Danville Head Start Pre-K

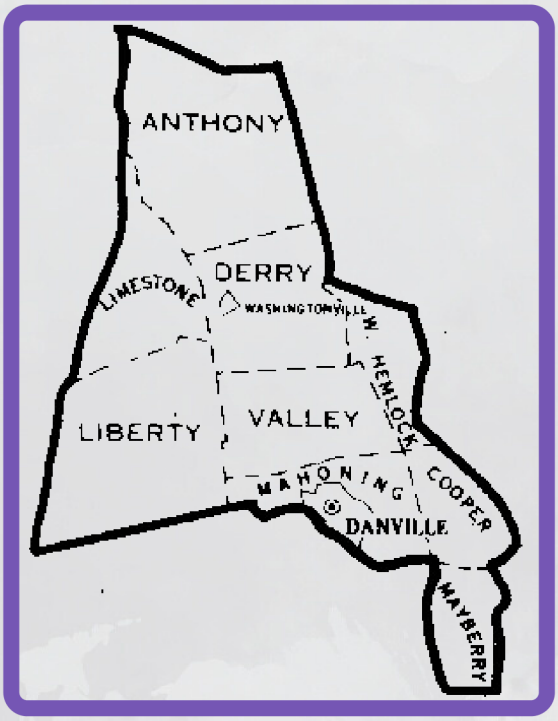
2022 - 2023 Annual Report
Fiscal Year: Sept 1, 2022- Aug 31, 2023





Danville Head Start Pre-K

Serving children 3-5 years of age and their families who reside in Montour County and the Danville Area School District



"Educating Children, Empowering Families"



Letter from the Director.....

Danville Head Start Pre-K has been providing high quality, early childhood education and comprehensive services for families since the national program's inception in 1965.

Our belief is that families are their children's first and most important teachers and that children learn best when they are emotionally and physically safe and secure. Each child and family is unique and can succeed through a positive partnership between home and school.

Our program recognizes our community has changed and the supports that our families and children need have also changed. Several topics that our program has focused on this past year has been social-emotional learning, mental health, and trauma.

A focus this past year has also been on supporting our staff members. The Staff Wellness Committee's focus has been on supporting the staff's physical and mental health and the importance of play. When our staff are healthy, it positively affects children's health and education outcomes!



Sincerely,

Linda Marshall

Linda Marshall
Director

Board of Directors

President:
Wayne Brookhart

Vice President:
Richard Vognetz

Michael Clouser
Sherry Cooper
Samuel Faulkner
Sandy Green
June Heeter
Chris Huron
Derl Reichard

Head Start Pre-K Management

Dr. Molly Neid, *Superintendent*

Linda Marshall, *Director*

Kristina Brady, *Assistant Director*

Coty Lenches, *Education Manager*

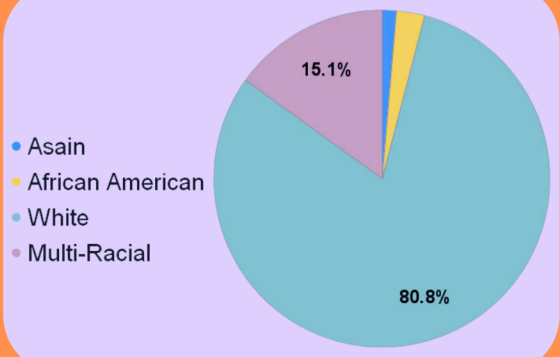
Children & Families We Serve

In Head Start Pre-K, our program has the opportunity to serve children and families whose income is between 100%- 300% of the federal poverty guidelines. Our service area is Danville Area School District and Montour County.

