



Kimberly Bruns, CEO

West Ohio Community Action Partnership

Building Bright Futures

Head Start Welcomes Families at Our Open Houses

In August, our Head Start program proudly hosted Open Houses and Classroom Meet-and-Greets for families and children entering the new school year at our Early Learning Center and our Central Building. The events provided an important opportunity for parents, guardians, and children to visit their classrooms, meet their teachers, and become familiar with the learning environment before the first day of school.

Families were able to tour classrooms, ask questions, and connect directly with staff, creating a warm and welcoming introduction to the Head Start experience. Teachers shared their plans for the year, highlighted the many learning opportunities children will enjoy, and helped parents feel confident and comfortable with the transition.

The Open Houses are more than just a meet-and-greet; it's a chance to build relationships and set the tone for a successful year. By engaging families early, we create strong partnerships that support children's growth and learning from the very beginning.

This month, more Open Houses will be held at our Central Building and Market Street location. We look forward to an exciting year ahead and are grateful to all the families who joined us for these special events. Together, we are building the foundation for a bright future for our Head Start children.



HONORING JACKIE FOX

In August we celebrated the life and legacy of our beloved former CEO, Jackie Fox. Jackie touched so many lives with her leadership, compassion, and unwavering dedication to our mission.

In her honor, our team is celebrated her memory in special ways—one being by sharing her favorite lunch and drink, a simple but meaningful reminder of the joy and light she brought to every day. We invite you to join us in honoring Jackie's memory. One meaningful way is through a gift to the Jackie Fox Memorial Fund, which continues the incredible work she championed for our community.

If you'd like to contribute, donations may be made by check or money order payable to West Ohio Community Action Partnership. Please designate to the Jackie Fox Memorial Fund. Your support helps us continue making a difference in our community.

Checks may be mailed to:
ATTN: WOCAP Finance Department
540 S. Central Avenue
Lima, OH 45804

Jackie will always be a part of who we are, and we are grateful to celebrate her this week—and always.



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

We're proud to share that our CEO, Kimberly Bruns, attended the Global Leadership Summit 2025 in August — joining thousands of leaders from around the world to gain insight, inspiration, and new strategies to lead with purpose and impact. This experience was all about sharpening leadership skills, embracing innovation, and bringing back powerful ideas to strengthen our work at West Ohio CAP and in the communities we serve. A heartfelt THANK YOU to Brad Taylor, Pastor at Lima Community Church, for not only hosting this incredible event locally, but also for personally sponsoring our CEO's attendance. Your commitment to building stronger leaders right here in our community is making a real impact, and we're so grateful for your generosity and vision. We're excited to take what we've learned and bring it back to serve our mission with even greater purpose!





Head Start Summer Family Engagement

We had an amazing time connecting with our Head Start families at Faurot Park for our Summer Engagement event!

From a scavenger hunt adventure to rhythmic dancing, arts & crafts, and temporary tattoos, there was no shortage of fun and creativity! It's always special when we get to spend time with our families outside the classroom, building memories and strengthening our community. Thank you to everyone who came out and made the day so meaningful!



Early Head Start & Head Start Parents/Families!

**Save The Date for our Fall Family Engagement Event
September 25, 2025
4:30-6:30 PM**



Coming Together for Growth and Celebration: All-Staff Training Day



On August 29th, our agency recently hosted an All-Staff Training Day, bringing team members together from across the organization for a day of learning, collaboration, and celebration. The event featured a variety of presentations on key topics to support our work and strengthen the services we provide to our community. A highlight of the day was the recognition of staff who have reached remarkable milestones of 30 years or more of dedicated service.

Their commitment and impact continue to inspire us all, and we are grateful for the difference they have made over the decades. Staff members who celebrated milestones of 30 years or more with the agency shared reflections on their journeys, answering questions about their experiences over the years. They offered valuable insights and expressed their hopes for the future of our agency and the communities we serve.



We were also energized by a special workshop led by a guest motivational speaker, who encouraged us to embrace new perspectives, stay connected to our mission, and find inspiration in the everyday work we do. The day was both meaningful and uplifting—a reminder that when we come together to learn, celebrate, and support one another, we strengthen not only our agency but also the community we serve.



ABATE OF OHIO, INC. - REGION 3

40TH ANNUAL TOY RUN



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

Allen County Fairgrounds

Harding Highway, Lima, Ohio

Doors Open at 10:00 AM

Bikes Leave at 12:00 PM-Noon

\$15.00 per person -or-

\$10.00 per person with New Toy

Music & Food While It Lasts!

**FOR INFORMATION, CALL
419-230-4969 OR 419-648-6757**



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SUMMER CRISIS PROGRAM

The Ohio Summer Crisis Program for 2025 will provide a one-time benefit to eligible low-income households for cooling assistance during the summer months, specifically from July 1 to September 30. The program aims to help with utility bills, air conditioning repairs, or the purchase of air conditioning units or fans.

PROGRAM ENDS
SEPTEMBER 30TH

Required Documentation for All Applicants

- Proof of income for all household members age 18+
- Social security numbers for all household members
- Copies of the most recent utility bills
- Proof of citizenship for primary applicant and all household members

How To Apply

- Call 419-495-0200 to schedule an appointment
- Visit one of our 3 sites for an application
- Visit our website to schedule an appointment, print an application, and/or print the 2025 SCP Medical Eligibility Form

Explore more information and resources on the Summer Crisis Program at our agency's website



www.wocap.org

Eligible Applicants

Medical Condition

Required Documentation

- Same Documentation as listed for *all applicants*
- Documentation of medical condition

Households with Disconnect

Required Documentation

- Same Documentation as required for *all applicants*
- Proof of disconnected service, disconnection notice or new electric account number

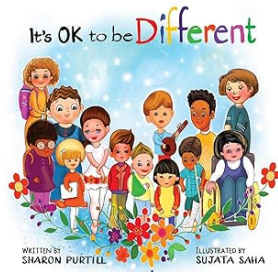
Age 60 or older

Required Documentation

- Same Documentation as required for *all applicants*

**To Schedule An
Appointment Call
419-495-0200**

BOOKS



It's OK to be Different

Every Child is Unique! Whether they are big or small, short or tall, like to swim, dance, sing or bike. Perhaps they have a special need or disability, or have a different ethnic background. The truth is that all children are different and their individuality should be celebrated, not shunned.



