Family Services of Grant County 1402 E. Craig Street Moses Lake, WA 98837



2022 Annual Report



# FAMILY SERVICES OF GRANT COUNTY

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

# FSGC'S MISSION

Family Services of Grant County partners with children, parents, families and communities to promote growth through high quality education and comprehensive health and social service networks.

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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Conscious Discipline, an approach for learning, page 7 Find us on Facebook or go to our website at: www.familyservicegc.net



# FAMILY SERVICES OF GRANT COUNTY (FSGC) **2022 CENTERS & PROGRAM MODELS**

FSGC provides Head Start preschool and infant/toddler programs to the communities of Ephrata, Moses Lake and Soap Lake. To qualify for our programs, families must be under 130% of the poverty level:

Persons in family/household	To qualify, a family must make less than the following per month:
1	\$1,472
2	\$1,984
3	\$2,495
4	\$3,006

Ephrata Head Start Center:

- One preschool classroom serving 20 children. a)
- Two infant and toddler Family Educator (home visib) tors) serving 22 children.

Moses Lake Denise Schmidt Center:

- Five preschool classrooms serving 90 children, two part day a) toddler classrooms serving 16, and four full day infant and toddler classrooms serving 32 children.
- Three infant and toddler Family Educators (home visitors) serving 30 children. b)
- One specialized classroom for children in Foster Care (PACT) serving twelve children. c)

## Head Start offers two types of preschool classes for 110 children:

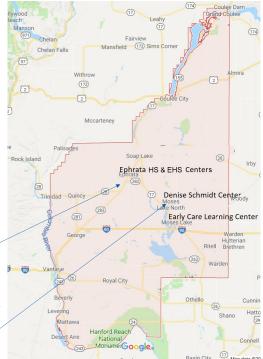
- Four hours classes, four days per week, nine months per year. a)
- Seven and one half hour classes, four days per week, ten months per year (Moses Lake only). b)

### Early Head Start offers Year Around Parent Education and Support for 112 Families with Infants, Toddlers and/or Pregnant Moms:

- d) The Home Based Program offers weekly home visitation and educational groups twice a month.
- Part Day Toddler Classrooms offer two days of class and two home visits per month. a)
- b) Full Day Early Care Program classrooms offer five days per week with two home visits and two conferences per year.
- Parents and Children Together (PACT) offers specialized services for children in foster care d) (by referral only).

## All FSGC Programs Offer Child & Family Services & Supports:

- $\Diamond$ individualized assessment and education,
- $\Diamond$ screenings for health, dental, and behavioral concerns,
- $\Diamond$ nutritious meals,
- resources to help families be successful, and  $\Diamond$
- $\Diamond$ parent leadership training.



Map of Grant County

two

ata @2

### 2022 Board of Directors

## President David Bustamante, Grant County Public Defender

Vice President OPEN

## Secretary

Jennifer Olsen, Resource Development Director, Inland Tarp

#### Treasurer

Juliann Dodds, Senior Vice President at Banner Bank

## Policy Council President

Courtney Thornton, Policy Council President

Susan Freeman, Owner, Pioneer Memorial Services

Sharon Lange, Special Education Teacher, Moses Lake School District

Maria Vargas, Community Public Health Manager, Grant County Health District

Cheryl Hein, Social Worker for Hopesource

Rebecca Mabius, Director, Habitat for Humanity



Learning happens in relationship ....

# FSGC—WHO WE ARE:

FSGC is a private nonprofit organization supporting education, health and family connections for a stronger community.

Besides helping low income children be ready for kindergarten, FSGC offers many services!

- Did you know that FSGC has a community minded Board of Directors and a Parent Policy Council that governs the agency?
- 2. Did you know that Head Start children are helped to be ready for kindergarten and are more equipped than their peers who do not attend Head Start (see page 9)?
- 3. Did you know that FSGC teaches parents as well as children? (see article, page 6)
- 4. Did you know FSGC has classrooms in Moses Lake and Ephrata (see page 2)?
- 5. Did you know FSGC served 121 children last year?
- 6. Did you know at any given time FSGC normally employs approximately 80 individuals not including on-call substitutes?

