



**COASTAL PLAIN AREA**  
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY

# 2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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**COASTAL PLAIN AREA**  
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY

# HISTORY

Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority, Inc (CPAEOA) began as a program development grant from the Office of Economic Opportunity, and was awarded to the Coastal Plain Area Planning and Development commission on January 14, 1965. This grant enabled a program developer to begin the groundwork for the development of a community organization to serve the poor and elderly. This work led to the incorporation of the Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority, Inc. on April 18, 1966, under the laws of the state of Georgia, as a private non-profit corporation serving the ten counties of the Coastal Plain area of Georgia effective April 1, 1966. The Agency superseded the area planning and development commission as the office of economic development.

CPAEOA is dedicated to providing services, assistance, and other activities designed to develop employment opportunities, improving human performance, motivation, and productivity, as well as by bettering the conditions under which people in the area live, learn, and work.

## COASTAL PLAIN AREA E.O.A., INC. SERVICE AREA

LOWNDES

LANIER

ECHOLS

BROOKS

BERRIEN

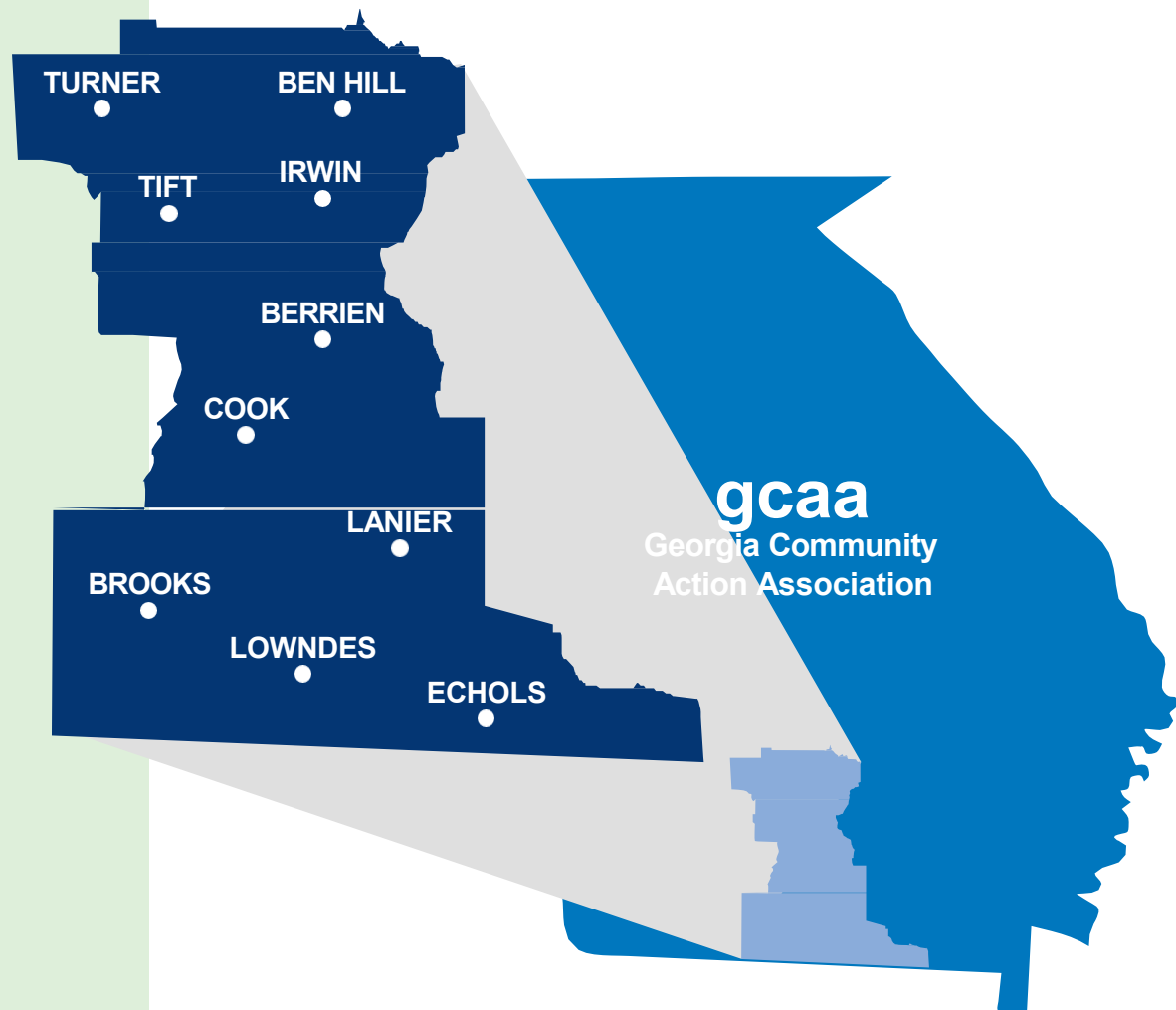
COOK

TIFT

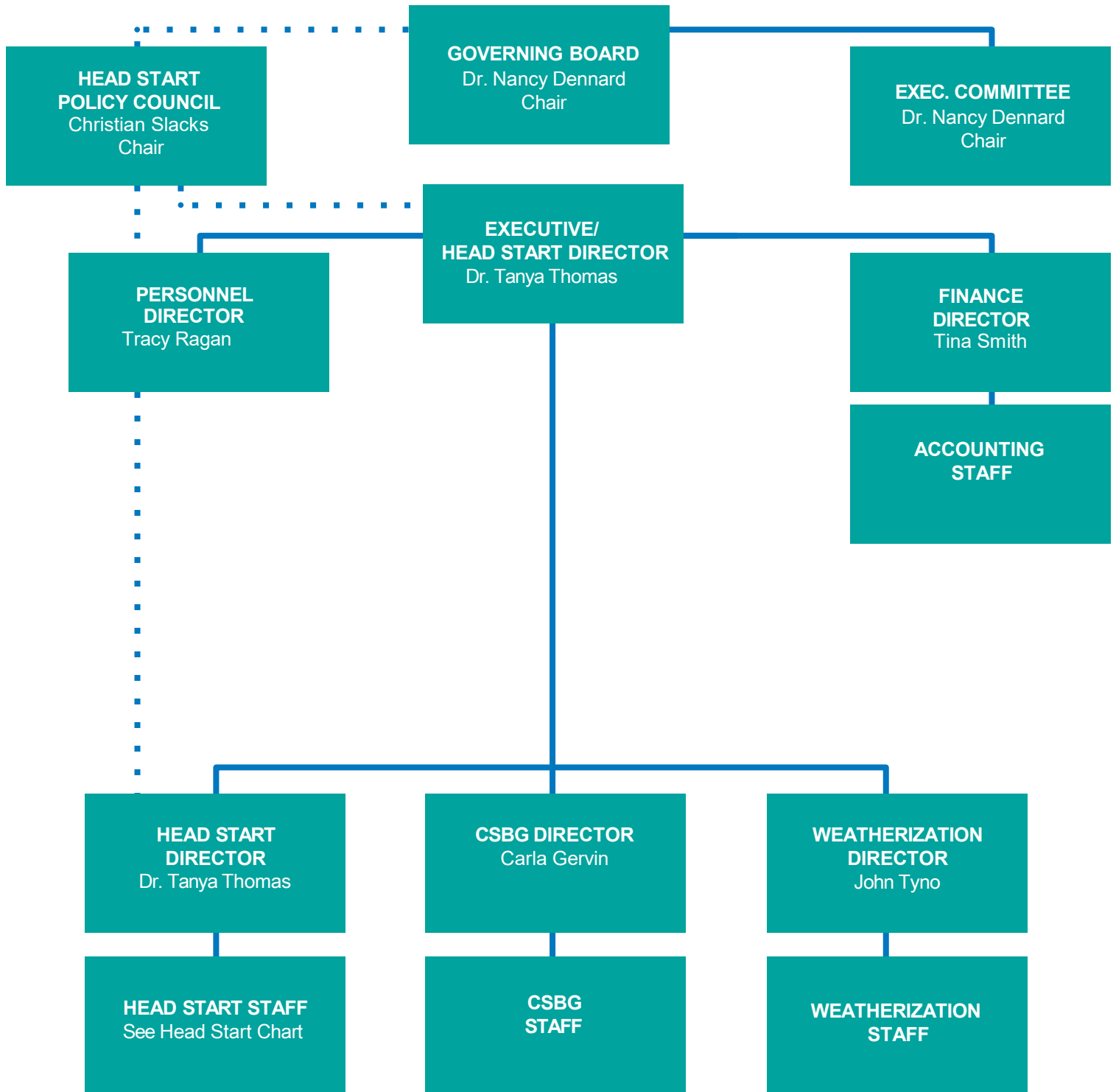
TURNER

BEN HILL

IRWIN



# COASTAL PLAIN AREA ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY, INC. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



This Agency chart defines the reporting relationships within CPAEOA. Solid lines indicate direct reporting relationships. Dotted lines indicate indirect reporting relationships. The Head Start Policy Council represents an approval/disapproval relationship regarding specific decisions made within the Agency.

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN



NANCY DENNARD  
*Board Chairman*

More than 50 years ago President Lyndon Johnson said, "We must open the doors of opportunity. But we must equip our people to walk through those doors. With that he declared a War on Poverty and supported the Economic Opportunity Act, which led to the creation of the Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Since then, CPAEOA has helped thousands of people with range of services, from early childhood, community services, to weatherizing homes. Each year we serve ... and while we provide a wide range of

economic supports, our goal is to create opportunities for people to achieve self-sufficiency and release themselves from poverty. CPAEOA's goal is to help low-income people and families overcome challenges and improve their economic standing in their lifetimes.

It is my privilege as the Board of Directors Chair to work with an amazing staff and dedicated board of directors. We are deeply committed to the CPAEOA mission, and we work each day with a renewed dedication.

On behalf of the CPAEOA Board of Directors, we thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nancy Whitfield Dennard

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE/HEAD START DIRECTOR



DR. TANYA THOMAS  
*Executive/Head Start Director*

Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority, Inc. has been a part of helping the 10 county Coastal Plain Area for over 50 years. We have invested more than \$250 Million Dollars into the communities that our employees, clients, and families live, work, and serve.

