

A young girl with long dark hair, wearing a yellow floral shirt and pink overalls, is smiling and looking over her shoulder in a library. She is holding a book. The background is filled with bookshelves.

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



ABOUT US

Who We Are:

EPIC Early Learning is a non-profit organization that has been serving the Yakima community for over 40 years. We work hand-in-hand with children and their families to strengthen our community. At EPIC Early Learning, kids and families come first.

What We Do:

EPIC provides early learning services and comprehensive wrap-around family support services to over 1,000 low income children and their families each year.

Where We Are Located:

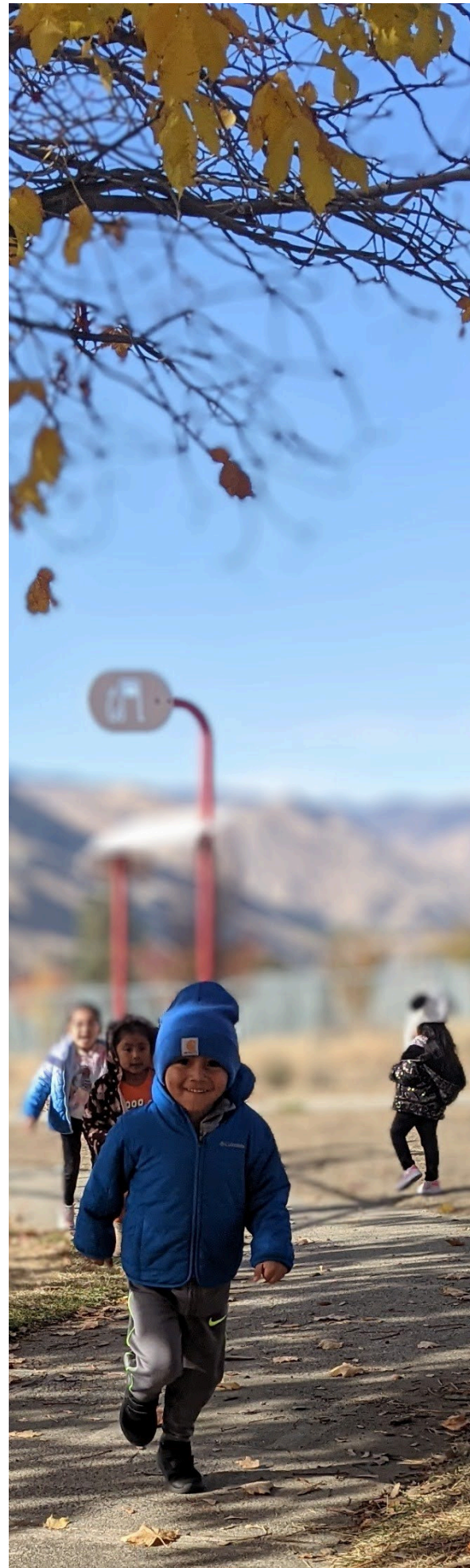
EPIC Early Learning has programs and classrooms in 7 different school districts across Central & North Central Washington including Yakima, East Valley, West Valley, Naches, Ellensburg, East Wenatchee and Bridgeport.

How We Are Funded:

EPIC Early Learning receives a \$7M contract from Washington State to provide ECEAP (Early Childhood Education Assistance Program) services to 500 children. We receive a \$14M contract from ESD 105 to provide federal Head Start, Early Head Start, and Migrant Seasonal Head Start services to 512 children as part of the Seedlings Partnership.

Key Partners in Our Work:

Department of Children Youth & Families, ESD 105, West Valley School District and Yakima School District.



