



OZARK OPPORTUNITIES, INC.

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Agency Progress Report

Report for February 2018 Board of Directors and Stakeholders

I. Chief Executive Officer Update:



←← *OOI Finance Stoplight; Green= ALL GOOD!*

- Agency Finances are (still) going well. We have no issues with making payments to vendors on time, and cash flow is not limited due to access to funds.

II. Child Development (ABC Pre-K, Head Start, & Early Head Start):

A. Arkansas Better Chance Pre-K Program:

- **Enrollment:** We have 50 Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) Pre-K slots available; 32 in Baxter County, and 18 in Boone County. As of the report, 49 children were enrolled.
- **Attendance:** The ABC Program requires 80% Average Daily Attendance (see print screens of ADA Report on next page); however, sickness is an allowed absence (see explanation on next page.)

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January | 2018 | Program Options: Included | Filter | View All

Ozark Opportunities, Inc. | All Sites | All Classes

Agency: Ozark Opportunities, Inc. **Site:** All Currently Enrolled= 49

201-Monthly Attendance Report

01-01-2018 thru 01-31-2018

Name	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Attend. Per Site	Class Days Per Site	Monthly Average Attendance
Mtn. Home ABC III	0	0	15	11	9			13	16	13	14	12			0	0	0	14	14			13	12	12	14	10			11	13	14	230	288	79.86%
Norfolk ABC	0	0	0	0	0			16	11	14	15	12			0	0	0	12	11			12	11	12	14	11			12	11	13	187	240	77.92%
Ozark Opportunities, Inc Harrison	0	0	9	14	15			13	12	13	12	12			0	0	10	13	13			13	12	14	13	12			13	14	11	238	335	71.04%
Daily Attendance Totals	0	0	24	25	24			42	39	40	41	36			0	0	10	39	38			38	35	38	41	33			36	38	38	655	863	75.90%

*Only Children with *HOME BASED Program Option(s) are excluded from the report (see Program Options settings in the Admin area)

1. Not a School Day
 2. Weekends
 3. X - Not a school day absence
 4. 1 - Attendance
 5. 1 - Funded Absence (Counts as Attendance)
 6. 0 - Absence

Absentee Reason	Code	Absentee Reason	Code	Absentee Reason	Code	Absentee Reason	Code	Absentee Reason	Code
Advancing to Kindergarten	K	Alternative Method Instruction	A	Death in Family	F	Dentist appt.	O	Dr. appt.	D
Excused	E	Holiday	H	Inclement Weather	W	Not-Excused	X	Sick	S
Transportation not available	T	Unknown	U						

This agency is in compliance with Titles VI and VII Civil Rights Act
 "Equal Opportunity Employer"
www.ozarkopp.org

- **January 2018 ABC Class Attendance- Monthly Avg.= 75.90%.**
- **NOTE:** The overall attendance percentage is low because of sickness and kids on leave. One child was on leave for about twenty days and is no longer enrolled (they kept saying they would be bringing her back, and never did 😞). Another child was gone for approximately 10 days before the parents informed us they had moved (the teacher attempted to call the family, but to no avail.) These instances brought the average attendance way down- next month should drastically improve.

B. Head Start & Early Head Start:

a. Sharon Burnett- Health and Nutrition:

- Due to a federal CACFP Review in February we were unable to complete the CACFP & Health stats in time for this report; the final numbers will be sent to Policy Council and Board members and will be included in next month's report.

b. Terri Beard- ERSEA & Family and Community Partnerships:

- **ENROLLMENT UPDATE:** At the end of January we had 261 **Head Start children** enrolled and 48 **Early Head Start Children** for a total of 309. We are fully enrolled.