Coastal Plain Area EOA, Inc., has always strived to achieve our mission statement "People Helping People to Achieve Self Sufficiency." However, in this world of change, we too are changing, not only are we helping people to achieve self – sufficiency, we are changing our communities by em- powering people and enriching families and communities.

I have served Coastal Plain Area EOA for over 18 years. I began my experience with Coastal Plain Area EOA seventeen years ago as the Education Coordinator and then later the Head Start Director. Now presently I am proud to serve as the Executive Director for the Agency. I am proud to be a part of the positive changes being emulated throughout our agency. As you read our Annual Report, you will see the positive changes that are not only taking place within our agency, but those that we have put into motion throughout our 10 year.

We are thankful for everyone who has helped in making Coastal Plain Area EOA, Inc. The Board of Directors, for encouraging us to move forward into the future. Our Directors, who have done outstanding with their program, training employees and making a difference within our agency. The employees that are there every day with a smile on their face, helping students and clients, showing everyone that Coastal Plain Area E.O.A., Incorporated is your local community action agency.

It is my honor as Executive Director to present to you our 2023 Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority Incorporated Annual Report.

Dr. Tanya Thomas

Executive/Head Start Director

## 2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**DR. NANCY DENNARD**

Chair  
Brooks County

**DR. SHIRLEY ANDREWS**

Vice Chair  
Lowndes County

**JOHN GEE EDWARDS**

Member at Large Attorney Rep.  
Lowndes County

**JAMES MAXWELL**

Member  
Brooks County

**TRAVIS JOHNSON**

Member  
Irwin County

**MICHAEL ACREE**

Member  
Ben Hill County

**DIANE MERWIN**

Member  
Lowndes County

**PATRICK GLOSTER**

Member  
Lanier County

**BLANCHE SHEFFIELD**

Member  
Lowndes County

**ZURICH DESHAZIOR**

Member  
Brooks County

**LESTER CROMER**

Member  
Tift County

**VIRGINIA CRAIG**

Member  
Lowndes County



# 2022-2023 LEADERSHIP TEAM

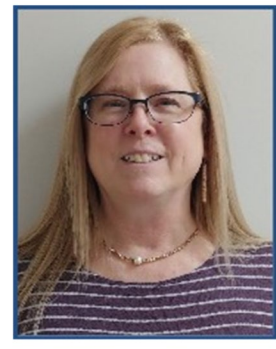
**Dr. Tanya Thomas**

*Executive/Head Start Director*



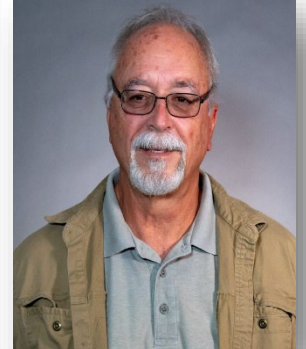
**Tracy Ragan**

*Human Resource Director*



**Tina Smith**

*Finance Director*



**John Tyno**

*Weatherization Director*



**Carla Gervin**

*CSBG Director*



**Joseph Matchett**

*Transportation Manager*



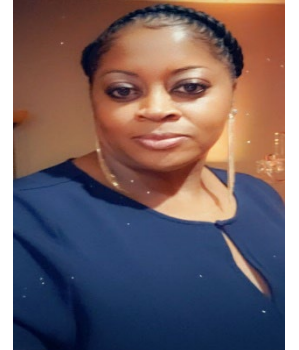
**Faye Walker**

*Program Budget Analyst*



**Courtney Johnson**

*Health Manager*



**Valerie Glee**

*Nutrition Manager*



**Octavious Morrison**

*Facilities Manager*



**Feliciano Lewis**

*Operations Manager*



**Kelvin Pettway**

*ERSEA/Family & Community Manager*



**Stephney Davis**

*Disability/Mental Health Manager*



**Aisha Davis**

*Child Development Manager*



**COASTAL PLAIN AREA**  
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY



## SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM REVENUE

### COASTAL PLAIN AREA ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY, INC. SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM REVENUE FOR YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