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

ECEAP

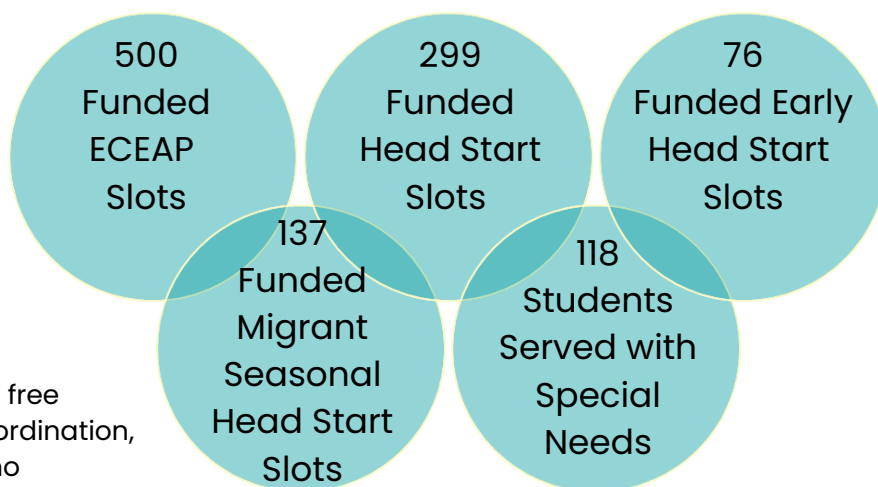
ECEAP is the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program funded by Washington State for children ages 3 to 5. EPIC receives a contract from Washington State's Department of Children Youth & Families to provide ECEAP services to 500 qualifying children and their families.

Head Start

As part of the Seedlings Partnership, EPIC receives a subcontract from ESD 105 to provide federal Head Start, Early Head Start and Migrant Seasonal Head Start services to 512 children ages birth to age 5 & pregnant women.

ECEAP and Head Start programs provide free preschool education, health services coordination, and family support services. Children who participate in the programs learn to manage their feelings, get along with others, and follow classroom routines. They build the foundational skills in reading, math, and science needed to enter Kindergarten ready to learn.

At EPIC, we are dedicated to partnering with parents to support their children's health and education, while helping to achieve family goals. In addition, we assist families in accessing essential medical and dental care, as well as social services.



"The ECEAP program has been an absolute game-changer for my child! Seeing her blossom and grow, especially considering her initial delay, has been nothing short of incredible. From her first steps in communication to making new friends and tackling challenges with confidence, the progress she's made is a testament to the program's effectiveness and the dedication of everyone involved. It's been a joy to witness her journey and celebrate each milestone together. Part of her success is due to her teachers. Their dedication and encouragement have been invaluable every step of the way, guiding her through challenges and celebrating her victories. Moreover, EPIC has extended its support beyond the classroom, providing opportunities for family engagement in my child's education. Whether through family events and policy council, the program has created a supportive community where families can actively participate. I feel heard and part of my child's learning journey. This holistic approach has not only enriched my child's educational experience but also strengthened my bond with my daughter due to her growth since participating in the program." – Valeria V, Parent

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Our programs are designed to meet the child's individual needs. Activities allow for individualized instructions, one-to-one interactions with peers and/or adults, and freedom of choice. A well-rounded curriculum is covered throughout the school year. Children grow and develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically.

All services are free and meet the needs of all children. Children are enrolled based on their age, family income, and other developmental or environmental risk factors.

Program Services Include:

- Free early learning child care or preschool to support child's development and learning.
- Developmental screenings and referrals.
- Nutritious meals and snacks.
- Health and dental screenings.
- Home Visits.
- Parent Leadership Opportunities.
- Family Events.
- Kindergarten Readiness Activities.
- Social development and problem solving.
- Family support and parent involvement.
- Child health coordination and nutrition.
- Services responsive and appropriate to each child's and family's heritage and experience.
- Transportation **provided in most service areas.*



"Since my child started the EPIC program at Mountainview I have noticed a significant difference in his social emotional development, which was one of things I expressed I was having issues with at home. He has demonstrated emotional regulation, and uses his words to express his feelings appropriately. My son's confidence has grown as he has made friends and learned about positive social interactions. He comes home and is excited to share with us what he has learned in school that day." – Daisy M, Parent

HEALTH SERVICES

EPIC supports the whole child not only preparing children academically, but also focusing on the overall health of children that includes their oral, physical, social-emotional and mental health.

