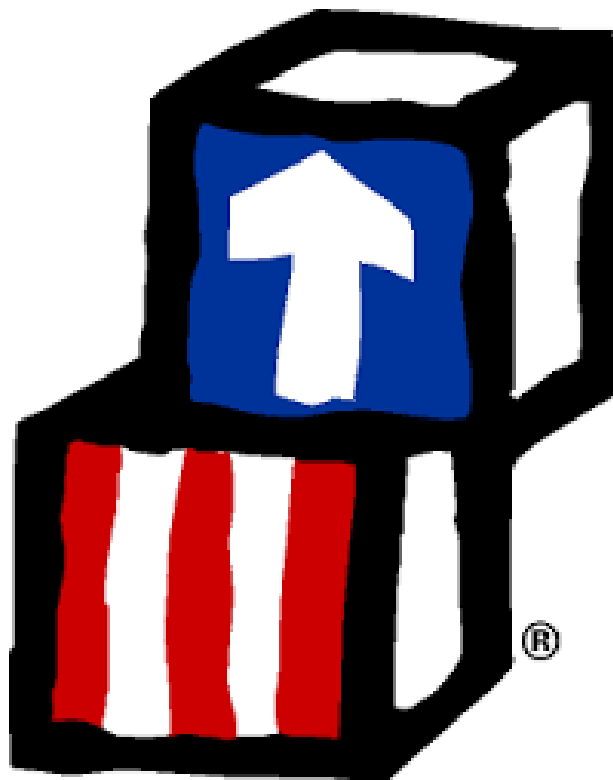


2022



Action Inc. Head Start

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT



Update: 3/2022



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Section 1: Program Overview

Action Inc. is a non-profit Community Action Agency that is “dedicated to developing pathways out of poverty through innovative, community-based collaborative solutions.” Headquartered in Butte, MT, and incorporated in 1965, Action Inc. provides important services to low-income citizens in a six-county area, and advocates for community level change on behalf of the area’s most vulnerable population. With programs like Head Start, Low Income Energy Assistance, Weatherization, Housing Choice Vouchers, Summer Nutrition for school-aged children, Housing First vouchers for the homeless, and Youth Employment and Training, Action Inc. strives to ensure that economically disadvantaged citizens have safe, warm, affordable housing and a pathway out of poverty. With an annual budget of \$5.5 million, Action Inc. has a workforce of 120, and serves 6,000 people per year.

The agency was born out of the “Community Action” movement, which was taking place in Eastern American cities, and focused on the elimination of poverty. The movement ultimately became part of the American policy agenda under President Lyndon Baines Johnson. In his inaugural address to Congress in 1964, the President said, “this administration today, here and now, declares an unconditional war on poverty In America!”

In the same year, President Johnson’s “War on Poverty” was officially launched by Congress, when members passed the Economic Opportunity Act that held, “it is therefore the policy of the United States to eliminate the paradox of poverty in the mist of plenty in this nation, by opening to everyone, the opportunity to live in decency and dignity.” The act created new education, training, and work experience programs including the Job Corps, Neighborhood Youth Corps, and Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA).

Community Action Agencies opened across the country and were funded directly by the Federal Government. Their early mandate was to craft and implement local solutions to poverty. They were given the flexibility to use the federal funding to Execute local ideas. By 1968, there were over 1,600 independent Community Action Agencies across America, who served as innovators of new programs to end poverty.

As early as 1969, programs like Head Start, Family Planning, Foster Grandparents, Summer Youth, Senior Centers, Community Health Centers, and others had been launched. Home Weatherization and Energy Assistance programs came later in the 1970’s.

In its early years, Action Inc. served only Butte, and focused its attention on Children by launching the Head Start program, which was aimed at giving preschool-aged children with economic disadvantages a strong social and educational foundation for later learning success. It also focused on providing a neighborhood center in Butte that served as a social center for seniors who might otherwise be isolated in their homes, and for economically disadvantaged youth who, in the absence of proper supervision and positive social environments, needed a summer or after-school activity center.





While Community Action had a strong beginning under the Johnson administration, later presidential administrations would prove less supportive. The Nixon, Ford, and Regan years (1970's to 1980's) were marked by attempts to substantially diminish, if not eliminate, funding for Community Action programs. Policies during the period resulted in three major changes. The first was a move away from locally crafted initiatives to funding of federally-crafted programs, that were applied, like templates, the same way in every community. This change removed the innovative and grass-roots impetus of Community Action. The second change was the decentralization of Community Action. The Office of Economic Opportunity, which oversaw funding and programs related to Community Action, was dismantled. Programs and related funding were shifted to various other federal departments. For example, Head Start was transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services. This action diluted the role of Community Action in the war on poverty in America. Finally, funding was Replaced by a general-purpose block grant called the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). Blocks of funding were through the states, giving administrative control to states and significantly reducing overall funding to the movement.

Today, core funding for Community Action Agencies, including Action Inc., continues to come from the CSBG, which remains a state administered program. An approximate 1,200 agencies across America serve 99% of the nation's counties and leverage an average of \$35.00 for every block grant dollar they receive.

The Action Inc. Head Start Program provides comprehensive child development is funded to provide services to 186 eligible preschool children and their families in Silver Bow County. The program operates 6 classrooms, 4 hours per day, 4 days per week. 4 other classrooms have extended days and hours. These classrooms operate 6.5 hours per day, from early September through early June. There are two Head Start locations in Butte—1000 S. Arizona St. and 100 N. Clark.

The 100 N. Clark Head Start location has been shut down during the 2021-2022 school year due to a mold issue. It is expected to be cleaned and fully operational for the 2022-2023 school year.

As the Pandemic continues to disrupt everyone's lives, reaching full enrollment and staffing has been extremely difficult during the 2021-2022 school year.



Introduction:

Action Inc. is one of ten Community Action agencies operating in the state of Montana. It serves a six-county area in the Southwest Region of Montana, that includes Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Granite, Madison, Powell, and Silver Bow Counties. The District covers a land area of 14,631 square miles, which represents 10% of the state's total land area. The map below provides an illustration of the District's service area.

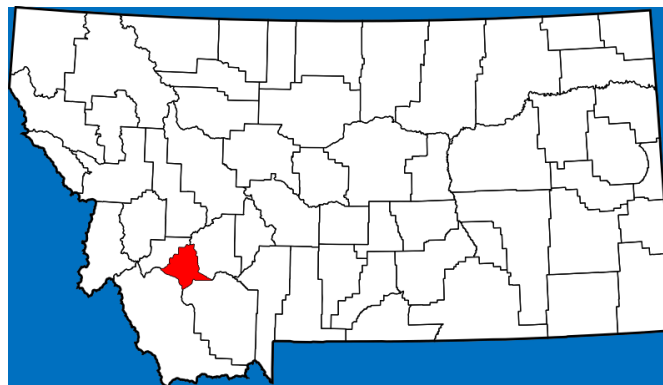


The population of the service area is an estimated 71,189, which represents 6.8% of Montana's total population (source: U.S. Census Bureau; 2016 Population estimates). Although the population has grown slightly, the area's proportion of the state population declined slightly since 2010. Butte-Silver Bow County is the most densely populated county in the service area, comprising 48% of the total population, and is home to the largest city in the region-Butte. Deer Lodge County and Beaverhead County both comprise 13% of the region's population, followed by Madison (10%), Powell (10%), and Granite (5%) counties.

Montana County Maps



Silver Bow County – Montana





Purpose of the Community Assessment

The primary purpose of the Community Assessment is to serve as a tool in decision making regarding Head Start program planning, development, and evaluation. This Assessment will assist program staff and the Head Start Policy Council in identifying current trends in the communities, identified needs of families and children in poverty, and available resources for families as well as gaps in resources.

As specified in the Head Start Performance Standards, Action Inc. will use this Community Assessment information to:

1. Help determine the philosophy and long and short-range program objectives;
2. Determine the type of component services that are most needed and the program options that will be implemented;
3. Determine the recruitment area that will be served;
4. Determine appropriate locations for centers;
5. Set criteria that define the type of children and families who will be given priority for recruitment and selection.

Methodology

Data was reviewed from the following sources, including the U.S. Census Bureau, Montana Kids Count - 2021 Data Center Program Information Report, School Readiness Data Analysis, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Family Engagement Data Analysis, and the 2022 Parent Surveys.

