



Head Start by the Numbers

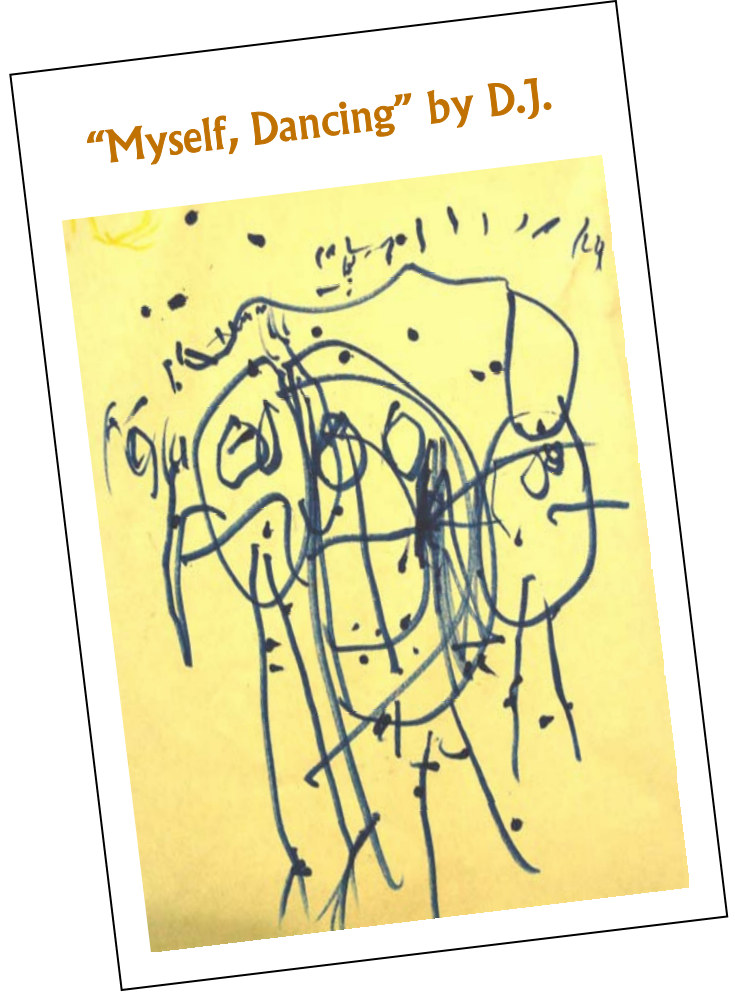
- 377 Number of children funded
- 379 Average monthly enrollment
- 459 Number of children served during year
- 64% Percentage of eligible children served
- 69 Number of teaching staff
- 24 Number of classrooms
- 1 : 5 Ratio of classroom staff to children
- 1.4% Percentage of teacher turnover during the year
- 94% Percentage of children who received medical or dental treatment
- 64 Number of children served who had a disability
- 100% Percentage of children w/disability who received special services
- 879 Number of volunteers
- 429 Number of families served
- 49% Percentage of single-parent families
- 61% Percentage of single-parent families in which the parent is not working
- 18% Percentage of two-parent families in which neither parent is working
- 32% Percentage of families without a high school education
- 89% Percentage of families participating in family goal planning
- 22 Number of homeless children served

Head Start is operated by
**The Sequatchie Valley
 Planning and Development Agency (SVPDA)**

In addition to the federal grant of \$2,815,228 for Head Start, SVPDA also receives

- \$180,152 from the U. S. Department of Agriculture as reimbursement for the cost of food used in Head Start;
- \$703,807 in local matching funds from people who donate goods and services (usually rent on the classroom space we use), which funds are required in order to receive the main Head Start grant;
- \$146,772 by providing day care services at Head Start (\$42,468.88) and KidsBank (\$104,302.69);
- private cash and other donations which individuals and businesses make in support of the KidsBank pre-school program.

Sequatchie Valley HEAD START Where it's all about children and families



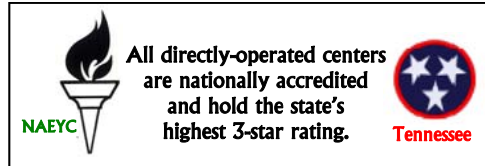
Annual Report 2008-09

Information in this brochure is designed to fulfill requirements of Head Start federal law related to reports to the general public.

