



Head Start Program



ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024

A large, stylized graphic in shades of blue occupies the upper two-thirds of the page. It depicts a building with a central tower and a large upward-pointing arrow integrated into its structure, symbolizing growth and progress.

St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore Mission Statement

To ensure those impacted by poverty have the skills, resources,
and opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Head Start Philosophy

- 1 Head Start is based on the premise that all children share certain needs and can benefit from a comprehensive developmental program designed to meet those needs.
- 2 Head Start's program approach is based on the philosophy that the child's entire family, as well as the community, must be involved. The family is seen as the principal influence on the child's development and therefore should be a direct participant in the program.
- 3 The overall goal of Head Start is to bring about a greater degree of social competence.
- 4 Head Start provides opportunities for the improvement of the child's health and physical abilities and opportunities to enhance every child's access to an adequate diet.
- 5 Head Start provides activities which encourage self-confidence, autonomy, and curiosity— all of which assist in healthy social and emotional development.
- 6 Head Start provides professional personnel whose focus is the enhancement of the child's cognitive development, with particular attention to developing strong reasoning and problem-solving skills.
- 7 Head Start seeks to create opportunities for consistency and routine for each child. Stable, consistent learning environments will engender confidence in each child, enhancing learning efforts and overall healthy development.
- 8 Head Start attempts to foster and maintain healthy relationships between the child and the family through a myriad of support services.
- 9 Head Start provides an environment that nurtures and supports the growth of healthy self-esteem and the development of a positive self-concept.

OUR MISSION FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore Head Start is committed to encouraging and supporting efforts of employees to improve skills, abilities, and knowledge in a manner that will help them to be more productive in their current assignments and to prepare for career advancement as opportunities arise. Provision for education, professional development events, in-service training, conferences, professional and technical groups, staff meetings and conferences, and grantee-sponsored training events or classes are offered to employees and is a high priority in our Head Start Program.

OUR MISSION FOR PARENTS

St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore is committed to partnering with parents to support parent efforts at defining and reaching both short- and long-term goals, and systematically increasing each family's self-sufficiency through workforce development, tuition support, job referrals, and strengthening family routines.



Leadership

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF BALTIMORE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

John J. Schiavone
President & CEO

Dr. Jarrell McRae, DSC,
LCSW-C
Chief Operating Officer

Ed Brown
Chief Financial Officer

Mary Helfrich
Chief Advancement
Officer

Syma Bajwa
Chief People
Officer

SVDP COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Chima Dike
SVDP Board Chair
Constellation

Christian Beach
SVDP Board Vice-Chair
M&T Bank

Amy Myers
SVDP Board Treasurer
University of Maryland
Medical System

Beverly Sikora
SVDP Board Secretary
BGE

Deborah Baker
Johns Hopkins Hospital

LaShaun Bethea
National Center for
Assisted Living

Craig Bowden
SCH Group

Lucas Carpenter
Price Waterhouse Coopers

Brian Deffaa
Lifebridge Health

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Catholic Community of South
Baltimore

John A Frank, Jr.
Pinnacle CNC

Robert Helm
Robert W. Helm PLLC

John Holtzman
Foundation Financial Advisors,
Inc.

Elsy Mejia
PMM Companies

Marissa Oeste
Whiting-Turner Contracting Co.

Benjamin O'Neil
McQuireWoods LLP

Alan Pultyniewicz
Department of Solid Waste,
Montgomery County, MD

Todd Reinecker
PilieroMazza

Jasmine Richardson
T. Rowe Price

Tawanda Saffore
Transamerica

John J. Schiavone
President & CEO

Jennifer Squillario
Nixon Peabody PLLC

Shane Tanzymore
Techabo

Lamar Wallace
Salesforce Solutions

Peter Whitney
Brown Advisory

HEAD START COMMITTEE (2023-2024)

