



RMDC Head Start
 PO Box 1717
 Helena, MT 59624

Rocky Mountain Development Council, Inc.



HEAD START



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Strong Families, Successful Children

RMDC Head Start is a comprehensive early childhood development program that serves children three and four years old and their families at no cost to the family. Income requirements apply.



TAKING APPLICATIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

CALL **(406)457-7308**
FOR MORE INFORMATION



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

HEAD START is a
program of Rocky
Mountain Development
Council, Inc.



RMDC Head Start Office
200 South Cruse Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
Phone: (406)457-7308



Our Vision

To be a leading child and family development center working with Head Start families and community partners in Lewis and Clark, Broadwater, and Jefferson counties, to promote healthy life choices and develop skills necessary for academic and social success.

RMDC Head Start has a dedicated staff of 50+ working with our federally funded number of 236 children and families in the tri-county area (Lewis and Clark County, Broadwater County, and Jefferson County). In program year 2016-17 the program celebrated its 50th year of existence in the tri-county area. The program operated a center-based option at seven sites that housed 15 classes; the site/class breakdown is: Neighborhood Center with four classes (two part-day classes and two extended day classes), Helena Housing Authority with one extended day class; Ray Bjork Learning Center with four part-day collaboration classes in conjunction with Helena Public Schools Special Education and one extended day class partially funded by the Montana Preschool Development Grant; Eastgate Elementary with one part-day class and one extended day partially funded by the Montana Preschool Development Grant; Townsend with one part-day class; Boulder with one extended day class partially funded by the Montana Preschool Development Grant



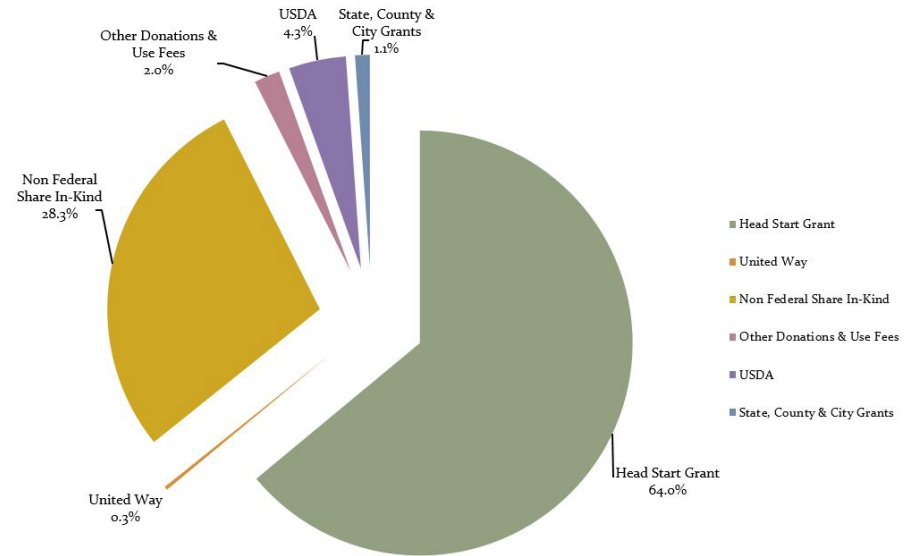
Ashley Peña-Larsen
RMDC Head Start Director

and Whitehall with one part-day class. As always, we encourage and invite you to visit our Head Start classes. We are tremendously proud of the high quality program we provide for our children, families, and communities and would love to show you around!



Financial Report

Rocky Mountain Development Council, Inc.'s (RMDC) audit for FY17 was recently completed by Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co. Inc. RMDC's 2017 financial statements, including A-133 compliance, were issued on November 30, 2017 with an unmodified "clean" opinion. A management letter was not issued and there were no findings.



Public Support, Revenue & Donations

	Amount
Head Start Grant	\$2,131,785.50
United Way	\$8,906.86
Non Federal Share In-Kind	\$943,134.08
Other Donations & Use Fees	\$65,574.23
USDA	\$144,936.56
State, County & City Grants	\$37,578.83

Total Support and Revenue \$ 3,331,916.06

Expenses

	Amount
Program Services	\$2,146,715.11
In-Kind Donated Program Services	\$943,134.08
Administration	\$ 241,066.87
Total Expense	\$ 3,330,916.06



Statistics Continued

Head Start focuses on supporting families to identify their strengths, work toward their goals, and recognize and build on their efforts to be their child's first and most important teacher.