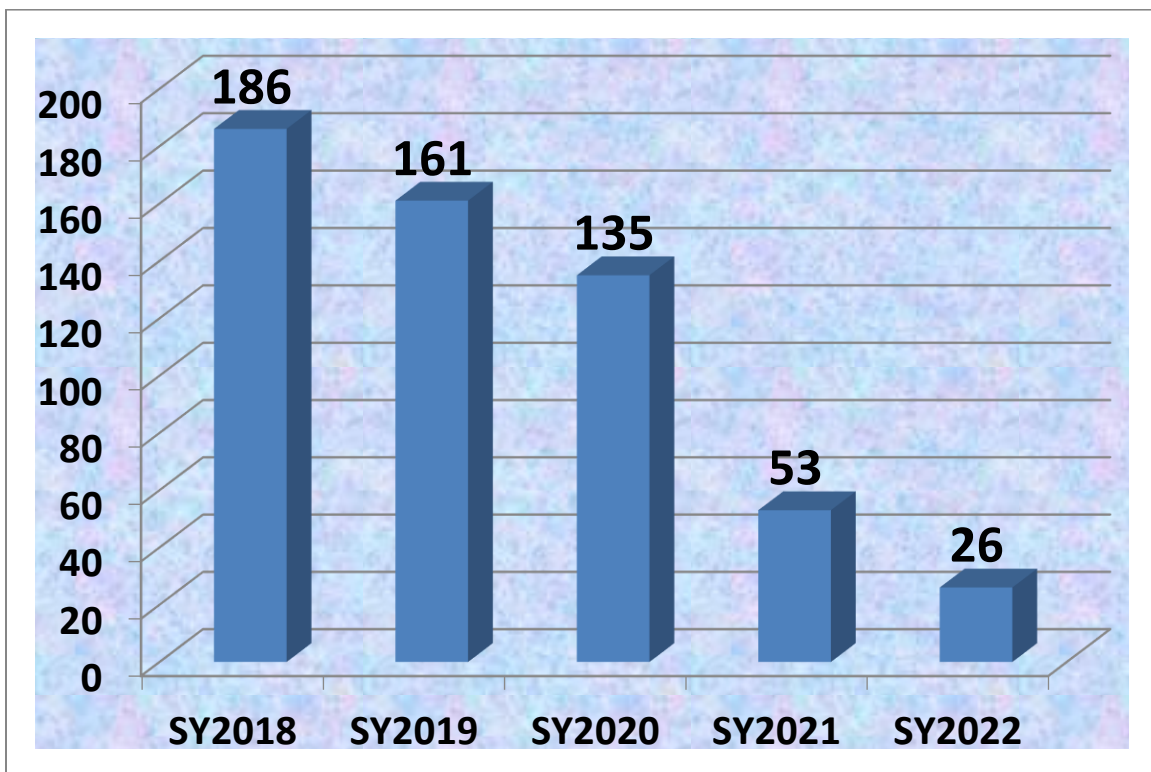




Section 2: Demographic Profile of Service Area

The purpose of this section is to meet the requirement for “the demographic make-up of Head Start eligible children and their families, including estimated number, geographic location, and racial and ethnic composition.”

Butte Silver Bow estimated number of 3 and 4-year olds eligible for Head Start (2017 to 2022)



The chart indicates a significant decrease in the number of potentially eligible families - which may affect our waitlist numbers for the 2022-2023 program year.

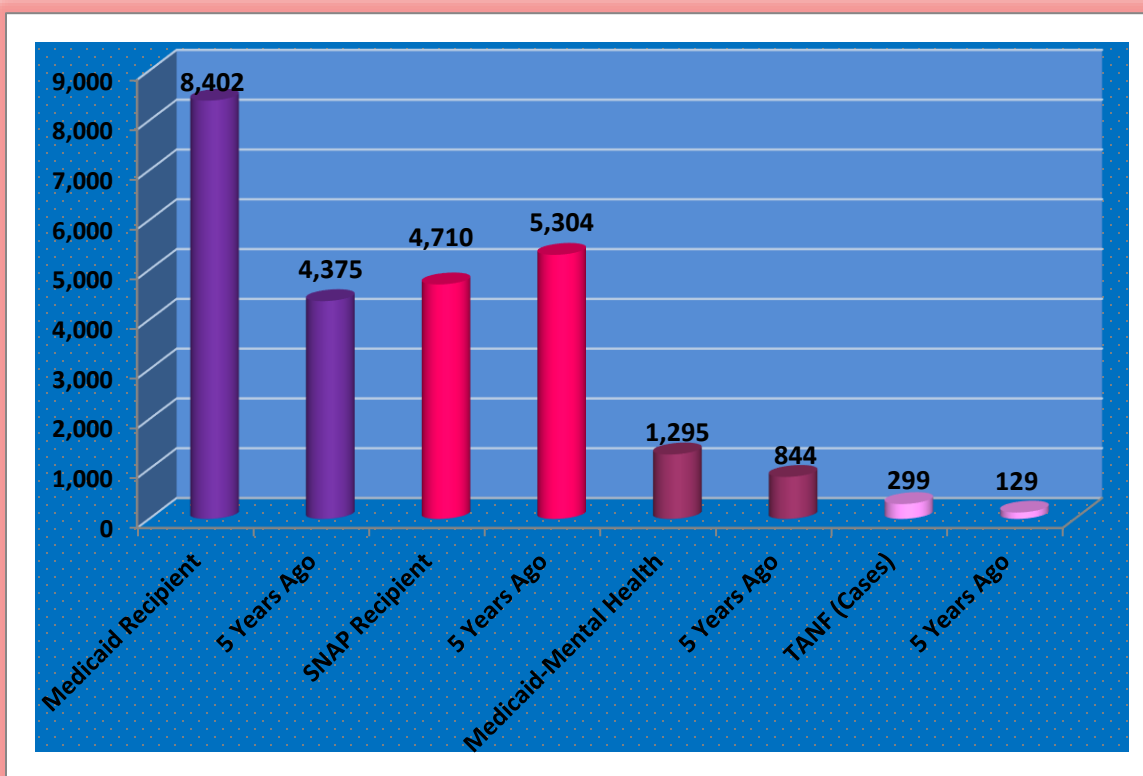


Estimates from 2016 indicate that 94% of the County's residents are white, 4.4% are Hispanic or Latino and 2.3% are American Indian.

Poverty in Silver Bow County:

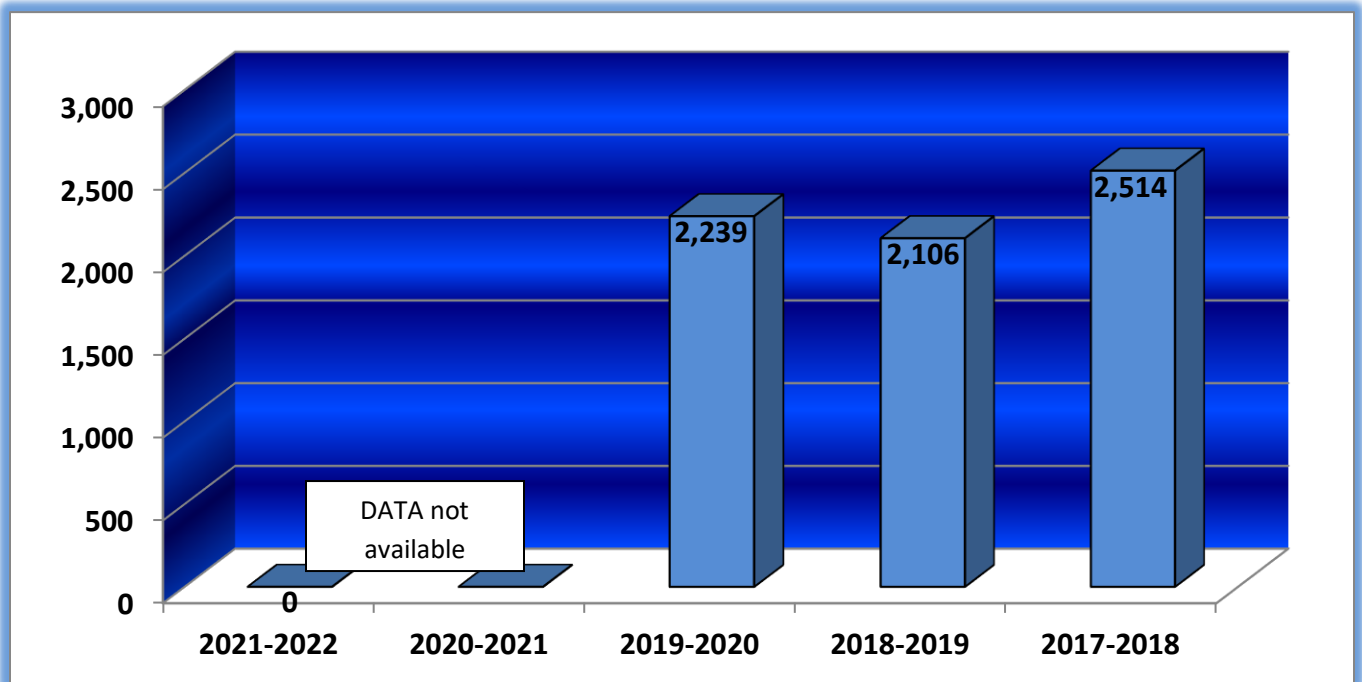
The current unemployment rate is 2.09% compared to the state rate of 2.5% according to the Montana Department of Labor and Industry for December 2021.

