



2024 - 2028 PROJECT PERIOD
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT

EARLY HEAD START
HEAD START
PRE-KINDERGARTEN

2025





Program VISION

*To be a catalyst for inspiring positive change
and hope by building on the strengths of
children, families, staff, and the community.*

SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC. HAS BEEN SERVING FAMILIES IN THE COUNTY SINCE 1965 AS ONE OF THE FIRST HEAD START PROGRAMS IN THE NATION. IN THE 2024 - 2025 PROGRAM YEAR, SCCDC SERVED 198 FAMILIES THROUGH EARLY HEAD START, HEAD START, AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS. THESE PROGRAMS ARE FUNDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, USDA, AND THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

*To provide education and support services
through compassionate partnerships with
families, staff and the community.*

Program MISSION



BE SAFE

Promote safe environments and healthy practices for children, families, and staff.

- Children and families receive high quality health, oral health, and nutrition services that support health and wellness.
- SCCDC will promote safe spaces for children and adults at home and at SCCDC facilities.
- Implement program practices across Head Start Systems and service areas that promote self-regulation and resilience in children and adults.



BE KIND

SCCDC will create a welcoming, inclusive community in which we all thrive.

- SCCDC will provide a supportive and responsive work environment.
- Foster a sense of belonging for all children, families, and staff at SCCDC and in the community.
- Communication practices will promote transparency in decision making.
- SCCDC will appreciate individual view points and contributions, involving staff and families in decisions that impact them.



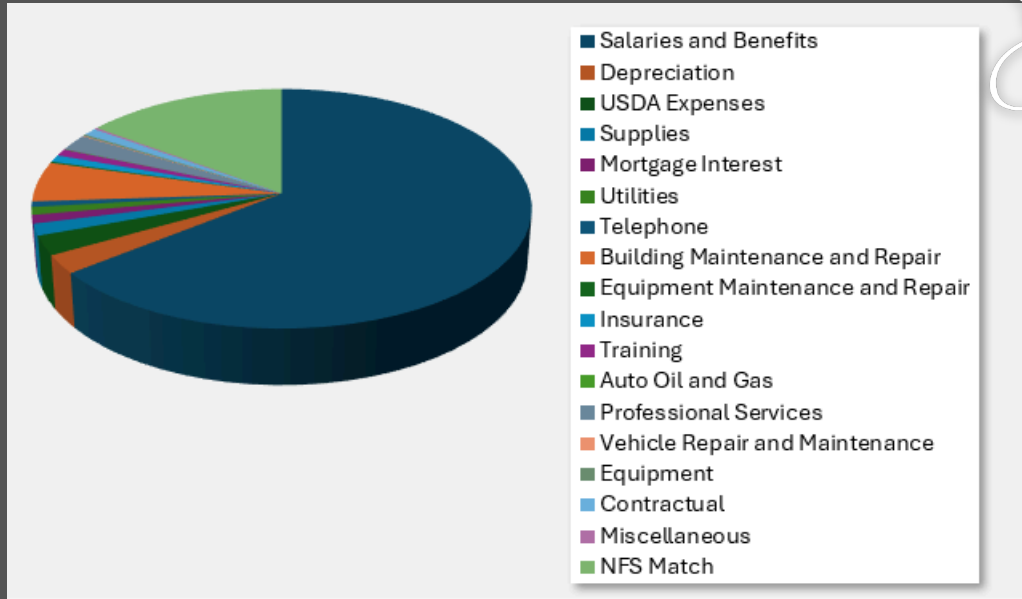
BE RESPONSIBLE

Head Start Systems will support school readiness for children and families.

- SCCDC teaching teams will demonstrate quality teaching strategies as defined by the CLASS tool domains and dimensions.
- SCCDC sites will successfully complete the Quality Stars process.
- Families will confidently engage as their child's primary teacher and advocate through positive, goal-oriented relationships with staff members.
- SCCDC Team Members will have the tools and resources required to effectively fulfill their job responsibilities.
- SCCDC will prioritize staff wellness in budget planning, to include competitive salary and benefits for staff members
- SCCDC will achieve full enrollment in Head Start and Early Head Start.

FINANCIAL REPORT

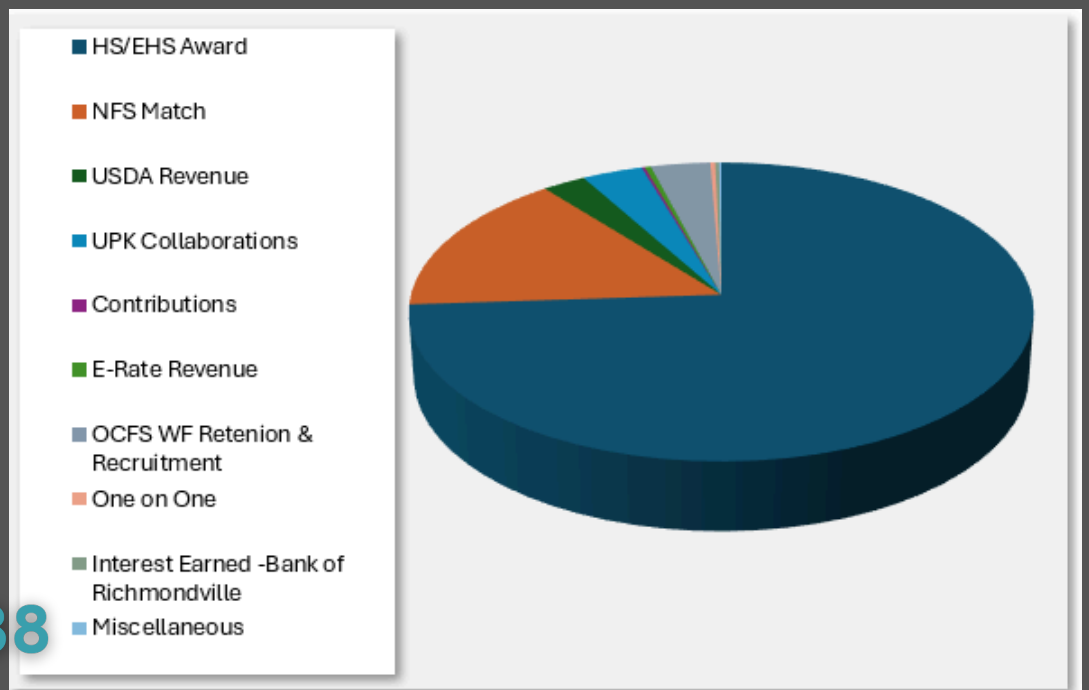
2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.



