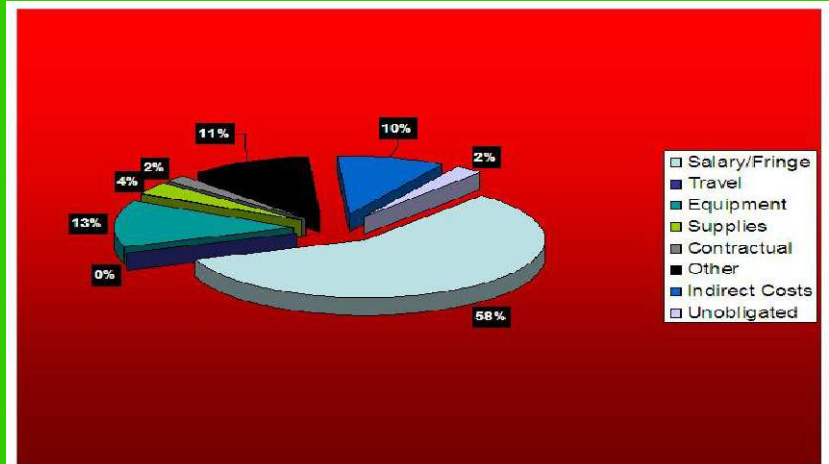


UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start...

All directly operated centers
are nationally accredited
and hold the State's
highest 3 Star rating.



Where the money comes from.....



...provides the very best preschool experience for children in our area that can be had!

*UCHRA Van Buren Co. Head Start operates one Center for Van Buren county and is funded for 37 children. We have two classrooms, with 2 co-teachers in each class. Our staff, besides the Director, includes a Family Service Worker, a Family/Community Partnership Specialist, a Health and Disability Specialist, a Literacy Assistant and Janitor/Bus Monitor. All meals are served family style and are prepared on site. The food is nutritious and low in sodium, fat and sugar. Children are served breakfast, lunch and a PM snack.

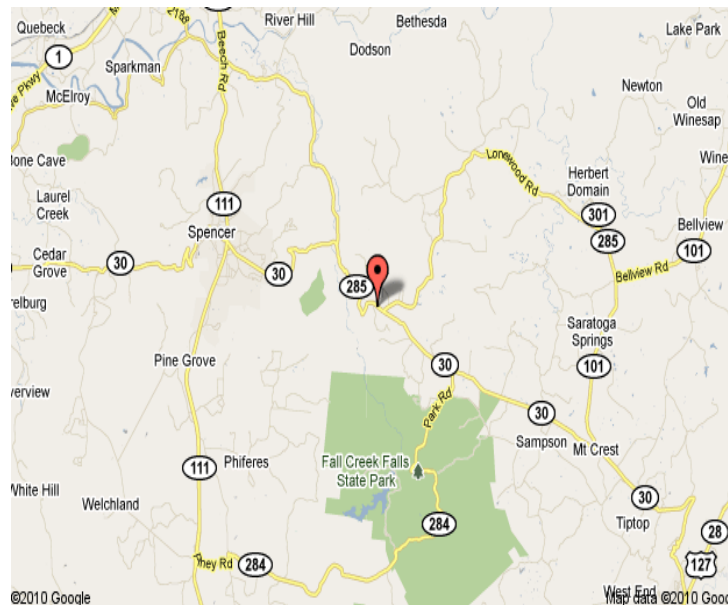
*In a partnership with Build-a-Bear, children learn about new cultures. Every month, the Bears wear a different costume from a different country. There will be a food from that country on the menu. Children not only learn about another culture but they also get to experience food that the people eat, teaching them about others in the world.

*We are also integrating a social-emotional aspect to our program to promote a strong sense of self. This helps children to develop self control, to get along with others in social situations, become more independent and have more awareness and empathy for others.

*Children get plenty of physical development: fine motor skills such as crafts with scissors, glue and materials. They also get plenty of gross motor: running, jumping and climbing on our excellent playground, which is continually updated so the children can always have new experiences.

*Our transition program assures that children will be comfortable on their first day of kindergarten. To start, children learn to eat cafeteria style at Head Start before school is out. Those going to kindergarten go to the school they will be attending before the end of the year, spending the day in kindergarten, eating lunch and becoming familiar with their new school. This way, there are no surprises and it is something they have already seen and experienced.

*Everything that children learn and experience at UCHRA Van Buren Co. Head Start prepares them for their future education, for Kindergarten and beyond.



Some Services/Trainings We Offer to Our Families:

- ◆ Utility bill assistance
 - ◆ Child Support
 - ◆ Health and dental services
 - ◆ Home Safety Training
 - ◆ Nutrition Training
 - ◆ Budgeting
 - ◆ Food Preparation
 - ◆ Counseling
 - ◆ Parenting
 - ◆ Marriage enrichment
 - ◆ Stress reduction
 - ◆ Job search
 - ◆ Job training
 - ◆ Job counseling
 - ◆ Adult education
 - ◆ Emergency food pantry
 - ◆ Clothing
 - ◆ Domestic violence program
 - ◆ Transitioning
- ...and so much more!

Our Children and Their Families:

Total children served: 44
 Total families served: 40
 Average Monthly Enrollment: 100%
 Average Daily Attendance: 89.26%
 Percent of eligible children served: 89%
 Percent of enrolled children that:
 *Received medical exams: 100%
 *Received dental exams: 95%

Some Parent Involvement Activities:

- * CPR and First Aid training
- * Mothers Day Out
- * Parent Volunteers in classrooms
- * Food Prep
- * MVP Day with Dads
- * Domestic Violence Training
- * Christmas Parade Float
- * Make it, take it
- * Dads Tea dyeing T's
- * Home safety trainings
- * Family Reading Night
- * Parent Committee
- * Policy Council
- * Birdhouses with the men

Every Year The UCHRA Van Buren Co. Head Start Provides:

- Nationally and State accredited program- the best preschool available
- Free dental and health checks
- Services for children with disabilities
- Hearing, vision, speech and language screenings
- Family goal planning and social services
- Free mental health services with a trained professional, on site
- Nutrition trainings for parents and guardians
- Well trained staff with degrees and/or CDA credentials
- Emergency assistance through local and Agency resources
- Lending House that provides clothing and household items
- Food bank
- Lending Library- books and reading materials for the entire family
- Parent and Family trainings and activities

Federal Review, NAEYC and the STAR Program: Excellence Indicators

At our last Federal review (Nov. 2008), the Secretary found our Program in full compliance, adhering to all laws, regulations and performance standards of the Office of Head Start.

We are accredited through the prestigious NAEYC- National Association for the Education of Young Children - the largest organization in the world that not only advocates for children with nearly 90,000 members, who sets the standards for early childhood educational programs. This means that parents can be assured their child will receive the best they can: a high quality education.

UCHRA Van Buren Co. Head Start receives the highest rating of three stars from the State's Three Star Program. We are proud to have had this rating since the inception of the State's STAR licensing program!

All of our documents are available for public inspection.



Head Start is operated by the Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA) in Cookeville, Tn. In addition to the Federal Grant of _\$388,456 for Head Start. UCHRA Van Buren Co. Head Start also receives \$20,404.91 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture as reimbursement for the cost of food used in Head Start. In addition, Head Start received \$118,903.90 in kind as donations from parents, families and community businesses and individuals.

Annual Report 2010

Information in this brochure is designed to fulfill requirements of the Head Start federal law related to reports to the general public.