Total Number of Children Served: 74
Total Number of Families Served: 67
Number of Classrooms: 5



20 Children with a diagnosed disability served

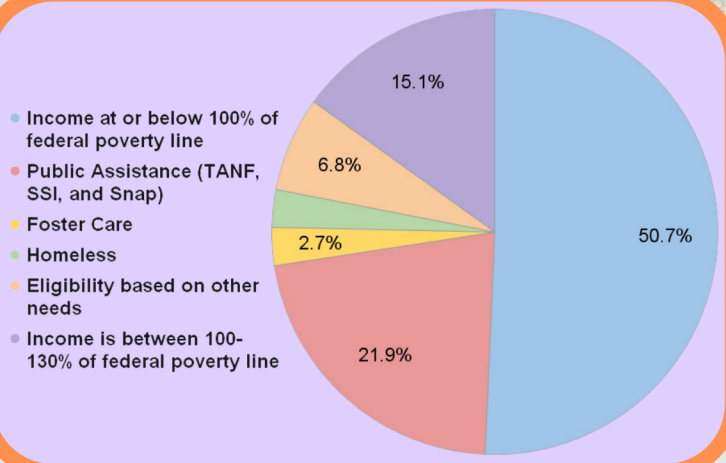


Age Of Children:
3 Years Old: 43
4 Years Old: 31



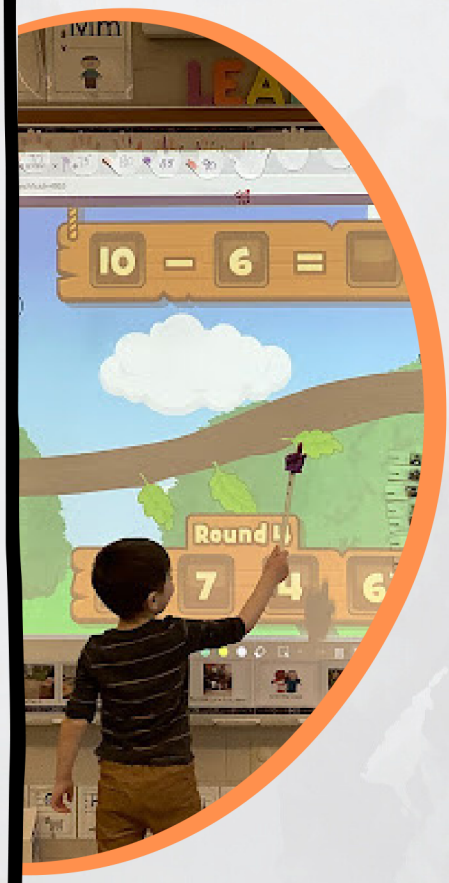


85%
Head Start Children Recieved Transportation





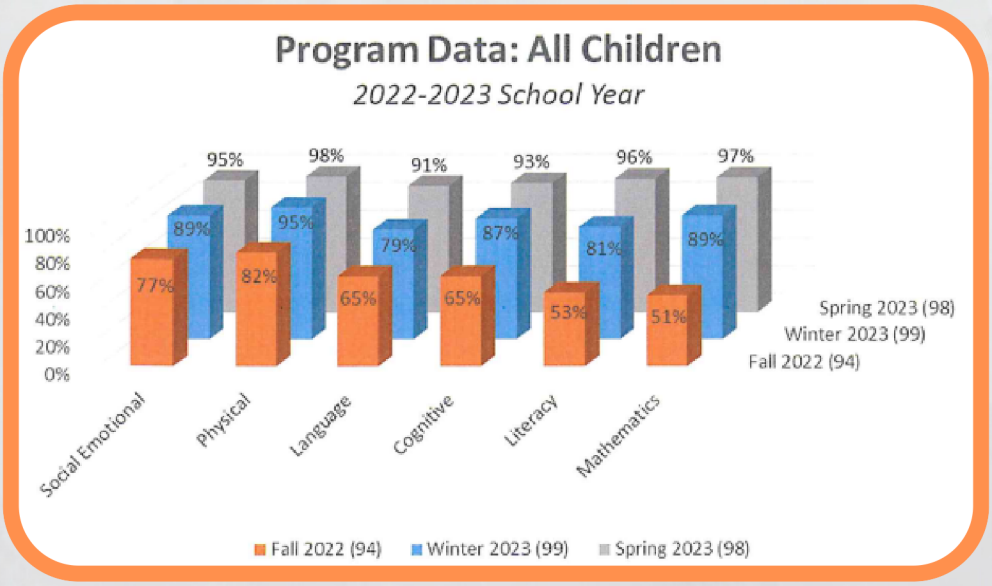
Screening, Assessment & Child Outcomes



Danville Head Start Pre-K is committed to supporting our children and families with school readiness. Our focus is to prepare our children with skills to be successful in Kindergarten and beyond. Upon enrollment, all children are screened to identify children at risk for developmental delays or disabilities. Our program uses the Battelle Developmental Inventory- 3rd Edition (BDI-3) to measure abilities in the area of communication, social-emotional, adaptive, motor and cognitive skills. Results of this screening are shared with families and may lead to further evaluation by our local Early Intervention program.

To help provide high quality instruction that supports development and learning, we use the research-based Creative Curriculum for Preschoolers. Implementation of this curriculum allows for developmentally appropriate, content-rich preschool programming for children from diverse backgrounds and skill levels. Children are actively involved in exploration and discovery as a way of learning and enabling children to develop confidence, creativity, and critical thinking skills.

Teaching Strategies GOLD is used as the assessment tool to measure developmental progress in the areas of Cognition, Social-Emotional, Physical, Language, Literacy and Mathematics three times per school year. This assessment helps teachers observe and document children's development and learning over time, guide and inform planning and instruction to promote school readiness and communicate with family members. The data below shows individual student growth based on teacher observation.



Transition

Danville Head Start Pre-K helps families transition into the Head Start and Pre-K programs. Before entering the program families complete an initial home visit and parent orientation. Head Start Pre-K hosted Welcoming Days/Open House for the parents and children to visit the classroom and to learn about the program. The Director and Assistant Director presented a “Parent Orientation” to inform the parents what to expect from the program.





