental health, adult education & domestic violence presentations
- parent volunteers in the classroom
- “Dad-friendly” activities
- holiday float-building and display



Ready for Kindergarten

Last year, well over half our children continued on to kindergarten. To enhance their school readiness, we introduce them to the different routines they'll face in kindergarten; we invite their kindergarten teachers to visit our classrooms; we take them on a tour of their new school; we offer to help parents with the paperwork of registering their child; and we remind their parents of what it's like to go to a regular school.

