



LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY  
Helping People. Changing Lives.

LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY HEAD START

# 2017 Annual Outcomes Report

Using All the Crayons in the Box to Meet Needs

what is

# Head Start



**Head Start and Early Head Start are federally funded programs focused on comprehensive child development.**

**Early Head Start supports pregnant women and monitors growing babies for unique needs.**

**Head Start students prepare for Kindergarten and become lifelong learners.**

**Children and family needs are addressed to keep them healthy, confident and self-sufficient.**

**In Lorain County, LCCAA is the only Head Start provider. We offer center-based, school-based and home-based options while partnering and collaborating to service the entire county.**

**Head Start Works**

# standards research

Success in Head Start is very measurable and all our measurement tools are grounded in years of research on what children should know and be able to do as three and four year olds.

These widely held expectations have helped form the basis of the Head Start framework. Grown out of performance standards first published in 1975, the current framework is used nationwide.

LCCAA Head Start teachers screen all students within 45 days of enrollment - no matter what time of year it is.

LCCAA uses Teaching Strategies GOLD, an assessment tool aligned to both the Head Start Framework and the Ohio Department of Education standards, that focuses on widely held expectations.  
(See results on pages 8 and 9.)

Classroom environments are evaluated using CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) which offers teachers feedback on how they interact with students. Research shows that teacher-child interactions have a significant impact on a child's development and learning.

For preschoolers, CLASS looks at classroom climate, routines and procedures and implementation of the curriculum. LCCAA teachers consistently score above the national average in these areas.

## Head Start Framework

### Approaches to Learning

- Approaches to Learning
- Creative Arts Expression

### Cognition and General Knowledge

- English Language Development
- Logic and Reasoning
- Mathematics Knowledge and Skills
- Science Knowledge and Skills
- Social Studies Knowledge and Skills

### Language and Literacy

- Language Development
- Literacy Knowledge and Skills

### Physical Development and Health

### Social and Emotional Development

LCCAA directly operates four Head Start centers. At these centers, all teachers and other personnel are directly employed by LCCAA.

Full and part-time options are available for both 3 and 4-year-old students at these centers.

LCCAA goes well beyond the requirements for associate's degrees set when Congress reauthorized Head Start in 2007. All directly-operated classrooms have two teachers with degrees.

More than 60% of LCCAA -employed teachers have bachelor's or master's degrees in Early Childhood Education or a related field.

Our teachers are lifelong learners who pass on their enthusiasm to their students. Their higher standards of education and engagement have earned each of our directly operated centers Five Stars from Ohio's Step Up to Quality Program.

# center-based options

**full-day classes ♦ structured learning environment ♦ healthy meals**



**Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur visited LCCAA in March as part of National Literacy Month.**



# home-based options

*family focused ♦ individualized instruction ♦ socialization events*



LCCAA's home-based Head Start option allows children to experience the same proven curriculum they would have in our centers.

Highly trained home visitors meet with students in their homes for an hour and a half once each week bringing new materials and making regular assessments. Parents are key partners as they continue working with their children between visits.

Students can transition to a center-based option any time if it becomes right for them. And, they can enjoy monthly socialization activities for which transportation is provided so they meet other children and parents.

# collaborative options

**smooth transition ♦ neighborhood schools ♦ 21 districts**

LCCAA partners with local school districts and other early childhood providers to extend the reach of Head Start.

Our valued collaborators help bring Head Start into more areas where children live in poverty. Our work with public schools in Lorain County is critical.

*Head Start has been an invaluable partner as we educate our diverse population and meet the needs for ALL learners in the classroom. Our inclusive classrooms have benefitted from the collaborative spirit to enhance the learning opportunities and experience for each individual child.*

*- Linda Coad  
Special Education Supervisor  
Lorain City School District*



## SERVING UNIQUE NEEDS

Since 1972, serving children with disabilities has been part of Head Start's mandate. This has fostered LCCAA's deep commitment to being an integral part of early intervention for children with disabilities. Disabilities range from delayed speech to the autism spectrum.

