

Annual Report

Program:	Little People's Head Start of Nevada
Address:	435 S. 13th Street Ely, Nevada 89301
Phone::	(775) 289-6113

01. What We Provide

Little People's Head Start (LPHS) is a non-profit organization that is designed to promote school readiness and comprehensive development for young children from low-income families. Our program offers two programs to our community. Our Head Start program focuses on children aged 3 to 5, providing education, health, nutrition, and social services to enhance their cognitive, emotional, and physical development. It also emphasizes parental involvement as a key factor in fostering a child's growth and preparing them for school. Our Early Head Start program serves infants and toddlers up to age 3. It aims to create nurturing environments during the critical early years of development, ensuring that children have a strong foundation for future learning and well-being.

LPHS provides services for 86 children in White Pine County. All of our classrooms, birth to five, utilize the Creative Curriculum. Our staff receive professional development that is above what is required through State Child Licensing. We are the only organization in White Pine County that requires staff to have a Child Development Associates (CDA) and our preschool teachers to have a minimum of an associates degree.

Families participating in Head Start and Early Head Start programs gain a wide range of benefits that address both immediate needs and long-term well-being:

1. **Educational Support:** Children receive high-quality early education that builds their cognitive, language, and social skills, preparing them for school success.
2. **Health Services:** Families gain access to crucial health screenings, dental care, immunizations, and nutritional support, promoting overall wellness.
3. **Parenting Resources:** Parents receive training, resources, and support to enhance their parenting skills, helping them better support their child's development.

4. **Economic Assistance:** Programs often connect families with resources for housing, job training, and other social services that help alleviate financial challenges.
5. **Community Connection:** Families become part of a supportive community, fostering relationships and networks that provide emotional and practical support.
6. **Customized Support:** Early Head Start, in particular, provides guidance for families with infants and toddlers to navigate critical developmental milestones.

How does our program stand out among other early childhood education programs with our comprehensive approach? Here's how:

1. **Comprehensive Services:** Unlike many other programs that primarily focus on education, we provide a full range of services, including health, nutrition, and family support.
2. **Parental Involvement:** Our program emphasizes active parental engagement, offering resources and opportunities for parents to participate in their child's learning and development.
3. **Federal Oversight:** Our programs are federally funded and must meet rigorous standards, which often exceed state licensing requirements for other early childhood programs.
4. **Cost:** Our program is free for eligible families, whereas other programs, such as private preschools, often come with significant costs.

Research strongly supports the benefits of Head Start and Early Head Start programs highlighting their positive impacts on children and families:

1. **Cognitive and Language Development:** Studies show that children in Early Head Start programs perform significantly better in cognitive, language, and social-emotional development compared to peers not enrolled in the program.
2. **School Readiness:** Head Start participants demonstrate improved readiness for kindergarten, with gains in language, literacy, and math skills.
3. **Health Outcomes:** Children in these programs are more likely to receive immunizations, dental checkups, and maintain healthier BMI levels, thereby reducing risks of obesity and other health issues.
4. **Parental Benefits:** Parents involved in Early Head Start programs show improved parenting behaviors and progress toward self-sufficiency, such as better employment outcomes.
5. **Long-Term Impacts:** Research indicates that Head Start graduates maintain better attendance and exhibit fewer behavioral problems in school, with some benefits extending into adolescence and adulthood.