Summary

Month	Head Start			Early Head Start			Total	
	Reported	Funded	Status	Reported	Funded	Status	Reported	Funded
Aug 2017	261	261	Reported	48	48	Reported	309	309
Sep 2017	261	261	Reported	48	48	Reported	309	309
Oct 2017	261	261	Reported	48	48	Reported	309	309
Nov 2017	261	261	Reported	48	48	Reported	309	309
Dec 2017	261	261	Reported	48	48	Reported	309	309
Jan 2018	261	261	Reported	48	48	Reported	309	309

- **HS/EHS ATTENDANCE UPDATE:**

- Head Start Pre-K: We were at **73.42%** Average Daily Attendance ("ADA"), in January, which is less than the minimum allowed (85%), but was due to sickness and is allowable under the regulations.
- Early Head Start: We were at **83.18%** ADA in Early Head Start last month, which is less than the minimum allowed as well (85%); however, many of those that were absent was due to sickness and is allowable under the regulation

Ozark Opportunities Inc. HS/EHS

	Attendance Records			Operating Days	ADA	Funded Enrollment		Actual Enrollment		
	Present	Absent	Neither			Count	% Attendance	Count	% Attendance	
Clinton Early Head Start	210	86	8	19.00 (avg)	11.05	16	69.08%	15.58	70.95%	45% Sickness Related
Harrison Early Head Start	232	70	0	19.00 (avg)	12.22	16	76.32%	15.89	76.82%	68% Sickness Related
Mtn. Home Early Head Start	207	79	2	18.00 (avg)	11.51	16	71.88%	15.89	72.38%	69% Sickness Related
Ozark Opportunities Inc. HS/EHS	649	235	10	18.67 (avg)	34.78	48	72.43%	47.36	73.42%	
Report Totals	649	235	10	18.67 (avg)	34.78	48	72.43%	47.36	73.42%	

Ozark Opportunities Inc. HS/EHS

	Attendance Records			Operating Days	ADA	Funded Enrollment		Actual Enrollment		
	Present	Absent	Neither			Count	% Attendance	Count	% Attendance	
Bruno Pyatt	181	45	28	18.00 (avg)	10.06	15	67.04%	12.56	80.09%	41% Sickness related
Cotter Head Start	194	86	8	18.00 (avg)	10.76	16	67.36%	15.56	69.29%	60% Sickness related
Harrison	1,241	199	23	19.00 (avg)	65.31	80	81.64%	75.79	86.18%	
Jasper Head Start	231	51	0	19.00 (avg)	12.16	15	81.06%	14.84	81.91%	56% Sickness related
Mountain Home I	247	41	0	18.00 (avg)	13.72	16	85.76%	16.00	85.76%	
Mountain Home II	249	39	0	18.00 (avg)	13.83	16	86.46%	16.00	86.46%	
Mountain Home IV	223	56	7	18.00 (avg)	12.39	15	77.43%	15.50	79.93%	53% Sickness related
Norfolk	182	47	11	15.00 (avg)	12.13	16	75.83%	15.27	79.48%	60% Sickness related
Shirley Head Start	260	44	0	19.00 (avg)	13.68	13	105.26%	16.00	85.53%	
St. Joe Head Start	178	53	3	18.00 (avg)	9.89	13	76.07%	12.83	77.06%	57% Sickness related
Valley Springs	218	30	7	17.00 (avg)	12.82	15	85.49%	14.59	87.90%	
Western Grove Head Start	224	37	9	18.00 (avg)	12.44	15	82.96%	14.50	85.82%	
Yelville-Summit	229	52	7	18.00 (avg)	12.72	15	84.81%	15.61	81.49%	64% Sickness related
Ozark Opportunities Inc. HS/EHS	3,857	780	99	18.18 (avg)	211.93	261	81.32%	255.05	83.18%	
Report Totals	3,857	780	99	18.18 (avg)	211.93	261	81.32%	255.05	83.18%	

c. Ryan Clayborn- Program Manager/ Education Coordinator

- The *Boone County Imagination Library* met at OOI in Harrison on January 9th. We are currently providing books 1,047 children in Boone County. 641 children have graduated the program.
- The Mentor/Coach (Carrie Ragland) has worked with teaching staff to complete Professional Development Plans for the 2018 school year.
- An “Inclement Weather Pack” for children and teachers has been created for the ABC program for up to five days as all of the school districts are utilizing. This pack will keep us from having to make up these days at the end of the school year.