	# of families at enrollment
C.35 Total number of families:	255
a. Of these, the number of two-parent families	111
b. Of these, the number of single-parent families	144

	# of two-parent families at enrollment
C.36 Of the number of two-parent families, the number in which the parent/guardian figures are best described as:	
a. Parents (biological, adoptive, stepparents, etc.)	103
b. Grandparents	4
c. Relatives other than grandparents	1
d. Foster parents not including relatives	3
e. Other	0
1. Specify:	

	# of single-parent families at enrollment
C.37 Of the number of single-parent families, the number in which the parent/guardian figure is best described as:	
a. Mother (biological, adoptive, stepmother, etc.)	111
b. Father (biological, adoptive, stepfather, etc.)	21
c. Grandparent	8
d. Relative other than grandparent	1
e. Foster parent not including relative	3
f. Other	0
1. Specify:	

Employment

	# of families at enrollment
C.38 Of the number of two-parent families, the number of families in which:	
a. Both parents/guardians are employed	36
b. One parent/guardian is employed	63
c. Both parents/guardians are not working (i.e. unemployed, retired, or disabled)	12

RMDC Head Start uses two specific curricula: Creative Curriculum® for Preschoolers, Second Step® Social Emotional Learning Program and Second Step® Child Protection Unit. Every activity throughout the day provides an educational opportunity for a child in or out of the classroom...whether it is growth in relationship building, how a

child perceives him/herself, the ability to sort and categorize, set a table, pass food and pour milk, to share, recognize their name or letters, expand their vocabulary, or listen and follow directions. Much of this is achieved through play...the "work" of children.



Our Mission

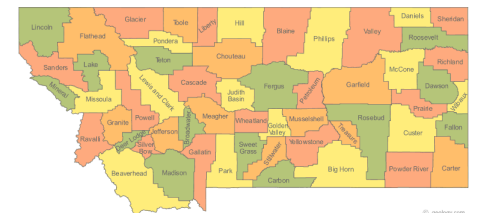
To be a supportive and safe learning environment for children and families by enhancing their sense of belonging and self-worth while encouraging them to reach their highest potential.

Head Start is a comprehensive early childhood development program that serves low income children ages three to five and their families. Head Start focuses on physical and oral health, positive social/emotional development, healthy nutrition, and access to a stable, nurturing, and encouraging environment and the roles they play in preparing children for success in school and life. Head Start also focuses on supporting families to identify their strengths, work toward their goals, and recognize and build on their efforts to be their child's first and most important teacher.

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Rocky Mountain Development Council, Inc. is the local Human Resource Development Council for District 8 and has been the grantee agency for the Head Start Program since 1967. RMDC Head Start serves 14 children and their families in Broadwater County, 30 in Jefferson County, and 216 in Lewis and Clark County. (See map below.) Ninety percent of all children enrolled in Head Start must meet Head Start income guidelines, 10% of Head Start's openings must be for children with disabilities.

RMDC Head Start uses two specific curricula: Creative Curriculum® for Preschoolers and Talking About Touching. Every activity in a Head Start classroom provides an educational opportunity for a child...whether it is growth in relationship building, how a child perceives him/herself, the ability to sort and categorize, set a table, pass food and pour milk, to share, recognize their name or letters,





Board of Directors & Policy Council

As required by regulation, Head Start is governed by a Board of Directors and a Policy Council. The Board of Directors holds overall legal and fiscal responsibility for the RMDC organization. The Policy Council is made up of parents/guardians of children currently enrolled in Head Start and community representatives. The Board and Policy Council work with Head Start's key management staff to ensure the program meets the needs of children, families and communities where Head Start is located.

RMDC, Inc. Board of Directors 2017

- President – Daniel Pocha, Private Sector Rep.
- Vice President – Trever Kirkland, Private Sector Rep.
- Secretary/Treasurer – Lois Steinbeck, Private Sector Rep.
- Bob Mullen - Public Sector Rep., Jefferson County Commission
- Maria Pace - Public Sector Rep., Boulder Elementary School
- Mike Delger - Public Sector Rep., Broadwater County Commission
- Debbie Havens - Public Sector Rep., City of Helena
- Susan Good-Geise - Public Sector Rep., Lewis & Clark County Commission
- Helen Frandrich - Low-Income Sector Rep., Senior Citizens
- Bruce Day - Low-Income Sector Rep., Helena Food Share
- Jerome Loendorf - Private Sector Rep., State Bar of Montana
- Rebecca Blend - Private Sector Rep.

RMDC, Inc. Head Start Policy Council Officers 2017

- Mark Young - Chair
- Angel Kramer - Vice Chair
- Vacant - Secretary
- Erin Morris - Treasurer



Statistics

During the 2016-2017 school year, RMDC was funded to serve 236 children and families in Lewis & Clark, Broadwater and Jefferson Counties. In the summer months (July-August), RMDC Head Start was closed for summer break. From September 2016 to June 2017, RMDC Head Start enrolled 236 children each month other than the months of February, May and June of 2017.