Expenditures
\$5,109,777

2025 Independent Audit Results

No instances of non-compliance, findings, or questioned costs were identified in the most recent independent audit.



Revenue
\$4,916,788

ENROLLMENT

Early Head Start

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

Options and Locations		
Site, Classroom		Capacity
COBLESKILL		
Center Based	Infant: 6 Weeks through 18 months	8
	Toddler 1: 18 months through 3 years	8
	Toddler 2: 18 months through 3 years	8
	Toddler 3: 18 months through 3 years	8
SCHOHARIE		
Home Based	Expectant mothers and children birth through 3 years	11
Center Based	Toddler: 18 months through 3 years	8
Total		51

In the 2024-2025 program year, SCCDC submitted a Change of Scope application to the Office of Head Start and received approval at the end of 2024. The changes developed by the agency allowed for a reduction in the number of funded enrollment slots from 85 to 51. The recruitment and retention of qualified Early Head Start staff was the primary issue in reaching the previous funded enrollment. These changes allowed the agency to reallocate funds to improve the compensation packages that are crucial for the recruitment and retention of staff.

Funded Enrollment	Cumulative Enrollment	Average Monthly Enrollment	Children Enrolled for Two Years	Children Enrolled for Three Years	Children Transitioning to Preschool
51	91	50	22	10	23

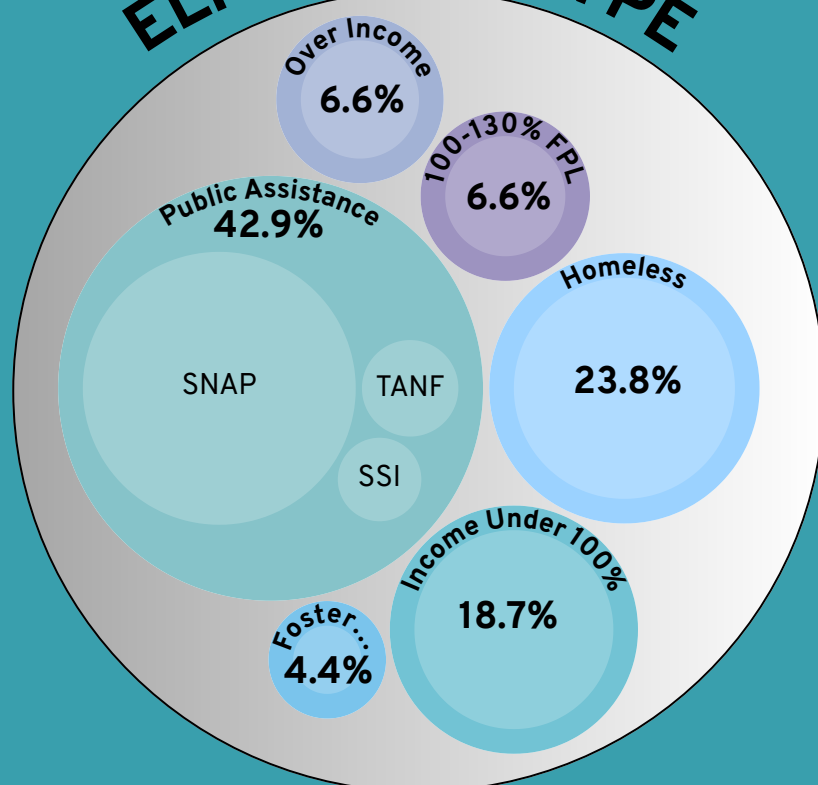
PROGRAM IMPACTS

ENROLLMENT

Early Head Start

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

ELIGIBILITY TYPE



Early Head Start provided early, continuous, and comprehensive year-round child development and family support services to expectant families, infants, and toddlers, including those with disabilities, and their families.

80

Infants and toddlers benefitted from comprehensive, individualized child development services during the 2024-2025 program year.

11

Expectant Mothers received services and support.

3%

of EHS children live with their grandparent(s) or other relatives.

77%

of EHS families received WIC at the end of enrollment.

95%

of parents/guardians have at least a high school diploma/GED. 9% have a bachelors degree or higher.

125

EHS parents and guardians were supported in their role as primary educators of their children and offered opportunities for participation, decision-making, and personal growth.