Danville Head Start Pre-K helps our families with transitioning into kindergarten. Our facilities are a part of the Danville Area School District allowing the children a seamless transition into our kindergarten classrooms. In May, Danville Primary School hosted Kindergarten Transition Night. This allowed the children who will be transitioning from our program into kindergarten a chance to see the classrooms and meet the teachers. The families also had an opportunity to go for a bus ride and visit the cafeteria for a snack. Students left the event with a DASD bag with free books. Parents attended a parent orientation explaining how to prepare themselves and their child for kindergarten.

Summer Program





Danville Head Start Pre-K hosted a two week summer program in June for children who are transitioning into kindergarten. With a focus on STEAM topics the students participated in science experiments, replicating art from various artists, and other enrichment activities.



Health & Nutrition Outcomes



- 100% of children had health insurance
- 100% of children had a medical home
- 81% had an up-to-date well child examination
- 80% of children had all possible immunizations
- 92% of children had a dental home
- 78% of children received dental care during the year
- 9 children diagnosed with a chronic health condition







Activities to promote health education:

Danville Head Start Pre-K formed a partnership with Geisinger's Pediatric Residency Program. Residence volunteer in the classroom to teach the children various health topics such as: :

- Germs and Proper Handwashing
- Pet Safety
- Sleep Health & Screen Time
- Healthy Eating
- Moving, Learning, and Staying Fit
- Personal Safety in Various Situations
- Dental Health







Mental Health



Dr. Heidi Fisher continues to work with Danville Head Start Pre-K as a **Mental Health Consultant**. She is a child psychologist at Geisinger Medical Center and comes onsite two days a month. Dr. Fisher works with teachers, families and administrators to support every child at Danville Head Start Pre-K. She also helps teachers and families talk to children about feelings and learning how to express and manage them, helps find specific ways to support children who may need something extra or different, helps connect teachers, families and administrators to mental health services that need and want them.

