Macomb County EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM OVERVIEW

All enrolled families receive the benefits of a high-quality early childhood program.

Highlight the following points when discussing program options with families.

	Head Start	Great Start Readiness Program
Funding Source	Federally funded	State funded
Age Eligibility	Pregnant mothers, Birth-5 years of age.	4 years of age by September 1 (With option of December 1).
Income Eligibility	Family income is at or below 100% poverty level. Income and selection priority to Foster	90% of families meet low income requirements/risk factors or up to 250% of federal poverty level.
	Care children, Homeless Children and children receiving TANF/SSI.	A child from a family that is receiving public assistance, a child in foster care, or a child who is experiencing homelessness is considered to be in the lowest quintile. A child with an IEP that calls for inclusive preschool setting is also considered in the lowest quintile.
Selection Criteria	Priority points based on income and risk factors; 10% enrollment must be children with disabilities. Extra points for 3 year old children.	Eligibility based on income. Risk factors are documented.
Hours of Operation	Part Day program – morning or afternoon 3 ½ hours M-Th Full Day program – 8:30-3:00 M-F	<u>Part Day program</u> – minimum 3 hours <u>School Day program</u> – must follow same length of day as local school district/PSA 1 st grade program
Length of Program	September – mid June minimum of 128- 160 days (30-32 weeks)	Minimum of 120 days spread out over 30 weeks
Average Class Size	15-17 children per session (based on ages of children in classroom)	16-18
Adult-Child Ratio	1:8	1:8

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Head Start	Great Start Readiness Program
PROVIDED SERVICES	PROVIDED SERVICES
 Early Childhood Education Parent/Family Engagement and Education Nutritious meals provided at no cost Medical Records Assessment Dental services including mobile dentist Family needs assessment/community services Special Needs/Disability Services 	 Early Childhood Education Parent/Family Involvement and Education Nutrition services Free meals and/or snacks Referral services