#### 2022 Policy Council Members

#### President

HS/EHS Ephrata Rep. Courtney Thornton (Jan—Dec)

Vice President

OPEN (Jan—Dec)

#### Secretary

EHS Moses Lake Rep. Amelia Housden (Jan—Dec)

#### Treasurer

OPEN (Jan—Dec)

EHS Ephrata Rep. Trisha New (Jan—Dec)

Moses Lake HS Alicia Patina (Jan—Dec)

Moses Lake HS Jenny Mendez (Jan—Dec)

Moses Lake HS Elizabeth Barragan Ramirez (Jan—Dec)

Community Rep. OPEN

Ephrata HS/EHS Alt. Rep. Kenji Thornton (Jan—Dec)

# A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The academic year of 2022-2023 posed formidable challenges for FSGC. Our organization grappled with the aftermath of pandemic-related societal and cultural changes, profoundly impacting our workforce. These challenges have been extensive; a limited pool of desirable candidates make it difficult to fill new positions and those that were vacated due to the pandemic. In Grant County, low rates of educational attainment and a scarcity of qualified educators intensifies the rivalry among programs for experienced and degreed Early Childhood professionals. This situation was worsened by remarkably low unemployment rates and the rise in minimum wage, heightening competition for job applicants. Prospective employees are seeking workplace schedule flexibility, an attribute difficult to achieve in the preschool education field. According to **Workhuman\*'s** fall of 2021 report, "How the Great Resignation will Shape HR and the Future of Work", the pandemic prompted a significant culture shift in employer/employee relationships. Nearly one-third of workers planning to change jobs cited the desire for more flexibility as their primary reason. Those uninterested in the responsibility or challenge of working with children could find comparable paying opportunities in the food service and retail sectors.

Meanwhile, a growing pattern of employee absenteeism added further strain to our organization. Pandemic policies, implemented to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved in our programs, led to staff shortages caused by illness-related absences. A substantial increase in absenteeism was primarily due to the impact of the COVID, RSV, and influenza, creating what our County Health Officer termed a "tripledemic." Additionally an unusually high number of employees required family medical leave, leading to the consolidation of classrooms to cover staffing shortages. Despite these challenges, we maintained a steadfast commitment to preventing unwell individuals from reporting to work, thereby prioritizing the health and well-being of our children and staff, and preventing the spread of illness that would increase absenteeism.

Confronting these obstacles compelled FSGC to rethink our organizational priorities. We would need to explore innovative methods of supporting employee health to maintain a robust program. This would involve creating more positions, offering bonuses and increasing wages to both attract and maintain our retention of good employees. While Conscious Discipline (as discussed on page 7) plays a role in supporting individual employee resilience, we also recognized the need for additional creative solutions to enhance our workforce's positive engagement.

With these objectives in mind, FSGC promptly took incremental steps to achieve them. We utilized cost savings for sign-on and retention bonuses, and COLA funds to provide a substantial wage increase. Requests were made in the annual grant application to restructure funding and cover the cost of new positions that would substitute when employees are sick. We invested in additional training on methods for strengthening individual and group resilience. Each step forward resulted in progress toward our hiring goals, leading to a higher percentage of open positions being filled and a corresponding increase in child enrollment.

In addition to completing these efforts, FSGC achieved a highly successful Federal Review in March, affirming our reputation as a top-quality program. Moving forward, we are committed to bolstering our workforce support initiatives to ensure unparalleled services to our families.

Best,

Sally

Sally Gundry, Executive Director

# 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR ENROLLMENT and **HEALTH OUTCOMES**

Dad shows his toddler how water comes out when you squeeze a spray bottle.





Two girls make silly faces for the camera.

Children, parents and staff learn together best when using safe presence and playful interaction.

The average monthly enrollment program wide was 44% September 2022 through July 2023 The total number of enrolled children ages 0—5 years of age in all FSGC programs was 119. The total number of families served in all FSGC programs was 151.

91.5% of enrolled children received a dental screening.