Danville uses **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** to improve social, emotional, and academic outcomes for all students, including those with disabilities. Our team uses data-based decisions to guide efforts and outcomes with our children. This approach has shown to be effective in increasing the children's social emotional skills, reducing challenging behaviors, and increasing teacher's confidence in supporting children.





Our program utilizes **Second Step Early Learning** as a supplemental social emotional curriculum. Second Step Early Learning teaches preschool- aged children core social-emotional and self-regulating skills. Skills including executive-function, learning empathy, emotion management, problem-solving, and forming friendships.





Mental Health Cont..

Danville Area School District formed a Mental Health Task Force. Our very own Assistant Director, Kristina Brady, serves on the committee. The committee is dedicated to raising awareness and improving the over all mental health in the school district. After many meetings over several months, the DASD Mental Health Task Force came to this conclusion: “Addressing the mental health needs of students is central to our goal of academic success for all. But it is also critical for promoting their well-being and development as productive citizens. We want to ensure that all Danville students have the resilience to face life’s challenges in and outside the classroom.”





This was Head Start Pre-K’s second year having a wellness committee dedicated to serving the mental health and well being of our staff members. Danville Head Start Pre-K recognizes that our staff members must care for themselves first if they are going to provide quality care for our children. Staff members took a survey about areas they would like to learn more about regarding wellness. Over the course of the year the wellness committee hosted a yoga night at Bloomin Wellness Center to learn relaxing techniques, enjoyed a paint night, had a Fulton Bank financial officer talk about budgeting, and learned about back health. The wellness committee also held a Kindness Campaign. Each month the staff of Head Start Pre-K were encouraged to do different acts of kindness, not only for each other, but for our families and the community.