EVERY YEAR IN BLEDSOE, GRUNDY, MARION, RHEA, & SEQUATCHIE COUNTIES PROVIDING

- pre-school education and family support to more than 400 of the most vulnerable children in our area
- the best pre-school academic program available
- preventive health care for each child
- free dental exams & treatment
- health insurance referrals
- family goal planning and other social services
- emergency assistance via referrals to local resources
- bus transportation (in many areas)
- special education services for children with disabilities
- well-supervised staff with degrees or CDA credentials
- superior staff-to-child teaching ratio of 1 : 5.5
- average class size less than 16 children
- nutrition services
- mental health services with on-site consultations
- hearing, vision, speech, and language screenings
- highest ECERS scores of any Head Start program in Tennessee

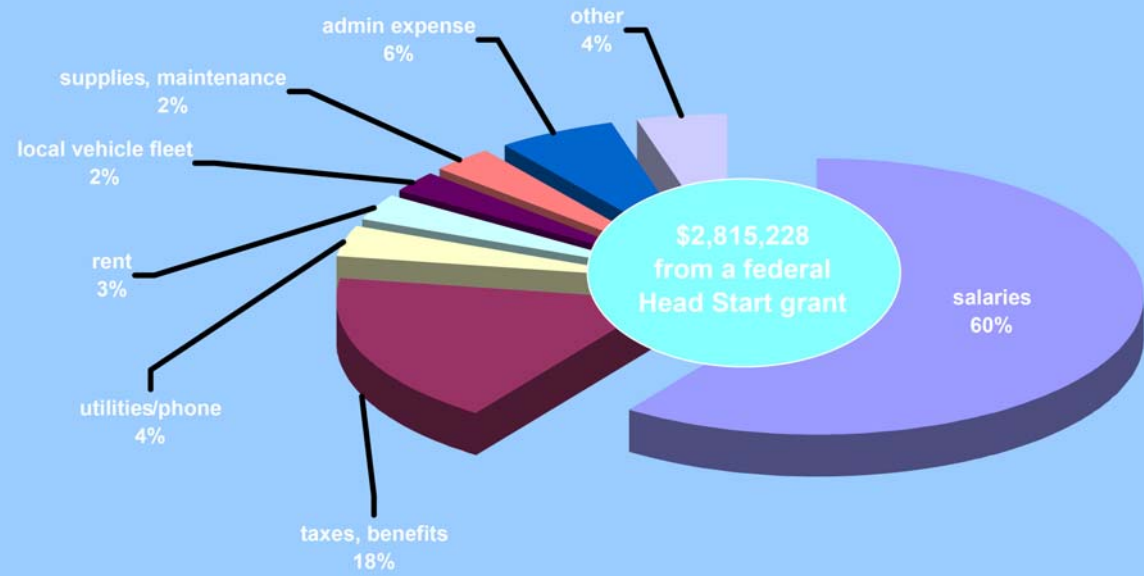




Sequatchie Valley Head Start

... provides, quite simply, the very best preschool experience children in our area can have.

Where the Money Comes From - And Where It Goes



Sequatchie Valley Head Start operates 24 classrooms in five counties spread across the Sequatchie Valley and its flanking mountains to the west and east.

Half the classrooms are in Marion, Sequatchie, and Bledsoe counties, including two classrooms each in centers in the communities of **South Pittsburg, Jasper, Whitwell, Griffith Creek, Dunlap, and Pikeville**. On the mountain to the northwest in Grundy County are two classrooms each in both **Tracy City and Altamont**. On the ridge top that flanks the Sequatchie Valley to the east lie two more centers, each with single classrooms, one at **Lone Oak** on Signal Mountain and one at **Rigsby Elementary**, our public school-based location. Finally, east from Pikeville and up over the mountain ridge lie six more classrooms, including four at **Dayton** and two at **Spring City**.

