

2024 Annual Report



Helping People. Changing Lives.

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About Big Five Community Services, Inc.

Big Five Community Services, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) Oklahoma corporation that operates as a Community Action Agency (CAA). Governed by a Tripartite Board of Directors consisting of 15 members, Big Five oversees a variety of programs and services designed to support individuals and families in need across Oklahoma.

The organization's history is deeply rooted in the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, which laid the foundation for Community Action Programs as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty." The Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) was created to support these initiatives, and in 1966, several Southern and Southeastern Oklahoma counties launched their local efforts to combat economic and social deprivation.

In 1969, the Indian Nation Community Action Foundation, Inc. was formed, covering ten counties. Two years later, in 1971, five of these counties merged to establish Big Five Community Services, Inc. This merger created what would become the largest rural Community Action Agency in Oklahoma in terms of the population served. After the OEO was disbanded in 1974, the Community Services Administration (CSA) assumed oversight until 1981, when the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program took its place. Despite funding reductions and the elimination of some programs over the years, Big Five has remained steadfast in its mission. Rather than focusing solely on temporary assistance, Big Five continues to address the root causes of poverty, working to create lasting change for individuals, families, and communities.



Community Action Promise & Big Five Mission Statement

Promise of Community Action

- Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

Big Five Mission Statement

- “We exist to strengthen the educational, social, health, and economic well-being of individuals and families as they move toward independence and self-sufficiency through partnerships and collaborations.”



Letter from Executive Director

I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to you as we proudly present the Annual Report of our activities for the year 2024 of Big Five Community Services, Inc.

As the Executive Director of Big Five, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the dedication and hard work of our employees, volunteers, supporters, and partners in advancing our mission.

In this Annual Report, you will find comprehensive information regarding our programs, and the outcomes of our efforts. From Early Childhood to Rural Public Transit to Aging Services and more, our report reflects the collective effort and determination of everyone involved in our cause.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you who contributed to our successful operations over the course of the last year. Whether through your time, expertise, financial support, or advocacy, your involvement has been invaluable in driving our mission forward.

As we embark on the journey ahead, I am confident that with your continued support and collaboration, we will achieve even greater milestones and continue to be a beacon of hope and positive change in our community.

Thank you once again for your support and commitment to our shared vision. Together, we can continue Helping People and Changing Lives.

Warm regards,



Kent Watson



Meet our Board Members



Howard, Kenny
Chairman
Pontotc County



Jacobs, Ron
Vice-Chairman
Love County



Robinson, Pam
Secretary
Bryan County



Canida, Charles
Coal County



Dobbs, Jarvis
Bryan County



Fountain, Pat
Pontotoc County



Gray, Deresa
Pontotoc County



Lemons, Bonnie
Coal County



McCullough, Pat
Carter County



McElroy, James
Carter County



Parks, Gerald
Bryan County



Tow, Betty Sue
Love County



Ward, Johnny
Coal County



Williamson, Cary
Carter County



Willis, Tammy
Love County



Meet Our Executive Team

WATSON, KENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BOLES, BOBBI

HEAD START ADMIN SERVICES DIR.

BURCH, LORI

ASSISTANT HEAD START DIR.

CAMPBELL, SHELLI

FINANCE DIR.

DUNN, ALLISON

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIR.

GIRTEN, JIM

HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START DIR.

STINSON, KEVIN

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER/HR DIR.

GLEGHORN, TANYA

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, HOUSING, & TRANSIT DIR.

LEAIRD, ALLEN

SPECIAL PROJECTS DIR.

MCCURRY, BRENDA

CHILD DEVELOPMENT DIR.

PEARCE, BETH

ASSISTANT HR DIR.

WINGO, CHARLOTTE

ASSISTANT HEAD START DIR.