PROGRAM IMPACTS

ENROLLMENT

Head Start

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

Options and Locations			
Site, Classroom		Capacity	Pre-K
COBLESKILL			
Center Based	Classroom C: <u>3 & 4 Year Old</u> Preschool	14	n/a
	Classroom D: <u>3 & 4 Year Old</u> Preschool	14	n/a
	Classroom E: <u>3 & 4 Year Old</u> Preschool	14	n/a
MIDDLEBURGH			
Center Based	Head Start/ <u>3 Year Old</u> Pre-K	8*	18^
	Head Start Preschool	14	n/a
SCHOHARIE CENTRAL SCHOOL			
Center Based	Head Start/ <u>SCS 4 Year Old</u> UPK	7*	20^
SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL			
Center Based	<u>3 year old</u> Head Start Preschool	6	n/a
	Head Start/ <u>UPK 4 Year Old</u>	7*	14^
Total		82	52
*Indicates children that are enrolled in both Head Start and the Pre-K program. ^Indicates total Pre-K capacity, including dually enrolled children. All classrooms operate 180 days in alignment with the <u>public school</u> schedule.			

In the 2024-2025 program year, SCCDC submitted a Change of Scope application to the Office of Head Start and received approval at the end of 2024. The changes developed by the agency allowed for a reduction in the number of funded enrollment slots from 115 to 82. The recruitment of eligible children has become increasingly difficult in the service area due to the declining population and lower rates of child poverty. School districts throughout the service area have experienced a decline in the student population over time. While the number of eligible children is on the decline, the number of children needing additional staff support in the classroom is on the rise. This Change of Scope allowed for the agency to reallocate funds to support the increased needs of children.

Funded Enrollment	Cumulative Enrollment	Average Monthly Enrollment	Children Enrolled for Two Years	Children Enrolled for Three Years	Children Transitioning to Preschool
82	93	76	31	16	35

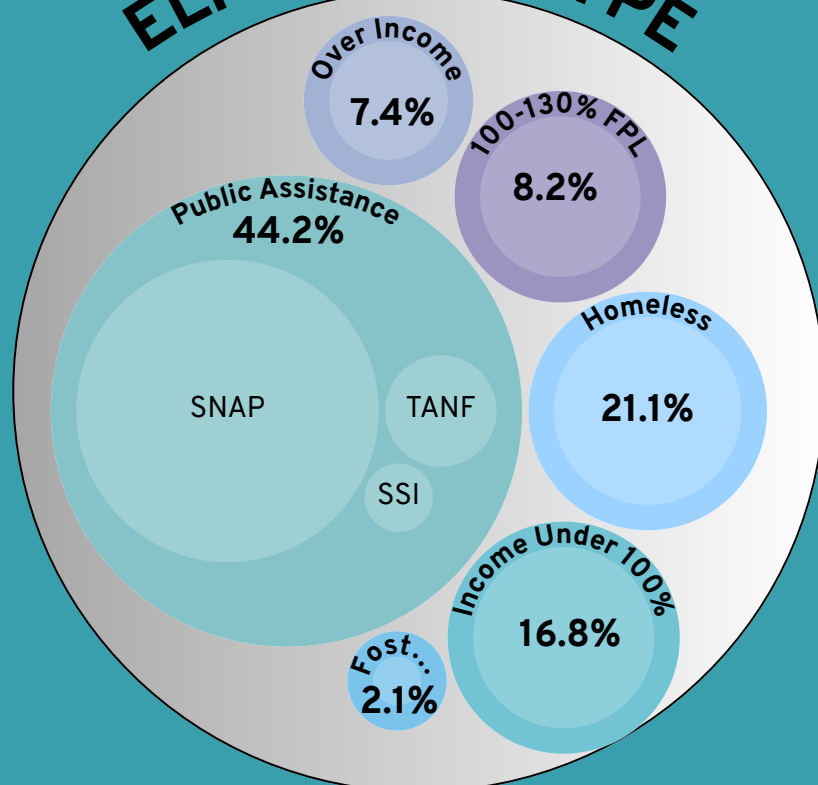
PROGRAM IMPACTS

ENROLLMENT

Head Start

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

ELIGIBILITY TYPE



Head Start provided comprehensive child development, school readiness, and family support services to children three and four years old, including those with disabilities and their families.

93

Preschool Head Start children benefitted from comprehensive, individualized child development services during the 2024-2025 program year.

92

Number of Head Start families. Of these 68% are two parent families and 32% are one parent families.

5%

of children live with their grandparent(s) or other relatives.

61%

of families received WIC at the end of enrollment.

85%

Of parents/guardians have at least a high school diploma/GED. 15% have a bachelors degree or higher.

155

Head Start parents and guardians were supported in their role as primary educators of their children and offered opportunities for participation, decision-making, and personal growth.

PROGRAM IMPACTS

PROGRAM

Impacts

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

Pre-Kindergarten

2024-2025

In the 2024-2025 year, SCCDC provided early learning and school readiness experience through collaborative center-based classes of preschool children for Middleburgh School District, Schoharie Central School District, and Sharon Springs Central School District.



49

Children benefitted from Pre-K services in SCCDC classrooms.

41%

Pre-K children had dual enrollment in Head Start.

Volunteers

2024-2025

SCCDC encourages parents, family members, former parents, and community members to volunteer. These individuals can be found in classrooms, participating in program governance, providing services, and sharing talents. Every center provides families the opportunity to participate in Family Connections Committee. Members include parents, grandparents, extended family, and foster families. The FCC in each center planned activities for families including several field days, celebrations, and learning experiences for parents through agency communities including WIC, CARRT, and Cooperative Extension.



