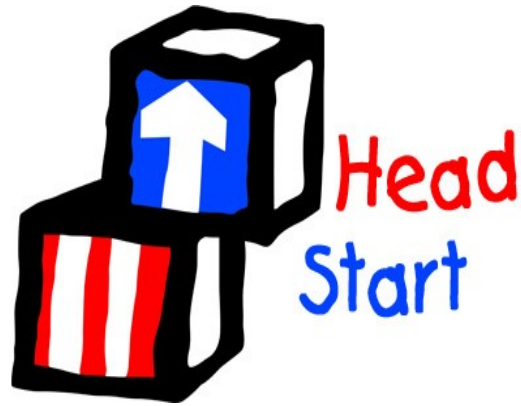


**Parents are
the Most
Important
People in Their
Children's
Lives!!**



FiveCAP, Inc.



FREE early childhood
development program in
**Mason, Lake,
Manistee,
and
Newaygo
counties,
Michigan**



HEAD START...

is a family-oriented comprehensive early childhood development program. It is designed to provide education, social services, health, and nutrition services to income eligible families. Parents work together with teachers and staff to plan activities that focus on all areas of family and child development. Head Start mainstreams services provided for children with special needs. Ten percent of Head Start enrolled children have a disability. Head Start can serve over-income children with special needs.



*Funded by the U.S. Department of
Health & Human Services, Administration
for Children & Families*

Our School's Beliefs....

- Head Start and parents are partners in the education of their children.
- Head Start provides a safe, caring and physically comfortable environment.
- Head Start treats all parents and children with dignity and respect.
- Head Start encourages the development of creative, self-confident individuals.
- Head Start prepares children to become effective communicators and lifelong learners.



FiveCAP, Inc.
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The Major Components of Head Start

EDUCATION: The program is designed to give each child a variety of learning experiences. Individual activities especially designed to promote self-help, intellectual, social, emotional and physical development are provided. A Head Start child is assessed throughout the year. Head Start uses Work Sampling for the assessment of learning.

HEALTH SERVICES: Head Start emphasizes the importance of early identification problems which can affect the child's educational, social and emotional development. A comprehensive health program including referrals to medical, dental, mental health and nutritional services are available to Head Start children and families.

SOCIAL SERVICES: The Head Start social service staff are available to help families. The staff can provide resource information and refer families to FiveCAP, Inc. programs and local service agencies.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT: The parent is the child's first teacher and therefore, the most important influence on a child's development. Parent participation is an essential part of every program's component. Parents are encouraged and supported as volunteers in all aspects of Head Start.

FAMILY LITERACY: The program is designed to match family members with tutors on a confidential basis, to help improve both reading and comprehensive skills at various levels. The program is designed to improve reading and math skills of each participant. Also, it will promote a positive learning experience that they will cherish throughout their career.

DISABILITY SERVICES: FiveCAP, Inc. recognizes the importance of early detection of disabilities and helps provide services in the least restrictive environment. We have programs that are available to your child and family through Head Start and its partnerships with other agencies.



PROGRAM

CENTER BASED—Typically, the Head Start program schedule for children is Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m., early September through late May/early June.

TRANSPORTATION—is provided. Bus routes are established each year based on enrollment. Children can be picked up and dropped off at home or a designated pick-up/drop-off location.

MEALS—Two thirds of the minimum daily nutritional requirements will be provided. Food services offered include breakfast and lunch.

CLASSROOMS—Head Start classrooms are equipped with computers and age appropriate software. Computer activities are incorporated into the classroom curriculum.

ELIGIBILITY

- ◆ Families who meet income guidelines— household income at or below 100% of federal poverty level.
- ◆ Children ages 3 to 5
- ◆ Children with special needs

COST

Head Start is **FREE** to eligible families

FiveCAP, Inc. will not discriminate against any individual because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, religion, political beliefs, height, weight, or disability. FiveCAP, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

HOW TO APPLY

- Bring in the following documents:
- ◆ Verification of Income
 - ◆ Child's Birth Record
 - ◆ Medical Card or Insurance Claim Number
 - ◆ Social Security Numbers for all members in the household
 - ◆ Medical and Dental Forms (available at registration)

For further information or to apply for this program, call the Head Start Center or FiveCAP office in your area:

MANISTEE COUNTY:

Manistee Child Development Center
(231) 723-2231
Northern Manistee Child Dev. Center
(231) 362-2444

MASON COUNTY:

Ludington Area FiveCAP HS Center
(231) 425-4704
Fountain Child Development Center
(231) 462-3961

LAKE COUNTY:

Robert F. Williams Center (Baldwin)
(231) 745-6254

NEWAYGO COUNTY:

So. Newaygo FiveCAP HS Center
(231) 834-9472
Hesperia Area Child Dev. Center
(231) 924-9719

FIVECAP, INC. COUNTY OFFICES:

Mason (231) 757-3785
Lake (231) 745-4617
Manistee (231) 723-8327
Newaygo (231) 689-6688