The table below indicates the number of recipients receiving services in Silver Bow County currently compared to 5 years ago.

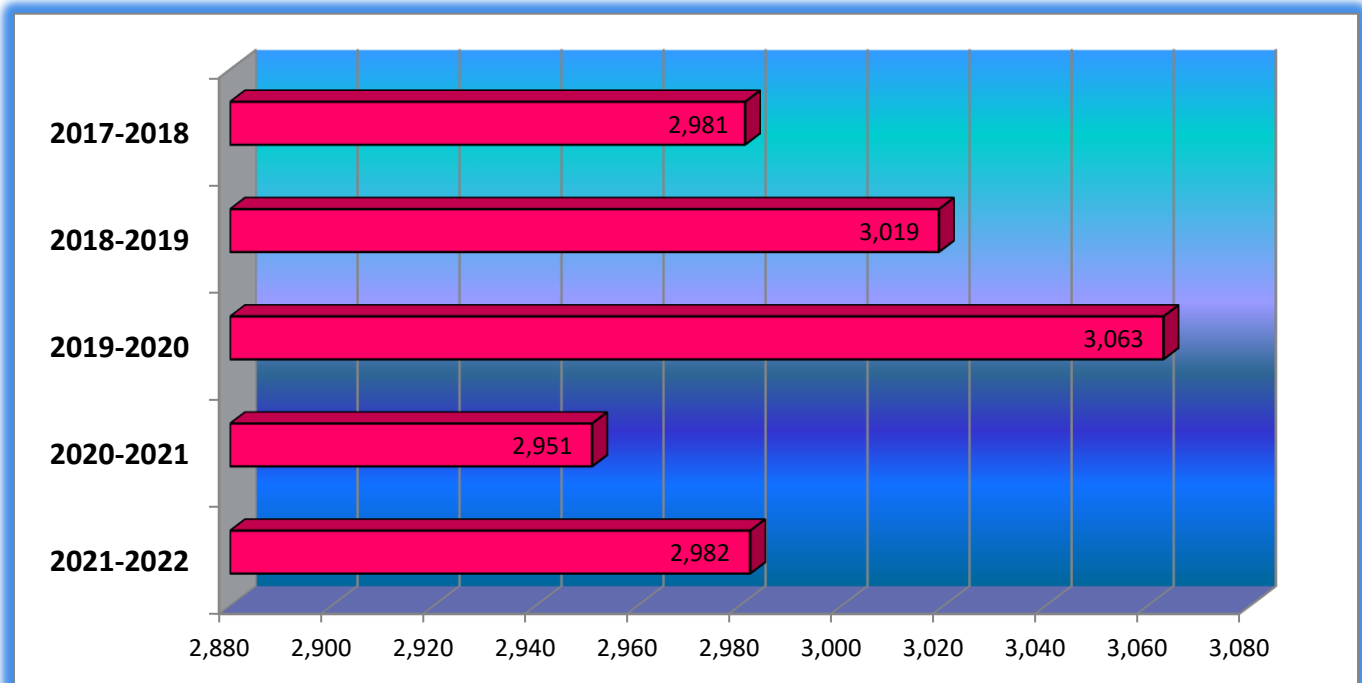




Free / Reduced Lunch Data - Silver Bow County



Enrollment—Silver Bow County K-8





HEAD START SERVICE AREA: Silver Bow County

Silver Bow County is Montana's eighth most populous county, a former copper mining boomtown, Butte was once Montana's largest city. While copper mining continues on a smaller scale, the economy is now driven by more diverse sources, such as health care, retail trade, utilities and tourism. According to the most recent statistics, 15.4% of individuals are living in poverty in Silver Bow County. Another significant factor in Silver Bow County is the make-up of people who are 65 years or older. Currently 16.5% of the population is comprised of senior citizens and by 2025, they will comprise of 25%.

Silver Bow County covers 718 square miles with 48.2 persons per square mile and an estimated population of 34,915.

Schools:

There are 2 local High Schools in Silver Bow County. The public high school has a population of 1,252. This is down 50 students from last year. The private high school has a population of 99. Enrollment at the elementary level is up 18 students.

Butte is also the home of Montana Tech of the University of Montana, a world-renowned science and engineering school. Bachelor degrees are also offered in biological sciences, computer science, math, registered nurse, engineering, and business and informational technology.

Health Services:

Butte - Silver Bow services have a regional medical center with medical care facilities that serve patients from a wide area. St. James Healthcare has 100 licensed beds and 68 in-patient staffed beds. It has over 600 employees and 63 physicians.

Community Health Center is a federally certified health care center that offers discounted fees for patients with limited income.



Section 3: Other Child Development and Child Care Resources

Preschools – Silver Bow County

Name	3 Year Olds	4 Year Olds	Hours
Butte Central Catholic Preschool	38 combined		T, TH (8:15-10:45) M, W, F (8:15-10:45) M, W, T (12:00-3:00)
Butte School District Preschool	18 (3-4)		M-F (8:30-1:45)
Crayon Academy	23	40 (4-5)	M-TH (8:45-10:45) M-TH (11:15-1:15)
Creativity Factory	15	65 (4-5)	M-T (8:30-10:45) M-T (11:30-1:30)
Silver Bow Montessori	15 combined		M-T (7:30-5:15)

**Preschools are not required to be licensed in the State of Montana

Child Care Centers/Group Homes – Silver Bow County

Name	#Licensed	Ages	Phone	# Head Start Children Enrolled
After the Bell	25	5-12	491-3839	
Allison's Pampered Play	12	0-12	498-1183	
AWARE Inc./Early Head Start	60	0-4	782-0455	
* Bright Beginnings	12	0-12	494-3400	4
Brittanny's Childcare	6	0-12	490-3322	
Caterpillar Clubhouse	12	0-12	498-3082	1
Cheryl A. Eggleston	6	0-12	299-0673	
Cotton Patch Kids	6	0-12	498-0735	
Cradle to Crayons	8	0-3	533-5075	
Hand in Hand Daycare	6	0-12	491-4092	
Hands on Learning Childcare	31	0-5	498-2507	
Hands on Learning Childcare 2	60	2-12	498-2507	
Healthy Minds	6	0-12	465-3610	1
Holly's Daycare	12	0-12	498-3224	
Home Away from Home	12	0-12	565-8912	
Jamie's Daycare	12	0-12	490-8021	
* Kiddie Korner Early Learning	12	0-12	533-5074	2
Kidventures	40	0-12	498-4922	
Kidz Konnection	41	2-12	723-3439	6
* King's Kids	99	0-12	494-0604	
Lee Ann Butt Home Care	12	0-12	620-660-1012	
Little Bear Care	12	0-12	498-5727	1
Little Hands Daycare	12	0-12	498-2931	
Little Orphan Annie's	12	0-12	498-9924	
Little Peeps Big Leaps	12	0-8	490-8660	
Luciene's Daycare	12	0-6	782-6852	
Mama Bear's	12	0-11	479-3691	1
Merry Bee's	12	0-6	529-8970	
Mini Miracles	12	0-5	565-1596	
Mini Sprouts	12	0-6	533-9565	
Pleasant Dreams	6	0-12	491-0944	
Precious Dreams Early Center	6	0-12	491-0374	
Rowdy Rascals	12	0-12	498-5794	
Small Fries	12	0-12	533-9565	
* Small World Daycare	60	0-12	782-6714	
Sweet Pea Childcare	12	0-12	498-2082	2
Tammy's Daycare	15	0-12	490-6056	2
The Clubhouse	12	5-12	498-2082	
University on Princeton	8	0-1	723-6292	
Wee Watchers	12	0-12	498-7804	1
Young Explorers	34	1-5	723-6289	