109 children had current Dental screenings/exams.

5

89% of enrolled children received a medical exam. 106 children had current well child

exams.

\* In certain cases, dental clinics require the parent to obtain records and will not provide FSGC with a faxed copy of the record when a release of information is sent, creating a barrier to obtaining the records.

## **GOVERNANCE AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT**

## POLICY COUNCIL

FSGC's Policy Council supports the Board of Directors and agency administration by contributing to agency decisions and has voting authority over key organizational functions. Members represent each Head Start center and program, and are responsible for setting organizational direction for program selection criteria, grant applications and involvement in our continuous quality improvement process. Each elected official is provided training for their role, and is offered the opportunity to attend the Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP conferences to learn more. Current members are listed in the banner on the previous page. In the last school year, Policy Council remained connected and involved through our Zoom platform as well as in person planning meetings. Although providing hybrid options was a new process, we accomplished it and continued the important work of Policy Council!



Parents and children attend summer events, enjoying the nice weather and lots of experiences to do together.

## PARENT ENGAGEMENT

FSGC makes it a priority to include parents in program and provide educational opportunities for them throughout the year. Parent Engagement happened in multiple ways throughout the year. Parent Committee meetings included opportunities for parents and children to practice Conscious Discipline, and for parents to learn useful knowledge about health, finances and child development. Many of these were held by zoom, allowing busy parents to participate without having to leave home.

Circle of Security parenting classes were provided both by zoom and in-person, and in both English and Spanish. Our Winterfest was done as a drive through event to continue our commitment to ensuring we did not spread any winter illnesses. Our Spring Festival was held in person outdoors at the centers. The festivals were both well attended.

## **CONSCIOUS DISCIPLINE AND MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS**



FSGC Staff and parents participating in winter events in Moses Lake and Ephrata.



FSGC embraces Dr. Becky Bailey's Loving Guidance approach and supports the Conscious Discipline<sup>®</sup> educational method. Their vision is to "create an interconnected world of conscious adults, capable of responding instead of reacting to conflict, creating safe homes, safe schools and a safe planet". Their goal and mission is to "improve children's lives for generations through teaching social emotional learning".

The method focuses on social-emotional learning (SEL) and is recognized by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP) as an evidence-based, trauma-informed approach.

Conscious Discipline underscores the importance of adult emotional regulation, emphasizing that adults must manage their emotions effectively to support SEL in children. The method, informed by neuroscience, identifies three brain states—survival, emotional, and executive. In survival and emotional states, individuals struggle to learn effectively due to fear, lack of care, or overwhelming emotions. Conversely, the executive state, characterized by happiness and connection, enables optimal learning. Establishing physical and emotional safety is crucial to transitioning from survival or emotional states to the calm and attentive executive state.

FSGC incorporates these concepts not only in classroom interactions with children but also in partnerships with parents, teamwork, and community engagement. The agency recognizes the pivotal role of positive relationships and playful connections in stress relief and enhanced learning for everyone. FSGC promotes centered around relationships, values strengths, and organizational support. The organization strives to create a connected "school family" environment in various settings and shares these relationship-based educational methods with the community.

Mindfulness plays a key role in managing stress and promoting helpful responses, fostering humanity and connection amid challenging situations. FSGC's five-year goals involve disseminating trauma-informed practices, emphasizing the significance of relationships and selfcontrol for optimal learning. As social polarization continues to divide society, socialemotional learning becomes even more critical.

To contribute to this cause, FSGC secured a \$25,000 grant to provide Conscious Discipline training to childcare, educators and mental health workers serving children under the age of five. By offering access to virtual courses and necessary materials, FSGC aims to make incremental progress toward creating safer and kinder communities in Grant County.

# LEARNING APPROACHES IN FSGC PROGRAMS

#### When I paint at the easel, I am learning ....

- •To develop my imagination and creativity.
- •Eye-hand coordination, helpful for learning to write.
- •To distinguish shapes and purposely create shapes.
- •To express my feelings and ideas.
- •Relationships of space and size, necessary for mathematics.
- •Concepts of symmetry, balance, and design.