The Humble Pie

The Humble Pie likes to give others the spotlight. *Aw, shucks!*—they deserve it! But when he's paired with his best friend, Jake the Cake, for a school project, he soon realizes that staying in the shadows isn't always as sweet as pie. Readers of all ages will laugh along as their new pie pal discovers that letting your voice be heard always takes the cake!

Celebrations & Happenings

HIRING

If you are interested in working for West Ohio CAP, you can visit our website to find open positions, complete job descriptions, and education requirements.

<https://wocap.bamboohr.com/careers>
for job description and to apply

BIRTHDAYS

5 - Allison Cummings
11 - LaKeisha White-Sigman
15 - Danielle Anderson
17 - Kim Schultheis
18 - Kelli Art
18 - DeZharnae Ramsey
27 - Katie Brown
27 - Cynthia Davis

ANNIVERSARIES

Regina Henderson - 7 years
Elisabeth Parker - 5 years
Katherine Brown - 10 years
Kelli Art - 1 year
Raye Jean Luchini - 25 years
Christina Barry - 10 years
Jeannie Taylor - 6 years
Shannon Sien - 6 years

Excellent Attendance

Our goal is to prepare your child for their next stepping stone of education whether it is Head Start or Kindergarten. Regular Attendance is an important part of your child's educational, social, and emotional development. When children are absent from school they are missing out on a lot of educational and social opportunities. We would like to thank those parents who assure their child is attending school every day. In the month of July, we had 24 children with Perfect Attendance.

Central A
Anastasia B.

Central B
Chazarae A.

Fox A
Christian P.

Home-Based (JJ)
James K.
Harley P.

Smart Start
Da'miri S.

Kingdom Daycare
Elijah A.

Shawnee Terrific 2's
Peyton H.
Charlotte L.
Kalayah R.

Shawnee Tiny Toddlers
Kane H.

Shawnee Transitional Todd
Luxx F.
Asher L.

The Children's PI
Myles S.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

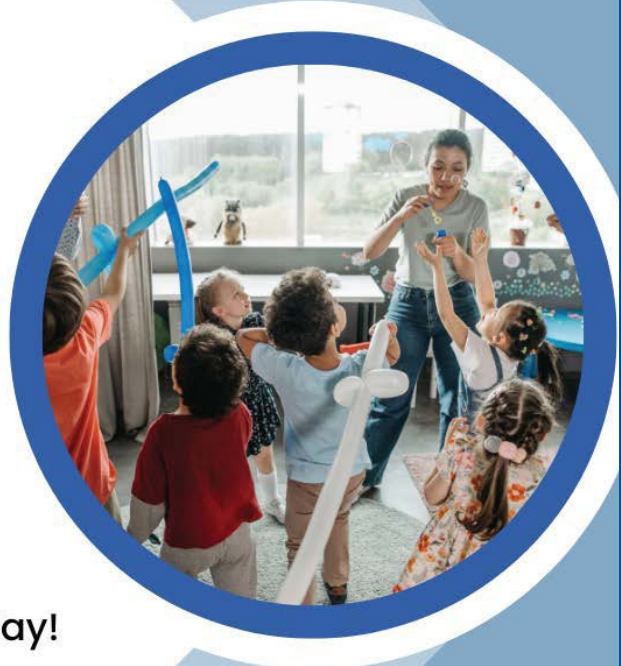
1st - Agency CLOSED (Labor Day)
8th - 1st Day for Head Start Classes
12th - Home-Based Family Day
18th - Policy Council Meeting
19th - Home-Based Family Day
24th - WOCAP Board Meeting
25th - Fall Family Engagement Event
30th - Last Day of Summer Crisis Program



NOW ENROLLING!

OUR PROGRAMS

- **Early Head Start**
- Ages Birth to Three Years
- **Head Start**
- Ages Three - Five Years



Fill out our Pre-Application Today!



www.wocap.org

419-227-2586

www.wocap.org

West Ohio CAP
540 S. Central Avenue
Lima, OH 45804



Parents are involved in decision making and in carrying out the program's activities. Parents serve on Parent Policy Council, parenting groups, and work as volunteers in the classroom. They also help to develop educational and social activities for their children.

FREE program that offers social, emotional and intellectual growth to prepare children for success in life

Head Start is a comprehensive program for children and their families. We offer Home-Based and Center-Based options to best meet your needs. The Home-Based option consists of a home-based teacher, child, and family working together to provide activities and experiences designed to meet the child's needs in the home environment for 1.5 hours.

What Services Are Provided?

Developmental screenings, hearing, vision, dental exam and treatment, lead testing, hemoglobin testing, parenting classes, and various training opportunities. Transportation to the center may be provided for eligible children and each child receives a free snack, breakfast and/or hot lunch daily. Field trips and family days are scheduled throughout the year.

What Are The Requirements?

- Families income must be at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- Families/children experiencing homelessness or who are in foster care are also eligible.
- Children with a disability may also qualify.
- Services available for children age birth - five years of age
- Services are available to families/children that live or work in Allen County



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