Names marked with an asterisk (*) also provide preschool

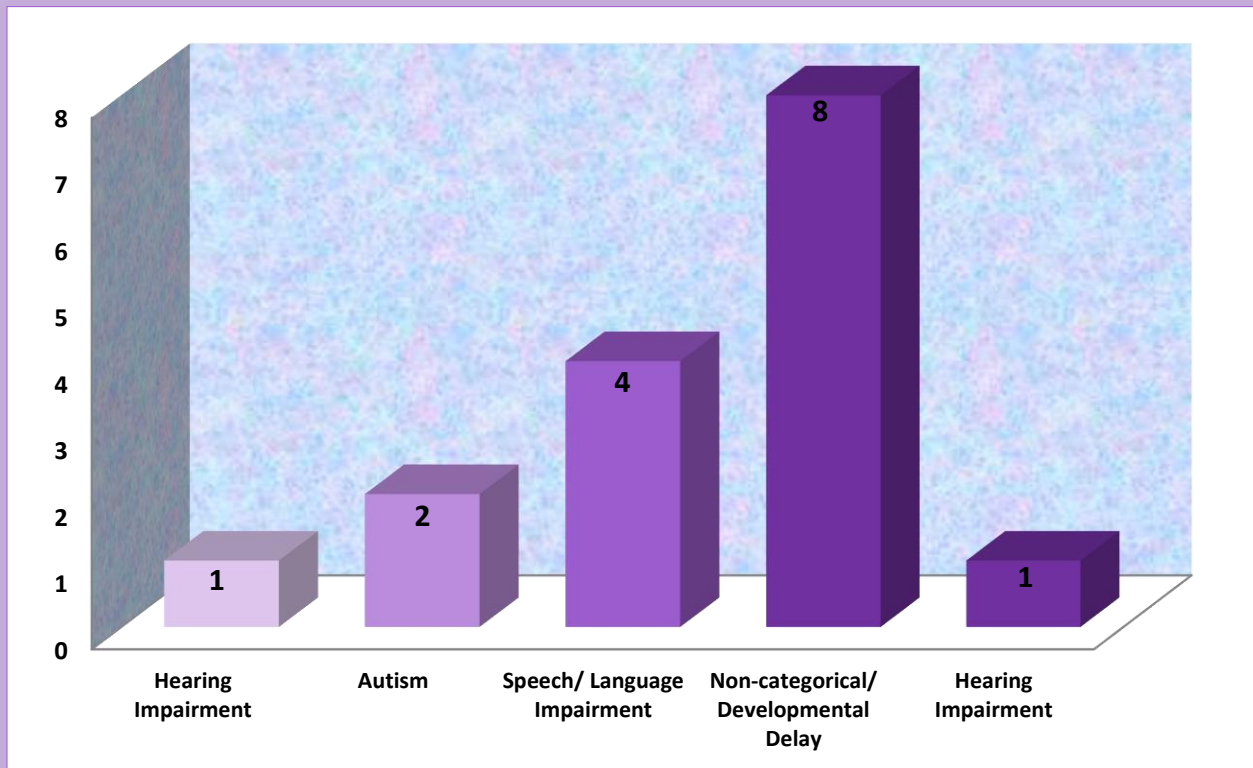
There are 41 licensed childcare centers/group homes in Silver Bow County. 21 Head Start Children are currently being bused to or from these locations during the week.



Section 4: Children with Disabilities

The estimated number of children with disabilities four years old or younger including types of disabilities and resources provided to these children by community agency.

The following chart shows, as of February 2022, the number of children ages 3-5 diagnosed with a disability and the type of disability.



Children receive Special Education services on site, with Butte School District #1, at the Head Start location. Children can attend the early morning Special Education program at Head Start, and they are then dispersed among 8 Head Start classrooms, with support from School District personnel. School District personnel include: 1 Special Education teacher and 2 Special Education monitors, as well as support from School District OT, PT, SLP, and the School District Psychologist.

Family Outreach: The Part C provider in Silver Bow County provides services to 17 children ages 0-8. Disabilities range from Autism to severe developmental delays.

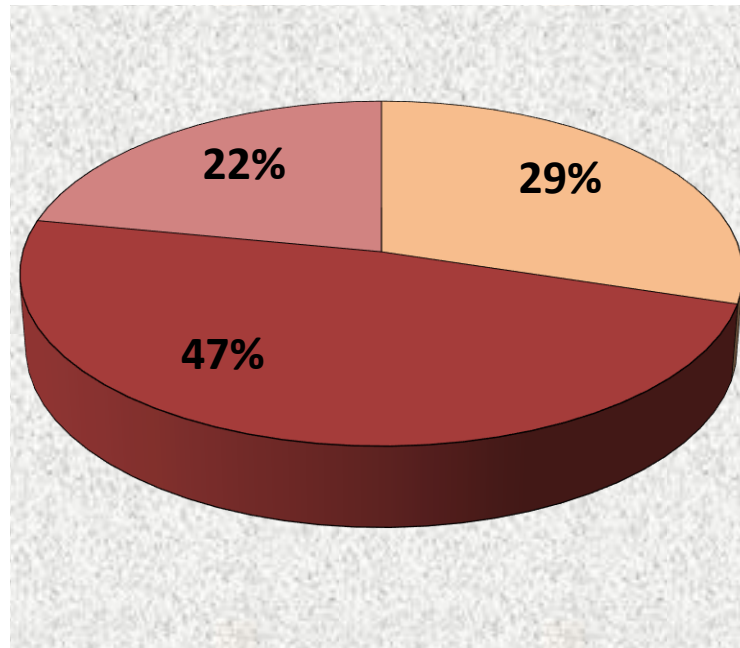
Head Start has a Collaborative Agreement with Butte School District #1 and Family Outreach and works closely with both agencies to provide services to those children identified with special needs.



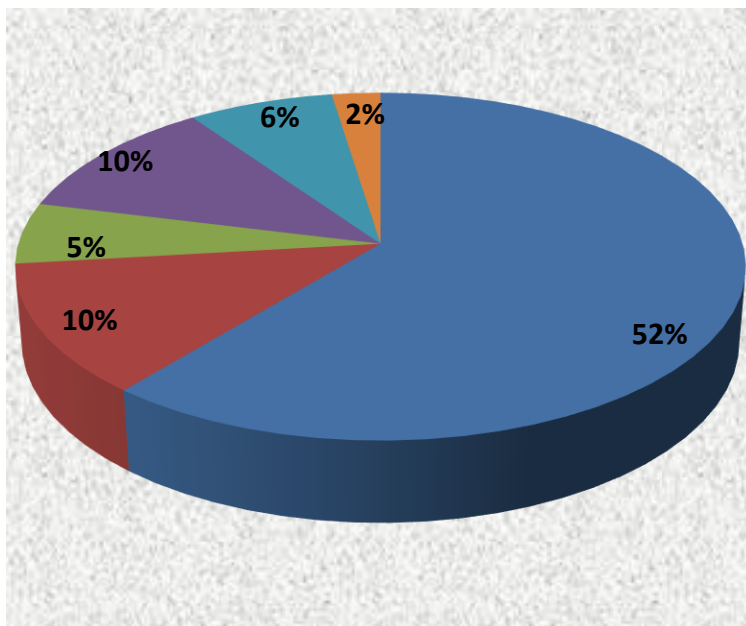
Section 5: Characteristics of Head Start Children 2021-2022

Information on children and families was taken from the Head Start ChildPlus system on children enrolled and terminated during the 2020-2021 program as of March 1, 2021.