Classrooms typically include about 16 children and are staffed by a teacher and an assistant. In addition, a family partnership assistant is assigned to provide social services and parent involvement activities while working directly with our families. Except at our school-based location, children enjoy meals cooked at their own centers, with meals and snacks designed for pre-schoolers - nutritious foods that are low in fat, salt, and added sugar. Classroom aides are usually available as needed.

The administrative office is in South Pittsburg and includes a management team and support staff.

At Head Start, children learn many **language skills** that help them talk about their ideas and feelings and about the world around them. They develop early **reading skills** and **writing skills** that stay with them the rest of their lives. They also learn fundamental **math skills** so they can recognize patterns — as well as sort and count things. This leads directly to basic math, like adding and subtracting. Children also develop basic **science skills** so they can explore and organize the world around them.

Head Start goes far beyond these traditional academic areas. Our program helps children develop their **emotional skills** and **social skills** so they can have a strong concept of “self.” This helps them become independent and confident about themselves. As a result, they develop self-control, an ability to cooperate with others. Their growing social knowledge and awareness helps them do well in their families and in their communities.

Head Start also emphasizes **physical development skills**. Our children get daily practice at *gross motor skills* that include running, playing, jumping, climbing, catching and throwing on well-equipped playgrounds. In addition, we emphasize the development of a child’s *fine motor skills* with activities such as working with scissors and glue or a hammer and screwdriver. Your child will also develop *good health practices* like tooth-brushing, washing, toileting, and personal hygiene.

Federal Review, Audit Indicate Excellence

In March 2007, a federal review team congratulated the staff, parents, and board members on the agency’s practices, procedures, and successes. The federal team issued a final report, with no deficiencies at all. Our annual fiscal audit also gave us a perfect “bill of health.”

All of our documents are available for public inspection.

In addition to academic and social services to children, Head Start also provides many services to families, about half of whom are single-parent families.