- CPR/First Aid Training for new staff will be held January 24th.
- A new On-Site Monitoring Protocol has been implemented by the coordinating staff. We are doing this to improve how we monitor childhood locations.
- All sites have received books to give children for Christmas. We sent out approximately 750 books this year.
- All EHS and a few HS staff attended a *Conscious Discipline* training on January 4th and 5th in Harrison.
- C.L.A.S.S. training for ten HS staff will be held on January 10th.
- All of the coordinating staff have been busy ordering materials for EHS with the carryover money. Approximately \$200,000 has been spent so far on the EHS program.
- I attended the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission meeting in Little Rock on January 16th, and the *Arkansas Head Start Association Director's* meeting on January 17th.
- All Child Development, Early Childhood Programs are running well and continue to improve.

d. Patricia Murray- Disabilities & Center Supervisor:

Agency Summary - Ozark Opportunities Inc.

Children	Children with an IEP or IFSP (% of actual enrollment)			Received Services	Primary Disability	
40	Open IEP	40	15.4%	40	Non-categorical/developme	19
Funded:	Closed IEP	0	0.0%	0	Speech or language impair	21
260	Open IFSP	0	0.0%	0		
	Closed IFSP	0	0.0%	0		
	Total Open	40	15.4%	40		
	Total Closed	0	0.0%	0		
				IEP / IFSPs Due		
				Past Due 0		
				Next 30 days 0		
				More than 30 days 40		
				<blank> 0		

e. Krystal Mayes: Parent Engagement

- Head Start/Early Head Start Nonfederal Match (“In Kind”) for December has been completed. (Spreadsheets available).

III. Community Services

Rebecca Hanlin; Community Services Manager

1. Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program:

- The Winter non-emergency LIHEAP Program began on January 16 and runs through March 31, 2018 or until funds are depleted.
- The Crisis (emergency) Winter LIHEAP Program will begin on February 12, 2018 and run until funds are depleted or until the State closes the program.
- Utility Assistance checks are written weekly, on Wednesday. Through 2/7/2018 we have written checks on 1,502 applications in the amount of **\$187,541**.
- Program Monitors are scheduled to review Winter LIHEAP records March 13-15, 2018.

Activity Summary through February 2, 2018:

Non-Emergency Assistance					
Counties	Received	Approved	\$	Pending	Denied
Baxter	404	355	\$44,926.00	15	34
Boone	574	504	\$62,706.00	39	31
Marion	285	251	\$31,912.00	24	10
Newton	218	194	\$24,427.00	5	19
Searcy	201	187	\$23,541.00	9	5
Van Buren	281	256	\$32,535.00	20	5
Total	1,963	1,747	\$220,047.00	112	104

2. Vehicle Repair Loan Program:

- Current balance is now \$5,035.99.
- \$500 maximum loan amount, loan must be repaid within one year, and the income eligibility is 200% of the federal poverty level.
- From start of program we've had 8 individuals receive a loan, three are paid in full; four are in the repayment process; one is delinquent.
- We are currently working with community partners to spread the word about this program. Partners must be willing to sign a referral letter and help with contacting approved clients if they default on the loan.

3. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):

- Program implemented December 8, 2017.
- Baxter, Boone, Marion and Newton counties grant application: \$14,000 (Rapid Rehousing: \$6,000 and Homeless Prevention: \$8,000).
- Searcy and Van Buren counties grant application: \$7,000 (Rapid Rehousing: \$2,000 and Homeless Prevention: \$5,000).
- **Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) has been suspended** until we receive reimbursement from the State for funds paid in December and January, \$4,841. These do not include expenses for January. When the program was suspended, it did not affect applications that were in process or verbal obligations made but not paid.