Enrollment
by Age
as of
3/1/2021



- 3 Year Olds (42)
- 4 Year Olds (68)
- 5 Year Olds (31)



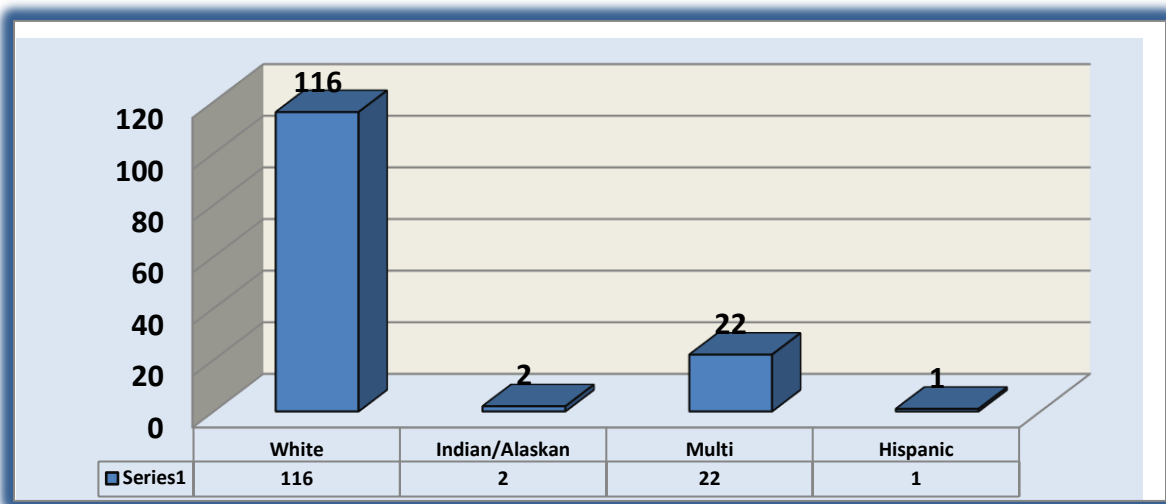
- Income Eligible (84)
- Public Assistance (16)
- Over Income (5)
- Foster Child (10)
- Homeless (12)
- 100-130% (14)

Participant
Income
Eligibility

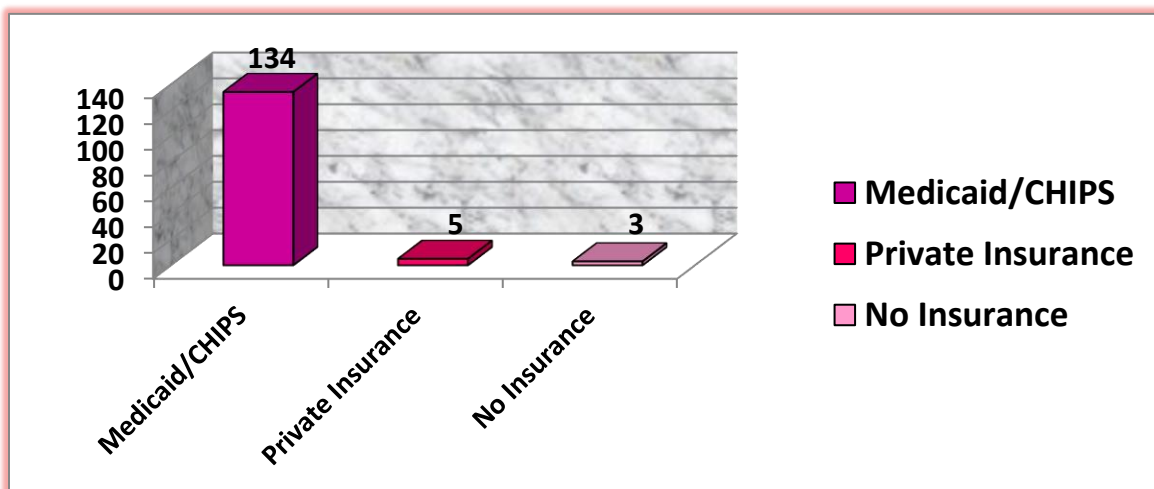




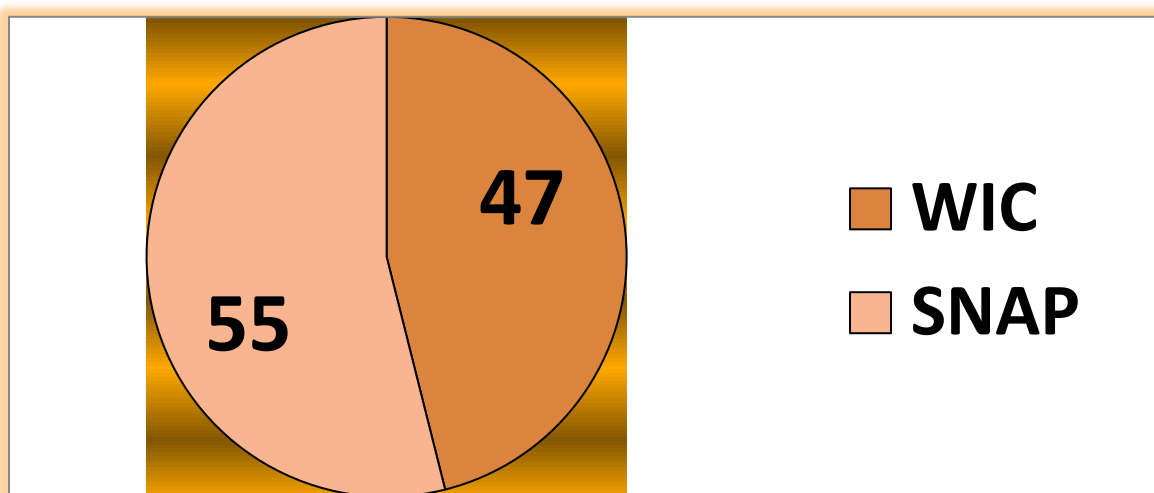
Participant Race



Health Insurance Coverage as of 3-1-2022

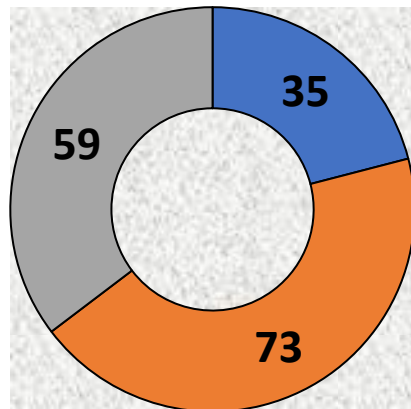


WIC/SNAP Participation by Head Start Families



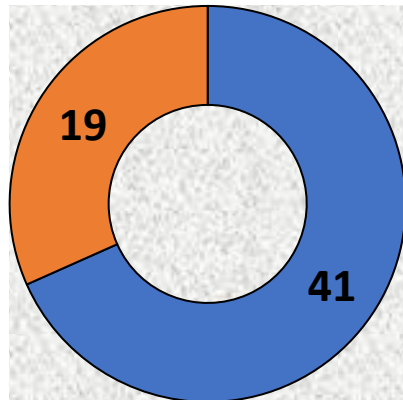
Employment Status of Two Parent Household





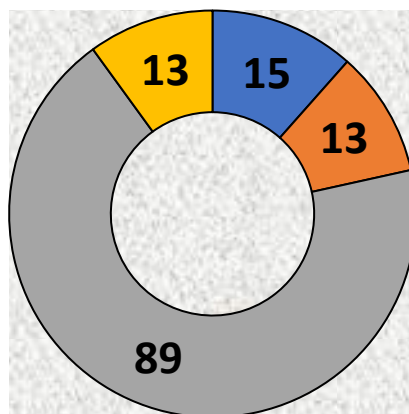
- One Parent Employed out of Two
- Two Parents Employed
- Two Parents Unemployed

Employment Status of One Parent Household



- One Parent Employed
- One Parent Unemployed

Level of Education



- Bachelor or Advanced Degree
- Associates Degree/Some College
- High School Grad/GED
- Less Than High School Diploma





Section 6: Perceptions of Head Start Parents

In addition to examining programmatic data and trends for this Community Assessment, Head Start conducted a parent survey with all families enrolled for the 2021-2022 program year to gain an understanding of the adults' experience with the program and any suggestions to improve the quality of services that are delivered to children and families. The surveys were distributed to all families and were collected during Home Visits. The response rate was 50%.

