

PARENT-CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Hampshire, Franklin, and Western Hampden Counties

Head Start/Early Head Start

Head Start/Early Head Start is a federally funded program for income-eligible pregnant women and families with children age 0-5. PCDC provides a variety of Head Start/Early Head Start program options to best meet the different developmental needs of children and the child care needs of families. Head Start/Early Head Start provides early childhood education for children as well as health and nutrition services and social service support for enrolled families.

Head Start provides activities for regular and direct parent participation in the program and requires parents to participate in Home Visits, Family Meetings, Committees and Policy Council.

Document Requirements: Income documentation, up-to- date immunizations, physical and dental exams, lead test and hematocrit or hemoglobin level results.

Program Options

Full-day Preschool Classrooms – State funded full-time preschool services for children ages 2.9 through 5 years for income-eligible families with parents in work, school, or training or with a disability. Preschool options include Head Start services.

Infant/Toddler Classrooms – State funded childcare services for children ages 6 weeks to 2.9 years for income-eligible families with parents in work, school, or training or with a disability. Infant/Toddler center-based options include Early Head Start services. ***Northampton and Amherst sites.***

Family Child Care – State funded full-time childcare services for income eligible families with children ages 6 weeks and older. Family Child Care offers opportunities for children to grow and learn in a small group, family-like setting. Licensed early care educators receive training and support through PCDC and are monitored by PCDC early childhood staff. Some Family Child Care options include Head Start/Early Head Start services.

Service need (work, school, training, disability) and eligibility for childcare subsidies are criteria for acceptance in most full day programs. There may be a sliding parent fee based on your income.

Half-Day Preschool Classrooms – Free Head Start center-based preschool programs, 4 hours per day/5 days per week. The Ware program is open 3.5 hours a day/4 days per week. ***Half day sites run only from September to May.***

Home Visiting – Free Head Start/Early Head Start home-based option provides weekly home visits, providing: support to parents, a developmentally based curriculum, support for children with disabilities, information about health and child development and group socialization activities. The Parent-Child Development Center also provides support to home-visiting clients from our team of specialists in Health, Nutrition and Mental Health. Hampshire and Franklin Counties.

Spanish speaking services are available ♦ Limited transportation available.

Community Action does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, private genetic information, or gender identity or any other classification protected by law.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:

Hampshire County 413-387-1250 ♦ Franklin County 413-475-1405 ♦ Hampden County 413-654-1770

www.communityaction.us

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