



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

## Fremont County Head Start

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# ABOUT UAACOG FREMONT COUNTY HEAD START

## Mission Statement

We Strengthen our community by providing service, support and resources to make lives better.

## Equal Opportunity Employer

The Agency is dedicated to the principles of equal employment opportunity. We prohibit unlawful discrimination against applicants or employees on the basis of age 40 and over, race, sex, color, religion, national origin, disability, military status, genetic information, or any other status protected by applicable state or local law.

## Head Start

Head Start addresses the educational needs of the children 3-5 years of age as well as the health, nutrition, social, mental health, and literary needs. Head Start promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children from low income families. Developmental growth is met through the provision of education, health (medical, dental, mental), nutrition, social services, and transportation. Families are actively engaged in their children's learning and goal planning.

## Enrollment

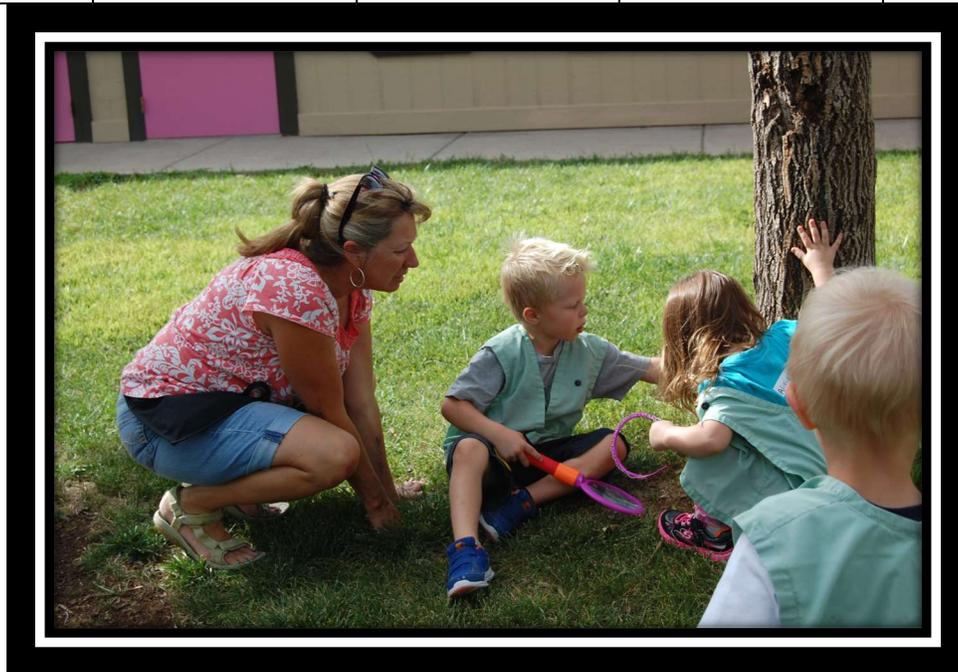
There was a cumulative enrollment of 126 children in Fremont County Head Start Program during 2023- 2024 program year and 116 families.

08CH012239	Jul 2023	Closed	157	Reported
08CH012239	Aug 2023	112	157	Reported
08CH012239	Sep 2023	115	157	Reported
08CH012239	Oct 2023	115	157	Reported
08CH012239	Nov 2023	112	157	Reported
08CH012239	Dec 2023	114	157	Reported
08CH012239	Jan 2024	112	157	Reported
08CH012239	Feb 2024	113	157	Reported
08CH012239	Mar 2024	114	157	Reported
08CH012239	Apr 2024	108	157	Reported
08CH012239	May 2024	106	157	Reported
08CH012239	Jun 2024	Closed	157	Reported
08CH012239	Jul 2024	Closed	157	Reported

UAACOG has been underenrolled since August of 2020. We are currently a part of the Head Start enrollment initiative. Under enrollment is due to lack of qualified workforce availability and saturation of the service area for preschool classrooms. We have an action plan in place addressing these issues.