IMPACT SNAPSHOT



2,537
Individuals Served



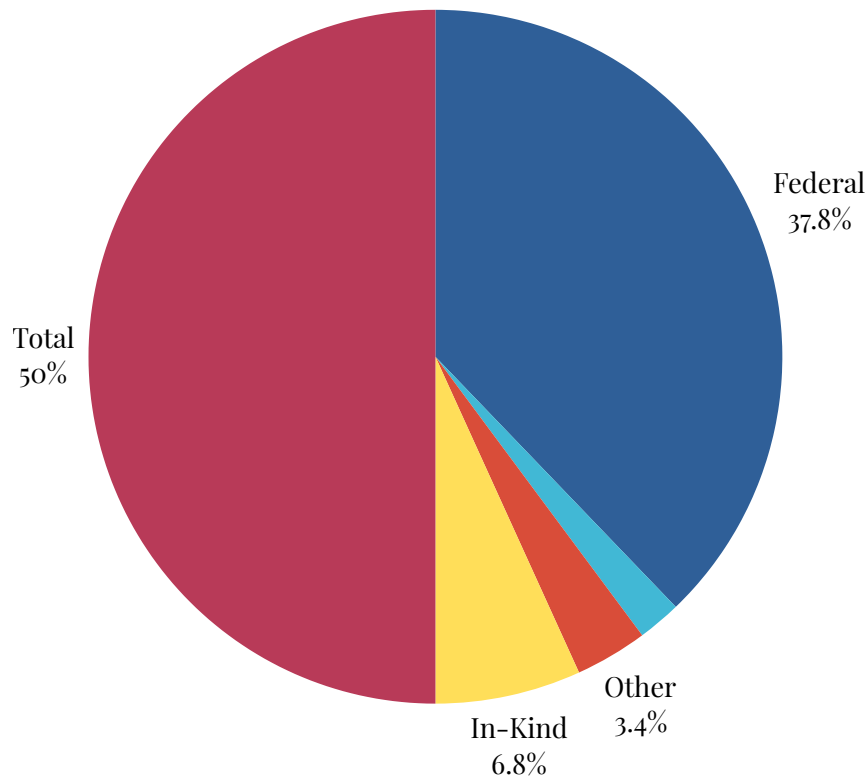
1,810
Households Served



28
Counties Served

Financial Report

Funding Sources



Federal Funds: \$17,191,755

State Funds: \$918,341

Other: \$1,531,973

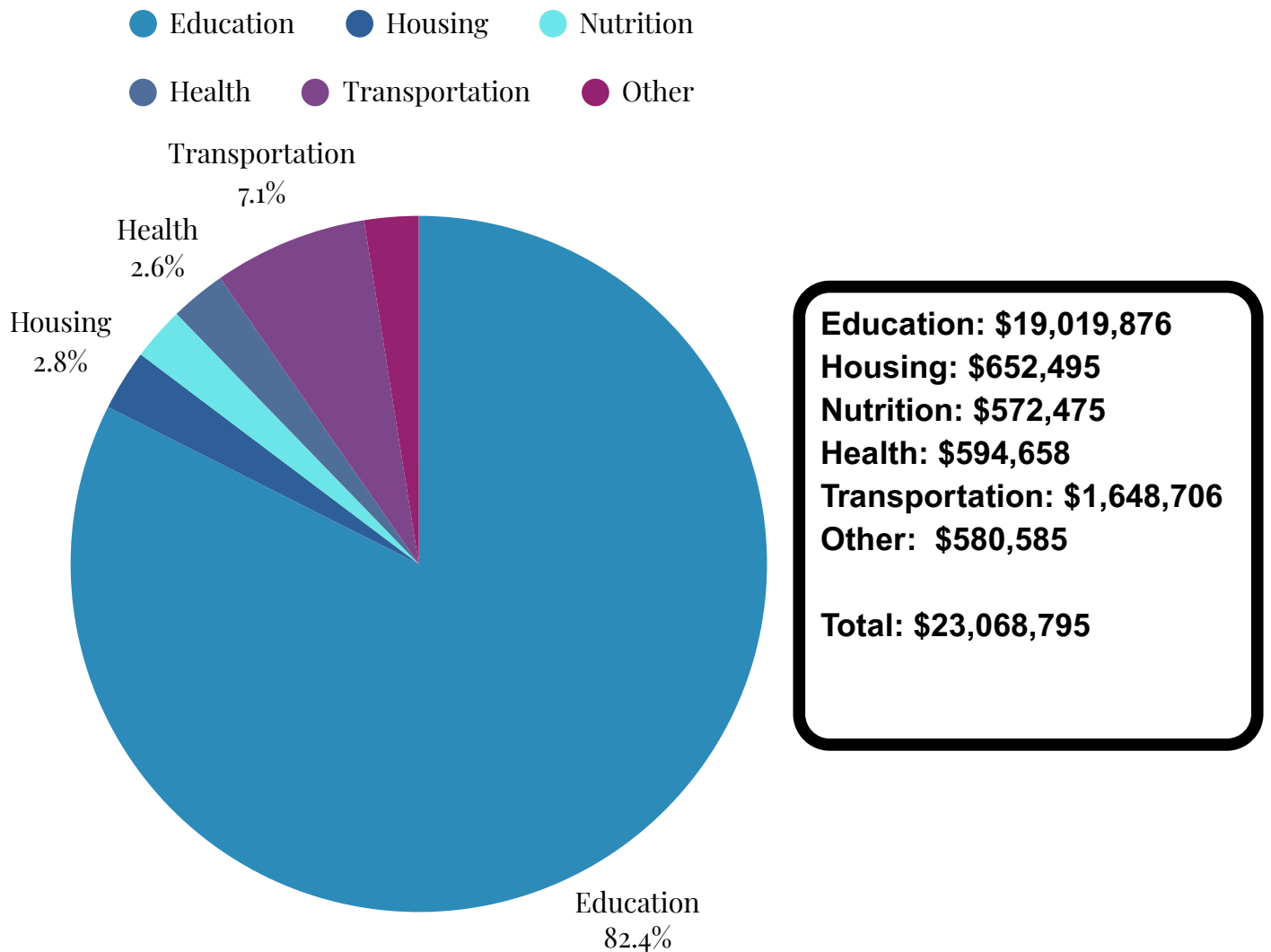
In-Kind Contributions: \$3,087,607

Total Funding: \$22,729,676

Our Agency is funded through federal, state, local, and private grant funding. The Accounting Department manages our 22.7 million dollar budget and ensures that it is spent under all grant guidelines. The team works closely with all program directors to monitor each program's budget and provides monthly, quarterly, and yearly reports for executive staff to review.

Financial Report

Funding Uses



Emergency Services

Big Five Community Services, Inc. provided emergency food assistance to clients in Ada, Ardmore, Coalgate, Durant, and Marietta. By addressing urgent needs, Big Five continues to play a vital role in supporting individuals and families, while strengthening communities during challenging times. Big Five also partners with the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma to support the Coalgate Food Bank.

**Emergency Food Pantry -
Assisted 374 Clients**



Housing

Big Five Community Services, Inc. provides safe and affordable housing to low-income individuals and families. We partner with the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) for development funding and comply with all OHFA regulations to ensure fair and consistent practices for both current and prospective tenants.



Family Caregiver



Big Five provides information and services for individuals caring for a family member or loved one with a disability or special health care needs.

You are considered a caregiver if you provide full-time, regular care for a family member or loved one who has a disability, chronic health condition, or cognitive impairment.

Big Five can assist with:

- Access to resources and assistance
- Respite care
- Support groups

Respite care offers caregivers:

- Time for yourself
- Time to attend doctor appointments or run errands
- Time with other family members

Taking this time away can help reduce stress for you and your family. Our goal is to provide the information and services you need to care for your loved one while supporting your well-being.

**Family
Caregiver
Respite served
32 clients and
3,022 hours**

**Older
Relative
Caregivers
Respite served
11 clients and
694 hours**



| Head Start



Head Start is a comprehensive childcare program dedicated to providing quality services for children and their families. The program addresses the emotional needs of each child on an individual basis and works to identify and support any learning disabilities before the child enters public school.