02. Our Mission & Vision

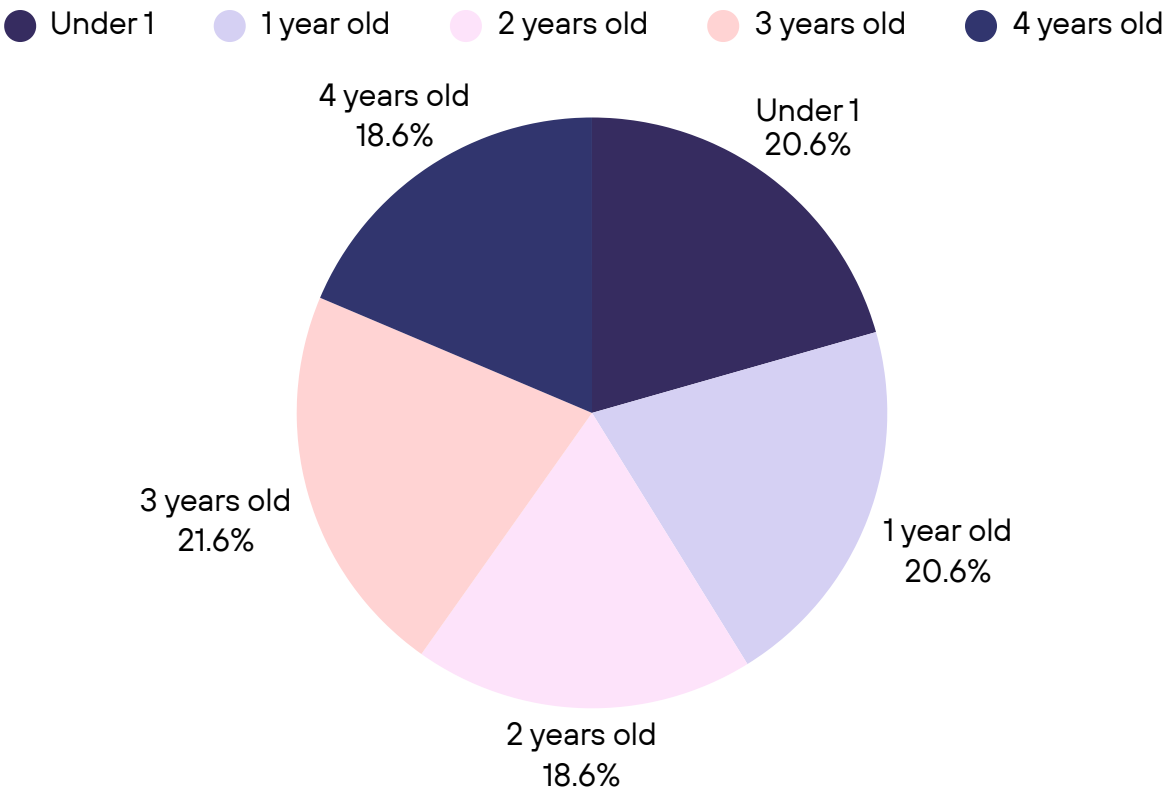
Our mission is to provide a healthy, supportive, and educational environment for children and their families so that all may reach their full potential.

We envision that Little People's Head Start will be the premier organization in White Pine County from which families and their young children receive education support, information, and services that lead

to their self-sufficiency.

03. Our Year in Numbers

Enrollment & Eligibility

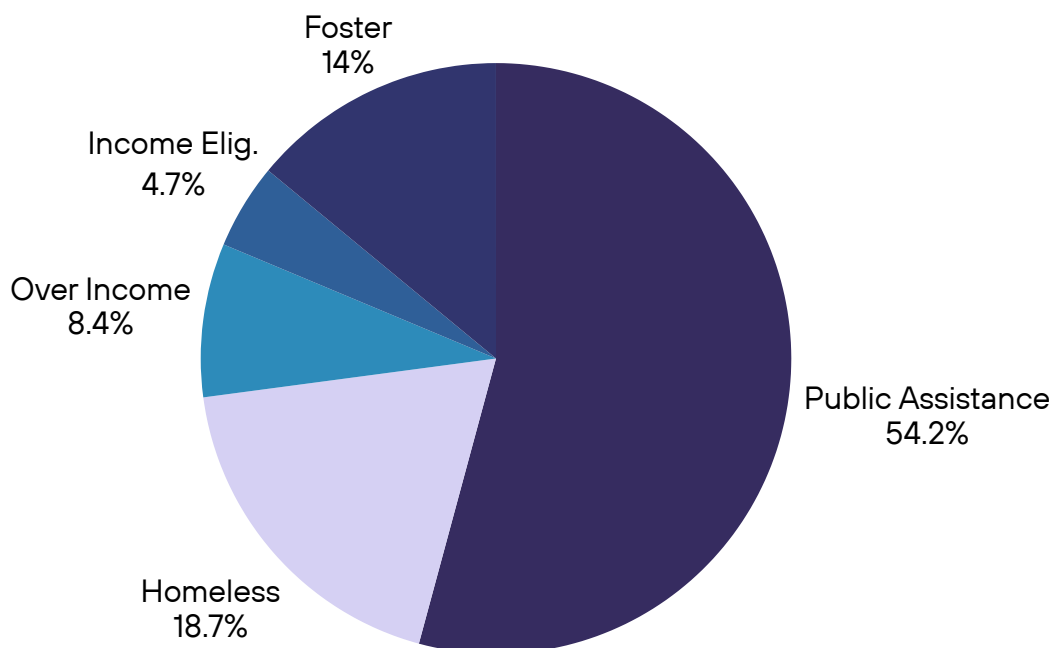


Enrollment

We are funded to serve 86 children. For the 2024-2025 school year, we served cumulatively 107 children.