## Eligibility

0-100% Poverty	100-130% Poverty	Over income	Public Assistance	Homeless <small>(Based on McKinney Vento)</small>
<b>23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>27</b>



## Financials

### 2023-2024 Budget

<i>Budget Category</i>	<i>Program Operations</i>	<i>Training Technical Assistance</i>	<i>Non-Federal Share</i>
Personnel	\$840,905	\$0	\$99,966
Fringe Benefits	\$218,040	\$0	\$13,523
Travel	\$0	\$4,180	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$5,698
Supplies	\$13,992	\$0	\$5,100
Contractual	\$4,154	\$0	\$115,434
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$72,364	\$15,147	\$98,586
<b>Total Direct Charges</b>	<b>\$1,149,455</b>	<b>\$19,327</b>	<b>\$338,307</b>
Indirect Charges	\$184,446	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,333,901</b>	<b>\$19,327</b>	<b>\$338,307</b>

## Program Expenditures

## Independent Audit

## SUMMARY OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' RESULTS

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

An unmodified opinion was rendered on the financial statements of Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022 that were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified?  Yes  No
- Significant deficiency(s) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses?  Yes  None Reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?  Yes  No

### FEDERAL AWARDS

- Material weakness(es) identified?  Yes  No
- Significant deficiency(s) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses?  Yes  None Reported

An unmodified opinion on compliance for major programs was issued.

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?  Yes  No

Identification of major programs:

<u>CFDA Number</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
10.557 93.600	WIC-Women, Infants and Children Head Start

Dollar amount used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$ 750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee:  Yes  No

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDING**

#### **Finding 2021-001: Year-end Adjustments**

**Condition:** The finding was related to internal control and cutoff over the process of posting year-end adjustments.

**Status:** Corrective action taken. This was not a repeat finding during the 2022 fiscal year audit.

### **FEDERAL AWARD FINDING AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

#### **Finding 2021-002 Allowable Costs/Principles**

**Condition:** This finding was related to internal control over general reporting compliance related to the reporting of federal expenditures on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

**Status:** This was not a repeat finding for the 2022 fiscal year audit.

To view full audit report, visit: <https://www.uaacog.com/about/reports/>

## Most Recent Results from Office of Head Start Monitoring

The most recent results from the Office of Head Start Monitoring were completed February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024. The monitoring event was a Focus Area One Monitoring Review. From February 20, 2024 to February 22, 2024, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a Focus Area One (FA1) monitoring review of Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments. This review contains information about the grant recipient's performance and compliance with the requirements of the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) or Public Law 110-134, Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007.

The results of the review determined that UAACOG Fremont County Head Start was compliant in all areas except for two. Please see the chart below detailing the non-compliance and the corrections.

### Performance Summary

This section contains an overview of compliance information identified in each Performance Area for all Content Areas. Detailed information can be found in the Review Details section.

#### Compliance Information

Content Area	Performance Area	Grant Number(s)	Compliance Level	Applicable Standards	Timeframe for Correction
Health Services	Safe and Sanitary Environments	08CH012239	Area of Noncompliance	1302.90(b)(1)	120 days
Health Services	Safe and Sanitary Environments	08CH012239	Area of Noncompliance	1302.90(b)(5)	120 days

## Performance Summary

This section contains an overview of compliance information determined through this review. Detailed information can be found in the Review Details section.

Content Area	Performance Area	Applicable Standards	Grant Number(s)	Primary Review Finding Status	Timeframe for Correction	Follow-up Compliance Level
Health Services	Safe and Sanitary Environments	1302.90(b)(1)	08CH012239	ANC	N/A	Corrected
Health Services	Safe and Sanitary Environments	1302.90(b)(5)	08CH012239	ANC	N/A	Corrected

The full report can be accessed at <https://www.uaacog.com/services/head-start/>

## Health and Wellbeing

### 2023-2024 End of Year data



Fremont County Head Start strives to help each child and family have continuous accessible health care. The data above is based in 2023 Program Information Report Data.

## Family Involvement

We have family nights once a month and the activities vary. We ask parents for input on what activities they would like to have for family nights, but some that we have had are:

- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) nights. Parents do activities with their child around these content areas.
- Library night- parents go with their children to the libraries in their hometown to read books, have a story time with the librarian, and possibly get a library card.
- Pyramid night- Families create materials to help with social/emotional development at home. They make things such as routines, calming strategies, cozy corners, and problem-solving boxes.
- Multi-cultural night- Families can tour the center and learn about different cultures. We try to focus on the cultures of families enrolled.

These are just a few examples of the types of activities we do to support parent/child relationships and child development



## Fatherhood Involvement

We host three Fremont County Dad's nights a year. These are open to the public and include fun and educational activities for fathers/ father figures to do with children. This gives father/ father figures and the opportunity to work on educational activities and collaborate with other fathers in the area. The activities we hosted this year include:

- Pumpkin decorating and chili dinner
- Make a kite night
- Social game night and BBQ