Jennifer Squillario
Chairperson, Board Member
Nixon Peabody LLP

William Neal
Policy Council Chairperson

Kevin M. Frank
Board Member
Price Waterhouse Cooper

Dr. Jarrell McRae, DSW, LCSW-C
Chief Operating Officer

Olutunde Clarke
Vice President of Child and
Family Services

Megan Warren
Head of Anti-Money Laundering
TD Bank

HEAD START STAFF

Directors

Olutunde Clarke
Vice President of Child and
Family Services

Ronda Cox
Director of Family Services

Latasha Hicks
Director of Education

Heather Jones
Assistant Director of Education

Curriculum Specialists

Marcia Lawrence-Hyatt

Renata White

Juakita Davis

Monique Williams

Senior Family Service Coordinators

Tyrus Brown

Terah Turrentine

FY 23-24 HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL

SVDP Head Start 2023-2024 Policy Council Officers

William Neal
Chairperson

Corette Dent-Bey
Co-Chairperson

Melanique Gunthrop
Secretary

Ashley Martin
Co-Secretary

Tanisha Elliott
Treasurer

Marsha Clarke-Ewan
Co-Treasurer

Homerlee Dunkley
Parliamentarian

Chizaramoku Oguibe
Co-Parliamentarian

Shaniya Lawson

Norma Amaya

Veronica Argueta

Amanda Nunez

Ashley Martin

Melanique Gunthrop

Tanisha Elliot

Courtney Kelley

Chizaramoku Oguibe

Marsha Clarke-Ewan

Alternates

Niesha Watson

Anita Clay

Chanae Clemons

Homerlee Dunkley

Cherish Davis

Ariane Lane

Evin Torres

Ana Gutierrez

Angelica Vasquez

Andrea Solomon

Madoria Floyd

Jessica Daye

Tyrice Hawkins

Coretta Dent-Bey

Community Representative

Tonya Scott-Butler
Arlington Judy Center
Coordinator, BCPSS

FY 2024 Program Stats

566 
TOTAL NUMBER OF
CHILDREN SERVED

540 
TOTAL NUMBER OF
FAMILIES SERVED

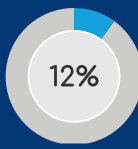
189,972 
TOTAL NUMBER OF
MEALS SERVED ON SITE

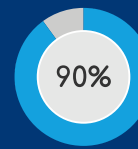
100% 
OF CHILDREN
RECEIVED MEDICAL FOR
DIAGNOSED CHRONIC
HEALTH CONDITION

100% 
OF ENROLLED
CHILDREN THAT
RECEIVED MEDICAL
EXAMS

100% 
OF ENROLLED
CHILDREN WHO
RECEIVED DENTAL
EXAMS

96% 
OF CHILDREN
WITH UP-TO-DATE
IMMUNIZATIONS

12% 
OF CHILDREN
WITH DIAGNOSED
DISABILITIES

90% 
OF INCOME
ELIGIBLE CHILDREN
(UNDER INCOME)



Family Engagement Activities

MEETINGS

- Parent Committee
- Policy Council
- Health Services Advisory Committee

WORKSHOPS

- Family Routines
- Positive Discipline
- The Achievement Gap
- Parent Committee
- Read for Health
- Language Rich Experiences
- Reading with Children

- ✓ Collaborated with Community Schools and Judy Centers for kindergarten and Head Start teacher meetings to discuss specific transitioning children
- ✓ Transition Committee formed for planning and implementation
- ✓ Provided parents with information about the school their child may be attending
- ✓ Hosted Transition Workshop and Luncheon with area schools, charter schools and private schools to share enrollment and philosophical information with parents of transitioning children
- ✓ Provided parents with pertinent child records needed for kindergarten registration
- ✓ Prepared and shared Spring Summary Reports with parents with goals geared towards helping parents prepare for kindergarten transition
- ✓ Focused the final Parent/Teacher Conferences around kindergarten readiness skills
- ✓ Provided transition backpacks for children leaving for kindergarten



For more information about meetings, workshops and events, contact Ronda Cox at ronda.cox@vincentbaltimore.org

EVENTS

- Wellness Wednesdays - Health Focus
- Spirit Weeks
- Mommy & Me
- Daddy & Me
- Holiday Gift Giving
- Black History Month Activities
- Hispanic Heritage Month Activities
- Kindergarten Transition Luncheons
- Educational Baby Shower
- Pre-Father's Day Event
- Educational Baby Shower
- Come Ride with Me
- High Attendance Events for Parents and Scholars





William and Azaria Neal

For William and his daughter Azaria, last year marked a big milestone as it was her first year attending an early childhood education program. As a child born during the pandemic, most of Azaria's learning and development took place at home. She missed out on early socialization and group learning, which made William concerned about how she would adjust to a more structured environment. "She didn't have the opportunity to socialize or learn in a group setting," William explained.