Total cumulative enrollment

	# of children / pregnant women
A.15 Total cumulative enrollment	270

Type of eligibility

A.16 Report each enrollee only once by primary type of eligibility:	# of children
a. Income below 100% of federal poverty line	211
b. Public assistance such as TANF, SSI	11
c. Status as a foster child - # children only	14
d. Status as homeless	13
e. Over income	21

	(1) # of children at enrollment	(2) # of children at end of enrollment year
C.1 Number of all children with health insurance	266	267
a. Number enrolled in Medicaid and/or CHIP	253	254
b. Number enrolled in state-only funded insurance (for example, medically indigent insurance)	0	0
c. Number with private health insurance (for example, parent's insurance)	13	13
d. Number with health insurance other than those listed above, for example, Military Health (Tri-Care or CHAMPUS)	0	0
1. Specify		
C.2. Number of children with no health insurance	4	3

	(1) # of children at enrollment	(2) # of children at end of enrollment year
C.8 Number of all children who are up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care, according to the relevant state's EPSDT schedule for well child care	162	168
		# of children at end of enrollment year
a. Of these, the number diagnosed by a health care professional with a chronic condition needing medical treatment since last year's PIR was reported		11
1. Of these, the number who have received or are receiving medical treatment		10
b. Specify the primary reason that children who needed medical treatment, for any chronic condition diagnosed by a health care professional since last year's PIR was reported, did not receive it:		Parents did not keep/make appointment

C.9 Number of all children who received medical treatment for the following chronic conditions since last year's PIR was reported, regardless of when the condition was first diagnosed by a health care professional:	# of children
a. Anemia	1
b. Asthma	28
c. Hearing Difficulties	1
d. Vision Problems	38
e. High Lead Levels	0
f. Diabetes	0

	(1) # of children at enrollment	(2) # of children at end of enrollment year
C.17 Number of children with continuous, accessible dental care provided by a dentist	248	254



Transition to Kindergarten

RMDC Head Start works to ensure a smooth transition for children “moving on” to kindergarten. Teachers partner with families to set realistic goals for children that will help them be successful. Program staff assists families in filling out their child’s kindergarten registration form. Immunization information is given to families to share with their receiving schools.

Each year Head Start staff work with families to prepare a transition profile for each child that provides information about social emotional, cognitive, language and mathematic skills. The profile also includes information regarding screening results and any special health care needs (i.e. medications, asthma, allergies). With parent permission this profile is shared with kindergarten teacher each spring. Head Start collaborates with each of the 15 elementary schools that a majority of children will attend for Kindergarten. Kindergarten teachers, administration and support staff meet with Head Start to discuss the individual needs for children as they start in their new school. Our goal is to ensure schools are as prepared as possible to make their first day a positive educational adventure.

Mental health referrals

	# of children at end of enrollment year
C.24 Number of children who were referred by the program for mental health services outside of Head Start since last year's PIR was reported	27
a. Of these, the number who received mental health services since last year's PIR was reported	13

Preschool disabilities services (HS and Migrant programs)

	# of children
C.25 Number of children enrolled in the program who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) indicating they have been determined eligible by the LEA to receive special education and related services	65



Community Partners

Thank you to the following Head Start Community Partners. We rely on you and your businesses throughout the year in providing monetary support, volunteer hours and donations for families in need. Without you, our Head Start program wouldn't be as successful as it is in our community.

AWARE, Inc.
 Carroll College Nursing Program
 Carroll College Work Study Program
 Child and Adult Food Care Program,
 USDA
 Child and Family Services Division,
 DPHHS
 Child Care Partnerships
 City of Helena
 CTI – Career Training Institute
 Early Childhood Coalition of the Greater
 Helena Area
 Early Childhood Services Bureau, DPHHS
 Family Outreach (Part C)
 Family Promise
 First Interstate Bank
 Foster Grandparent Program
 Friendship Center
 Friends of Head Start
 God's Love
 Good Samaritan Ministries
 Helena College, University of Montana
 Helena Food Share
 Helena Housing Authority
 Helena Kiwanis Club
 Helena Pediatric Clinic
 Helena Police Department
 HRA – Helena Resource Advocates
 Intermountain
 Kalmor Dental