89

Early Head Start Volunteers. Of these, 84% are current or former parents.

157

Head Start Volunteers. Of these, 69% are current or former parents.

Our Staff

2024-2025

Many SCCDC families discover their passion for the Early Childhood field through their participation in the Early Head Start and Head Start Programs. More than a third of the Administrative team is a former Head Start parent. The CDA (Child Development Associate) certification program is a popular pathway for many of our Early Head Start and Head Start parents to begin their professional journey to a career in Early Childhood. This year three individuals completed their CDA, two of which were current parents and one former parent.

45%

Early Head Start Employees are current or former Head Start or EHS Parents

47%

Head Start Employees are current or former Head Start or EHS Parents

FAMILY

Engagement

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

TYPES OF FAMILY SERVICES RECEIVED

Emergency/ Crisis Intervention

EHS: 38 Head Start: 55

Housing Assistance

EHS: 22 Head Start: 37

Adult Education Assistance

EHS: 11
Head Start: 9

Substance Misuse Prevention

EHS: 28 Head Start: 11

Parenting Education

EHS: 30 Head Start: 32

Relationship Education

EHS: 24 Head Start: 13

Asset Building Services

EHS: 28 Head Start: 31

Family Engagement Events

Literacy Events

Curriculum Based Make-It Take-It Activities

Wellness Experiences

Presentations from Community Partners

FCC Adult Field Day

W.O.W Experiences

Classroom Trips to Explore the Community

Parents are their child's first and best teacher. Support services and opportunities for skill development increase the likelihood of children and their families being ready for school. Our data has indicated that families enrolled in our program have high incidences of ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experience). Resilience is key to overcoming the lasting impact of these experiences. The program utilizes the parenting curriculum, Your Journey Together, by the Devereux Center for Resilient Children. The curriculum focuses on strengthening the relationship between the parent and child through building resilience. While staff may use this program in a one-on-one format with individual families, SCCDC also offered in-person sessions, and created videos for each module. These were shared through the Classroom Dojo App to be easily accessed at any time by families.

In addition to the parenting curriculum, families had the opportunity to participate in Family Connections Committees and a variety educational and engagement events.

During the 2024-2025 year, Family Connection Committees had many opportunities to learn about health, nutrition, and literacy. Community partners, including Catholic Charities, WIC, Bassett Healthcare, and Cornell Cooperative Extension, provided workshops on healthy snacks and meals, how to apply for WIC and SNAP, and services offered by the mobile cancer screening program. SCCDC staff also shared their knowledge with FCC. Our Food Service Manager showed families how to turn the flavors of a Big Mac into a more healthy and affordable family meal. Families learned about how daily routines can make life a little easier from our Support Teacher. The FCC also planned an FCC versus Staff Field Day - which was a huge hit!



PROGRAM IMPACTS

COMMUNITY

Engagement

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

Creating a Community of Readers!



Exciting literacy events build up excitement about reading!

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library now serves Schoharie County. SCCDC and the United Way teamed up to host a kick-off party at the Cobleskill Center! Through this program, every child in Schoharie County is eligible to receive one free book a month until the child turns five!

The Sharon Springs Free Library teamed up with SCCDC to help our students and their families become familiar with all the opportunities at their local library. Families were able to visit the library after school and sign-up for a library card, explore the children's area, and participate in fun activities. Similar events will happen soon in other local libraries.

SCCDC also encourages families to participate in the program 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten. Once children and their parents reach 1,000 books, children receive a prize.

Of all SCCDC families, 81% read to their children at least 3-4 times a week with more than half of those reading with their child 5 or more times a week!

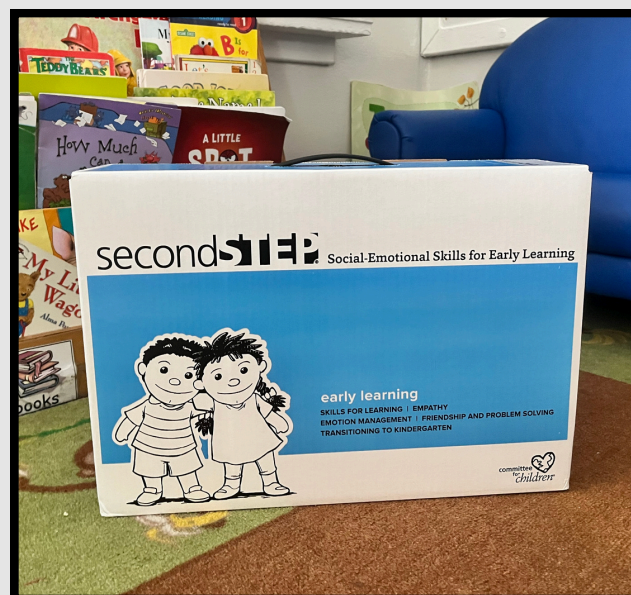
Working Together To Prevent Future Substance Misuse

SCCDC applied for and received a grant for \$2,500 through the Schoharie County Office of Community Services from the Opioid Settlement Dollars. These funds were utilized to purchase five *Second Step Social-Emotional Skills for Early Learning* curriculum kits.

For many years, SCCDC has used this supplemental curriculum to aid in the development of social emotional competence and self-regulation. This type of development increases the probability that these children will develop coping and regulation skills that are linked to a reduced likelihood of substance misuse. The funds from this grant made it possible for consistent implementation of the 28-week program across all our preschool classrooms.