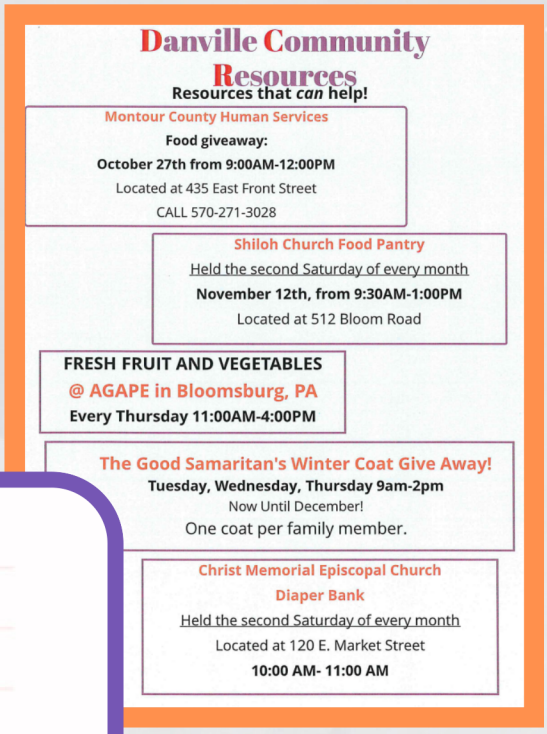


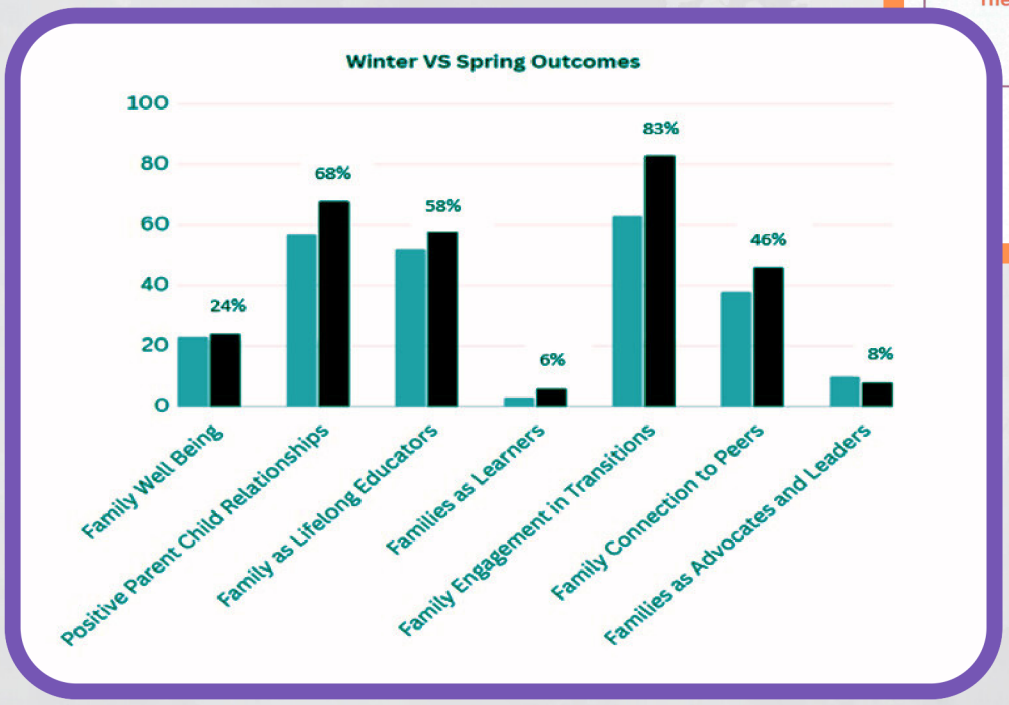


Parent & Family Engagement

Family engagement is an interactive process through family advocates building strong partnerships with our families to support family well-being and help families to meet the goals they set for themselves and their children. Family Outcome data is completed on each family three times throughout the school year. This data allows the family advocates to assess each families' strengths and needs. This information assists in completing the Family Partnership Agreement. Together, the family and family advocate develop a goal with step-by-step actions steps based on the families needs or what they would like to accomplish. The family advocates support each family through home visits, resources, and ongoing. support.







The graph above shows the growth in strengths of our families from winter to spring

Parent & Family Engagement



In the fall, Danville Head Start Pre-K hosted an evening for families and their children to learn about health cooking and meals.



In the winter Danville Head Start Pre-K hosted **"Ready Rosie Math Night"**. Families learned about our parent curriculum and had the opportunity to sign-up. Families and children together participated in several math activities from Ready Rosie.

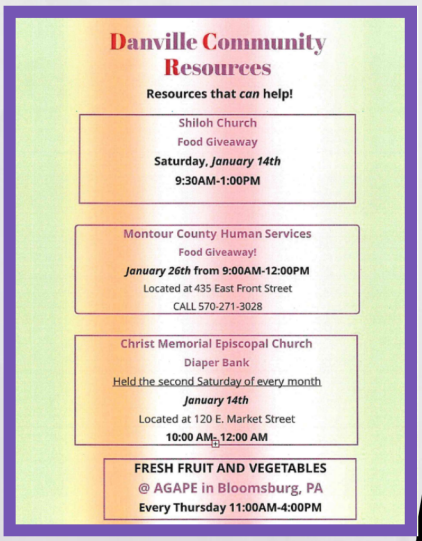


In the spring we hosted a **"Farm to Table Event"** Families learned how to start an indoor garden with limited space. They planted lettuce, green beans, and carrots.





Twice a month the family advocates create a "Head Start Happenings" newsletter. The newsletter highlights upcoming events, parenting, health habits, and extended learning in the home.



Community Involvement



We celebrated the Week of the Young Child in April. Members of the community volunteered in each of the classrooms to read a book the children.







Danville Head Start Participated in **Trunk or Treat** at the Danville Primary School to help with recruitment.





WVIA/PBS television station visited our program and did a presentation about shapes. The children were able to watch Peg + Cat, sing Cat's favorite shape the circle and create art circles.



A local fire department visited Head Start Pre-K to talk about fire safety. The children had an opportunity to see various fire department vehicles.