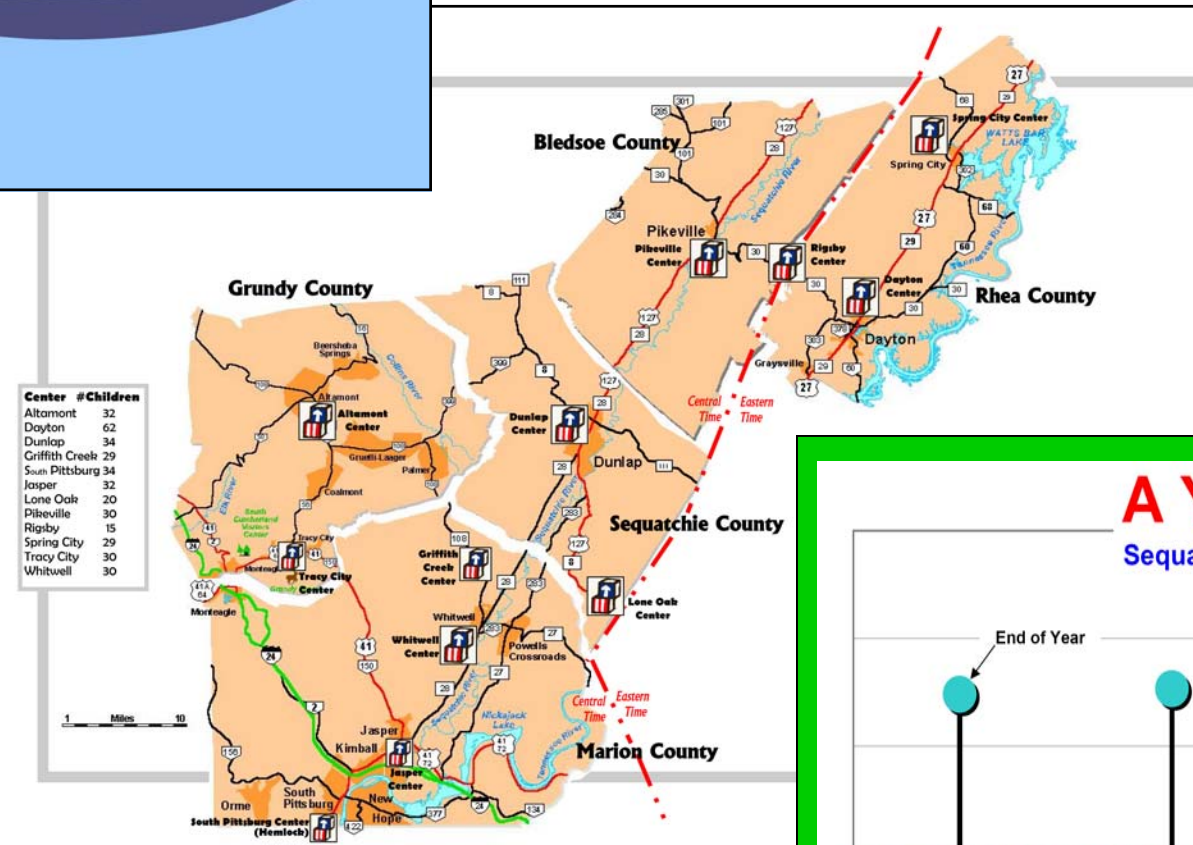
Typical Services Offered to Families

- adult education
- job counseling
- job training
- job search
- marriage enrichment
- parenting
- fathering
- counseling
- child support
- food
- shelter
- clothing
- utility payments
- medical services
- dental services
- home safety
- car seats

... and much more



Center	# Children
Altamont	32
Dayton	62
Dunlap	34
Griffith Creek	29
South Pittsburg	34
Jasper	32
Lone Oak	20
Pikeville	30
Rigsby	15
Spring City	29
Tracy City	30
Whitwell	30

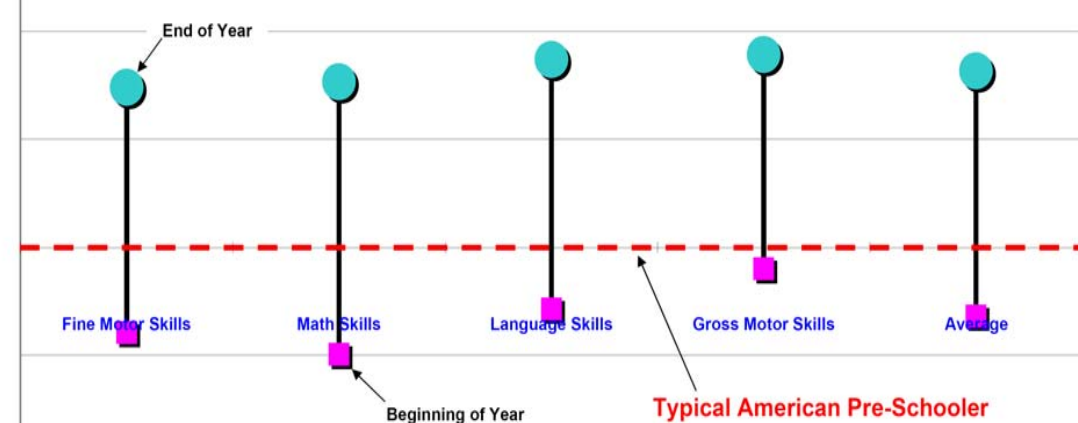


Typical Parent Involvement Activities

- springtime egg decorating
- end-of-year Kindergarten registration with teachers
- Book-A-Night loans encouraging reading
- kit-building of cars, pencil holders, flower pots
- father & child flower plantings, birdhouse building
- medical & dental appointments & follow-ups
- visits from musicians
- mental health, adult education & domestic violence presentations
- Valentine projects for parent and child
- parent volunteers in the classroom
- “Dad-friendly” activities
- holiday float-building and display

A Year of Progress

Sequatchie Valley Head Start - All Children



As a group, Sequatchie Valley Head Start children usually begin their year below the level of the typical American pre-schooler. However, by mid-year, our children typically surpass the national norms. By year's end, they are significantly above the national norms in all areas of learning. This chart is for the 2006-07 school year.

Ready for Kindergarten

This year, about half our will children continue on to kindergarten. As you can see in the chart at left, the children as a group score well above the national norms.

To help ease the transition from Head Start to kindergarten, we also prepare the children by introducing them to kindergarten routines. A tour of their new school is usually provided. We also prepare the parents by reminding them what it's like to go to a regular school; and often help with the paperwork of registering their child.