## When I sort things, I am learning...

- •To match and sort items that are the same and different, a pre-reading and pre-math skill.
- •Concepts of color, size, and shape.
- •Numerical concepts of more and less.
- •Logical reasoning.

# When I play with blocks, puzzles, trucks, and dolls, I am learning...

- •To exercise my imagination.
- •To cooperate with others.
- •To solve problems.
- •Concepts of shape, size, length, and location.
- •To create and repeat patterns, a reading and math skill.

## When I talk with others, I am learning...

- •To listen and understand spoken language.
- •To add my ideas to the discussion. My ideas have value.
- •To wait while others are talking.
- •New vocabulary connected with the topic of discussion.



#### When I explore with water I am learning...

- •That some things sink and some things float.
- •To observe changes as water takes different forms in different containers.
- •About different temperatures.
- •About wet, dry, and evaporation.
- •What happens when you mix water with some thing (soap, food coloring, dirt, etc.)
- •Eye-hand coordination as I learn to pour.
- •Concepts of empty and full, less and more, relevant to mathematics.

# When I climb on playground equipment, I am learning...

- •Self-confidence as I develop new skills.
- Physical strength, coordination and balance.
- •To use my imagination.
- •To cooperate with others when involved in some dramatic play.
- •To solve problems.

### When I play dress-up, I am learning...

- •To be flexible in my thinking.
- •To try on different adult roles.
- •To solve problems, especially

socially, through negotiations with friends.

•To make decisions.

When I play with playdough, I am learning...

- •Concepts of shapes, relative sizes, big, small, length, height, etc.
- •To express my feelings by squeezing and pounding.
- •To exercise my imagination and creativity.

## **Adapted from:**

## When I Play I am Learning

Written by Karen Miller Children's World National Director of Education

www.vmcp.org/play.html

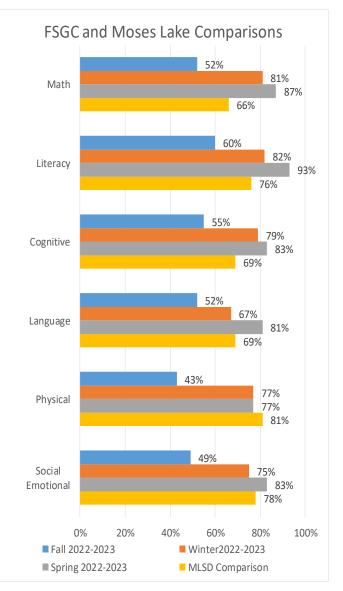
# FSGC OUTCOMES AS COMPARED TO AVERAGE CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) is the research based developmental assessment tool that FSGC utilizes to show growth trends with Head Start and Early Head Start children. Washington State also utilizes TSG to assess the developmental level of all children entering kindergarten.

The chart (right) depicts data for our children who were enrolled in Head Start during the 2022-2023 school year, versus children from Moses Lake who were entering kindergarten in WA State in the spring. Many of those represented within the community average may have also attended preschool.

This comparison data shows that at FSGC Head Start children were better prepared in five of six domains (math, literacy, cognitive, and language) than the average child in Moses Lake, regardless of their income (WAKids Data). While FSGC outcomes in physical development were not as high, this can be attributed to a number of new young children enrolled late in the year.

1 Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, WaKIDS (August 2022). Retrieved from <u>https://washingtonstatereportcard.ospi.k12.</u> wa.us/ReportCardViewSchoolOrDistrict/100241



# **RESULTS OF FEDERAL REVIEWS AND ANNUAL AUDIT**

# <u>Results from the most recent financial audit:</u>

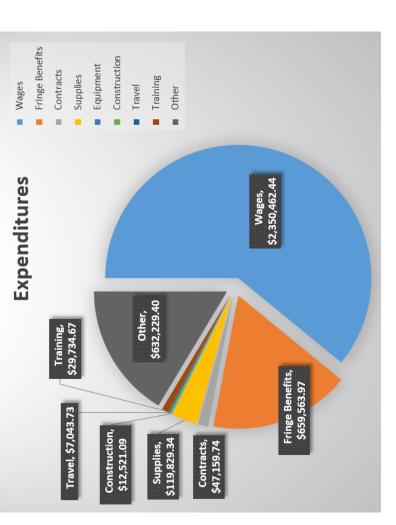
For the period ended December 31, 2022, Family Services of Grant County's Single Audit reported no current year findings in the financial statement audit. *Results from the most recent CACFP review:* 

FSGC's CACFP monitoring review completed June 15, 2023 found zero areas of noncompliance. There was no need for a corrective action plan.