Adverse childhood experiences increase the probability of physical and mental health issues in adulthood including substance misuse.

Research has demonstrated that activities which build resilience increase positive outcomes for individuals with high ACEs. Positive outcomes increase when these types of activities are introduced in early childhood. Providing families with materials that support this initiative has a two-generation effect on families. Providing all preschool classrooms with the Second Step curriculum kit will increase successful implementation of the program.



PROGRAM IMPACTS

HEALTH & Nutrition

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

Healthy children are children who are ready to learn, and healthy families are ready to tackle bigger goals and challenges. The first outcome in the Head Start Parent, Family, Community Engagement Framework focuses on the wellness of children and their families.

Children are provided with vision, hearing, height, and weight screenings. The agency utilizes the Welch Allyn SPOT vision screening tool and Maico OAE hearing screening tool. These are ideal devices for young children as neither requires a response from the child. Vision and hearing issues can be identified early and families can be referred to their providers for appropriate treatment.



94%

of children and their families received regular health and nutrition education.

99%

of children had a source for on-going, accessible healthcare.

90%

of children are up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventative and primary healthcare.

95%

of children are up to-date on immunizations, all possible immunizations, or exempt.

79%

of children received age-appropriate preventative and primary dental care.

96%

of children had a dental home at the end of enrollment.

This year saw the beginning of a new partnership with the School Based Health Care Program at Middleburgh Central School. When families enroll in one of our classrooms in Middleburgh, their Family Advocate explains how the program can benefit their families. Staff from the School Based Health Care Program are attending family engagement events at the Middleburgh Center to answer any questions that families have about the program.

For many years, Early Head Start Home Educators have worked with expectant mothers to help them get the care that they need to have a healthy pregnancy. This year a record number of expectant mothers accessed dental care while enrolled!

This year, the SCCDC Policy Council supported dental health with the "Book, Brush, Bed" program. Every child received a book about teeth, a toothbrush, and tooth paste!

PROGRAM IMPACTS

DISABILITIES

Services

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

SCCDC provides targeted training to staff to increase their skills in identifying suspected disabilities. This resulted in a high rate of the children who are referred to Early Intervention and District Committees for Special Education being eligible for services.

Our classrooms continue to be highly inclusive with 13.9% of children having an IEP or IFSP. This year, four families chose to enroll their child in our Head Start Program, after being offered a center-based placement in a special education preschool.

Five children in the program were diagnosed with Autistic Spectrum Disorder. Two children were supported with 1-1 Aides. Responding to the needs of children with sensory processing issues, a grant was secured to create a sensory room at the Cobleskill Center.



The 24-25 program year was the first full year with the support teacher working with children, classrooms, and families. The support teacher provided two kindergarten bound families of children with IEPs. This included building binders for tracking, goal planning, and developing advocacy skills.

Trainings supporting disabilities services included a focus on autistic spectrum and American Sign Language and deaf culture.

10%

of Early Head Start children had an IFSP and received Early Intervention Services.

50%

of these children were determined eligible for services during the program year.

15%

of Head Start children had an IEP and received special education services.

29%

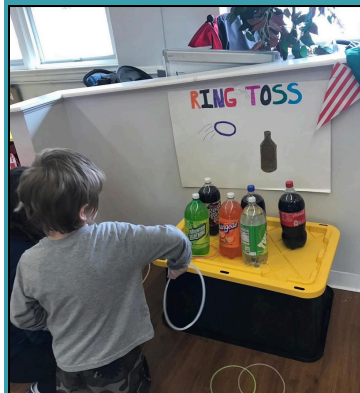
of these children were determined eligible for services during the program year.

PROGRAM IMPACTS

MENTAL HEALTH

Services

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.



SCCDC implements the Pyramid Model for Social-Emotional Well-Being in our center-based classrooms and the home-based program. Children who rise to the top level of the pyramid are served by the LCSW through an individual observation, meeting with families and the development of an Individual Child Guidance Plan. The implementation of the Pyramid Model is monitored through the completion of the TPOT (Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool) in Head Start and the TPITOS (Teaching Pyramid Infant and Toddler Observation Tool) in Early Head Start.



SCCDC partnered with the Schoharie County Youth Bureau to provide monthly activities to all Head Start Classrooms focused on building resilience through gross motor play including teamwork and peer relationship building skills, problem solving, and self-regulation.

The Care for Kids program visited all Head Start classrooms to build resilience through learning about personal safety.

100%

Average TPITOS
Score for EHS
Classrooms

96.8%

Average TPOT
Score for Head
Start Classrooms

6

Children
supported with
Individual Child
Guidance Plans

4

Children
supported
directly by the
Support Teacher

**Training for Staff to
Support Mental Health
Included:**

- FLIP IT
- Pyramid Model
- Self-Regulation
- Creating Routines
- Building Resilience in
the Classroom
- Behavior Management
Strategies in the
Classroom

SCCDC provides mental health services in partnership with staff and families, for children's mental health and social emotional well-being. SCCDC employs a full time LCSW to provide an array of services to children, staff, and families, as prioritized due to a lack of appropriate services in our community.

PROGRAM IMPACTS

SCHOOL READINESS

Outcomes

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

SCCDC utilizes curriculums that align with the Head Start Performance Standards and Early Learning Outcomes Framework, New York State Learning Outcomes Framework Guidelines and the New York State Pre-Kindergarten Foundation for the Common Core. In an effort to evaluate our progress towards meeting these goals, the agency utilizes data from Teaching Strategies Gold to demonstrate a child's development. SCCDC's School Readiness goals align with the Birth to Five Early Learning Framework.