Since joining St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore's Head Start program, Azaria's social skills flourished as she began making friends. "She has a greater network of little people that she can refer to and talk about," William shared. This new network of peers helped fuel her imagination and creativity, opening new possibilities for play and learning. William saw how her interactions with other children deepened her understanding of the world around her.

Her confidence also grew in ways he hadn't expected. The support she received from her teachers helped her develop a broader sense of self-assurance. "She began to believe in her abilities more, both academically and socially, knowing that the things she was learning were valued by others," William added.

William was particularly grateful for how Azaria was nurtured intellectually. SVDP Head Start has passionate, credentialed educators dedicated to preparing scholars for school success by creating an environment where they can thrive. "The teachers fuel her confidence to excel," he added.

“
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~WILLIAM NEAL

For their small family, William didn't just want his daughter to succeed in school, he wanted her to feel supported by a network of people who genuinely cared. "There's a relationship here like a neighborhood synergy," he said. "It's not just an educational program; it's a community." Through this synergy, Mr. Neal also forged meaningful connections, which led him to represent the program at the 2024

National Head Start Conference in New Orleans. He also made history as the second father figure to hold the position of SVDP Chairperson of the Policy Council, further cementing his role as a dedicated advocate for both his daughter and the entire community.

William feels certain that the foundation laid at Head Start has helped her grow into a curious, confident, and capable young girl, and will serve her for years to come. "I couldn't imagine sending Azaria into elementary school without the skills and structure that she has learned from attending Head Start."

School Readiness Goals



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SVDP students will be socially responsible, self-directed and confident individuals with a strong sense of community and an overall willingness, desire and ability to work collaboratively with others.



COGNITIVE AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

SVDP students will demonstrate observation and inference skills and effectively use mathematical concepts and skills daily.



LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

SVDP students will be articulate and literate, able to decode written and spoken communications and able to express themselves verbally in a variety of situations for a multitude of purposes.



PHYSICAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

SVDP students will leave the program healthier and more physically fit than when they enrolled and understand the differences between decisions that support or sabotage good health.



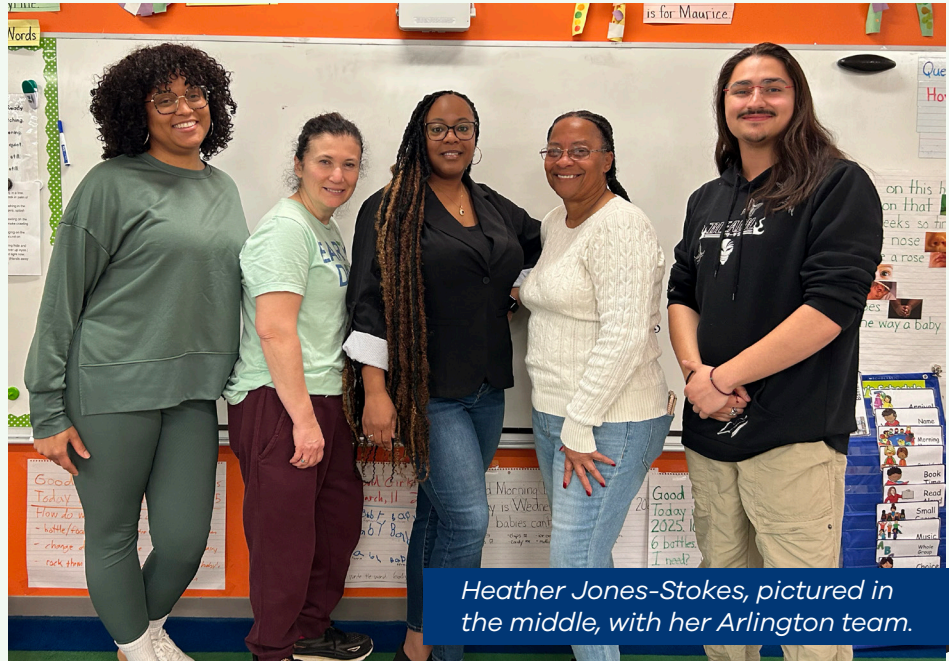
APPROACHES TO LEARNING

SVDP students will emerge as leaders in the city; as self-assured and confident young citizens who are both eager to learn and willing to teach. They will engage, with steady perseverance, in social and community projects and tasks.

What's New

The 2023-2024 year was marked by perseverance and achievement, thanks to the leadership of Assistant Director of Education, Heather Jones-Stokes. Heather dedicated herself to supporting classrooms across all sites, collaborating with curriculum specialists to ensure alignment and excellence.

