

# WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION CHILDREN'S HEALTH & DISABILITIES SERVICES CENTER

## Philosophy & Approach

WCCAO's philosophy is that parents are the primary care givers and educators of their children. It is the parents' responsibility to see that their children's health care needs are met. It is the program's role to support the parent by providing advocacy, education, financial assistance and resource identification.

Upon enrollment into WCCAO's Child Development Program (Head Start and State PreKindergarten), each family receives a packet of information that lists the health requirements, available resources and information on how to prepare young children for health services. Follow-up support is provided to families to assure that the physical and dental exam requirements have been met and treatment obtained. On-site vision, hearing, developmental, social and emotional screenings occur for each child. In addition, nutritional and growth assessments are performed. These services are provided by staff and specialists in the fields of speech and language, nutrition and mental health.

## Services Provided through Head Start

Physical exams for 3 and 4 year old low-income children, which includes:

- ◆ Immunizations
- ◆ Blood Pressure
- ◆ Hematocrit/Hemoglobin
- ◆ Tuberculosis Screening
- ◆ Health History Review
- ◆ Well Child Physical

Vision and Hearing Screening

Nutritional and Growth Assessment

Dental Exam

Developmental Screening

Individualized support and services to meet the special needs of disabled children

Follow-up on identified health problems to assure appropriate diagnosis and treatment

Health and Dental Education, including:

- ◆ Safety
- ◆ Hygiene
- ◆ Wellness practices and prevention
- ◆ Accessing health services and resources
- ◆ First Aid