PROGRAM AND CONTRACT NO.	FEDERAL AND STATE	PROGRAM AND OTHER	GRANTEE INKIND	TOTAL
CSBG (CARES Act) 9/30/21-9/29/22	\$191,116.09	-	-	\$191,116.09
CSBG – 9/30/21-9/29/22	\$676,874	-	-	
CSBG – 9/30/22-9/29/23	\$676,259			\$1,353,133
WX-BIL 7/1/2022-6/30/27	\$1,374,573.26	-	-	\$1,374,573.26
WX-DOE 4/1/22-3/31/23	\$140,787.61	-	-	\$140,787.61
WX-HHS 10/1/21-9/30/22	\$174,285.99	-	-	
WX-HHS 10/1/22-9/30/23	\$142,770.07			\$317,056.06
Head Start PA20 (T/TA) 2022	\$84,984	-		
Head Start PA22 2022	\$8,320,391		\$2,026,037	\$10,431,412
Head Start (CRRSA)	\$244,086	-	-	\$244,086
Head Start (ARP)	\$970,362	-	-	\$970,362
CACFP - Head Start 10/01/21-9/30/22	\$172,087.59	-	-	
CACFP - Head Start 10/01/22-9/30/23	\$314,210.11			\$486,297.70
LIHEAP LIWAP 10/1/21-9/30/22	\$1,368,215	-	-	
	\$250,000			\$1,618,215
LIHEAP 9/30/21-9/29/22	\$2,325,073	-	-	
LIHEAP 9/30/22-9/29/23	\$5,837,716			\$8,162,789
LIHEAP ARPA 10/1/21-9/30/22	\$2,281,767	-	-	
	\$170,122			\$2,451,889
AARP 3/1/23-12/15/23	\$6,000	-	-	\$6,000
TRAUMA 8/15/22-12/30/22	\$10,000			\$10,000
2GEN 7/1/22-12/30/22	\$25,000			\$25,000
CITY OF VALDOSTA	\$46,000			\$46,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,802,679.72</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$2,026,037</b>	<b>\$27,828,716.72</b>

## COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTERS

### BEN HILL COUNTY

223 S Grant St.  
Fitzgerald, GA 31750  
229-426-5177

### BERRIEN COUNTY

402 Hazel Ave.  
Nashville, GA 31309  
229-686-7871

### BROOKS COUNTY

201 S. Barnes Street  
Quitman, GA 31643  
229-474-6883

### IRWIN COUNTY

517 Fourth St.  
Ocilla, GA 31774  
229-468-5186

### LANIER COUNTY

108 S. Hwy 135  
Lakeland, GA 31635  
229-482-3435

### LOWNDES COUNTY

900 S. Troupe St.  
Valdosta, GA 31601  
229-242-8814

### ECHOLS COUNTY

170 Church of God St.  
Statenville, GA 31648  
229-559-3472

### TURNER COUNTY

124 E. College St.  
Ashburn, GA 31714  
229-567-2844

### COOK COUNTY

303 S. College St.  
Sparks, GA 31647  
229-549-8780

### TIFT COUNTY

2737 S. Central Ave., Suite 4  
Tifton, GA 31794  
229-382-2960

## COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANT - CSBG



All direct services, other than Head Start services, are provided through a network of ten Community Service Centers (CSC). CSCs are located in each of the ten counties within the Agency's primary service area. Each CSC is an active part of the local community, and provides a variety of community services for individuals of all ages.

A major strength of the CSC's is that no two are alike. Each one provides its own array of services to meet the specific needs that are unique to each county in the service area. With primary funding through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), services range from job-skills training to management counseling and crisis intervention.

**Advocacy:** A priority for all CSCs is to provide advocacy. The CSCs serve as advocates on local public health issues such as affordable housing, utility rates, and health care. Assistance is also provided to low-income residents who are not Medicare-eligible, to help them to apply for discount prescription medication and prescription eyeglass programs.

Without the ability of the CSCs to provide these very important components, many of those who need assistance would not be able to get the help which they need. The advocates are crucial to the success of the Community Service Centers. We are the "Helping Hands."

## CSBG / CSBG CARES ASSISTANCE

### CSBG

Total amount of  
**\$74,506**

### CSBG CARES

Total amount of  
**\$55,287**

### CSBG COV (City of Valdosta)

Served 30 clients  
Total amount of  
**\$46,000**

### RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The Rental/Mortgage Assistance Program provides emergency assistance to avoid eviction or homelessness. CSBG and CSBG Cares served over 141 clients.

### ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The Energy Assistance Program assists eligible low-income households with their heating and cooling energy costs, bill payment assistance, energy crisis assistance, weatherization, and energy-related home repairs.

### CSBG

Served over 10,000+ clients

Total amount of  
**\$25,473**

### CSBG CARES

Served 3 clients

Total amount of

**\$498**

### MINOR CAR REPAIR

This program was put in place to help assist those individuals who are currently employed but experience problems with their vehicle and are unable to get to and from work causing issues with their employer. Clients must have been employed for 6 months or more and provide a verification of employment.

### FOOD VOUCHERS

Food vouchers are issued to individuals who need emergency food, due to hardship such as loss of employment due to no fault of their own, cut in work hours or wages, receive no food stamps or maximum of \$50 in food stamps. The value of food vouchers starts at \$200 each. CSBG and CSBG Cares served over 304 clients.

### CSBG

Total amount of  
**\$18,281**

### CSBG CARES

Total amount of  
**\$14,118**

# COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

## CSBG

ADMINISTRATIVE

\$53,970

PROGRAM

\$225,117

TOTAL

\$279,087

## CSBG CARES

ADMINISTRATIVE

\$12,402

PROGRAM

\$126,883

TOTAL

\$139,285

## LOW-INCOME HOME HEATING ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

With funding from the Department of Human Resources, the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is able to assist low-income families in offsetting the increased costs of energy for home heating during the winter months. Priority is given to households comprised of those who are 65 years or older, those who are home bound, and other disabled clients. Funding is also set aside for those with life-threatening medical conditions. Although this service is for energy costs during the winter months, in some cases, the Federal Government will release funds to assist the elderly and those who are homebound with cooling assistance.

