

# Giving Children a Head Start to Success

Maryland Rural Development Corporation Head Start Program 2014



**M**aryland Rural Development Corporation (MRDC) Head Start offers comprehensive services to low income families including early childhood education, nutrition, health and social services, and encourages strong parental involvement. MRDC Head Start operates centers throughout Caroline, Cecil and Harford Counties.

Total children served by Head Start, per county:

- Harford County: 206
- Cecil County: 87
- Caroline County: 175

6,942 hours of volunteer service was completed at a value of \$58,718

MRDC Head Start had a 100% average monthly enrollment in 2014

85% of MRDC Head Start children received certified medical exams

92% of MRDC Head Start children had a Dental Home

MRDC exceeded the required percent of children noted with disabilities (12%)

Full enrollment in MRDC Head Start was 432 children.

468 children (ages 3 – 4) were provided Head Start service in 2014.

Total eligible student served: 468

*Marisol Rodriguez, MRDC Head Start Director*

*Jonathan Deveau, Policy Council Chair*

*R. Kevin Brooks, MRDC Executive Director*

*Michael Lawrence, MRDC Board President*



**MRDC would like to acknowledge the following partners for their support of MRDC Head Start:**

Maryland State Department of Education, PNC Bank, Columbia Bank, Cecil County Public Schools, Caroline County Public Schools, Harford County Public Schools

# MRDC Head Start School Readiness

**H**ead Start defines school readiness as children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for school and for later learning and life. Maryland Rural Development Corporation's Head Start program works in partnership with parents/families to make the transition to kindergarten successful.



## School Readiness:

## Effort to Prepare Children for Kindergarten

**M**RDC Head Start Program developed nine School Readiness Goals to align with the five essential developmental domains:

1. Social and Emotional Development
2. Language and Literacy
3. Approaches to Learning
4. Cognition and General Knowledge
5. Physical Development and Health

The curriculum used by MRDC Head Start is the "Creative Curriculum for Preschoolers," is approved by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

Our school Readiness Goals were identified and developed in partnership with staff, families and community in 2012 as a result of reviewing the 2011 child's outcome data and other data collected by the agency.

In order to track developmental progress, children are assessed three times a year fall, winter and spring, to determine whether they are "not meeting," "meeting" or "exceeding" the expectations for development in these areas. Assessment data is aggregated and analyzed to provide strategies for improvement, which will be added to our detailed school readiness plan.



## School Readiness Goals

1. Children will be able to show empathy and caring for others in the classroom.
2. Children will demonstrate or show beginning phonological awareness.
3. Children who are English language learners will be able to identify key words in English.
4. Children will ask questions and use senses to observe and explore materials and natural phenomena.
5. Children will identify similarities and differences in personal and family characteristics.
6. Children will participate in measuring activities.
7. Children will be able to respond to artistic creations or events.
8. Children will use eye-hand coordination to perform tasks.
9. Children will recognize the relationship between food and health.



# Head Start 2014 Annual Report

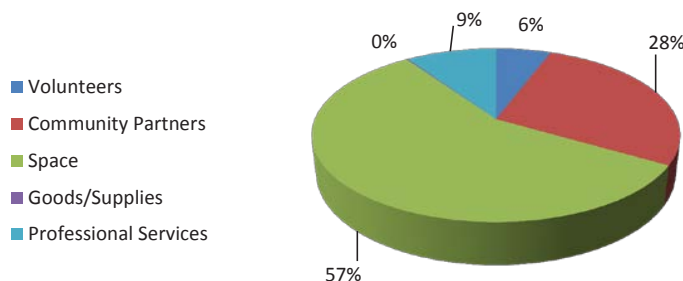
Head Start funds are received from the following sources:

- Federal:** U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families  
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Child and Adult Care Food Program
- State:** Maryland State Department of Education
- Other:** Wal Mart Foundation

Category	FY14 Budget	FY14 Actual Expenditures				FY14 Total	Percent of Total	FY15 Proposed
		ACF	CACFP	MSDE	Other			
Personnel	1,869,615	1,612,783	-	123,197	-	1,735,980	47.65%	1,869,400
Fringe Benefits	419,390	426,690	-	28,341	-	455,031	12.49%	384,920
Equipment	24,100	19,909	-	6,582	500	26,991	0.74%	35,790
Supplies	247,215	91,714	141,841	12,519	250	246,324	6.76%	224,020
Contractual	225,015	207,146	1,188	10,000	-	218,334	5.99%	266,375
Other	857,916	897,360	-	63,231	-	960,591	26.37%	693,545
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,643,251</b>	<b>3,255,602</b>	<b>143,029</b>	<b>243,870</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>3,643,251</b>		<b>3,474,050</b>

## Non-Federal Share:

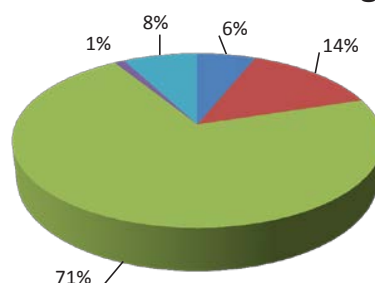
### 2014 Actual



Source	Amount
Volunteers	58,718.83
Community Partners	280,561.66
Space	579,501.72
Goods/Supplies	1,389.23
Professional Services	96,521.70

### 2015 Budget

Source	Amount
Volunteers	49,665.00
Community Partners	113,937.00
Space	578,460.00
Goods/Supplies	8,500.00
Professional Services	63,338.00



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Volunteers	49,665.00
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MRDC Head Start was supported by 6,942 volunteer hours in FY14 .

Over the past seven years, MRDC has received audit reports with no findings to the financial statements nor the internal control of the organization. The most recent (2013) Triennial review of the MRDC Head Start Program identified no deficiencies.

During 2014, the Head Start program was fully reinstated to pre-sequestration funding levels.

For 2015, MRDC's Head Start program has been awarded a non-competitive 5-year contract, allowing for program services through 2019.

Fiscal training sessions and reports are provided on a continual basis to the Board, Policy Council and Program Directors to ensure effective communication, understanding, and internal controls.

**MANY THANKS TO ALL INVOLVED!**