

Ho-Chunk Head Start Locations

Ho-Chunk Head Start Program:

Head Start Central Office
W8806 Mission Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
800-362-4476
715-284-4915

Program Director:

Laurel Sackett-Meek

Health/Nutrition/ Safety/
Transportation Coordinator:

Paula Ward

Head Start Accountant:

Shelena Brown

Ahuco Center (Tomah Area)

321 Epoch
Tomah, WI 54660
608-372-6669

Tori Moake-Lead Teacher
Danielle Calhoun-Family and
Community Partnership Coordinator

Chahk Ha Chee Center (Nekoosa Area)

4910 Winneshiek Lane
Nekoosa, WI 5457
715-886-4750
Veronica Rodriguez- Lead Teacher
Heidi Elsen-Family and Community
Partnership Coordinator

Ho-Chunk Gra Center (Mission)

W8802 Mission Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
715-284-2311
Muriel Schauer-Lead Teacher
Sherrie Brett- Family and Community
Partnership Coordinator

Neenk Chunk Gra (Wis. Dells Area)

E10701 Fern Dell Road
Lake Delton, WI 53913
608-254-4227
Iwona Pakos- Lead Teacher
Kathleen Witkus-Family & Community
Partnership Coordinator

Puzaki Pei Cinak (Sandpillow)

N7293 Low Cloud Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
715-284-3331
Gina WhiteEagle- Lead Teacher
Trisha Carriaga- Family and Community
Partnership Coordinator

Wipaman Ker'da Heat Start (Wittenberg Area)

W17634 Radke Road
Wittenberg, WI 54499
715-253-3826
Connie Yonker- Lead Teacher
Anne Koester- Family and Community
Partnership Coordinator



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715-284-4915

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Providing a quality
program for
children since 1970

Tel: 800-362-4476 or 715-284-4915

What is Head Start?

Head Start is a Federal program for preschoolers from low-income families. The Head Start program is operated by local non-profit organizations in almost every county in the country. Children who attend Head Start participate in a variety of educational activities, and also receive free medical and dental screenings, have healthy meals and enjoy playing indoors and outdoors in a safe setting. Head Start helps all children succeed.

Mission Statement

The Ho-Chunk Head Start Program embraces each family's individuality and nurtures each child to grow intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally, culturally, and spiritually.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Head Start Program operates six centers; located in Wittenberg, Nekoosa, Tomah, Wisconsin Dells, and two in Black River Falls. The program has the capacity to serve 120 children, age 3 to 5 years old, and targets children from low income families, children with disabilities, and other at risk populations.

The Centers serve children from August to June. Classes are held from 8:30 am to 3:00

pm, Monday through Thursday. Children are transported to and from the centers within a predetermined mile radius of each Center.



Education

Head Start believes that you, as a parent, are your child's first and lifelong teacher. Therefore, we encourage parent involvement in all aspects of the program. The Head Start education content areas address improving language skills, number and reading readiness skills, self-help skills, and fine and gross motor coordination. Your child will participate in many creative activities through use of interest centers filled with art, music, logic, and science experiences. Social skill development is encouraged through this positive learning environment and the use of child guidance. The Head Start program also works closely with the Ho-Chunk Language & Culture teachers to provide learning of the Ho-Chunk language in a natural setting on a daily basis.



Disabilities

Each child is assessed three times per year for growth in several areas of child development: social emotional, physical, language, cognition, literacy, and math. If needed, children are referred to sources, which may assist them in attaining Kindergarten skills. Children with special needs are served in the program, which collaborates with resources to better serve all children.

Health

Children enrolled in the program receive routine health screenings. Immunizations are required as part of the enrollment process. Children participate in dental hygiene practices, hand washing skills and illness prevention practices at the centers.

Nutrition

The Head Start Program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. The children receive breakfast and lunch as part of the program. These meals provide 2/3 of the US daily recommended dietary allowance for children in this age group.



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Family and Community Partnerships

The Head Start Program assists families in obtaining resources or training to help meet the self-identified needs of the family. Resources can include budgeting, job training, parenting skills, counseling, and abuse prevention, to name a few. As stated before, Head Start believes that you, as a parent, are your child's first and lifelong teacher. Therefore, we encourage parent involvement in all aspects of the program. Parents are requested to serve on the Health Advisory Board, the Policy Council and to participate in monthly Parent Committee meetings held at the center. Parents are also encouraged to visit, observe, and volunteer at each center. Parents are also encouraged to share their community and cultural resource ideas as contributions to the curriculum.

