



**Dream big,
start small!**

 KALAMAZOO RESA
Head Start

ANNUAL REPORT

2021/22



What is Head Start?

Head Start is a high-quality Pre-K program that facilitates young children's learning through experience. This federally funded program is offered at 14 locations around Kalamazoo County. Head Start also offers services for the families of enrolled children. These services support parents in their role as a child's first teacher.

Welcome!

Kalamazoo RESA Head Start provides families currently facing poverty a comprehensive, high-quality pre-kindergarten experience for children ages 3 to 5. We partner with families to teach the literacy, math, social-emotional learning and overall developmental skills their children need to engage successfully in kindergarten and throughout life. We strive to support the whole family so little learners can Dream Big!

Thank you for being a part of this work!

Rachel Roberts, *Executive Director of Preschool Programs*

Our Families

ENROLLMENT

476
enrolled

440
total families



DIVERSITY

Race
288 Black or African American
83 White
48 Biracial/Multi-racial
44 Hispanic or Latino
12 Asian
1 American Indian or Alaskan Native



LANGUAGES SPOKEN

93% English
4% Middle Eastern & South Asian
1% Spanish
>1% each African Languages, East Asian, European and Slavic Languages



FAMILY EDUCATION

10% Advanced Degree or Bachelor Degree
8% Associates Degree, Vocational School, or some College
62% High School or GED
21% Less than High School



29 classrooms in 12 locations

14 3-year-old classrooms

15 4-year-old classrooms

- Comstock Early Learning Academy
- First Presbyterian Church
- KRESA Commons
- New Life Fellowship
- North Park Reformed Church
- Portage Community Center

- St. Joseph Catholic Church
- KRESA West Campus
- KPS Winchell Elementary
- KPS Northeastern Elementary
- Portage Curious Kids
- KPS Washington Writer's Academy



FINANCIAL REPORT

The federal grant period for Kalamazoo RESA Head Start is November 1 through October 31, however, the program year runs September through June. Kalamazoo RESA operates with a blended funding model (multiple funding sources) for its Pre-Kindergarten program, utilizing funds from the state grant for 4-year olds, Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP), to provide services to additional children in Kalamazoo County, and allow for many classrooms to operate for a full day rather than a half day.

Department of Health and Human Services (DHS) Head Start Award

\$6,516,154

{ Operating Funds \$6,446,162 + Training & Technical Assistance \$69,992 }

In-Kind (Match) Community Funds

\$1,611,540

GSRP State Grant Funds (Blended classrooms)

\$1,198,860

DHS Budget	Budget	Actual Expenditures
Personnel	\$3,134,419	\$2,968,913
Fringe Benefits	\$1,967,380	\$2,173,581
Travel	\$4,884	\$17,642
Supplies	\$58,805	\$137,218
Contractual	\$647,859	\$508,172
Other	\$289,742	\$274,781
Total Direct Costs	\$5,929,066	\$6,080,307
Indirect Costs	\$413,065	\$435,847
Total	\$6,516,154	\$6,516,154