## School Readiness

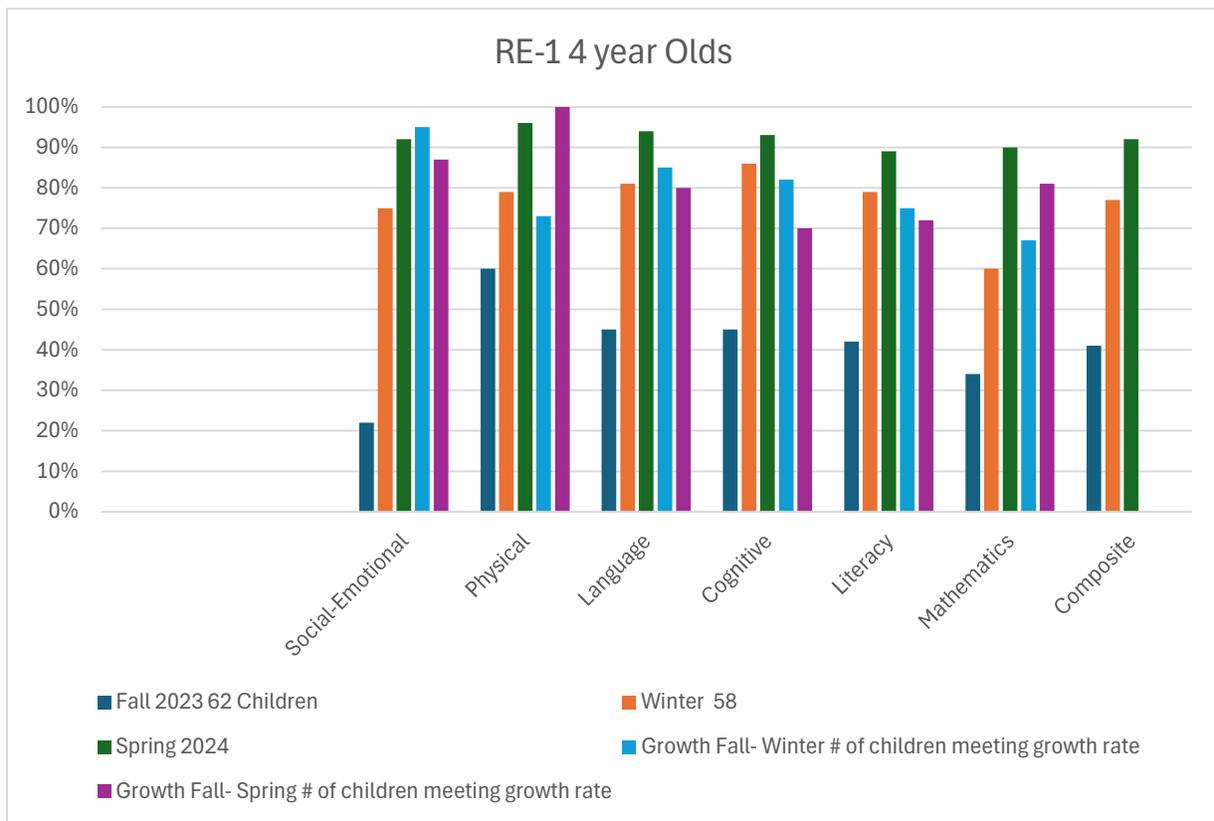
### Curriculum

The Creative Curriculum for Preschool is a comprehensive curriculum for preschool that builds children's confidence, creativity, and critical thinking skills through hands-on, project-based investigations. The creative curriculum is aligned with State Early Learning Standards. This is the curriculum that was used in the 2023-2024 school year.

## Assessment and Outcomes

Fremont County Head Start uses Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment tool, which is the tool used by Colorado kindergarten as the Kindergarten Entry Assessment. This helps with alignment in the transition to kindergarten. Teachers assess children three times per year and data reports are produced on individuals, classrooms and the whole center. This data is used to inform individual curriculum, classroom planning and center wide professional development and ordering of materials.