She worked on everything from policies and lesson plans to behavior management and classroom design. Her efforts contributed directly to all six Head Start centers earning the highest Level 5 rating in Maryland EXCELS and full accreditation through the Maryland State Department of Education.



Heather Jones-Stokes, pictured in the middle, with her Arlington team.

These accomplishments reflect the program's commitment to high-quality early education, tailored to each child's needs and development.

Head Start Sites

Arlington 
Weinberg Early Childhood
Development Center
3705 W. Rogers Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21215
443-681-2101

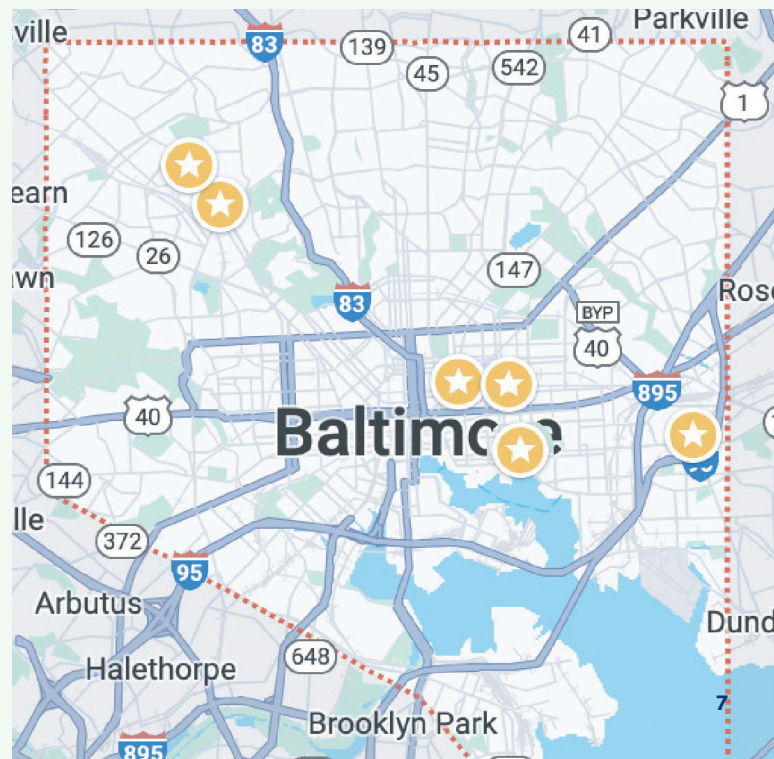
Arts Center 
4330C Pimlico Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21215
410-466-1383

Fatima 
6400 E. Pratt St.
Baltimore, MD 21224
410-558-0919

Patterson Park 
242 S. Patterson Park Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21231
410-276-5724

Pimlico 
5001 Park Heights Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21215
410-542-4242

Somerset 
1010 Somerset St.
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-826-4800



FY2024 Financial Activity

July 2023 to June 2024

TOTAL REVENUES	BUDGET	ACTUALS
Federal Grants	\$ 8,689,796	\$ 8,335,352
CACFP Meals	600,674	523,109
State Funding	360,952	270,231
Other Income & Contributions	33,966	22,909
Non-Federal In-Kind	2,172,450	2,378,891
Total Revenues	\$ 11,857,838	\$ 11,530,492

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	BUDGET	ACTUALS
Personnel & Fringe	\$ 6,372,842	\$ 5,853,428
Child & Family Meals & Supplies	915,287	828,662
Contractual Services	400,890	385,993
Building Maintenance & Utilities	603,818	673,231
Other Expenses	352,390	406,793
Indirect Expenses	1,040,161	1,003,494
Non-Federal In-Kind	2,172,450	2,378,891
Total Expenditures	\$ 11,857,838	\$ 11,530,492

In addition, SVDP received and fully utilized supplemental federal funds of \$248,800 in FY2024 to support one-time capital activities, including roof replacement at the Head Start Patterson Park facility as well as security camera installations at Pimlico HS and Fatima HS.

FINANCIAL AUDIT: St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore's Head Start program most recent financial audit revealed no deficiencies or material weaknesses. St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. A copy of our current financial statement is available by writing to 2305 N. Charles Street Ste 300, Baltimore, MD 21218 or by calling (410) 662-0500. Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Solicitations Act are also available, for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call (410) 974-5534.



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