One major benefit for children with disabilities is the established collaborations between Head Start and local schools. At the schools' discretion, Individual Education Plans are developed with goals and specific services a child will need to reach those goals. Head Start's approach begins with screening and referrals to local schools and continues through as a coordinated approach to provide the individualized services prescribed.

# parent involvement



**Thank you to the members of the 2017-18 Parent Policy Council!!**

**Candice Regal, President  
Loren Worthy, Vice President  
Monique West, Secretary  
Reginald Cremeans**

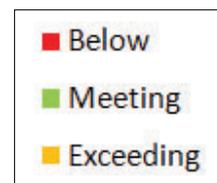
**Rachel Fisk  
John Payne  
Talisa Wiggins  
Edward Worthy**

# defying expectations

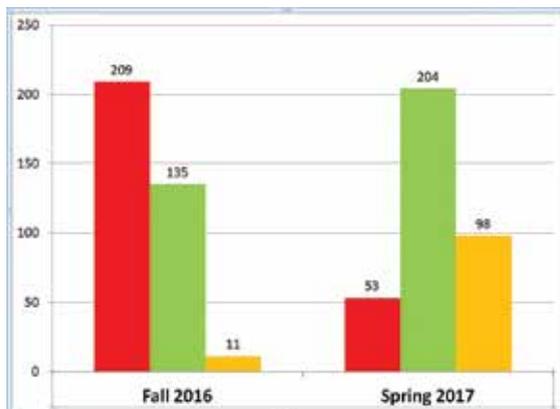
Widely Held Expectations are tasks and skills children of a certain age are expected to know and be able to perform. They apply to all children in an age group regardless of their household income.

Many preschoolers enter Head Start with little to no learning background. Fall assessments show relatively high numbers of children testing “below” widely held expectations.

By the end of the year, the number of children exceeding expectations has skyrocketed and very few remain below average. LCCAA Head Start students not only exceed expectations, they defy them. They are ready to succeed.

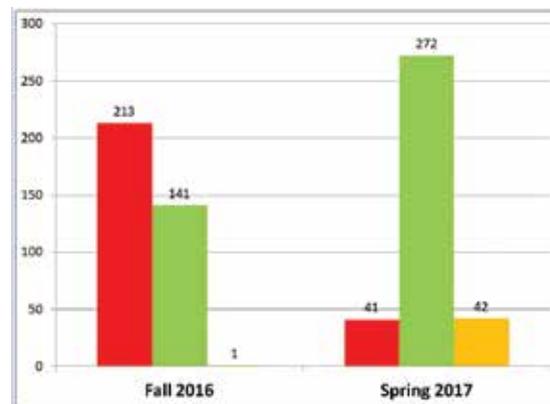


## LCCAA HEAD START CHILDREN HEADED TO KINDERGARTEN FALL 2017



### Social Emotional Development

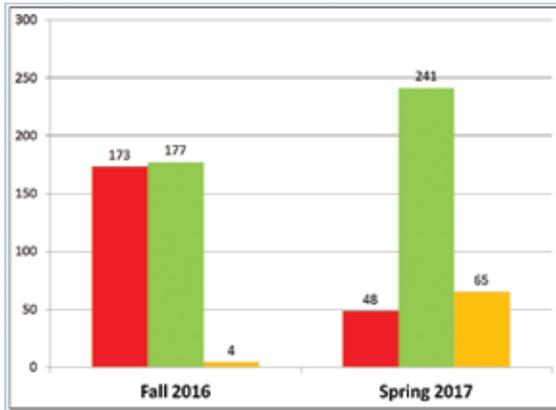
Children learn to control their behavior and emotions and get along with other children. They make friends easily and can balance their needs against others' needs.