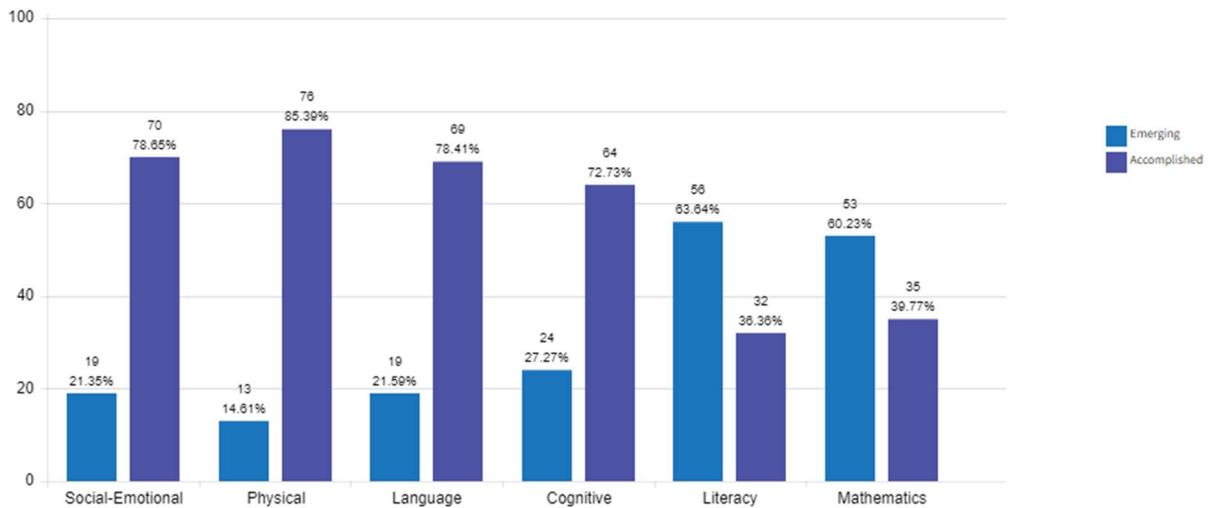
This data depicts percentage of children the year before kindergarten that are meeting or exceeding program expectations for program year 2023-2024



This data depicts percentage of children the year before kindergarten that are accomplishing school readiness expectations or emerging for school year 2023-2024

## Colorado Dept. of Education - Results Matter (PreK) - Fremont County Head Start

### Spring - Kindergarten Readiness



## Transitions

Fremont County Head Start held our annual transition to kindergarten night on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Representatives from both RE-1 and RE-2 school districts attended. Families were able to spend time with and ask questions of kindergarten teachers, administration staff, nutrition staff and transportation staff.

Staff from Fremont County Head Start attended the P-3 kindergarten roadmap conference along side district staff and early childhood council representation. The Fremont County transition team is working collaboratively to help all children and their families transition smoothly from preschool to kindergarten. The team meets once a month to work on kindergarten transition goals.

Sixty-three transition bags were sent home with children transitioning to kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year. These bags include summer community activity resources and educational materials (crayons, pencils, scissors, etc).

## School Readiness Goals

Fremont County Head Start has created the following school readiness goals to guide the curriculum and learning objectives for kindergarten success:

### Content Area-Social & Emotional Development

#### Domain-Social & Emotional Development

Program Goal: Children will be able to interact with adults and peers in healthy relationships, feel capable of successfully making decisions and accomplishing tasks; and demonstrate a healthy range of emotional expression.

### Content Area-Cognitive

#### Domain: Approaches to Learning

Program Goal: Children will be willing to participate in new and unfamiliar activities or experiences, seek out information by asking questions.

### Content Area-Language & Literacy

#### Domain-Language Development

#### Literacy Knowledge & Skills

Program Goal: (Domain-Language Development/Literacy Knowledge and skills): Children will understand and use language, follow directions, speak clearly, and engage in conversation and demonstrate meaning in stories.

### Content Area-Cognition & General Knowledge

#### Domain-Logic & Reasoning

Program Goal: (Cognition and General Knowledge: Domain Logic and Reasoning) Children will have the skills to think through problems and apply strategies for solving them.

### Content Area-Cognition & General Knowledge

#### Domain-Mathematics Knowledge & Skills

Program Goal for Cognition and General Knowledge: (Domain Mathematical Knowledge and Skills): Children will understand that numbers are used to describe relationships and solve problems, represent quantities and can be counted, shapes can be observed and relate to each other, and measurement is used to compare objects and understand measurement units.

#### Content Area-Cognition & General Knowledge

##### Domain-Science Knowledge & Skills

Program Goal for Cognition and General Knowledge: (Domain Science Knowledge and Skills) Children will have skills to observe and collect information from the natural and physical world and to use that knowledge to ask questions, predict, explain and draw conclusions from naturally occurring relationships.

#### Content Area-Cognition & General Knowledge

##### Domain-Social Studies Knowledge & Skills

Program Goal for Cognition and General Knowledge: (Domain- Social Studies Knowledge and Skills) Children will begin to understand their role in their family, community, and the larger world. They will also understand how society functions and how our geographical features affect our way of life.

#### Content Area-Physical Development & Health

##### Domain-Physical Development & Health

Program Goal for Physical Development and Health: Children will have age appropriate preventive health care needs met, have knowledge of age appropriate well-being, practice safe and healthy habits and have age appropriate fine and gross motor skills.

#### Content Area-Language & Literacy

##### Domain-English Language Development

Program Goal for Language and Literacy (Domain English Language Development): Children will understand and use English and participate in English literacy activities.