<u>Results from the most recent Federal review:</u>

A Focus Area 2 federal review was held from March 13—March 17, 2023 with one noncompliance finding related to inventory CFR 75.320(d)(2). A corrective action plan was completed with a follow up review completed on 9/28/2023. On 10/17/23, FSGC was notified by the Office of Head Start that the area of noncompliance was corrected.

Revenues	Early Care Learning Center, 612,239.66 ,	16% Early Head Start Family Services	<ul> <li>Head Start</li> <li>USDA</li> </ul>	Early Learly Starts	1,353,348.85, 37%			Head Start, 1,733,431.48 , 47%		Family Services, 3,205.74 , 0%
	\$2,572,830	\$815,477	\$36,840	\$236,751	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,333	\$27,817	<u> </u>	\$4,594,604
Expenditures	Wages	Fringe Benefits	Contracts	Supplies	Equipment	Construction	Travel	Training	Other	Total



			Total	4,507,087.01	36,646.27	4,388.02	57,970.00	4,606,091.30		2,572,830.16	815,476.60	36,840.04	236,750.90	0.00	00.00	2,333.00	27,816.59	901,737.71	0.00	4,594,603.87	11,487.43
enditures			Early Care Learning Center	669,537.91	36,646.27	0.00	0.00	706,184.18		439,308.26	128,367.06	4,456.65	18,565.04	00.00	00.00	35.27	3,054.25	70,016.40	0.00	663,802.93	42,381.25
snue and Exp	1/2022	<b>OUNTY</b> e and Expenditures 2022	USDA	28,506.15	0.00	00.00	0.00	28,506.15		00.0	00.00	0.00	63,944.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,944.47	(35,438.32)
Report Reve	From 1/1/2022 Through 12/31/2022	FAMILY SERVICES OF GRANT COUNTY Statement of Activities - Annual Report Revenue and Expenditures From 1/1/2022 Through 12/31/2022	Head Start	2,296,644.20	0.00	0.00	57,970.00	2,354,614.20		1,359,691.42	391,103.22	21,156.13	94,898.58	0.00	0.00	921.00	14,391.95	463,766.33	0.00	2,345,804.50	8,809.70
ties - Annual	n 1/1/2022 T	<b>FAMILY SER</b> atement of Activities From 1/1/	Family Services	00.0	0.00	4,388.02	0.00	4,388.02		0.00	00.00	0.00	00.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	136.88	0.00	136.88	4,251.14
Statement of Activities - Annual Report Revenue and Expenditures	Fron	St	Early Head Start	1,512,398.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,512,398.75		773,830.48	296,006.32	11,227.26	59,342.81	0.00	0.00	1,376.73	10,370.39	368,761.11	0.00	1,520,915.09	(8,516.34)
Statem				REVENUE Grants	Program Fees	Other Revenue	Donations NFS	Total REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	Wages	Fringe Benefits	Contracts	Supplies	Equipment	Construction	Travel	Training	Other	Donations NFS	Total EXPENDITURES	NET PROFIT/LOSS