Average Monthly Enrollment: 85.68%

Public Assistance Homeless Over Income Income Elig. Foster



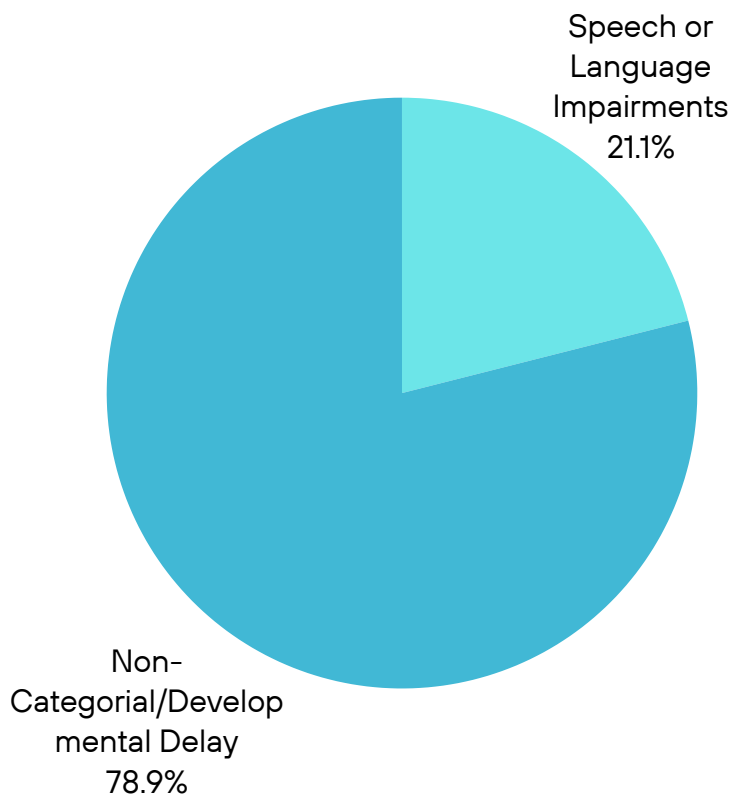
Eligibility Types

Families can qualify for our program based on several criteria:

- Income: Families with incomes below the federal poverty guidelines are eligible. These guidelines are adjusted annually and vary based on family size.
- Public Assistance: Families receiving public assistance, such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), automatically qualify.
- Homelessness: Children from homeless families are eligible, as defined by the McKinney-Vento Act.
- Foster Care: Children in foster care qualify regardless of their foster family's income.

*In addition, we can provide services to a percentage of families that do not meet the above criteria. Our program can offer a maximum of thirty (30) slots to families whose income falls between 100-130% and offer nine (9) slots to families exceeding 130%. We are only permitted to fill these slots after we have filled slots using the qualifying criteria.

Disabilities Services



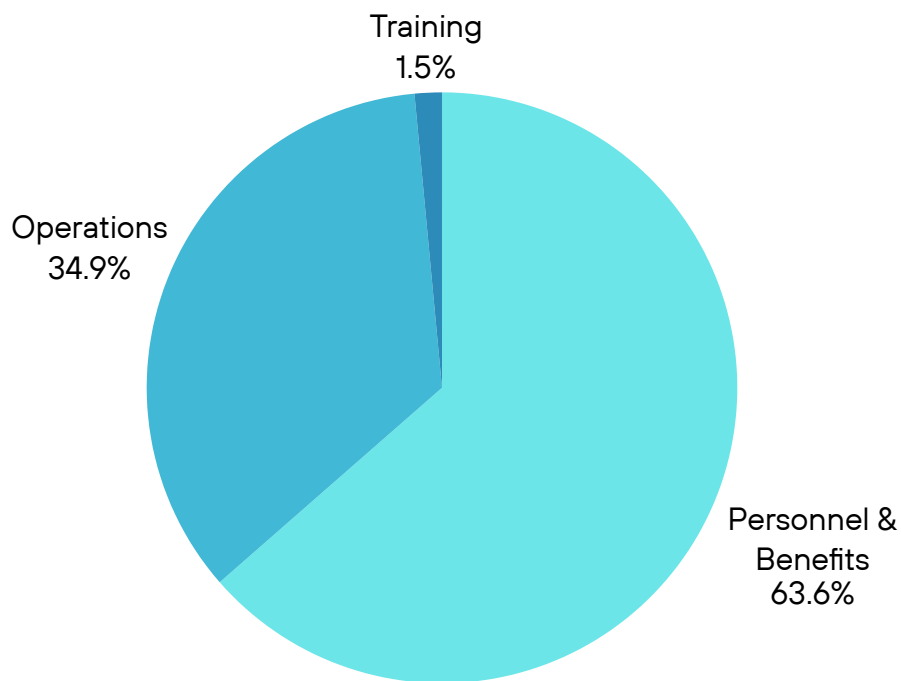
Head Start programs are required to ensure that at least 10% of their enrollment consists of children with disabilities. The goal is to ensure that children with disabilities and developmental delays have equitable access to the comprehensive services offered by Head Start programs.