L&C City County Health Department
 L&C County Detention Center
 Montana Association for the Education of
 Young Children – Helena Chapter
 Montana Coalition Against Domestic and
 Sexual Violence
 Montana Community Foundation
 Montana Head Start Association
 Montana Office of Public Instruction
 (OPI)
 No Child Hungry Coalition
 Office of Head Start, Administration for
 Children & Families
 Optimist Club of Helena
 Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church
 PAL (Project for Alternative Learning)
 Partners in Pediatrics
 Pediatric Dentistry – Dr. Kevin Rencher
 Prickly Pear Cooperative
 RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Pro-
 gram)
 School District #1 – Helena Public
 Schools
 School District #9 – East Helena Public
 Schools
 SS Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church
 Townsend Elementary School
 United Way of the Lewis and Clark Area
 Whitehall Elementary School



Child Outcomes

RMDC Head Start uses The Creative Curriculum® System for Preschool as its primary curricula. Teaching Strategies GOLD™ is the on-line assessment RMDC Head Start uses to monitor children's skills and progress in the areas below. Data is used to drive program decisions on professional development, purchasing of materials and equipment, and family education/events.

Social/Emotional: Overall growth for the year - 41%

Fall data: 104 children below expectations, 97 children meeting expectations and 11 children exceeding expectations – 51% meeting or exceeding expectations; winter goal 75%. Winter data: 42 children below expectations, 126 children meeting expectations and 53 children exceeding expectations – 81% meeting or exceeding expectations; spring goal 90% Spring Data: 18 children below expectations, 109 children meeting expectations and 99 children exceeding expectations – 92% meeting or exceeding expectations

Physical – Gross Motor: Overall growth for the year - 25%

Fall data: 64 children below expectations, 128 children meeting expectations and 8 children exceeding expectations – 68% meeting or exceeding expectations; winter goal 80% Winter data: 27 children below expectations, 180 children meeting expectations and 16 children exceeding expectations – 88% meeting or exceeding expectations; spring goal 95% Spring Data: 16 children below expectations, 169 children meeting expectations and 40 children exceeding expectations – 93% meeting or exceeding expectations

Physical – Fine Motor: Overall growth for the year - 20%

Fall data: 42 children below expectations, 156 children meeting expectations and 3 children exceeding expectations – 77% meeting or exceeding expectations; winter goal 90% Winter data: 15 children below expectations, 168 children meeting expectations and 40 children exceeding expectations – 93% meeting or exceeding expectations; spring goal 98% Spring Data: 8 children below expectations, 137 children meeting expectations and 80 children exceeding expectations – 97% meeting or exceeding expectations

Language: Overall growth for the year - 28%

Fall data: 80 children below expectations, 129 children meeting expectations and 3 children exceeding expectations – 62% meeting or exceeding expectations; winter goal 80% Winter data: 32 children below expectations, 162 children meeting expectations and 29 children exceeding expectations – 86% meeting or exceeding expectations; spring goal 90% Spring Data: 21 children below expectations, 128 children meeting expectations and 75 children exceeding expectations – 90% meeting or exceeding expectations

Cognitive: Overall growth for the year - 37%

Fall data: 89 children below expectations, 122 children meeting expectations and 2 children exceeding expectations – 58% meeting or exceeding expectations; winter goal 80% Winter data: 24 children below expectations, 166 children meeting expectations and 32 children exceeding expectations – 89% meeting or exceeding expectations; spring goal 95% Spring Data: 10 children below expectations, 128 children meeting expectations and 86 children exceeding expectations – 95% meeting or exceeding expectations

Literacy: Overall growth for the year - 36%

Fall data: 88 children below expectations, 109 children meeting expectations and 3 children exceeding expectations – 57% meeting or exceeding expectations; winter goal 85% Winter data: 26 children below expectations, 161 children meeting expectations and 34 children exceeding expectations – 88% meeting or exceeding expectations; spring goal 95% Spring Data: 15 children below expectations, 110 children meeting expectations and 99 children exceeding expectations – 93% meeting or exceeding expectations

Mathematics: Overall growth for the year - 65%

Fall data: 147 children below expectations, 51 children meeting expectations and 2 children exceeding expectations – 27% meeting or exceeding expectations; winter goal 55% Winter data: 55 children below expectations, 154 children meeting expectations and 14 children exceeding expectations – 75% meeting or exceeding expectations; spring goal 85% Spring Data: 17 children below expectations, 139 children meeting expectations and 68 children exceeding expectations – 92% meeting or exceeding expectations



Head Start Parents

At RMDC Head Start we believe that as a child's first teacher, the role of the parent is to nurture, protect, and prepare their child for social and academic success. We support this by offering:

Parent Education

- Classroom Parent Meetings
- Parenting Classes
- Family Goal Setting
- Financial Literacy Information
- Observing and Volunteering in classrooms

Parent Leadership

- Policy Council and Class Leaders
- Board of Directors
- Advisory Team Members
- Special work committees

Special Events

- Family Literacy Nights
- "Reading Instead of Television" Month
- Bookshelf Builds
- Spring Picnic