### SOME OF THE BENEFITS FROM THIS ENERGY PROGRAM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Reduces the incidents of health problems attributable to winter cold.
- Enables the elderly and those with life-threatening medical conditions to maintain independence while maintaining a state of well-being.
- Helps to keep fuel costs from rising by reducing billing write-offs for energy suppliers.
- Circumvents energy cut-offs for homebound, elderly, and other low-income households.
- Stimulates the local economy through funds put into circulation for the payment of energy bills.

Funds are made available during the winter months to help individuals who are out of options and who are therefore in a crisis situation. These individuals may be about to have their utility or heating services disconnected, may have run out of heating fuel, or are faced with extreme winter temperatures, or have some other emergency.

The LIHEAP and LIWAP services were provided to more than 13,276 households, each receiving a minimum of \$350. The total amount expended from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, for the programs was \$6,606,137.

APPLICATION TYPE	HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	BENEFIT AMOUNTS
Regular LIHEAP Heating and Cooling Applications	8,686	\$4,087,720.15
H.E.A.T. Inc. Benefits	6	\$2,850
Total Administrative Costs		\$410,397
Total Program Support		\$269,696
LIHEAP INFA Benefits	1,982	\$764,664.65
LIHEAP INFA Administrative Costs		
LIWAP Benefits	2,602	\$880,315.76
LIWAP Administrative Costs		\$190,493.12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,276</b>	<b>\$6,606,136.68</b>

## WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM

Coastal Plain Area E.O.A., Inc. Weatherization Program provides energy conservation, and health and safety measures to low-income families in its 10-county area. The program is funded through the Department of Energy and Department of Health and Human Services. The program helps lower the energy burden on the household and provide a healthier and safer living environment for its occupants.



The Weatherization Program has certified BPI Energy Auditors and Quality Control Inspectors to use advanced diagnostic equipment to measure air infiltration, pressure imbalances, lead safe practices, ductwork leakages and heating and cooling operations within the home. Combustion safety testing is done on homes with Natural or Propane gas when it is the fuel source for the appliances in the home. Air quality testing through ASHRAE ensures that the home is getting enough fresh air turn over per hour as needed through air quality standards. All these test help insures the home is safe and is a healthy environment for its occupants.

Lowering these homes energy consumption benefits all of us by keeping our energy rates lower and enabling the energy source to allow more clients on the present grid system. We educate the clients the need to conserve and therefore they save on their energy bill which allows them to have more disposable income to use on other household or personal needs. Weatherization Works!

COUNTY	PROGRAM OPERATIONS	AVERAGE COST	TOTAL UNITS	TOTAL OCCUPANTS
Ben Hill	\$23,825.72	\$7,941.91	3	3
Berrien	\$14,243.17	\$14,243.17	1	1
Brooks	\$75,748.23	\$9,468.53	8	10
Cook	\$46,816.70	\$9,363.34	5	8
Echols	\$7,396.21	\$7,396.21	1	1
Irwin	\$12,345.69	\$12,345.69	1	1
Lanier	\$15,960.36	\$7,980.18	2	4
Lowndes	\$128,721.01	\$9,194.36	14	22
Tift	\$13,028.73	\$13,028.73	1	1
Turner	\$7,568.68	\$7,568.68	1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$345,654.50</b>	<b>\$98,530.80</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>53</b>

## HEAD START

Head Start is a comprehensive early childhood development program for economically disadvantaged preschool children and their families.

### THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS PROGRAM ARE:

1. To improve the child's health
2. Aid the child's intellectual, social, and emotional development
3. Improve and expand the child's ability for self expression
4. Help both the enrollees and their families gain greater confidence, self-respect, and dignity. Eligibility guidelines require that enrollees, including children with disabilities, are between three years of age and compulsory school attendance, and at least ninety percent are from low-income families.



AT LEAST  
**90%**  
ARE FROM  
LOW-INCOME  
FAMILIES

## HEAD START LOCATIONS



### NASHVILLE HEAD START ★ ★

204-A Hazel Ave.  
Nashville, GA 31639  
(229) 686-3085  
(229) 686-2030 Fax  
[Nashville@cpheadstart.org](mailto:Nashville@cpheadstart.org)

### IRWIN HEAD START ★ ★

517 Fourth St.  
Ocilla, GA 31774  
(229) 468-5712  
(229) 468-7907 Fax  
[irwin@cpheadstart.org](mailto:irwin@cpheadstart.org)

### BEN HILL HEAD START ★ ★ ★

410 E. Altamaha St.  
Fitzgerald, GA 31750  
(229) 423-3191  
(229) 423-1021 Fax  
[benhill@cpheadstart.org](mailto:benhill@cpheadstart.org)

### HAHIRA HEAD START ★ ★

809 Tillman St.  
Hahira, GA 31632  
(229) 794-3310  
(229) 794-3323 Fax  
[hahira@cpheadstart.org](mailto:hahira@cpheadstart.org)

### COOK HEAD START ★ ★

504 W. First St.  
Adel, GA 31620  
(229) 896-7322  
(229) 896-4275 Fax  
[cook@cpheadstart.org](mailto:cook@cpheadstart.org)

### LANIER HEAD START ★ ★ ★

104 South Oak St.  
Lakeland, GA 31635  
(229) 482-3467  
(229) 482-3175 Fax  
[lanier@cpheadstart.org](mailto:lanier@cpheadstart.org)

### LOWNDES 1 HEAD START ★ ★

1613 Ulmer Ave.  
Valdosta, GA 31601  
(229) 244-6300  
(229) 244-8706 Fax  
[lowndes1@cpheadstart.org](mailto:lowndes1@cpheadstart.org)

### BW LESTER HEAD START ★ ★ ★

2522 Copeland Rd. Valdosta,  
GA 31601  
(229) 247-9750  
(229) 247-9751 Fax  
[bwlester@cpheadstart.org](mailto:bwlester@cpheadstart.org)

### HALLMARK HEIGHTS HEAD START ★ ★

605 Hightower St.  
Valdosta, GA 31601  
(229) 244-7773  
(229) 244-7850 Fax  
[hallmark@cpheadstart.org](mailto:hallmark@cpheadstart.org)

### R L MACK HEAD START ★ ★

64 Tifton Eldorado  
Tifton, GA 31794  
(229) 382-5110  
(229) 387-6770 Fax  
[tift@cpheadstart.org](mailto:tift@cpheadstart.org)

### BROOKS HEAD START ★ ★

1301 N. Martin Luther King Dr.  
Quitman, GA 31643  
(229) 263-5662  
(229) 263-5633 Fax  
[brooks@cpheadstart.org](mailto:brooks@cpheadstart.org)

### TURNER COUNTY HEAD START

524 Martin Luther King Dr.  
Ashburn, GA 31714  
(229) 567-9233  
(229) 567-0876 Fax  
[turner@cpheadstart.org](mailto:turner@cpheadstart.org)