Activity through January 31, 2018; we've assisted 10 Families (28 Individuals).

County	Rapid Rehousing	Homelessness Prevention	Match	Total
Baxter	\$0.00	\$1,357.50	\$1,357.50	\$2,715.00
Boone	\$1,141.00	\$445.00	\$1,586.00	\$3,172.00
Marion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Newton	\$560.00	\$0.00	\$560.00	\$1,120.00
Searcy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Van Buren	\$0.00	\$1,337.50	\$1,337.50	\$2,675.00
Total	\$1,701.00	\$3,140.00	\$4,841.00	\$9,682.00

4. Community Services Block Grant (CSBG):

- FY 2018 first quarter ended December 31, 2018. The first quarter report was due to the State February 9, 2018 and was submitted on time. [This report does require Board action.](#)
- CSBG Discretionary Grant proposal was submitted (1/9/2018) for FY 2018 program year. The proposal is for Emergency and Stability assistance to help with medical, dental, optical and housing needs; similar to last year. To date we have not received word from the State regarding its status (approved, denied, needing more information, etc.).

5. Agency Capacity/ Resource Development:

- We are currently researching grant opportunities for homelessness initiatives, childhood literacy, and general family stabilization through emergency services.
- We are the "Lead Agency" for the Boone, Baxter, Marion, Newton Continuum of Care (BBMN CoC). Last meeting held 1/18/2018 in Harrison, OOI Community Room.
 - The Point-In-Time (PIT) Count conducted on 1/23/18 reflected 24 unsheltered homeless persons recorded within Boone and Baxter counties on that date. BBMN CoC Board to meet 2/15/2018 at OOI Community Room in Harrison.

Activity Overview for potential funding opportunities:

Focus	Funding Amount	Grant Guidance	Activity	Result
Community Improvement	\$500 - \$1,500	Met	Researched, includes Baxter & Marion Counties. Two submission windows annually.	Preparing for February 2018 submission window.
Dental Health	Not stated	Met	Researching, pending further coord. w Rotary Dental Clinic	
Community Health & Human Services - Crisis Support	\$25,000 and up	Met	Submitted 8/11/2016	Awaiting Response. Have not been contacted and no recipient list published yet.
Continuum of Care Planning	\$6,980	Met	Submitted 9/28/2017	APPROVED!! – Awaiting grant agreement and procedures for processing expenditures.
Foundation Grant - Low Income Initiatives & Solutions	\$5,000	Met	Submitted 1/30/2018	Awaiting Response. Submitted for micro-shelter materials funding.

6. Family Development & Empowerment:

- As of January 31, 2018 we have **25 families enrolled** in SUCCESS (20 Boone, 2 Baxter, 2 Searcy, 1 Newton). Of those 10 are A-16 eligible when the program begins and six have pending LIHEAP applications. Six SUCCESS applications were mailed to referrals just prior to January 31; information is still outstanding on those potential applicants.
- Seminars will start this month (February) with the first seminar covering “**Budgeting Basics**”. This month budgeting seminar will be held at our Harrison office (406 Hwy 43 East) on February 20th at 5:30 pm and February 24th at 10:00 am. Additional seminars may be scheduled at other outreach locations when more participants enroll in other counties.
- Nutrition Seminars are tentatively scheduled for March (week of the 8th) and April (week of the 12th) with guest speakers from the local Arkansas Cooperative Extension Office.
- **SUCCESS Story(!)**: Jane Smith has made tremendous progress since enrolling with us last year. Jane was one of our first *Emergency Solutions Grant* applicants. She was facing eviction and we were able to assist her through the Homelessness Prevention program.
 - A little about Jane... She is 48 years old, has two grown children and two grandchildren. When we first met Jane she had just gotten out of drug rehab. and was facing eviction. She didn't have a job, didn't have a vehicle, and had lost her driving privileges. She had dropped out of college when addiction started taking over her life. Due to her history with alcohol she had no contact with her children or grandchildren. Fast-forward one year and Jane has achieved many successes. She has remained drug and alcohol-free. She is employed, has her driver's license back and has her own vehicle. Next, she hopes to prove to her family that she can keep her sobriety and wants to build a relationship with her children and grandchildren. She has thrived and we are so very proud of her accomplishments(!)

