

Lauderdale County "Handy" Head Start
Florence City Schools
955 Beale Street
Florence, Alabama 35630



Lauderdale County Head Start Annual Report 2008-2009

Lauderdale County Head Start is a program that serves the most at-risk children and families in our county.

Total families and children served in 2008-2009:

Total number of children served this year: 232

Average monthly enrollment: 203 children, ages three and four

Children with disabilities served: 29

Screenings

All Head Start children receive health and educational screenings

100% of enrolled children received medical and dental examinations.

23 children received mental health services as a result of screenings/referrals

100% of enrolled children received screenings for speech and developmental disabilities

Services Provided to Head Start families

During the operating period 232 families received family services

232 families had a partnership agreement with Head Start

37 families received crisis intervention addressing immediate need for food, clothing, or shelter

7 families received assistance with finding housing

27 parents received mental health services

11 parents received training in English as a Second Language

20 parents received adult education services

9 parents received job training

9 received child abuse and neglect services

5 received violence prevention services

2 received child support assistance

186 received health education

1 received assistance to families of incarcerated individuals

92 received parenting education

4 received marriage education services

Parent Involvement Activities

Lauderdale County Head Start has an on going parent education program in cooperation with the Alabama Extension Service, Shoals Family Success Center, and other community partnerships. Parent education prepares families to better meet the needs of their child through a better understanding of child development, family

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budgeting, nutrition education, and information about substance abuse and other important health and nutrition issues.

Children's Preparation for Kindergarten

Lauderdale County Head Start uses Creative Curriculum, a research based curriculum that prepares children for success in kindergarten. Results of testing have shown that LCHS children outperform their peers with the DIBELS test in kindergarten. Social and emotional developments are emphasized in Head Start programs as well, which contributes to success in school. Many former Head Start students are recognized in awards ceremonies during their school careers.

LCHS has three classes that receive a grant from the state for First Class Pre-K, which subsidizes the salary of a certified teacher. These classrooms stand out even within the Head Start program for their excellent preparation of children for kindergarten.

Federal review – Protocol

DANYA International has been appointed by the Office of Head Start to review (formerly called PRISM, now PROTOCOL) the performance of Head Start programs once every three years. Lauderdale County "Handy" Head Start is due for Protocol review 2009-2010 year.

Results of Audit:

The audit of Florence City Schools indicated compliance regarding the Head Start budget during the 2008-2009 year according to the Watkins Johnsey Professional Group, P.C., Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors.

Funding

Head Start is funded by the Federal Government with in kind support from the Florence City School system. The 2008-09 budget was \$1,211,048 in Federal funding and \$302,763 in local funding, with about 40% of that coming from volunteer hours by community members.

Budget

The budget for the 2009-2010 year will be:

\$1,211,048 in Federal funding

\$135,000 in state pre-k funding

\$147,763 in volunteer services

\$150,000 in school system in kind

\$98,001 in ARRA COLA Quality Improvement funding

\$43,650 temporary (12 month) salaries for disabilities assistant and health assistant,

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\$31,984 temporary (12 month) benefits for disabilities assistant and health assistant,
\$22,367 temporary (12 months) Fatherhood specialist and college coursework for teachers