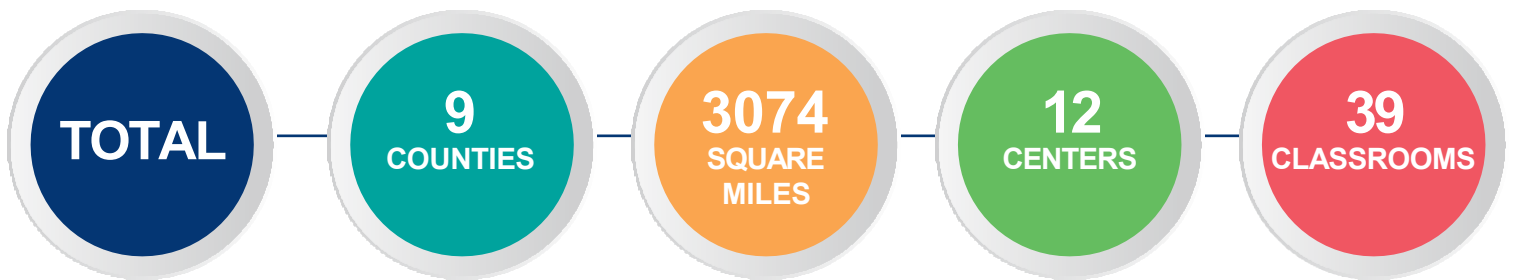


Quality Rated Child Care of Georgia is a resource for parents and families to help them find high-quality child care, preschool, and Pre-K programs. Quality Rated has an online tool that helps families find child care in their area that have been evaluated by credentialed early childhood experts and deemed high-quality. Quality Rated assigns one, two or three stars, with three being the highest, to early education care programs that meet or exceed the minimum state requirements. Stars beside the center name signifies rating of each site.

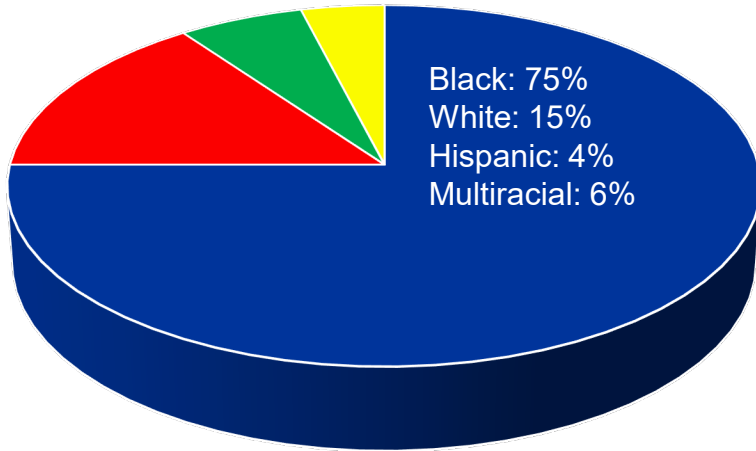
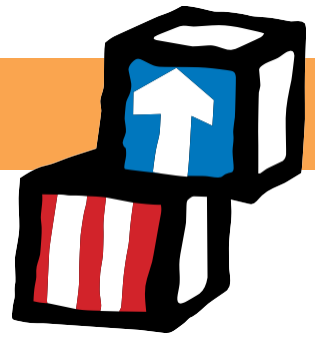


# HEAD START SERVICE AREA

	COUNTY	SQUARE MILES	CENTERS	CLASSROOMS
	Ben Hill	254	Fitzgerald	3
	Turner	290	Ashburn	2
	Irwin	363	Ocilla	1
	Tift	269	Tifton	6
	Berrien	458	Nashville	2
	Cook	233	Adel	2
	Lanier	199	Lakeland	2
	Brooks	498	Quitman	2
	Lowndes	510	B.W. Lester	3
	Lowndes	510	Hahira	2
	Lowndes	510	Hallmark Heights	5
	Lowndes	510	Lowndes 1	9



# HEAD START POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

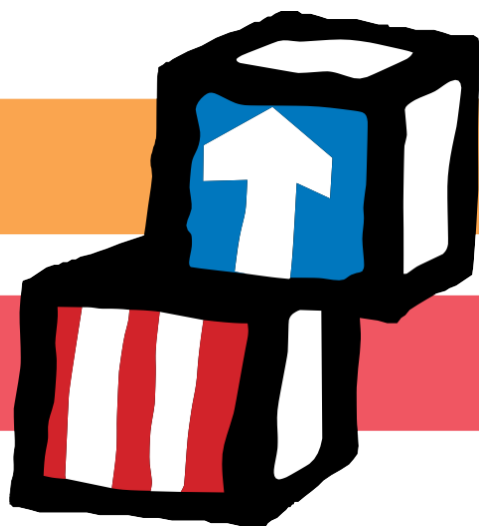


The racial composition of the total children in Head Start served this year is Black 75%, White 15%, Hispanic 4%, and Multiracial 6%. Our current funded enrollment is 811. Materials are printed by Head Start in Spanish to accommodate the families. The rural farming area in South Georgia has attracted more each year.

RACE AND ETHNICITY	# OF CHILDREN OF HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN	# OF CHILDREN OF NON-HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	1
Asian	0	1
Black or African American	1	500
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0	0
White	1	100
Biracial/Multi-racial	8	37
Other - Hispanic, Arabic, and Haitian	19	0

# HEAD START 2022-2023 PROGRAM ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

COUNTIES	INCOME ELIGIBLE	HOMELESS	FOSTER	SNAP	TANF	SSI	HEAD START'S AVERAGE MONTHLY
Berrien	22	0	0	21	1	4	79.54%
Ben Hill	24	0	0	24	0	6	
Brooks	22	0	0	10	0	3	
Cook	23	0	0	16	1	4	AGES 3 YEARS OLD SERVED 516
Irwin	24	0	0	12	0	5	
Lanier	14	0	0	12	1	3	
Lowndes	191	3	2	127	10	34	AGES 4 YEARS OLD SERVED 152
Tifton	31	0	0	55	2	6	
Turner	34	0	1	4	0	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>65</b>	



FUNDED ENROLLMENT: 811

ACTUAL ENROLLMENT: 668

ChildPlus PIR 2022-2023

# HEAD START PROGRAM INFORMATION 2022-2023

			PARENTAL STATUS		
CENTERS	FAMILIES SERVED	TWO PARENTS	ONE PARENT		
B.W. Lester	50	18	32		
Ben Hill	46	9	37		
Brooks	31	8	23		
Cook	40	9	31		
Hahira	35	14	21		
Hallmark	76	15	61		
Irwin	33	2	31		
Lanier	33	7	26		
Lowndes-1	232	17	115		
Nashville	38	9	29		
Tifton	86	10	76		
Turner	34	2	32		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>514</b>		ChildPlus PIR 2022-2023