SCCDC conducts observations on the implementation of the Creative Curriculum Fidelity, Social-Emotional Pyramid Model, Home Visitor interactions, and Partners for a Healthy Baby Fidelity. In the next program year, SCCDC will resume the use of the CLASS observation tool.

Curriculums

The Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers, and Two's

The Creative Curriculum for Preschool

Partners for a Healthy Baby

Developmental Screening Tools

ASQ

(Ages and Stages Questionnaire)

ASQ-SE

(ASQ Social Emotional)

Child Assessment/Outcomes Tools

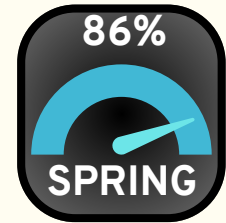
Teaching Strategies Gold

Of four school readiness goals, three were met in the 2024-2025 school year. While the number of children meeting or exceeding widely held expectations, students connecting numerals to quantities increased by 35% between the first check point and final checkpoint, this was still 1% below the goal.

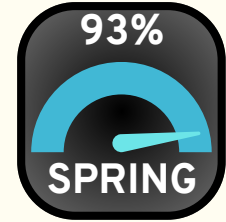
School Readiness Goals



80% of EHS children will meet or exceed expectations in
Using Social Rules of Language.



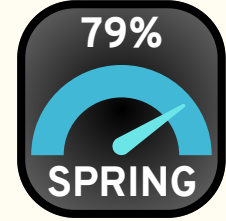
80% of EHS children will meet or exceed expectations in
Quantifying.

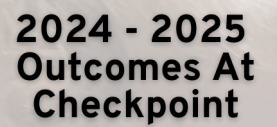


80% of HS children will meet or exceed expectations in
Solving Social Problems



80% of EHS children will meet or exceed expectations in
Connecting Numerals with their Quantities.