### Physical Development

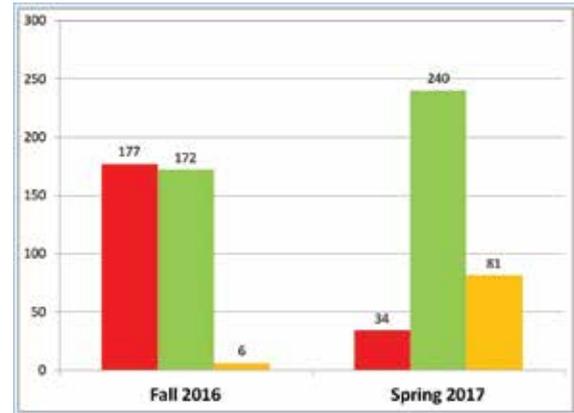
Physical skills include walking, running and skipping. They also include gross motor skills such as throwing a ball and fine motor skills like holding a crayon to color a picture.

# solid skills



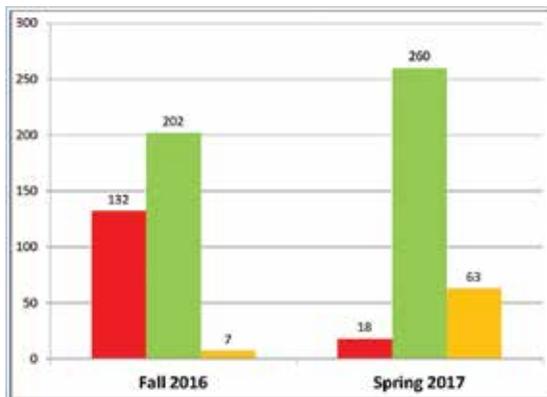
## Language Development

Children learn to follow directions, hold conversations, and use complete sentences - all with an ever-growing vocabulary. They begin to follow social and grammar rules.



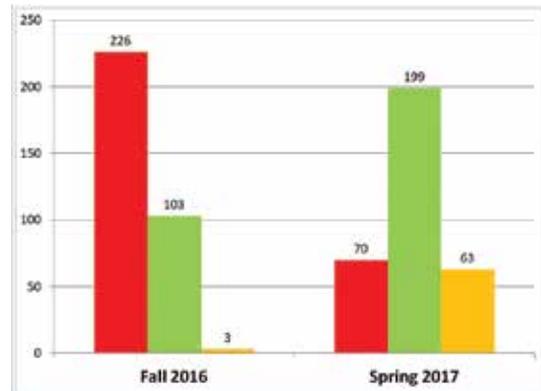
## Cognitive Development

As attention spans lengthen, children are more persistent in solving problems. They remember experiences and can connect them and they learn to pretend.



## Literacy

Children preparing to become readers are learning to identify letters and their sounds. They understand some basic print concepts such as books are read from left to right.



## Mathematics

Counting, shapes, patterns and beginning measurements are all foundational math skills. As children progress in their academic career, this expands into scientific inquiry.

# ready for kindergarten



Marlayna Colon earned her high school diploma and an associate's degree at the same time thanks to the great start she got in LCCAA's Head Start program.

"I've always loved school," she said. "I think that Head Start is why I love school."

Marlayna went on to Kindergarten and later attended the Lorain County Early College High School. She remembers being a little intimidated at first as a 14-year-old but quickly grew to love the experience. She participated in softball and volleyball teams and worked two jobs. She was also inducted into the National Honor Society and participated in choir.

Marlayna will continue on to The Ohio State University as a member of its Young Scholars Program which provides scholarships to hundreds of academically talented first generation college students from economically challenged backgrounds.



She will study nursing, on her full scholarship, and hopes to work in a pediatric or neonatal unit. Meanwhile, she remains an active volunteer at her church, Sacred Heart, where she works with children, cleans and helps in the food bank.

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Home-Based Head Start services are as unique as each child enrolled in the program.