TOTAL CHILDREN RIDING BUS

107

TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED

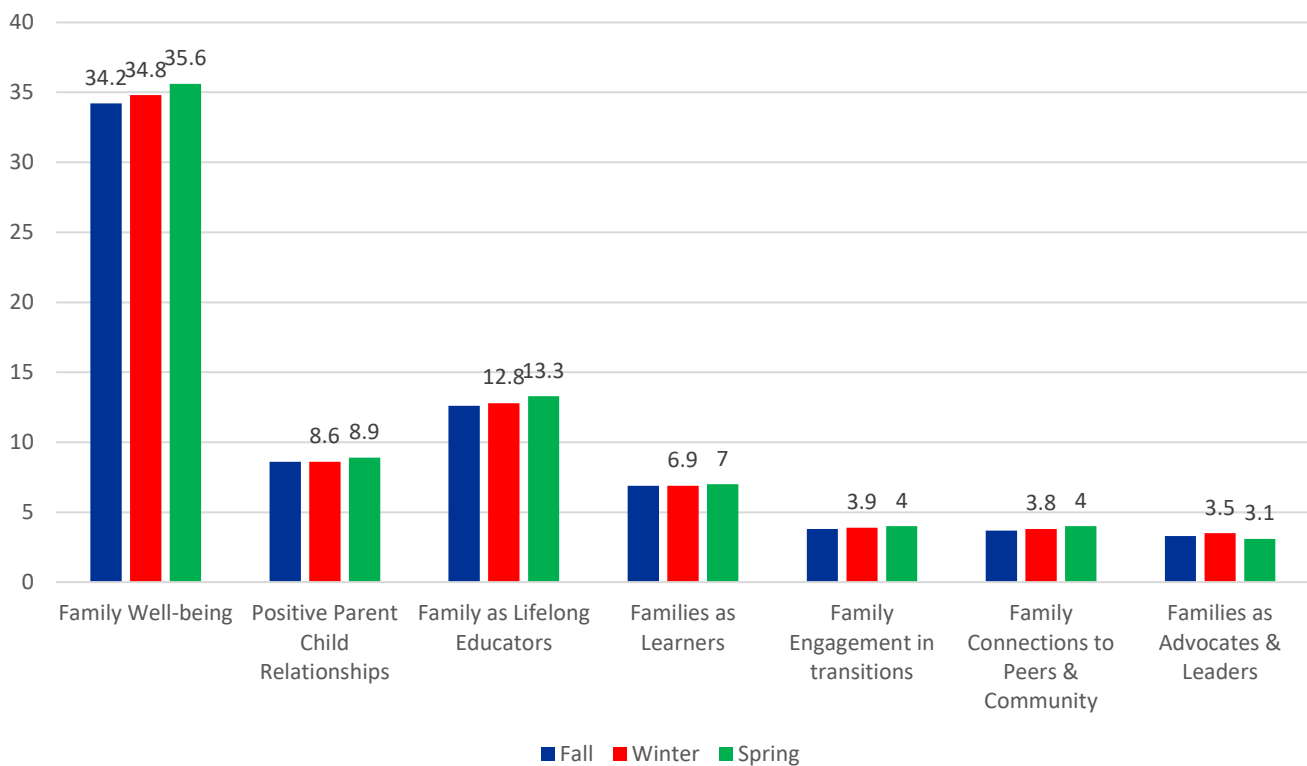
634

# HEAD START FAMILY ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES

The family outcomes assessment report shows the results for fall, winter, and spring 2022-2023. The chart shows the comparison as to where the families started in the fall quarter and where they were at during spring quarter. The families increased slightly in each outcome area except families as advocates and leaders where there was a slight downward change.

Family Health Advocates are continuing to provide services to the families via phone, in person and by zoom and giving the parents resources to help guide them to a stable or thriving family outcome as they assist the families with their goals, interests and needs.

## HEAD START FAMILY ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES SPRING (FINAL) 2022-2023



## 2022-2023 HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION

COUNTY	MEDICAID	PRIVATE INSURANCE
Berrien	39	0
Ben Hill	46	1
Brooks	29	1
BW Lester	50	1
Cook	37	3
Hahira	33	5
Hallmark Heights	80	2
Irwin	35	1
Lanier	32	0
Lowndes 1	139	6
Tifton	85	2
Turner	34	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>23</b>

## COMPLETED PREVENTIVE CARE

DENTAL EXAMS **76%**

MEDICAL EXAMS **67%**

IMMUNIZATIONS **99%**

## RESULTS FROM DISABILITY SERVICES 2022-2023

### *Preschool Disability Services*

DIAGNOSED PRIMARY DISABILITIES	DETERMINED DISABILITY	RECEIVING SERVICES
a. Health Impairment (meeting IDEA definition of “other health impairments”)	1	1
b. Emotional/behavioral disorder	0	0
c. Speech or language impairments	42	42
d. Intellectual disabilities	0	0
e. Hearing impairments, including deafness	0	0
f. Orthopedic impairment	0	0
g. Visual impairment, including blindness	0	0
h. Learning disabilities	3	3
i. Autism	6	6
j. Traumatic brain injury	0	0
k. Non-categorical/development delay	5	5
l. Multiple disabilities	0	0
m. Deaf-blind	0	0

## TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH

Our Head Start program plays a critical role in buffering the impact of trauma by promoting resilience for children, families, and staff. The effects of trauma are lessened by protective factors such as strong parent-child relationships; relationships between staff, children, and families in Head Start programs; and through relationships and supports within the community. Supporting staff wellness is a critical part of any trauma-informed approach in Head Start programs.

Trauma occurs when frightening events or situations overwhelm a child or adult's ability to cope or deal with what has happened. These kinds of experiences cause an extended stress response and lasting effects on the physical and mental health of children and families. Traumatic events can be a single event (e.g., a terrible accident) or chronic (e.g., domestic violence), and there are many factors that affect the intensity of a person's response. Exposure to trauma is more common than most people believe. It is also multi-layered, with individual, community, and historical experiences. That said, not everyone exposed to adverse experiences is traumatized.

Our program is designed to implement a comprehensive, ongoing trauma-informed approach that provides all staff activities to implement the 4R's as one that:

### THE FOUR Rs OF TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE



**REALIZE** the widespread impact of trauma and understand potential paths for recovery.



**RECOGNIZE** the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved with the system.



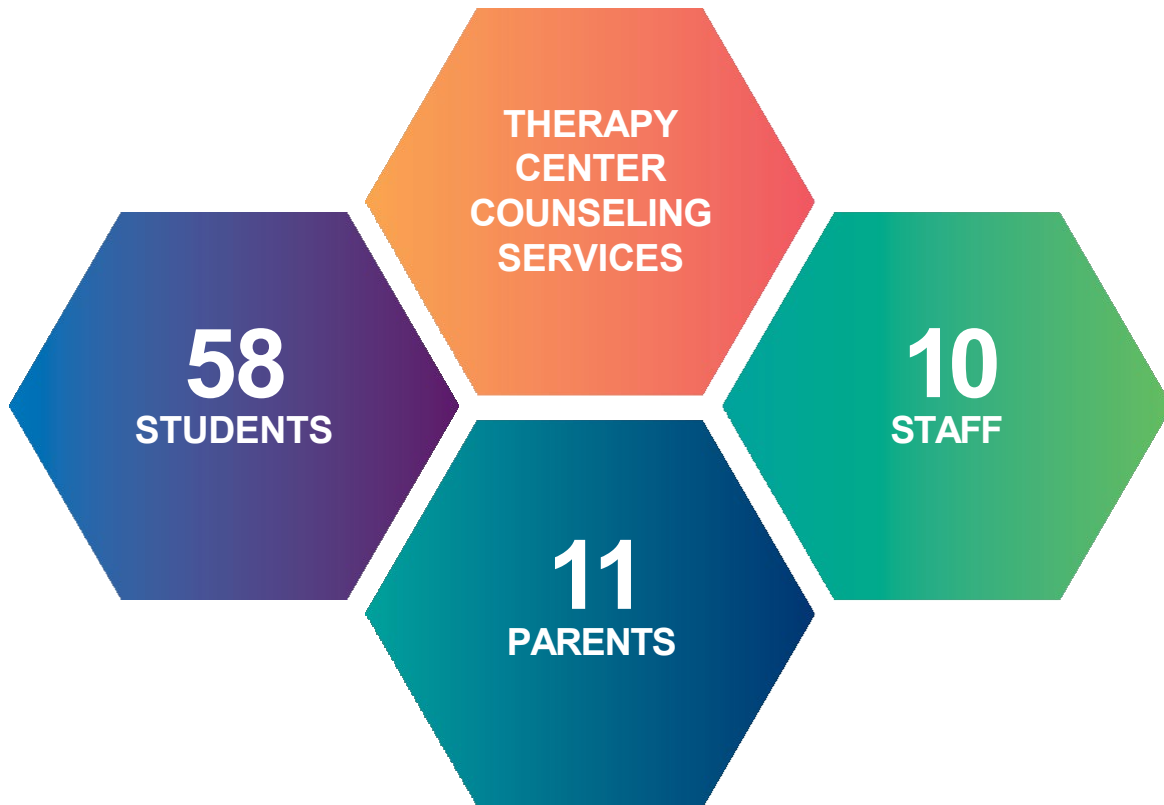
**RESPOND** by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices.



**RESIST** re-traumatization of children, as well as adults who care for them.

*This figure is adapted from: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (2014). SAMHSA's concept of trauma and Guidance for a trauma-informed approach. HHS publication no. (SMA) 14-4884, Rockville, MD; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.*





Therapy Center Valdosta's mission is to provide services to the residents of Lowndes County and surrounding counties with evidence-based behavioral health services that are based on the unique situation of each individual's physical, emotional, and cognitive function. As a community partner, they have dedicated themselves to sustain and strengthen the well-being of individuals and families in the area to promote a healthier society.

Therapy Center Valdosta provides therapeutic counseling to patients of all ages coping with a variety of mental health issues. They provide face-to-face, tele-counseling, and phone service counseling in order to service individuals and families with issues related to depression, anxiety, marital issues, post-traumatic stress, work issues, anger management, stress management, and daily life stressors. Alcohol and drug abuse treatment is available for patients and their families through individual therapy, group therapy, and/or family therapy. Therapy Center Valdosta utilizes prevention, education, intervention, and/or continuing help based on the needs of the patient.

# CLASSROOM ASSESSMENT SCORING SYSTEM (CLASS)

## MOST RECENT REVIEW - RESULTS FROM CLASS OBSERVATIONS

CLASS reviews were conducted between 11/1/22-5/31/23.

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.

DOMAIN	SCORE
Emotional Support	6.31
Classroom Organization	5.59
Instructional Support	3.47

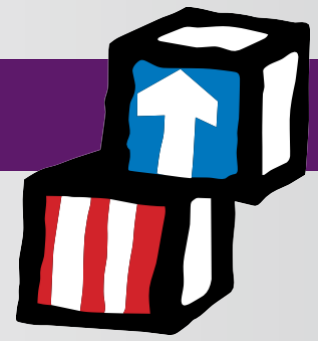
DIMENSIONS			
Positive Climate	6.67	Behavior Management	6.04
Concept Development	3.52	Negative Climate*	1.00
Productivity	5.98	Quality Feedback	3.19
Teacher Sensitivity	5.92	Instructional Learning Format	4.75
Language Modeling	3.69	Regard for Student Perspectives	5.65
Emotional Support	6.31	Classroom Organization	5.59
Instructional Support	3.47		

\*Note: To calculate the Emotional Support domain, subtract the Negative climate score from eight, add the Positive Climate, Teacher Sensitivity, and Regard for Student Perspective scores, then divide by four.

### OHS CLASS® DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS, 2020 NATIONAL GRANTEE-LEVEL SCORES BY DIMENSION

DOMAIN	DIMENSION	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION	MIN.	MAX.
EMOTIONAL SUPPORT	Positive Climate	5.98	.28	5.17	6.61
	Negative Climate	1.09	0.08	1.00	1.50
	Teacher Sensitivity	5.88	.30	5.06	6.63
	Regard for Student Perspectives	5.33	0.38	5.29	6.75
CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION	Behavior Management	5.96	0.33	5.29	6.75
	Productivity	5.32	0.35	5.00	6.81
	Instructional Learning Formats	2.46	0.41	1.76	3.46
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT	Concept Development	2.46	.041	1.76	3.26
	Quality Feedback	2.90	0.40	2.08	3.88
	Language Modeling	3.45	.048	2.22	4.50

## EFFORTS TO PREPARE CHILDREN FOR KINDERGARTEN



Our Head Start program strives to ensure each child is prepared for their next educational experience. Creative Curriculum is used as our developmental guide for classroom activities. Each child is assessed using the Brigance Assessment tool. This tool evaluates children’s early development and kindergarten readiness and assist teachers with identifying potential delays or giftedness, supporting referrals for services, and planning individualized instruction. In addition to Brigance, we use the Teaching Strategies Gold ( TSG) assessment that aligns with Creative Curriculum. TSG is an ongoing, teacher observation based tool that ensures the success of the students. Our school readiness goals are listed below.

They are aligned with the state and local school systems goals and expectations.