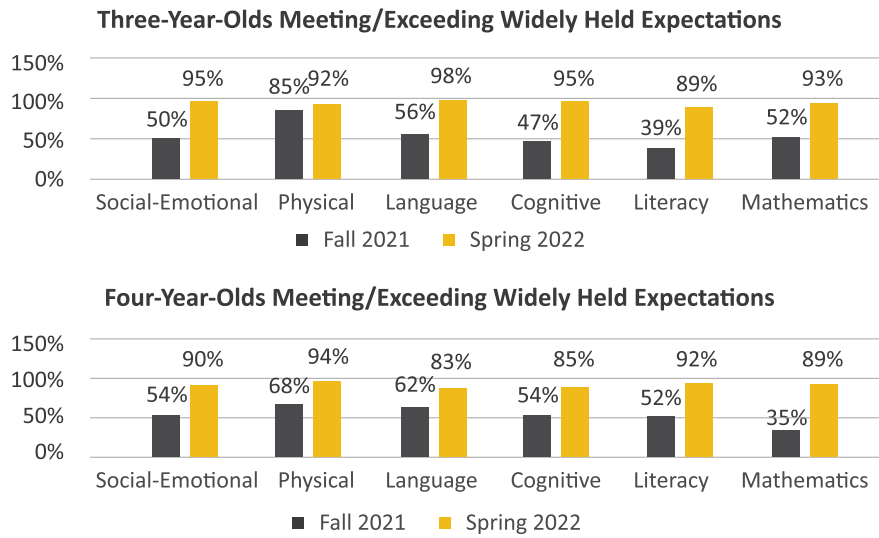
School Readiness

Kalamazoo RESA Head Start believes in early intervention and investing in the future of our children. Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum for Preschool is the focal curriculum. This curriculum is a comprehensive, research-based curriculum designed to assist teachers with implementing developmentally appropriate and content-rich lessons for children with diverse backgrounds and skill levels.



KRESA Head Start / Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

The Kalamazoo RESA Head Start/GSRP preschool program is part of the collaborative and inclusive effort of Kalamazoo County Pre-K, which is composed of Head Start, the Great Start Readiness Program and Kalamazoo County Ready 4's. Its mission is to provide equitable, high-quality and developmentally appropriate services to support the whole child and whole family. In partnership with families and the community, these programs build a strong foundation for children's developmental skills and empower families to engage in their child's educational journey, starting at birth.



The Social-Emotional Learning Team

With the assistance of COVID funding, KRESA Head Start formed a Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) team, composed of a regional health specialist and two of the program's family advocates. The SEL Team provides additional supports and further direct contact with students in the classrooms. Along with opportunities to meet with students in small groups or individually, the team also hosts ongoing monthly support meetings for families. The family support groups focus on social-emotional learning for both the adults and their children and serves as a platform for families to share ideas, situations, and concerns they hold in common.

- 20 classrooms supported
- 44 individual student supports
- 13 students referred to special education services and found eligible





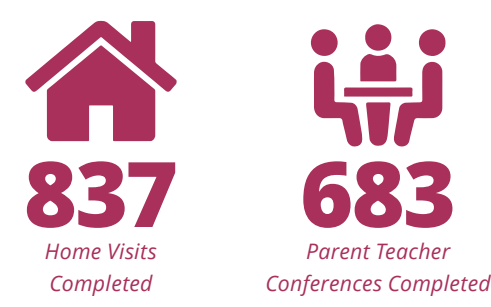
Family Services & Engagement

Kalamazoo RESA Head Start provides programming and support to engage and empower the whole family.

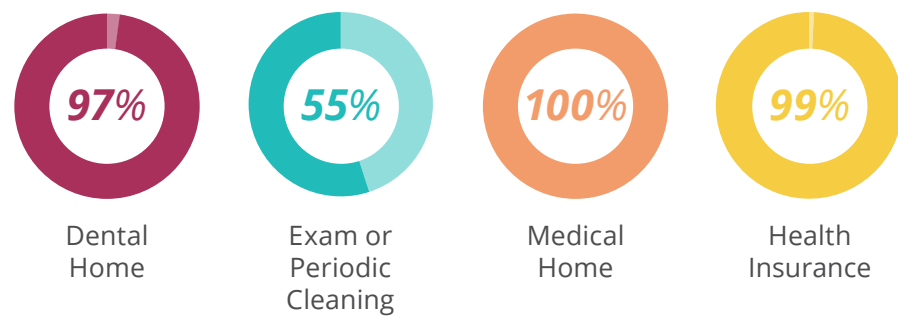
Services include:

- **Family Advocates**
Provide further support through a personal relationship with families
- **Policy Council**
Parents and community members collaborate on program decisions, hiring and recruitment.
- **SuperMEN**
A networking and support program for male models
- **Health Services Advisory Committee**
Families, staff and community members promote and provide comprehensive health-related services and support
- **Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors**
Parenting and leadership advocacy program for Latino parents
- **Parent Committees**
Monthly meetings at Head Start sites where families can network and discuss topics of interest
- **Parent Workshops**
Evidence-based workshops designed to support parenting skills and family relationships

Parent Collaboration



Health



QR CODE?



We couldn't do this work without you!

We rely on dozens of community partners in our efforts to help families Dream Big, Start Small! See a full list on our website at www.kresa.org/headstart.

Keep in Touch

Join us on Facebook and Twitter for news, event updates and photos. [@kresaheadstart](https://twitter.com/kresaheadstart)