Kim Allgood formed a lasting bond with Cienna Smith as her home visitor, working with the youngster in her home for an hour and a half each week.

The bond remained as Cienna bridged to Kindergarten at Horizons Academy of Arts and Sciences and as she successfully completed the year. Kim attended Cienna's Kindergarten graduation and met her teacher, Mrs. Terry.

Mrs. Terry eagerly shook Kim's hand and shared that it was the hard work of Cienna's mother and Home-Based Head Start that Cienna was ready for and successful in Kindergarten.

# ready for life

ShaJuan Henry has four reasons to be grateful to the LCCAA Head Start program. They are her sons: John, Eli, Derrick and Aaron.

The oldest three boys have completed Head Start and are now in elementary school. Aaron will continue at Hamilton Head Start this fall.

The boys use the skills they learned in Head Start every day, their mother said.

"They have helped me with their ABCs, how to count, how to share and how to care," ShaJuan said. "Thank you LCCAA for giving my kids a Head Start in life."



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After attending Head Start at LCCAA's Hopkins-Locke Center, Gamaliel Narvaez went on to Lorain County Early College High School for a further head start on his future.

Thanks to the momentum building since he was a toddler, Gamaliel completed a double major in philosophy and political science at The Ohio State University in only three years. That momentum began when the Narvaez family moved from Puerto Rico when Gamaliel was 18-months-old, said his mother, Millie Narvaez.



Millie, who now operates Jim's Upholstery in North Ridgeville, was a Head Start parent who went on to work for LCCAA. She wanted to help others the way she was helped getting her son enrolled.

"He learned so many things at an early age," Millie said. "It was a big encouragement for him to get into good study habits."

His interest in law was solidified by an internship with Judges John and James Miraldi at the Lorain County Justice Center. With the support of his family, Gamaliel was named to the Dean's List every semester, eventually earning his diploma magna cum laude.

He is the first college graduate in the family, Millie said, and is headed to OSU Law School. Meanwhile, his nieces and nephews have continued to follow him in Head Start.

# Lorain County Community Action Agency

506 Broadway, Lorain, Ohio [www.lccaa.net](http://www.lccaa.net) 440-245-2009

**Henry Patterson, Board Chair ♦ Jackie Boehnlein, President/CEO**

**Shauna Matelski, Head Start Director ♦ Candice Regal, Policy Council President**

## CENTERS

Elyria Early Childhood Village  
42101 Griswold Road, Elyria

Horizon Educational Centers  
2500 Colorado Avenue, Lorain  
4911 Grove Avenue, Lorain  
10347 Dewhurst Road, Lorain  
104 Louden Court, Elyria

LCCAA Head Start @ Cascade  
233 Bond Street, Elyria

LCCAA Head Start @ CDC  
150 Erie Court, Amherst

LCCAA Head Start @ Hamilton  
1215 Middle Avenue, Elyria

LCCAA Head Start @ Hopkins-Locke  
1050 Reid Avenue, Lorain

LCCAA Head Start @ Wellington  
305 Union Street, Wellington

Little Lighthouse Learning Center  
1715 Meister Avenue, Lorain

Lorain City Schools  
Five locations in Lorain



## IN GRATITUDE

LCCAA Head Start will make a bittersweet transition this fall. After operating from the former Hamilton Elementary School since 1993, our classrooms will move. Elyria City Schools plans to demolish Hamilton to make way for the new McKinley Elementary School.

Our new center at 631 Griswold Avenue will offer the same strong services and staff families have had at Hamilton. Meanwhile, the community will have the brand new, state-of-the-art school that it deserves.

Thank you, South Elyria, for your continued commitment to education for all ages.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Head Start and Early Head Start serve low-income children ages 0 to 5 and pregnant women. Head Start families must live at or below 130% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL). Families receiving TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) or SSI (Supplemental Security Income) are automatically eligible. Homeless children, children in foster care and children with disabilities are also automatically eligible.