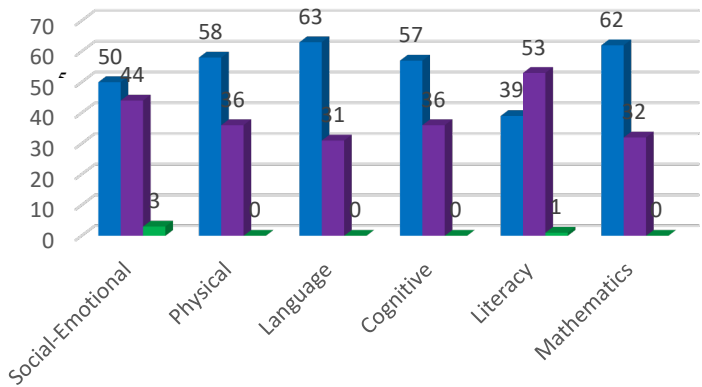
DOMAIN	SCHOOL READINESS GOALS 2022-2023
Language and Literacy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children will comprehend an increasingly complex and varied vocabulary.</li> <li>2. Children will increase their use of language to communicate with adults and peers.(Children who are dual language learners will demonstrate proficiency in their home language while acquiring beginning proficiency in English.)</li> <li>3. Children will use and understand print as meaningful and organized symbolic system of communication.</li> <li>4. Children will identify names and sounds associated with letters and have an awareness that language can be broken down into words and syllables.</li> </ol>
Cognition and General Knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Children will use scientific skills and methodology to gain a better understanding of information and activities in their surroundings.</li> <li>6. Children will increase their skills in remembering information and in being aware of their own thinking.</li> <li>7. Children will use math regularly and in everyday routines to count, compare, relate, identify patterns, and problem solve.</li> </ol>
Approaches to Learning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Children will show an interest in varied topics and activities, an eagerness to learn, creativity, and independence in their interactions with activities and materials.</li> <li>9. Children will demonstrate persistence and sustained attention when working with materials, activities and information.</li> </ol>
Physical Development and Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Children will maintain healthy and age appropriate physical well-being.</li> <li>11. Children will develop safe and healthy habits.</li> <li>12. Children will increase control of their small and large muscles.</li> </ol>
Social and Emotional Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Children will engage in positive peer relationships and interactions with familiar adults and peers.</li> <li>14. Children will learn to internalize (follow) classroom rules, routines, and directions.</li> </ol>

# HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES

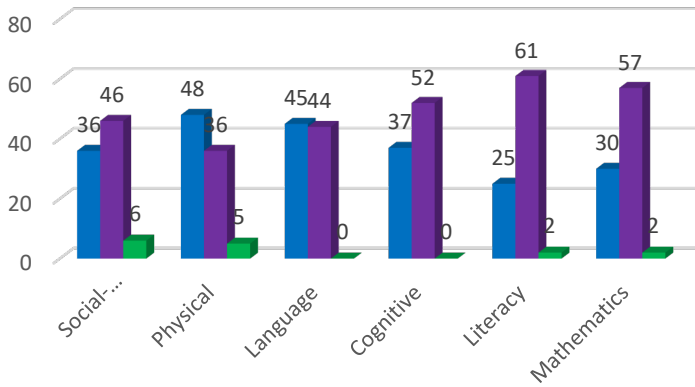
Students were assessed using the Teaching Strategies GOLD (TSG) developmental assessment. Teaching Strategies GOLD child outcomes data gathered from Fall, Winter, and Spring were compared and data reflecting the growth of enrolled students between August 15, 2022, through May 19, 2023, is shown.

## Program Wide Results of Teaching Strategies GOLD (TSG)

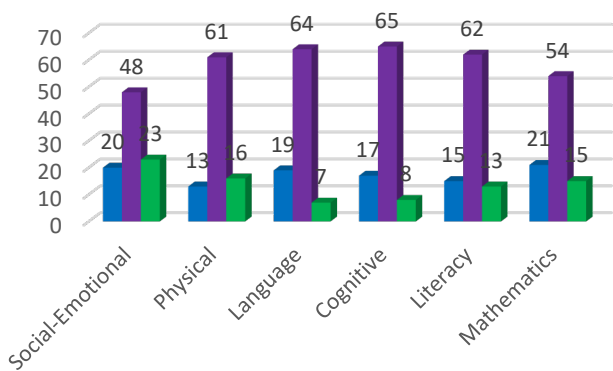
Based on the years comparison there was significant growth for students. Data shows an increase in the number of students who performed at age-level expectations. However, there was improvement needed in social-emotional, physical, and language domains. There were 25-27% of the children assessed still below expectations for their age in these domains. Social-emotional training, cozy corner items, new playground equipment, and adding Khan Academy to the classroom iPads were provided to improve upon these skills.



HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES  
FALL 2022-2023



HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES  
WINTER 2022-2023

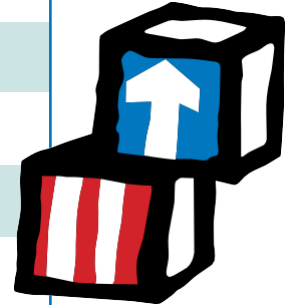


HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES  
SPRING 2022-2023

■ Below ■ Meets ■ Exceeds

## HEAD START PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FUNDS RECEIVED

Head Start and HS T/TA	\$8,405,375
Non-Federal match	\$2,026,037
Child and Adult Care Food Program	\$486,297.70
HS CRRSA	\$244,086
HS ARP	\$970,362
<b>TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$12,132,157.70</b>



## BUDGETARY EXPENDITURES AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

	HEAD START OPERATING	HS T/TA	HS NON-FEDERAL MATCH
Salaries	\$4,816,066	-	-
Fringe Benefits	\$1,472,146	-	-
Travel	\$31,595	-	-
Equipment	\$379,077	-	-
Supplies	\$169,942	-	-
Contractual	\$57,000	-	-
Other	\$1,394,565	-	-
Training	-	\$84,984	-
Non-Federal Match			\$2,026,037
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,320,391</b>	<b>\$84,984</b>	<b>\$2,026,037</b>

## MEN 4 MEN

Designed for fathers who wish to learn more about responsible fatherhood skills, traits and practices to support their families.

### WHAT WE OFFER

- Family Engagement Training
- Fatherhood Mentoring and Training
- GED Enrollment
- GED Preparedness
- Job Search/Placement
- Job Training
- One-on-one Counseling/Group Counseling
- Peer Group Session
- Professional Development Training
- Trauma/Health Counseling
- Volunteer Work Opportunity



Men Supporting Men

**MEN 4 MEN LLC**



## DASHER HIGH SCHOOL



The former Dasher High School, named for Mayor Robert Dasher, was built in 1928 as the third public high school for African American students in Valdosta, and it is the only remaining school building from that era. Several prominent leaders of the Valdosta community graduated from Dasher High School, including writer and journalist Louis E. Lomax, the nation's first African American television journalist. The Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority owns and uses the building to provide services to low-income households.

### Georgia Trust Announces Its 2023 List of State's 10 'Places in Peril'

On November 16, 2022 The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation released its 2023 list of 10 *Places in Peril* in the state. On that list was the former Dasher High School located in Valdosta, Georgia. The following insert is what the president of the Trust had to say:

"This is the Trust's eighteenth annual Places in Peril list," said Mark C. McDonald, president and CEO of the Trust. "We hope the list will continue to bring preservation solutions to Georgia's imperiled historic resources by highlighting ten representative sites."





We would like to thank all of our Community Partners that collaborate with our agency to provide services for families and children.



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to move toward sustaining  
self-sufficiency.*