FAMILY SERVICES OF GRANT COUNTY

## Family Services of Grant County Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,000,270	\$ 413,896
Grants receivable	314,341	312,843
Accounts receivable	400	153
Deposit, Northwest Agencies Trust	79,364	134,135
Prepaid expense	71,983	2,511
Total current assets	1,466,358	863,538
Property and Equipment		
Building and improvements	4,632,737	4,416,517
Vehicles	905,422	653 <mark>,</mark> 826
Equipment	197,430	197,430
Total	5,735,589	5,267,773
Less: accumulated depreciation	2,652,343	2,428,233
Total	3,083,246	2,839,540
Construction in progress		193,447
Land	195,476	195,476
Total property and equipment	3,278,722	3,228,463
Other Assets		
Endowment fund, Board designated	4,900	5,680
Restricted cash, loan reserve	65,507	65,494
Total other assets	70,407	71,174
Total Assets	\$ 4,815,487	\$ 4,163,175
	2022	2021
Liabilities and Net Assets rrent Liabilities		
	¢ 217.614	¢ 262.467
Accounts payable Accrued liabilities	\$ 317,614 949,070	\$ 263,467
	,	788,133 31,330
Mortgage payable, current maturities	32,655	
Total current liabilities	1,299,339	1,082,930
ng-Term Debt		
Mortgage payable, less current maturities	1,046,034	1,078,693
et Assets		
Net assets without donor restrictions	2,469,114	2,000,552
	2,469,114 1,000	2,000,552 1,000
Net assets without donor restrictions		

# FAMILY SERVICES OF GRANT COUNTY HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START BASIC GRANT 11/1/2022-10/31/2023

TITLE Grants Basic Grant Training COLA	TOTAL EHS/ELC 2,486,173 44,043	HS 2,145,346 27,971	TOTAL ALL PROGRAMS 4,631,519 72,014
Quality Improvement			-
Transfer for Conversion Program Income	-		-
Total Income	2,530,216	2,173,317	4,703,533
Salaries and Benefits			
Salaries and Wages	1,715,793	1,401,002	3,116,794
FICA/Medicaid	131,258	107,177	238,435
Workers Compensation	49,758	40,629	90,387
Unemployment	73,624	81,258	154,882
Health I Dental Insurance	212,880	179,569	392,449
Paid Family Medical	20,246	16,532	36,778
Retirement Match	17,158	14,010	31,168
Total Fringe Benefits	504,925	439,175	944,099
Total Salaries and Fringe Benefits	2,220,717	1,840,176	4,060,894
Total Supplies	68,350	76,200	144,550
Total Contracted	7,700	11,150	18,850
Total Travel and Training	44,043	27,971	72,014
Total Other	189,405	217,820	407,225
Total Expenditures	2,530,216	2,173,317	4,703,533
Net	(0)	(0)	0
Per Child	22,198	19,503	20,863

## 2022 Administration and Management

Sally Gundry, MSW, Executive Director 7/1/10 to 12/31/2022

Annette Hippolyte, Human Resource Director 2/27/95 to 12/31/2022

Daisy Sharp, Fiscal Contractor 1/1/22 to 12/31/2022

Lori Bennett, MSW, Family Services Department Manager 1/11/10 to 12/31/2022

Debbie Bilodeau, BA. Ed, Education Department Manager 5/4/13 to 12/31/2022

Jennifer Downer, BA. Ed, Education Specialist 8/10/15 to 12/31/2022

Kitty Thomas, ERSEA/Parent Engagement Specialist 1/31/18 - 12/31/2022

Nanette Kagele, LPN, Health Specialist 10/16/17 to 12/31/2022

Daniel Jungers, IT Technician - 08/20/15 to 12/31/2022

Catie Darrow, Fiscal/HR Coordinator 7/13/15 to 12/31/2022

Julie Wiltse, Nutrition Specialist 8/22/16 to 12/31/2022

Gena Hintz, Outlying Area Manager 08/21/17 to 12/31/2022

Zaire Anaya-Hernandez, Early Care Supervisor 5/1/19 to 12/31/2022

Gail Marie Chambers, PACT Supervisor -08/28/17 to 12/31/2022

FSGC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, or sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity).



Family Services of Grant County Denise Schmidt Center 1402 E. Craig Street Moses Lake, WA 98837

Ephrata Head Start Center 246 8th Avenue SW Ephrata, WA 98823

Phone: 509-766-9877 Fax: 509-766-0058 www.familyservicegc.net