Limitations:

All of the data presented only represents the information provided by the returning Head Start parents/guardians who responded to the surveys and does not represent all the Head Start parents/guardians.

Some of the data relies on the perception or individual experience of the respondents and only represents the individual perception. All assumptions are based on the data.

Program Options:

In terms of program options, of the surveys returned, 92% are satisfied with the program options of 4 days per week - 4 hours per day, as well as extended hour/day classrooms 6.25 hours per day – 4/5 days per week.

Program Satisfaction:

All parents that responded to the survey are satisfied with the overall program - this includes classroom staff, transportation, and enrollment staff.

Parents agreed that Head Start is providing a clean and safe learning environment and is helping their child get ready for school by teaching them to become more independent and learning to share and cooperate.

Parents received quality information through the Parent Handbook, Classroom Newsletters, Weekly Noteboard, Head Start Facts, Class Dojo and ChildPlus messaging.

Head Start has provided parents with informational support regarding child development (96%), School Readiness (84%), Community Resources (70%), Disabilities (54%), Mental Health (70%), and Health/Dental Health (68%).

Parents agreed that Head Start has helped them define their family goals (66%) and helped them understand their role as the primary educator of their child (82%). 94% of families have participated in At-Home activities. 73% of families have participated in activities & Zoom. 67% have participated in recorded Zoom activities. 42% of families have participated in meal services at least one time during the program year and were very satisfied with the variety of meals provided.





Expressed Needs:

Parents were asked to identify the biggest challenges facing their family. Their challenges included the following:

- Affordable childcare
- Money/finances
- Having time together
- Housing
- Being a single parent
- COVID-19
- Substance abuse
- Food
- Reliable transportation
- Time management
- Medical concerns

Parents were also asked to identify what they believed were the most significant problems in the community.

- Affordable childcare
- Affordable resources for children with disabilities
- No activities for preschool children/families
- Crime/violence
- Drugs/substance abuse
- Poverty
- Suicide
- Theft
- Gas prices
- Affordable housing
- Low paying jobs
- Mental health issues/no help
- No family activities

Program Strengths:

Parents were also surveyed on what they felt were the most important services that Head Start provided. This included the following:

- School Readiness/preparing my child for Kindergarten
- Transportation
- Nutritious meals
- A safe place to learn
- Special Education/speech services provided on-site
- In-person learning/remote learning available during quarantine

Community Needs Survey:

Action Inc., a Community Action Agency serving a six-county region of Southwest Montana, assesses needs for poor and low-income people in its service area triennially, with updates to demographic and socioeconomic data done biennially. The assessment includes three levels of information gathering and analysis. **First**, Action Inc. conducts a mail survey of people who have received a service or services from Action Inc. in the twelve months preceding the survey. **Second**, population level data is gathered and analyzed to understand the extent to which citizens are subsisting with inadequate incomes, which may impede their access to basic necessities. **Finally**, focus group meetings are conducted in each county. The purpose of the meetings is to gather information about needs of poor and low-income people in each county from the perspective of community leaders, service providers, and citizens at large.

The key facts and findings contained in this assessment are included on the following page.





KEY FACTS AND FINDINGS

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Wages in all of the service area counties are well below the national average.

1,500 people are unemployed in the service area, down from 2,275 in 2013.

Median Household Income is lower than the national median in all six counties of the service area.

POVERTY & LOW-INCOME STATUS

There are over 11,488 people (17.07) subsisting below the federal poverty line in the six-county region of Southwest Montana; the rate is higher than both the Montana and national rates and down from 18.24 in 2013.

38 of the population (26,000 people) subsists below 200 of the federal poverty line which places them in 'low-income status'.

Regionally, an average of 8,615 people in 2015 received SNAP assistance; the number increased by 55 between 2009 and 2014 and decreased by 9 between 2014 and 2015.

A 2015 survey of people receiving services from Action Inc. indicated that heat assistance, dental assistance and prescription drug assistance were their most important needs.

Action Inc. served 5,754 people in 2016 or 22 of low-income people in the region.

Half of school children in the service area are eligible for free and reduced lunch.

HEALTHCARE ACCESS

With the advent of the Affordable Care Act, the number of people under 65 without health insurance in the service area decreased by 33 since 2010. Still, 22 of low-income people in the area are without health insurance, according to Census estimates.

NEIGHBORHOODS

High concentrations of poverty in blighted neighborhoods in Butte-Silver Bow County, the region's population center, are contributing to a cycle of intergenerational poverty.

ACCESS TO ACTION INC. SERVICES

Action Inc. served only 22 of low-income people in the services area through its programs and only 18 of people eligible for heat assistance, pointing to the need for effective outreach work.

HOUSING

In the service area, over 8,000 households are experiencing a housing cost burden-48.4 of renters and 19.6 of homeowners; these rates have increased significantly since 2000.

283 people are on the waiting list for Section 8 rental assistance in the region.

The rate of homeownership among the lower income cohort in the region dropped to 50 compared with 81 for the middle and upper-income group.

The rate of homelessness in Silver Bow County the region's population center, is estimated to be about 0.5 or an approximate 164 people.

AGING POPULATION

The number of senior citizens is projected to grow by 42 by 2030, going from an estimated 13,483 to over 19,000. 31 of the region's senior citizens have low incomes.

YOUTH & CHILD WELL-BEING

There are factors at work in the region that put children and youth at risk of underachievement and future poverty.

21.36 of the region's children are so materially poor, normal health and development may be at risk; the rate is higher than the Montana and national rates.

57 of children in the region are low-income.

Graduation rates for economically disadvantaged youth are significantly lower than the general student population.

The number of out-of-home placements due to child neglect or abuse increased 67 between 2013 and 2016 going from 149 children to 249 children.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Suicide rates in the services area are among the highest in Montana, a state that has for 35 years had one of the highest suicide rates in the nation.

OVERARCHING CONSIDERATIONS

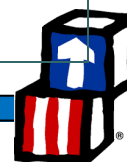
Prolonged low family income can be expected to lead to a more ingrained feeling of social exclusion, which may also have more lasting consequences.

American children are less likely to move out of the bottom of the income distribution than children in five other industrialized nations.



Section 7: Community Resources

ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE #	INFORMATION
<u>Education</u>			
Butte 4C's	101 N. Main Butte, MT 59701	723-4019	A resource and referral agency that works to assist working families who meet income guidelines and pay for childcare. Also assists individuals in starting and operating a childcare business.
Trio - Educational Opportunity Center	25 Basin Creek Rd Butte, MT 59701	496-4690	Offers free educational outreach programs for individuals who wish to continue their education at either high school or college level.
Job Corps, Butte	305 W Mercury Butte, MT 59701	782-4600	Offers education, technical training and job placement.
Montana Youth Challenge	790 E. Cornell Dillon, MT 59725	683-7905	The mission is to intervene in and reclaim the lives of 16-18-year-old high school dropouts, producing graduates with the values, life skills, and education to succeed as productive citizens.
Butte High School Career Center (Webster Garfield)	1050 S. Montana Butte, MT 59701	533-2967	Offers alternative classes for elementary middle and high school students. Also offers Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.
Butte Central High School	9 S. Idaho Butte, MT 59701	782-6761	Private Catholic High School with tuition scholarships available. Grades 9-12
Butte Public High School	401 S. Wyoming Butte, MT 59701	533-2200	Public High School 9-12.
Early Head Start	237 W. Mercury Butte, MT 59701	782-0455	Federally funded program that provides comprehensive child development family support to income eligible infants and toddlers and their families, and pregnant women and their families.
Emerson Elementary	1924 Phillips Butte, MT 59701	533-2800	Public Elementary School Grades K-6
Hillcrest Elementary	3000 Continental Butte, MT 59701	533-2850	Public Elementary School Grades K-6
Kennedy Elementary	1101 N. Emmet Butte, MT 59701	533-2450	Public Elementary School Grades K-6
Margaret Leary Elementary	4½ Mile Vue Road Butte, MT 59701	533-2550	Public Elementary School Grades K-6
West Elementary	Emmett and Steele Butte, MT 59701	533-2700	Public Elementary School Grades K-6
Whittier Elementary	2500 Sherman Butte, MT 59701	533-2890	Public Elementary School Grades K-6





ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE #	INFORMATION
Blind and Low Vision Services at Vocational Rehabilitation	700 Casey Street E. Entrance Suite B Butte, MT 59701	496-4925	Provides services through Voc-Rehab, Visual, Medical, and Older Blind to assist eligible individuals in finding or maintaining employment and increasing independence.
Career Future	55 W. Granite Butte, MT 59701 Missoula, MT	723-9101 406-543-2300	An employment and training agency offering occupational skills testing, job readiness training, computer literacy and assisted job search.
Experience Works			Employment for workers over the age of 55.
Express Employment Professionals	700 E. Front Butte, MT 59701	723-6531	Full-service staffing agency that will work with you to find a job that fits your needs and abilities. Also provides employment services to help meet employers' needs and goals.
Jobs for Montana Graduates (JMG)	Butte School Dist.#1 111 N. Montana Butte, MT 59701	533-2500	Sponsored through Action Inc. offers youth 16-20 the opportunity to stay in school, graduate and successfully transition into employment, post-secondary education, or other training programs or the military.
Montana Job Services	2201 White Blvd. Butte, MT 59701	494-0300	Job search, job referral, unemployment program, dislocated worker and special services to veterans.
Spherion	1015 S. Montana Butte, MT 59701	782-1130	Private personnel services referring individuals for temporary employment.
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	700 Casey St. Butte, MT 59701	496-4925	Promote work and independence for Montanans with disabilities. Services available to assist, find or maintain employment.

Family or Partnership Services

Child Abuse Hotline		1-800-332-6100	Help available 24 hours a day. Referrals to counseling and other local services.
Child Support	17 W. Galena Butte, MT 59701	497-6600	Collects child support from absent parents.
Safe Space	PO Box 594 Butte, MT 59701	782-9807	Provides shelter, counseling, advocacy and referral services to families.
Victims/witness Advocate Program	155 W. Granite Butte, MT 59701	497-6230	Provides assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual assaults and other violent crimes.

Food/Nutrition Programs and Homeless Shelters

Butte Emergency Food Bank	1019 E. Second Butte, MT 59701	782-6230	Provides food assistance to families.
Butte Silver Bow Assistance Program	25 W. Silver Butte, MT 59701	533-6855	Sponsored by Action Inc. - provides limited assistance with shelter, medication, medical, dental, and indigent burial to adult only households.





ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE #	INFORMATION
Emergency Food and Shelter	25 W. Silver Butte, MT 59701	533-6855	Sponsored by Action Inc. - provides housing, utilities, and limited transportation to those in need.
WIC	25 W. Front Butte, MT 59701	497-5060	Provides supplemental food, health care referrals and nutrition education for low-income families.
Food Stamps/SNAP Education and Training	Silver Bow Ext. Office 305 W. Mercury St. #303 Butte, MT 59701	406-723-0217	Provides nutrition assistance to low-income individuals and families.
<u>Hospitals and Urgent Care Clinics</u>			
Southwest Montana Community Health Center	445 Centennial Butte, MT 59701	723-4075	Provides medical and dental treatment on a sliding fee scale.
Express Care	435 S. Crystal Butte, MT 59701	496-3670	Open M-F from 8:00 to 5:45 and Saturday 9:00 to 12:00
St. James Healthcare	400 S. Clark Butte, MT 59701	723-2500	A comprehensive hospital serving the health care needs of people in a seven-county area.
Travelers Healthcare Clinic	122003 Nissler Rd.	782-2928	Open M-TH 9:00 to 7:30
<u>Legal Assistance</u>			
Montana Legal Services	201 W. Granite Butte, MT 59701	800-666-6899	Offers legal help on most civil matters.
<u>Low Income Housing</u>			
Aspen Apartments	4500 Continental Butte, MT 59701	494-3660	Affordable housing community - Section 8 welcome.
Columbus Plaza	1515 Oregon Ave. Butte, MT 59701	782-0090	Elderly and disabled - 30% of adjusted gross income.
Continental Gardens	100 Gardens Way Butte, MT 59701	533-0705	Ages 62 and older - 30% of adjusted gross income.
Elm Street Project	1500-1600 Elm St. Butte, MT 59701	782-6461	30% of adjusted gross income.
Highland View Manor	3033 Busch St. Butte, MT 59701	782-0090	Ages 62 and older - 30% of adjusted gross income.
John R Riley Complex	701 Hobson Ave. Butte, MT 59701	494-8373	Housing for developmentally disabled.
Leggat Apartments	50 W. Broadway Butte, MT 59701	782-6461	Ages 62 or older or disabled - 30% of adjusted gross income.
Legion Oasis	3400 Hill Butte, MT 59701	494-3400	Moderate to low-income families 30% of adjusted gross income.
Meadowlands Apartments	4034 Elizabeth Warren Butte, MT 59701	782-5151	Affordable housing community, Section 8 welcome.
Rosalie Manor	Front and Main St. Butte, MT 59701	782-6461	Person 62 or older or disabled - 30% of adjusted gross income.





ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE #	INFORMATION
Silver Bow Homes	Curtis St. Butte, MT 59701	782-6461	Low-income families and elderly - 30% of adjusted gross income.
Silver Bow Village	910 Evans Butte, MT 59701	494-9580	Low-income individuals and families - 30% of adjusted gross income.
<u>Mental Health Services</u>			
A.W.A.R.E.	227 E. Mercury Butte, MT 59701	782-2042	Individual, family, and group therapy at Head Start, Case Management, Community Support, Psychiatry.
Southwest Montana Community Health Center	445 Centennial Butte, MT 59701	723-4075	Behavioral health for children and adults. ADD/ADHD Screens.
Shodair	2755 Colonial Dr. Helena, MT	1-800-447-6614	Inpatient treatment facility.
Western Montana Mental Health	106 W. Granite Butte, MT 59701	497-9000	Comprehensive school and community program - Home Support Services - Youth Case Management - Outpatient therapy.
Youth Dynamics	775 W. Gold Butte, MT 59701	782-5389	Youth Case Management - Family Support - Respite Care - Therapeutic Foster Care
Advanced Therapy Clinic	2100 Harrison Ave. Suite C Butte, MT 59701	406-690-6996	<i>Behavioral</i> , Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapy.
<u>Social and Community Services</u>			
American Red Cross	Butte, MT 59701	1-800-272-6668	Disaster relief, training in first aid and CPR, blood pressure screening, Home-Along Program.
Butte Silver Bow Health Department	25 W. Front St. Butte, MT 59701	497-5020	Home Health - Lead Program - Family Planning - Immunization Program - Maternal Child Health Program - Public Health Nursing.
New Hope Pregnancy Center	320 S. Idaho Butte, MT 59701	723-7144	Free pregnancy tests, peer counseling referrals, support group.
North American Indian Alliance	55 E. Galena Butte, MT 59701	782-0461	Referral and support services for Native Americans in Silver Bow County.
BSW Thrift Store	2310 Cobban Butte, MT 59701	723-2309	Used clothing and furniture at affordable prices.
Butte Rescue Mission	123 E. Park Butte, MT 59701	782-0233	Used clothing and furniture at affordable prices.
Goodwill Industries	Tamarack Square 3703 Harrison Ave. Butte, MT 59701	533-0021	Used clothing and furniture at affordable prices.





ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE #	INFORMATION
<u>Transportation</u>			
Butte Transit System	Harrison Ave. Butte, MT 59701	497-6515	Bus schedule information
Mining City Taxi	227 E. Front Butte, MT 59701	723-6511	Local taxi service
School District Transportation	1220 E. Front Butte, MT 59701	533-2490	Call contact number to obtain information
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
Alcoholics Anonymous		1-800-515-1255 1-800-521-6920 1-406-443-0438	24 hours on call help
Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Butte	65 E. Granite Butte, MT 59701	782-9644	Offers mentoring and support for children in single parent households.
Healthy Montana Kids	PO Box 202951 Helena, MT	1-888-706-1535	Offers free or low-cost health insurance to eligible Montana children and teenagers up to age 19 household income must meet income guidelines.
Energy Share of Montana	25 W. Silver Butte, MT 59701	533-6855	Power bill and fuel assistance for households who are in danger of having utilities disconnected, sponsored by Action Inc.
Low Income Energy Assistance Program LIEAP	25 W. Silver Butte, MT 59701	533-6855	Eligibility based on income and assets. Helps households reduce monthly heating costs with partial payments towards winter heating bills, sponsored by Action Inc.
Northwestern Energy	40 E. Broadway Butte, MT 59701	1-888-467-2669 Customer Care 1-888-467-2427 Gas Emergency 1-888-467-2353 Electric Energy	Local Utility Company
Poison Control Center		1-800-222-1222	Information on prevention and emergencies.
Weatherization Services	25 W. Silver Butte, MT 59701	533-6855	Performs energy audits to income eligible clients and can help with insulation, replacing broken glass, and testing, repairing, or replacing combustion appliances. Sponsored by Action Inc.





Section 8: Other Data Resources

DATA Analysis – March 2022

- **50% Teachers have Associate's degrees in Early Childhood**
- **50% Teachers have a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood**
- **100% Teacher Assistants' meet 2013 requirements**
- **93% Family Partnership Agreements completed**
- **Average Monthly Attendance to date 85%**
- **Enrollment 137/186**
- **Staff Vacancies 11**
- **17% Children receiving mental health services on site**
- **16% Children receiving special education services on site**
- **Staff who are Former/Current Head Start Parents – 27%**
- **Average Cost Per Child - \$10,667.00**
- **Total Funding - \$1,984,088.00**





Action Inc. Head Start School Readiness Goals 2021-2022

Teaching Strategies Gold Child Development Assessment

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT:

Families will be school-ready and committed to lifelong learning

Attendance, Medical, and Dental Home, In-kind, P/T Conferences

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Children will establish positive relationships, regulate emotions, and become independent learners.

1a. Manages feelings

1c. Takes care of own needs appropriately

2c. Interacts with peers

LANGUAGE:

Children will use language to communicate needs and express ideas with adults and peers.

8b. Follows directions

9a. Uses an expanding expressive vocabulary

LITERACY:

Children will demonstrate knowledge in print recognition, sound, rules of language and written representation.

15a. Notices and discriminates rhyme

16a. Identifies & names letters

19a. Writes name

COGNITION & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (MATHEMATICS):

Children will be able to connect their own thoughts and experiences to process information and problem solve.

20b. Quantifies

21a. Understands spatial relationships

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH:

Children will practice healthy and safe habits and demonstrate growth in motor skills.

7a. Uses fingers & hands

4. Demonstrates traveling skills

APPROACHES TO LEARNING:

Children will show curiosity and motivation, eagerness to learn about a variety of topics and ideas.

11b. Persists

11c. Solves problems

11d. Shows curiosity and motivation

11e. Shows flexibility and inventiveness in thinking

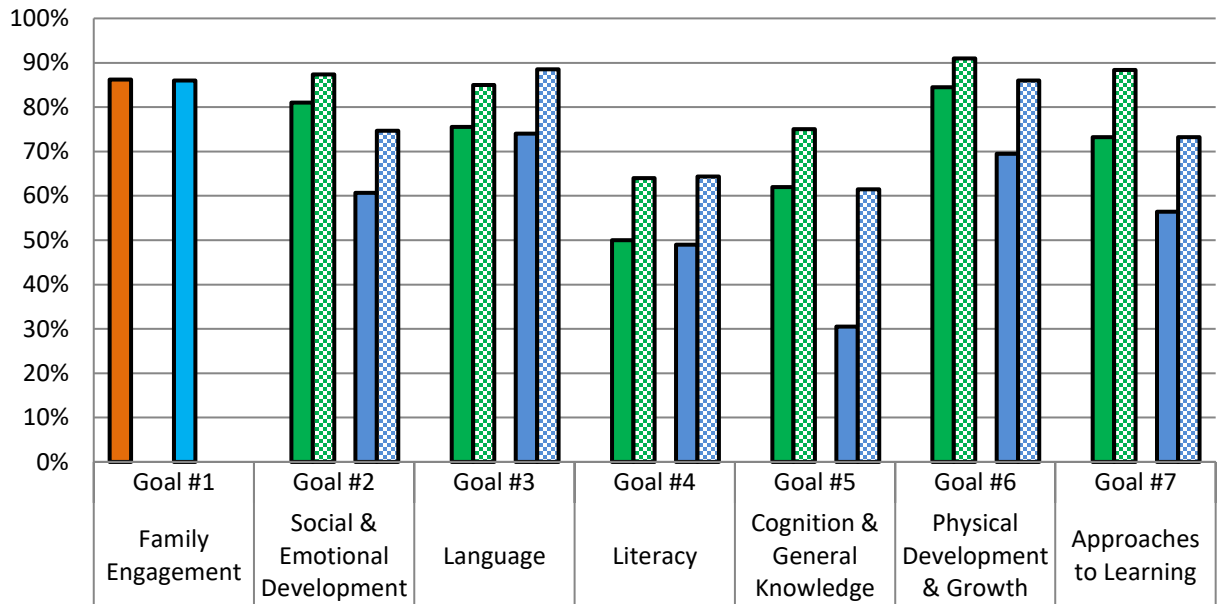
12a. Recognizes and recalls



Action Inc. Head Start

Percent of Children Meeting School Readiness Goals

Fall/Winter 2021-2022



Fall All Children	86%						
Fall 3yr old		81%	76%	50%	62%	85%	73%
Winter 3yr old		87%	85%	64%	75%	91%	88%
Winter All Children	86%						
Fall 4yr old		61%	74%	49%	31%	70%	56%
Winter 4yr old		75%	89%	64%	62%	86%	73%





Section 9: Head Start Accomplishments

- Through a collaboration agreement with School District #1, special education services are provided on-site.
- Increased wages for staff continue to be a priority.
- Professional Development opportunities have been made available to all staff for them to have the skills necessary to provide quality services to children and families that they serve. By the end of the program year the education on staff will have completed the following:
 - 3-CDA
 - 2-AA Early Childhood
 - 1-BA Early Childhood
- All children received the technology and supplies necessary for remote learning.
- All education staff received the technology necessary for remote learning.
- Head Start Forward Guidance for 2021-2022 had made it possible to provide in-person services in a safe environment for staff, children and families.
- Contracted with local therapist to provide mental health services on-site.
- Special Olympics –
Movement Campaign to increase wellness has been implemented for Head Start children.





Section 10: Challenges

During the 2021-2022 program year, the program has had to deal with the following issues/concerns:

- **COVID-19**
 - * **Enrollment struggles**
 - * **Staffing issues – very short staffed**
 - * **Quarantine – classroom/staff**
 - * **Staff burnout**
 - * **Family Engagement – difficult via Zoom**
 - * **Mask debates**
- **Mental Health –**
 - * **Many more challenging behaviors in the classroom**
- **Dealing with building issues at Lincoln School**
 - * **All classrooms and offices moved to main center and in another building.**





Section 11: Conclusions

Head Start will continue to strengthen the delivery of services to children and families through the following:

- **Provide training opportunities for staff and families to increase their knowledge on how to deal with behavior issues in the classroom and at home.**
- **Provide extra classroom support to assist teaching staff to help meet the needs of children identified with behavior concerns.**
- **Provide family engagement activities that will increase parent's knowledge as the primary educator of their child and the importance of attendance in Head Start and beyond.**
- **Provide opportunities to families that will increase their knowledge and understanding of the importance of healthy living and its relationship to school readiness success for their children.**
- **Continue to collaborate with agencies in the community to educate families on services available to help meet their needs.**
- **Provide Head Start families the tools needed for remote learning when necessary.**
- **Continue to collaborate with School District #1 to ensure all children in need of preschool services are getting the opportunity to participate.**
- **Continue to provide mental health services on-site to ensure staff, children and families have access to services whenever needed.**
- **Be fully enrolled 186 children for the 2022-2023 program year.**
- **Be fully staffed for the 2022-2023 program year.**