7. Community Engagement & Staff Development:

- Blaine Lawrence is undergoing training to become a Nationally Certified ROMA Implementer.
- Community Services leadership staff are currently working on a best practices manual for all programs implemented within the Community Services Department.
- We are currently exploring opportunities to relocate our Boone County Community Services Office (currently located at 406 Hwy 43 East in Harrison) to a larger building, as we are in need of more office space.
- 1/3/2018 – Harley Thompson attended a meeting of the HOPE Cottages Steering Committee
- 1/8/2018 – Blaine and Harley attended USDA Grant signing ceremony at Northwest Regional Housing Authority in Harrison.
- 1/18/2018 – Marie Slack hosted a meeting of the *Van Buren County Resource Council* at OOI's outreach office in Clinton.
- 1/19/2018 – Blaine and Harley attended the *Boone County Resource Council* meeting held at the *Hammerschmidt Business and Conference Center* at Northark College in Harrison.
- 1/23/2018 – BBMN Point in Time Count- Homeless Count: Results= 24 unsheltered homeless & 20 sheltered homeless (i.e. domestic violence shelters).
- 1/24/2018 – Blaine and Harley installed "Take One" boxes outside the Baxter and Marion outreach offices, to provide convenient after-hours access for LIHEAP applications.
- 1/27/2018 – Delta Hills Point in Time Count; no results reported at this time.
- 2/7/2018 – Blaine and Rebecca attended a training on "Supervising Off-Site Staff".
- 2/8/2018 – Harley, Rebecca and Toby attended the *House of Hope* Business After Hours; information was provided on their renovations and updates on their newest project, Hope Cottages.
- 2/14/2018 – Staff will attend the Boone County Hometown Health Coalition Meeting.
- 2/20/18 – Toby and Rebecca will attend a "Lunch with Womack" event hosted by NAC in the Durand Center.
- 2/27/2018 – OOI Outreach staff will attend a Ministerial Alliance Meeting.

IV. Corporate Services (& Human Resources)

Jane Bueg, Chief Operating Officer

January 2018

Hires	Education	Community Services	Administration	Total
0	0	0	0	0
All Departures	Education	Community Services	Administration	Total
1	1	0	0	1
Other/Training:				
GoogleApps in-kind report: \$285.00 (Head Start) \$165.00 (Early Head Start) \$45.00 (ABC)				
Contractor List Update				
Child Maltreatment Registry Checks – staff				
Criminal Background Checks – staff				
Termination of Benefits: 1				
COBRA Notice: 1				
Dept. of Labor Survey for November (Van Buren County statistics)				
Technology: inventory, trouble shooting, problem solving, purchasing, price quotes, set up 9 laptops for EHS, 1 for ABC				
Tech Talk				
Posting, Advertise Vacancies - 3				
Workers Comp: 1				
Salary Scale Revision				
Governance meetings: Policy Council, Board of Directors Executive Committee				
Policy Revisions: Termination of Benefits, Inclement Weather,				
EEO-300 A report & staff board updates: Central Office, Community Services: Mountain Home, Harrison, Yellville, Marshall/Clinton; HS: Harrison, Valley Springs, Mountain Home, Norfolk, Cotter, Yellville, Bruno-Pyatt, St. Joe, Marshall, Shirley; EHS: Mountain Home, Clinton; ABC: Mountain Home, Clinton				