- 1,093 Dental Exams
- 1,011 Physical Exams
- 956 Developmental Screenings

USDA/ CACFP

- 77,058 Breakfasts Served
- 76,308 Lunches Served
- 85,350 Snacks Served



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

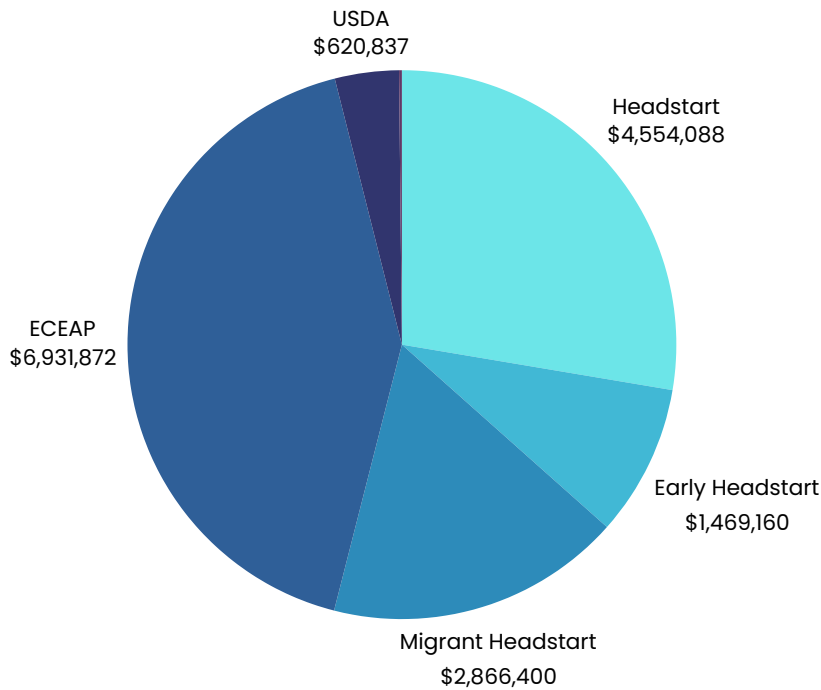
We believe in the value of growing our own!

- Over 85% of our Lead Teachers were former Classroom Assistants that returned to school and were promoted to teacher positions. 55% of our Managers worked in another capacity within EPIC, prior to being promoted to their current role. Many of them provided direct services to children before joining EPIC's Management Team.
- 10% of our current staff are former Head Start and/or ECEAP parents and we strive to hire many more!
- EPIC offers a cohort for an ECE State Initial Certificate in partnership with Yakima Valley College. This course offers 12 ECE credits in addition to the certificate, which helps staff meet educational qualifications for their positions. We also utilize EPIC's staff to teach the courses. To date, there have been over 30 participants.

"Being a parent and employee at EPIC helped me see things different in my personal life and I wanted that for my son. I was motivated to learn and grown and apply everything I had gained from such a wonderful organization to my own life. Throughout my journey with EPIC I have work as a Receptionist, Administrative Assistant, Program Assistant, Human Resources Coordinator and now I am the Human Resources Manager. I can't thank EPIC enough for changing my life! I had difficult childhood but was able to provide my own children with a loving, nurturing, safe one." - Veronica M

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

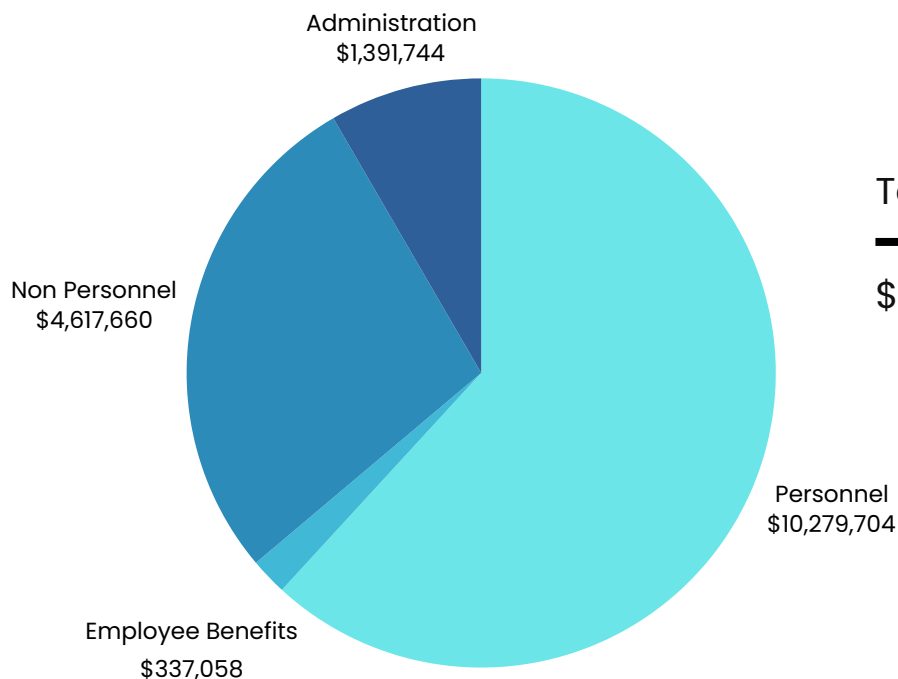
Where our funding comes from:



Total Operating Revenues:

\$16,496,733

What our funding pays for:



Total Operating Expenses:

\$16,626,166

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Anthony Peterson**, Board Chair
- **Abril Lopez**, Vice Chair
- **Bill Schultz**, Treasurer
- **Susan Woodard**, Secretary
- **Stacey Drake**, Director
- **Jay Carroll**, Director
- **Jedean Corpon**, Director
- **Bunker Frank**, Director
- **Joe Farina**, Honorary Director
- **Maria Lamas**, Honorary Director



Pictured sharing story time in the classroom, Jedean Corpon, Director, Past Chair, and former Head Start child.

"Having retired after 33 years of public service in Yakima's legal system, I seek to continue my service in a different role, drawing upon the experiences my career afforded me. I have an abiding belief that strong communities are built upon the fundamental foundation of strong families. I am committed to working hand in hand with children and their families to strengthen our community. Serving on the board of EPIC gives me the opportunity to work towards ensuring that the children and families we serve receive the benefit of comprehensive family support services, which in turn, benefits our community." – Susan Woodard, Board Secretary

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR WORK

Collaborate!

- Does your agency's mission align with ours? If so, how can we work together to strengthen our community?

Donate!

- Apply to be a Volunteer or a Board Member and donate your time & talents serving the children and families in our community.
- Sponsor a classroom or center.



LOCATIONS

ECEAP Locations

EPIC Place

- 701 Superior Lane Yakima, Wa 98902

East Valley

- 408 E. Seattle Ave, Moxee, Wa 98936

Naches

- 101 Shafer Ave, Naches, Wa 98937

5th Avenue

- 315 N. 5th Ave, Yakima, Wa 98902

Naches

- 101 Shafer Ave, Naches, Wa 98937

Fairview

- 110 S. Fair Ave, Yakima, Wa 98901

Ahtanum

- 3006 S. Wiley Rd, Yakima, Wa 98903

Mountainview

- 830 Stone Rd, Yakima, WA 98908

East Wenatchee

- 1901 Rock Island Road, East Wenatchee, Wa 98802

Bridgeport

- 1400 Columbia Ave, Bridgeport, Wa 98850

HEAD START LOCATIONS

Castlevale

- 2902 Castlevale Rd, Suite A, Yakima, Wa 98902

Jefferson

- 902 E. Viola, Yakima, Wa 98902

East Yakima

- 1604 East Race Street, Yakima, WA 98902

Early Head Start

- 902 Castlevale Suite A, Yakima, WA 98902

Kittitas

- 220 E. Helena Avenue, Ellensburg, Wa 98926

EARLY HEAD START LOCATIONS

Early Head Start

- 902 Castlevale Suite A, Yakima, WA 98902

Kittitas

- 220 E. Helena Avenue, Ellensburg, Wa 98926

MIGRANT SEASONAL HEAD START LOCATIONS

Castlevale

- 2902 Castlevale Rd , Suite A, Yakima, Wa 98902

Bridgeport

- 1400 Columbia Ave, Bridgeport, Wa 98850

East Wenatchee

- 91 Eastmont Ave, East Wenatchee, Wa 98802

Administration Office

- 103 N 7th Ave, Yakima, Wa 98902
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