Director of Early Childhood and Family Services Report
September 2026

Federal Updates:

OHS Policy and Regulations https://headstart.gov/policy/im/acf-ohs-im-26-01
1. Log Number: ACF-OHS-IM-26-01
2. Issuance Date: 08/06/2026

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) regarding the Performance Standards will be open for public comment.
The Federal Register website will be open to receive comments beginning August 7 and remain open for 60 days.
To submit comments electronically, follow the "Submit a comment" instructions in the Federal Register. This approach is our preferred method for receiving comments.
All comments without change will be posted to www.regulations.gov, so please do not include any personal or sensitive information. We will use your comments to help shape our decisions for a final rule.

State Updates

Our Mixed Delivery slots are filled. We have changed 1 full day/full year slot to 2 Head Start wrap around slots. We are beginning VKPR and VALLS child assessments and Fall CLASS observations will begin very soon.

NRCA Program Updates:

Enrollment- Please see the enrollment dashboard for a full breakdown of enrollment, waitlist and monthly attendance percentages.

- **Professional Development-** Our next full staff professional development day is scheduled for October 29 and 30th. This is our Fall break. We will have PD and teacher workdays followed by a closure for the extended election day weekend. Topics for the PD have not been established yet. Monthly teaching teams are meeting with the Education Specialists and Family Wellness Coaches have a team meeting scheduled for September 22. The Early Childhood Symposium at Virginia Tech will be in September. We have staff from Pulaski, Blacksburg and Christiansburg scheduled to attend. Candace Bean, LT Blacksburg and Faith Nichols, SA/FWC Floyd has been nominated as Early Childhood Champion of the NRV. Good luck Candace and Faith.

Personnel- Currently we have all positions filled and are accepting substitute applications.

Annual Report to the Public-Our Annual Report is complete and attached for your review.

Annual Program Information Report- The PIR was submitted in August and is attached for your review.

Service Area Updates:

- Health and Developmental Screenings are beginning.
- Big 5 Practice Observations and Active Supervision Observations are ongoing.
- Teaching staff will participate in a Professional Development Day.
- We are working on a new Individualized Family Partnership Agreement format.
- **Integrated Service Area Plans and Procedures**—Updates to the plans and procedures will be submitted after the new standards are revealed.

Fiscal Dashboard: Updates to the dashboard including in-kind match progress is attached.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roni Fitch, Director of Early Childhood and Family Services

NRCA Head Start Monthly Enrollment Report - as of September 30, 2026

Enrollment and Attendance

Center	Funded Enrollment	Current Enrollment	# Vacant Slots within 30 days	Average Daily Attendance (percentage)	Over Income Enrolled for the Year
Blacksburg	18	18		**93%**	
Christiansburg	34	34		**90%**	4
Floyd Elem	8	8		**96%**	2
Floyd	17	17		**92%**	
HS ELC	17	17		**92%**	3
Macy	10	10		**96%**	
Margaret Beeks	8	8		**98%**	
McHarg	30	30		**91%**	5
Pearisburg	35	35		**90%**	
Project G & L	17	17		**85%**	
Pulaski	34	34		**89%**	2
Program Total	228	228		**92%**	16

Waitlist

Criteria	Homeless	Foster	Public Assistance	Income Eligible		130%		Over Income		2/3	Total	Declined Services
Age	3 or 4	3 or 4	3 or 4	4	3	4	3	4	3			
Blacksburg	1		9					1			11	
Christiansburg	1		8								9	
ELC	1		1	1							3	
Floyd			2	1				1	5	2	11	
Giles	3	1	6	2	1				3		16	
Project G & L	1		1								2	
Pulaski	3		2							1	6	
Radford			1								1	
Program Total	10	1	30	4	1			2	8	3	59	0

Disabilities

Children enrolled with an IEP	22
Children Referred to LEA (in the process)	3
Children Awaiting Services	0
Families in NRVCS Case Management Services	55

Comments:

Performance Standards

1302.12(d)(1)(ii)	*Establishes criteria that ensures eligible children are served first*
1302.13	*In order to reach those most in need of services, a program must develop and implement a recruitment process.*
1302.14(b)(1)	*A program must ensure at least 10% of its total funded enrollment is filled by children eligible for services under IDEA*
1302.15(a)	*A program must maintain its funded enrollment level and fill any vacancy as soon as possible. A program must fill any vacancy within 30 days.*
1302.16(b)	*If a program's monthly average daily attendance rate falls below 85 percent, the program must analyze the causes of absenteeism to identify any systematic issues that contribute to the program's absense rate.*