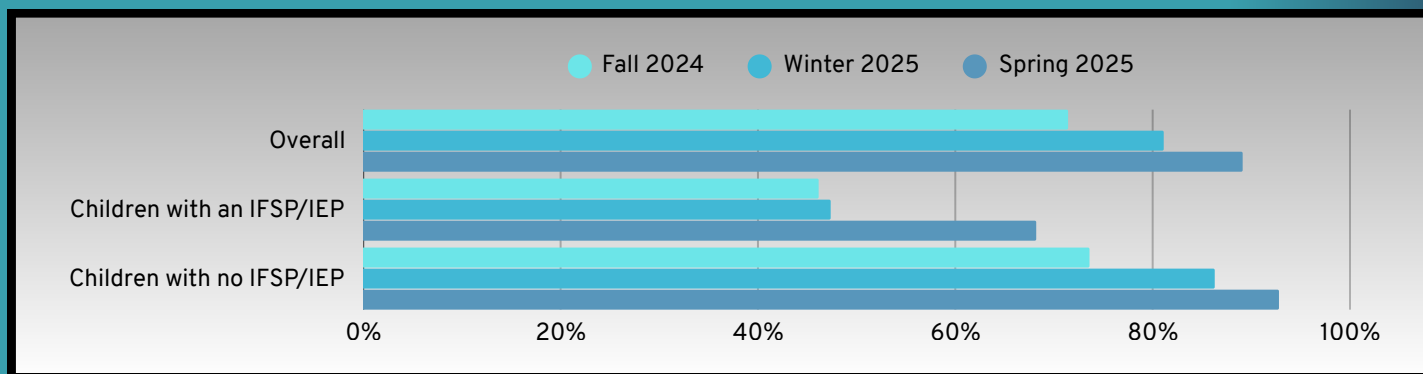


SCHOOL READINESS

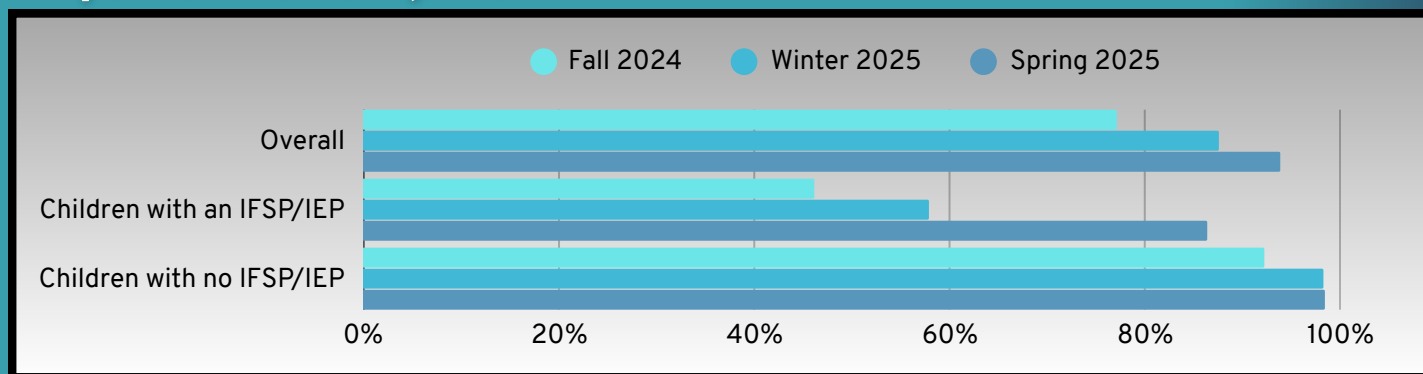
Outcomes

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

Social - Emotional Development



Physical Development

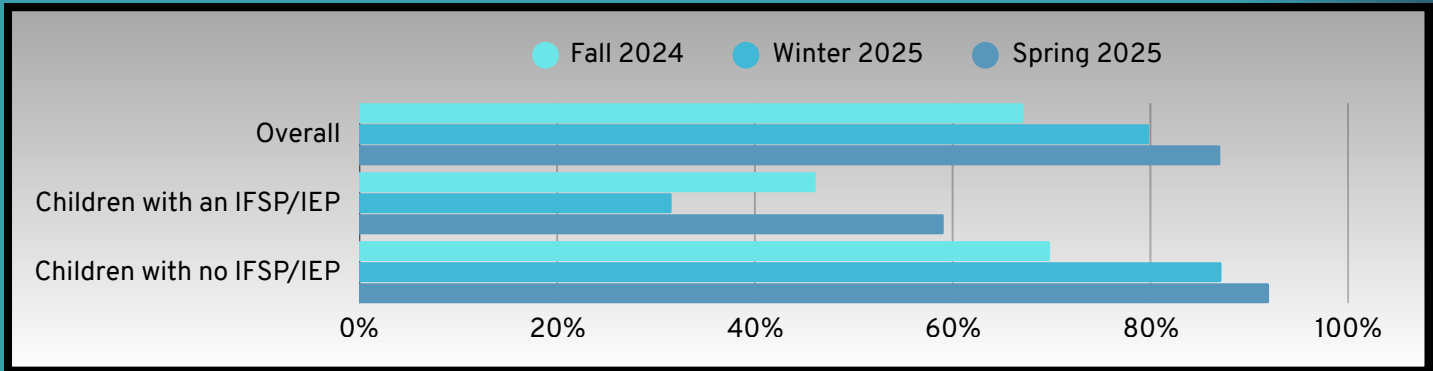


SCHOOL READINESS

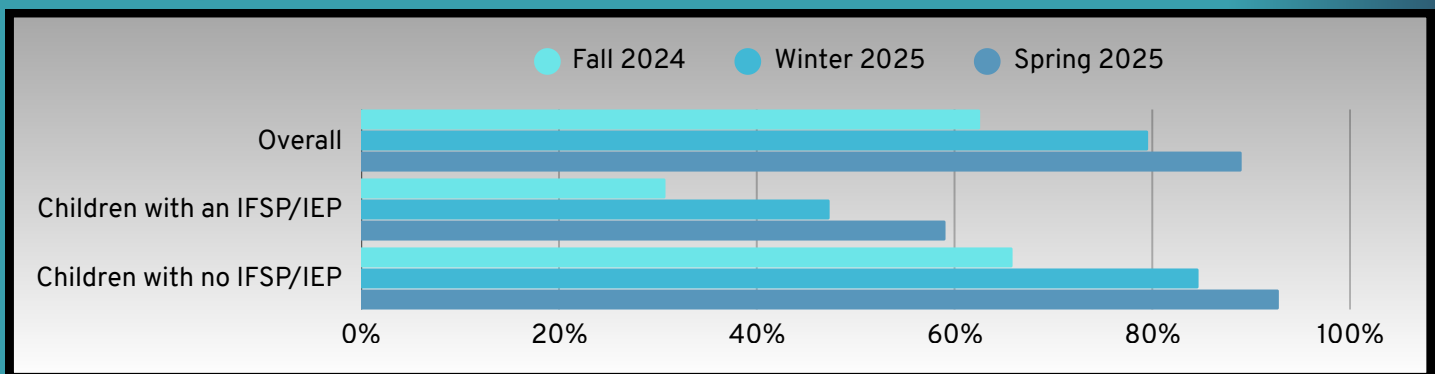
Outcomes

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
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Language



Literacy



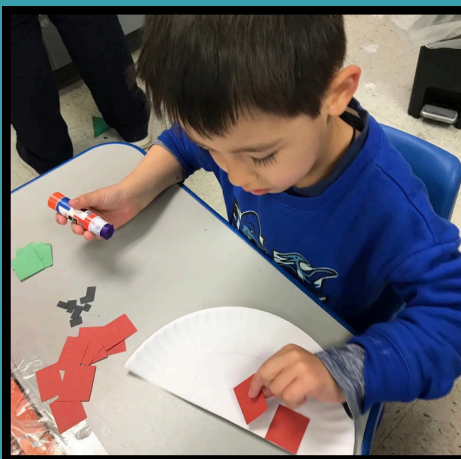
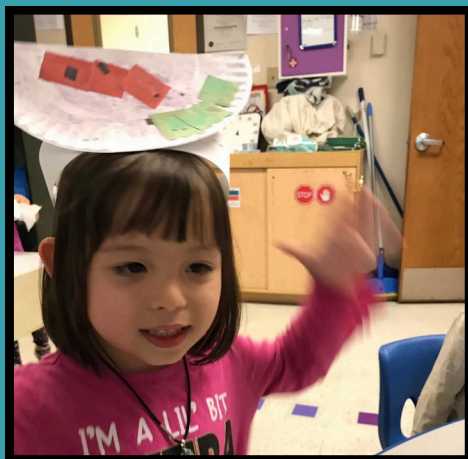
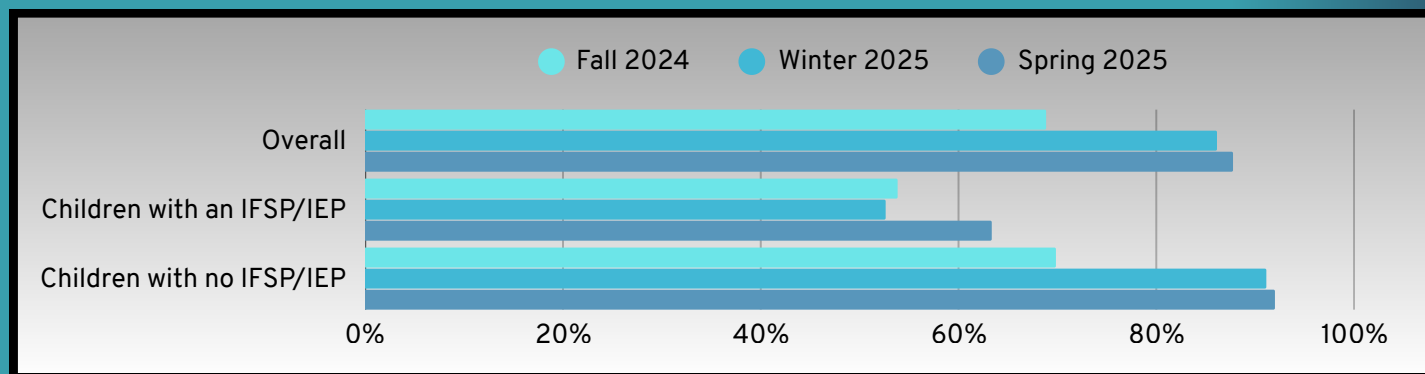
PROGRAM IMPACTS

