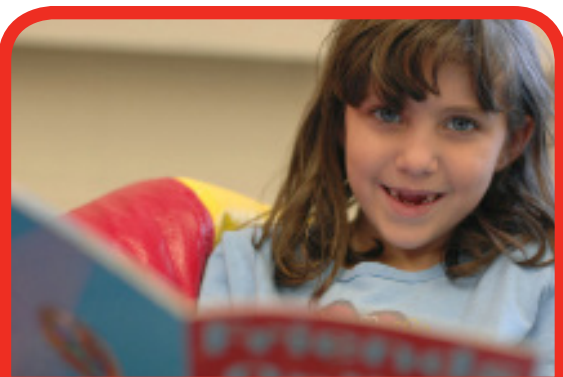


## WV State Data



# Helping West Virginia's Children Succeed

Since 2010, we've operated our core programming in West Virginia. We currently partner with 11 communities in 5 counties, serving 3,952 children.

## OUR WEST VIRGINIA PROGRAMS GET RESULTS

### 2013 RESULTS

**Literacy Results:** Children in our program read an average of 60 books during the school year and more than 54% of participants showed significant reading improvement.

On average, literacy improvement among program participants was equivalent to an additional 2.1 months of schooling.

**Health Results:** Children participated in an average of 30 minutes of physical activity per day and were introduced to nutritious snack options.

**National Early Steps Results:** 80% of 3-year-olds in our Early Steps program scored at or above the normal range for vocabulary acquisition.

## 2013-2014 EDUCATION AND HEALTH PARTICIPATION

School by County	Children Served	Early Steps	Literacy	Healthy Choices
Cabell County	600			
Spring Hill Elem.			✓	✓
Clay County	1,000			
Big Otter Elem.			✓	✓
Clay Elem.			✓	✓
H.E. White Elem.			✓	✓
Lizemore Elem.			✓	✓
Mason County	368			
Beale Elem.		✓	✓	✓
McDowell County	1,082			
Bradshaw Elem.		✓	✓	✓
laeger Elem.		✓	✓	✓
Welch Elem.		✓	✓	✓

### CORE PROGRAMS IN WEST VIRGINIA

The Early Steps to School Success program is designed to assist children, from birth to age 5, with language, social and emotional development; to equip parents with the skills and knowledge to successfully support their child's growth; and to develop strong home-school connections. Ages 0-5

The Literacy program provides children in elementary school with the opportunity to increase their reading achievement by supplying the tools they need to develop reading skills and the guidance and support they need to grow as readers. Ages 5-12

The Healthy Choices program aims to increase children's information and access to regular physical activity and healthy snacks in a school environment. Ages 5-12

### OTHER CORE PROGRAMS

The Get Ready Get Safe initiative helps communities meet new national standards and integrate best practices for supporting children's safety and well-being during disasters through preparedness planning and programs. Ages 0-18

**26% of West Virginia children live in poverty.**

School by County	Children Served	Early Steps	Literacy	Healthy Choices
Roane County	902			
Geary Elem./Middle		✓	✓	✓
Spencer Elem./Middle		✓	✓	✓

Sponsor a U.S. child today, and help Save the Children support programs that ensure every child has a fair chance in school and life.

[www.savethechildren.org/usa-sponsor](http://www.savethechildren.org/usa-sponsor)

## CREATING IMMEDIATE AND LASTING CHANGE FOR CHILDREN

### POLICY & ADVOCACY

We advocate for initiatives and legislation at the state and national level that promote children's well-being and resiliency, including the necessity of quality early education programs, funding for underserved school districts, and child care emergency preparedness. As part of the national effort to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic, Save the Children aims to accelerate state and local policy change to increase children's access to affordable healthy food and opportunities for physical activity.

**Results:** In 2013, policy changes championed by Save the Children stand to benefit 40 million American kids; we improved child health and wellness policies in ten states; and since 2009, we've influenced disaster preparedness policy changes in 26 states.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE & RECOVERY

Save the Children's Get Ready Get Safe initiative helps communities prepare to protect their kids before, during and after a disaster. We respond directly to disaster-affected communities, working to address unmet needs of children and providing Child-Friendly Spaces, supervised play areas in shelters. We also offer long-term resiliency support to children and caregivers through our Journey of Hope program.

**Results:** In 2012, we provided 99,400 children and caregivers with critical emergency relief, recovery and preparedness training, including 45,000 children and families affected by Hurricane Sandy.

### SPONSORSHIP

Our child sponsorship program gives children living in poverty a chance at a brighter future by supporting Save the Children's programs in communities to ensure access to quality education, healthy foods and opportunities to grow in a nurturing environment.

**Results:** Currently, 15,100 children in our programs across the country receive sponsorship.

### EFFECTS OF POVERTY IN WEST VIRGINIA

26% of children live in poverty.<sup>1</sup>

52% of children are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals, a socioeconomic challenge recognized as a barrier to student achievement.<sup>2</sup>

39% of 4th graders scored below the basic level of reading achievement on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.<sup>3</sup>

47% of children ages 3 to 5 are not enrolled in nursery school, preschool or kindergarten.<sup>4</sup>

More than 1 in 3 rural children ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese (34%).<sup>5</sup>

23% of rural children, compared to 19% of urban children, are obese, or have a body mass index exceeding the 95th percentile for the age and gender.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>2011. Kids Count: Child Poverty Indicator, Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF).

<sup>2</sup>2011. National Center for Education Statistics, US Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.

<sup>4</sup>2011. Kids Count: Children 3-5 not enrolled in nursery school, Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF).

<sup>5</sup>2012. 2011/12 National Survey of Children's Health, Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health.

<sup>6</sup>2007. Overweight and Physical Inactivity among Rural Children Aged 10-17: A National and State Portrait, South Carolina Rural Health Research Center.



**Save the Children.**