Accountability



Federal Monitoring Review

Head Start had a Focus Area II Federal Monitoring review the week of May 22, 2022. No area of non-compliance or deficiencies were noted.

State Monitoring Review

Pre-K Counts scored in the overall exemplary range during 2022-2023 monitoring review.



Financial Audit

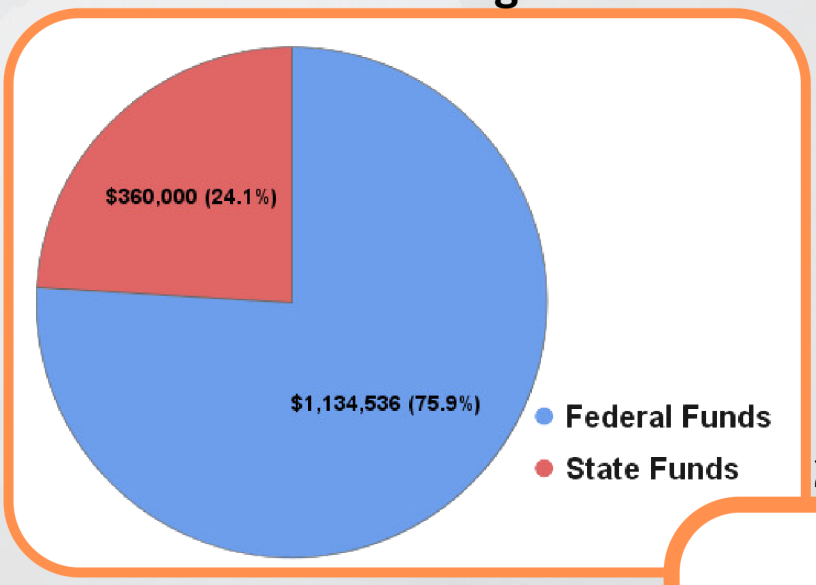
Danville Head Start Pre-K's audit report indicated:

- No findings related to financial statements as required to be reported under generally accepted Government Auditing Standards
- No findings for federal awards
- No reportable conditions in internal control over major programs

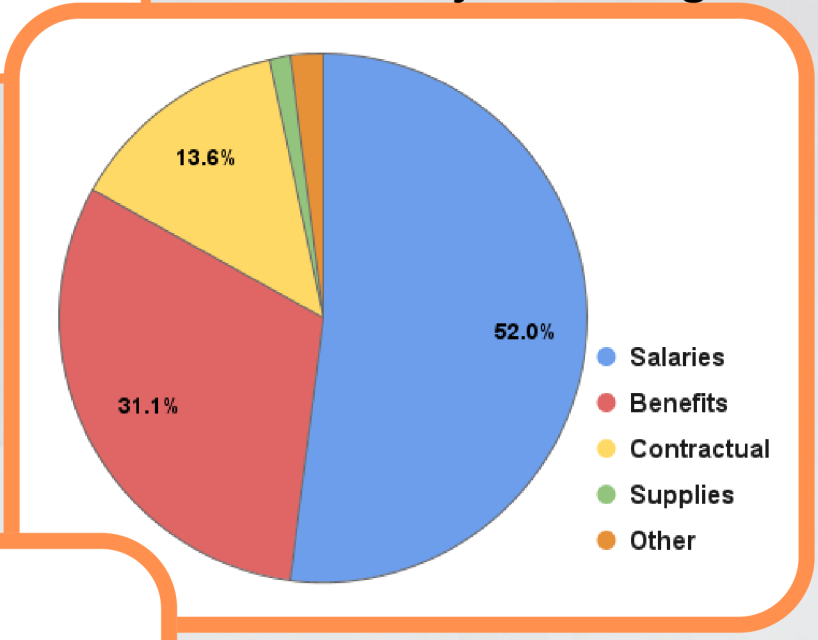


Budget & Finance

2022-2023 Funding Sources



2022-2023 Projected Budget



2022-2023 Expenditures

