

WHAT YOU NEED TO ENROLL YOUR CHILD

NO CHILD WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ATTACHED TO THE ENROLLMENT APPLICATION:

- ⇒ CHILD'S AGE (Birth Certificate/Child **must be** 3 years old)
- ⇒ CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD (Shots)
- ⇒ CHILD'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN Card)
- ⇒ HOUSEHOLD INCOME (Proof of income for past 90 days or last year's complete tax forms)

Pick up an enrollment application at the nearest Mid-Delta Community Center. (Head Start Centers closed during summer months.)

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

There are many ways you can help the Head Start Program. Volunteers can help by working with students in classrooms, going on field trips, planning activities, making crafts for the children, etc.

Each month parent meetings are held at each center. Parents can meet other parents, plan center activities, and learn things that will benefit the entire family.

There are three committees which provide input for program policies:

Policy Council
Health Services Advisory Council
Volunteer Education Advisory Council

You can also help by:

- ⇒ Recruiting other children for the program,
- ⇒ Making items to be used in the classroom— we'll furnish the supplies,
- ⇒ Organize center and playground work days,
- ⇒ Attend training sessions and workshops, **OR**
- ⇒ Telling others about the benefits of the Head Start Program.

HEAD START CENTERS

Phillips County Head Start Centers

Holly St. Center
1120 Holly St.
Helena, AR 72342
(870) 338-7802

J.F. Wahl
127 Hickory Hill Drive
Helena, AR 72342
(870) 817-0087

Elaine Center
400 College St.
Elaine, AR 72333
(870) 827-3802

Monroe County Head Start Centers

Holly Grove Center
992 Branch Street
P.O. Box 539
Holly Grove, AR 72069
(870) 462-8437

Brinkley/Fargo Center
551 Floyd Brown Dr
Brinkley, AR 72021
(870) 734-3526

Prairie County Head Start Centers

Des Arc Center
3rd & Erwin Streets
P.O. Box 919
Des Arc, AR 72040
(870) 256-4491

DeValls Bluff Center
Sycamore & Ash
P.O. Box 298
DeValls Bluff, AR 72041
(870) 998-7071

MID-DELTA HEAD START PROGRAM



P.O. Box 745
610 South Biscoe Street
Helena, AR 72342

Phone: (870) 338-6406
Fax: (870) 338-3629

Web Site:
www.middeltacommunityservices.org

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ABOUT THE HEAD START PROGRAM

The Head Start Program is a pre-school developmental program which provides early education for three to five year old children. There are seven (7) centers throughout a three (3) county area which includes Phillips, Monroe and Prairie Counties. Activities include a pre-school education curriculum, parent involvement, social services, health and dental screenings, mental health services, disability services, family counseling, and volunteer opportunities.

Head Start families receive valuable benefits from the Mid-Delta Head Start Program.

Children receive socialization and behavioral skills which gives them a “*head start*” before they enter Kindergarten and continue on into elementary school.

Parents become involved in the development of their children by actively participating in the classrooms as volunteers and attending parent meetings and workshops. These meetings and workshops provide an opportunity for parents to learn how to gain self confidence in their own abilities and receive valuable information and educational materials which help them be better parents.

Give your child a “**head start**” in life by calling the center nearest to where you live.

EDUCATION

Helping Children Develop A Love For Learning

Head Start teachers recognize that all children are unique individuals. Children grow at their own individual rate. The teachers plan activities that interest and challenge children as they grow. Children learn best when they feel safe and when they are actively engaged in play.

We provide:

- ⇒ A place that is safe and encourages exploration
- ⇒ Activities and materials that are interesting to your child
- ⇒ Adults who support children in their learning
- ⇒ A daily routine that allows children to practice social skills such as cooperating with others and solving problems with their friends
- ⇒ Opportunities for children to prepare for entering kindergarten

MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

In Head Start we must show that children are benefiting from being in our program by assessing their growth in several developmental areas. When we document your child’s growth, we call this a measurable outcome, or benefit in other words. Our goal is to help children grow in ways that will help them be ready for school.

There are many ways we can show children’s growth. The teachers take notes about children’s activities; the children give us examples of their pictures and stories they tell and write; and the parents receive regular reports of the progress their child is making.

NUTRITIONAL GOAL

Our Head Start nutrition program promotes a healthy nutritional lifestyle. Nutrition education is provided on a variety of topics for both children and families.

MENTAL HEALTH

Head Start recognizes the importance of providing mental health and psychological services to children in order to encourage their emotional and social development.

A consultant is available to provide individual assistance to parents and staff.

Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

Child records will be kept in locked files in the Head Start Center.

The Head Start Program also accepts children with severe disabilities.

Deaf or hearing impaired people may use the Arkansas Relay Service by calling 1-800-285-1121 or the Customer Service Number at 1-800-285-7192.

HEALTH SERVICE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of Health Services are to:

Provide a broad range of medical, dental, mental health and nutritional services.

Identify any health and developmental concerns as early as possible so that further diagnostic and treatment services are received as needed.

Promote preventative health services and early intervention; and strong parent involvement and community linkages.

Provide health education for parents, children and staff.

FAMILY PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

Our program uses unlimited resources to meet the needs of the families and children that we serve within the program. We provide a Parent Handbook to each family upon registration of children.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents have opportunities for participation and shared decision making in every area of the program.

The staff and program meet the expressed interests and needs of each parent through the ongoing process of personal and family goal setting and partnering of activities to meet these goals.

Families build the confidence, skill, and knowledge they need to access community resources on their own behalf.

Our program will make efforts to reach out to and include fathers, supportive male family members, and male caregivers in parent involvement activities, especially those activities involving the development of their children.

Parents are encouraged to work together and provide leadership to: Strengthen their community, communicate with their communities about the services or bring new services that are needed.