This requirement promotes early intervention, which can significantly improve developmental outcomes for children with disabilities.

LPHS programs provide services to children with disabilities through a comprehensive and inclusive approach. Here's how we do it:

1. Individualized Plans: Each child with a disability has an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or an Individualized Education Program (IEP). These plans outline specific goals and services tailored to the child's needs.
2. Inclusive Classrooms: Children with disabilities learn alongside their peers in inclusive settings, promoting social interaction and reducing stigma.
3. Specialized Support: Programs employ or collaborate with specialists, such as speech therapists, occupational therapists, and special education teachers to provide targeted interventions.
4. Family Engagement: Families are actively involved in planning and decision-making to ensure that services align with their child's needs and family goals.
5. Community Partnerships: LPHS partners with Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) and White Pine County School District to access additional resources and expertise.
6. Training for Staff: Teachers and staff receive training to support children with disabilities effectively, ensuring they can adapt teaching methods and environments.

2024-2025 Program Funds Distribution



*Program funds distribution is only related to the Head Start & Early Head Start grants. Amounts are the budgeted amounts on the Notice of Award.

**Personnel & Benefits are slightly lower percentage in 2024-2025 due to the one-time program improvement funds that we received.

FISCAL INFORMATION –FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS

\$2,119,837	Federal Head Start & Early Head Start (Includes one-time funding for program improvements)	(FY 7/1/2024-6/30/2025)
\$32,019	Federal Head Start Training & Technical Assistance	(FY 7/1/2024-6/30/2025)
\$91,618	USDA Child and Adult Care	(FY 10/1/2024-9/30/2025)
\$76,650	Children’s Cabinet Wrap-Around Program	(FY 7/1/2024-9/30/2025)
\$94,312	Women, Infant, and Children	(FY 10/1/2024-9/30/2025)

04. Parent Collaboration

Parent collaboration is a cornerstone of the Head Start philosophy, as it recognizes the vital role families play in their child's growth and learning. This collaboration ensures that parents are not only included but are also key partners in shaping their child's educational experience.

Little People's Head Start collaborates with the families to ensure a smooth transition from Early Head Start to Head Start and from Head Start to Kindergarten. We focus on:

1. **Family Collaboration:** We work closely with families to help them understand their child's progress, prepare for the transition, and stay involved in their child's education. This includes educating parents about their rights and responsibilities in the elementary school setting.
2. **Community Partnerships:** LPHS collaborates with local education agencies and kindergarten teachers to align practices and ensure continuity in learning and development. This includes transferring relevant records and participating in joint training sessions.
3. **Child Preparation:** Activities are designed to help children adapt to the kindergarten environment, such as introducing them to new routines, expectations, and social settings.

05. Working Together for the Better

Our Parents



We know that parents are a child's first and most important teachers. By involving families, our program can create a rounded and supportive environment for the child's learning and development.

When parents are involved, it fosters a partnership between families and the program. This collaboration helps address the unique needs of each child and family.

Parents bring invaluable knowledge about their family's culture, values, and traditions, which helps the program offer culturally responsive and inclusive services.

We could not do what we do without our parents.

Our Community



The collaboration between LPHS and the community creates a support system that benefits children, families, and the community as a whole. It's a reciprocal relationship—Head Start strengthens the community by investing in its youngest members, and the community enriches Head Start through its involvement and resources.

Communities provide valuable resources such as funding, facilities, and expertise. Local organizations, businesses, and service providers partner with LPHS to enhance program offerings, from health services to educational materials.

Community members, including parents and retirees, often volunteer their time to support classrooms, mentor families, or assist with events. This enriches the program and strengthens local connections.

Our Staff



Staff are the backbone of our program, playing a vital role in ensuring its success.

Here are some key ways they contribute:

- Delivering High-Quality Education
- Building Relationships w/Families
- Ensuring Comprehensive Services
- Advocating for Children
- Creating a Safe & Nurturing Environment
- Continuous Professional Development
- Fostering Community Connections

Their dedication, expertise, and compassion make a profound difference in the lives of the children and families they serve. Every interaction, from a warm welcome in the morning to personalized guidance for a family, helps create a foundation for lifelong success.