

April 24, 2025



- To: Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health
- From: Harvey Mathews, Legislative Director
- **Re:** Answers to questions posed during the April 22nd informational hearing on family and child-related services and supports offered by DOC.

Chair Reynolds and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to respond to the questions posed by the Committee on the topic of the Department of Corrections' (DOC) family and child-related services and supports on Tuesday, April 22. Our initial follow-up to your questions on April 24th noted that we were still waiting on information on the topic of Head Start at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF), which is answered below:

Question #6: Senator Patterson asked DOC what the current waitlist is for the Early Head Start program.

Community Action of Washington County provides Head Start and Early Head Start programs at no cost for children prenatal to age 5. Coffee Creek offers two class days a week where children get to interact and build a strong bond with their mothers.

CCCF's Head Start currently does not have a waiting list for the program. Three mothers and four children are now participating and the program has the capacity to enroll up to eight children. Over the last thirteen years, they have had 70 AIC mothers and 77 children participate in their program.