SCHOOL READINESS

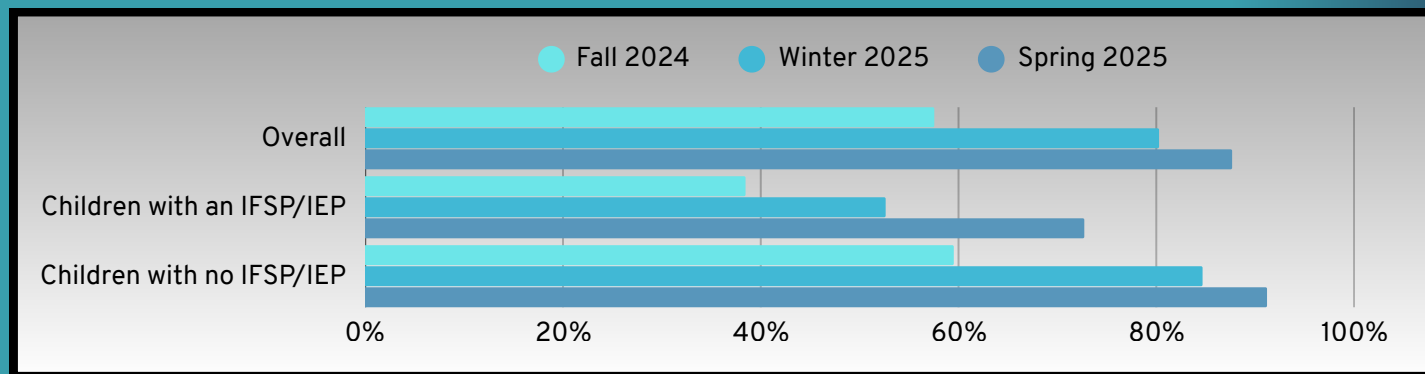
Outcomes

2025
SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

Cognitive



Mathematics



PROGRAM IMPACTS

Schoharie County Child Development Council, Inc.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT UPDATE

2025



Come Grow with Us!

In 2022, SCCDC completed a full Community Assessment and every fall issues an update to that assessment.

A major finding in the 2022 report was the shift in the population of Schoharie County. A declining population combined with the reduction in the child poverty rate, and an increase in the age of the population contributes to lower projections of eligible children and families. This trend has continued since that time.

Affordable housing is an issue for the community. This issue directly impacts the families that are served by SCCDC, and can be attributed to the number of children that are eligible as they are considered homeless by the definitions of the McKinney-Vento Act. The most common housing arrangement for these children is “doubling-up”, residing with extended family or friends while searching for affordable housing solutions. A multi-disciplinary committee, with representation from a broad range of community partners, is focused on finding solutions providing both short and long-term housing.

Schoharie County has limited options for health, mental health, and dental providers. The patient to provider ratio is higher than the average for the state. The impact of this can be seen in the health of the community with high rates of disease that can be mitigated through healthy lifestyle choices and preventative care. The risks of these illnesses are increased when combined with elevated ACEs.

The Community Assessment Update will be distributed in the fall of 2025.

AGENCY INFORMATION

Early Head Start & Head Start

Executive Officers

Maribeth Batsford, President, Board of Directors
Colleen Mahar, Executive Director/ Head Start Director
Carlo Farina, Director of Financial Operations

Cobleskill Center

Aker School
 114 Lark Street
 Cobleskill, NY 12043

Schoharie Center

Schoharie Valley Children's Center
 4956 State Route 30
 Schoharie, NY 12157

Middleburgh Satellite

Middleburgh Elementary School
 245 Main Street
 Middleburgh, New York 12122

Schoharie Satellite

Schoharie Central School
 136 Academy Drive
 Schoharie New York 12157

Sharon Springs Satellite

Sharon Springs Central School
 514 State Highway 20
 Sharon Springs, NY 13459

SCCDC, Inc. Administrative Office

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