Head Start offers medical, dental, nutritional, and mental health services, ensuring that children receive well-rounded care. Developmentally appropriate learning activities are designed to build self-confidence, encourage independence, and promote social competence. Children engage in a variety of experiences that foster cognitive, physical, and emotional growth.

Big Five Head Start proudly serves families in the following Oklahoma counties: Alfalfa, Beaver, Blaine, Bryan, Canadian, Carter, Cimarron, Coal, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield, Grant, Harper, Hughes, Kingfisher, Love, Major, Okfuskee, Pontotoc, Texas, Woods, and Woodward.

Head Start 2024 Annual Report

Public and Private Funding

Source	Designated Use	Amount
Federal	General Operations	\$14,326,932
Federal	Training and Technical Assistance	\$168,535
Federal - USDA-CACFP	Food Reimbursement	\$572,475
State - SAF	General Operations	\$281,859
Public School Collaborations	General Operations	\$149,882
E-Rate Reimbursement	General Operations	\$63,110
TOTAL:		\$15,562,793

Total Number of Children and Families Served:

Funded enrollment for Big Five Head Start is **1,158** children. For the 2022-2023 school year, Big Five Head Start served **1,258** children and **1,169** families. Average Daily enrollment was 85%. According to the United States Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program, 18.9% of Oklahoma children under the age of five are living at or below the poverty level.

Head Start 2024 Annual Report

Budgetary Expenditures & Proposed Budget

Budget Category	Program Operations	TT&A	Non-Federal Share
Personnel	\$7,484,897	\$0	\$621,521
Fringe Benefits	\$1,985,466	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$134,876	\$13,281	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$13,698	\$13,375	\$122,250
Contractual	\$2,414,517	\$45,954	\$427,374
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$1,493,478	\$95,925	\$2,370,292
Total	\$14,326,932	\$168,535	\$2,370,692

Audit:

Big Five is audited annually by an independent auditor to analyze the financial health of the agency. Big Five's audit had no concerns. There were no questioned costs in the latest audit.

Results of the Most Recent Review by the Secretary:

As of 1/5/2023, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a monitoring review of Big Five Community Services, Inc., Head Start Program. Big Five had one area of non-compliance in standard 1302.12 (c), Determining, verifying, and documenting eligibility. It is being addressed in a corrective action plan.

Head Start 2024 Annual Report

Parent Involvement Activities:

ACTIVITY	DETAILS
The opportunity to develop a Family Partnership Agreement	Offered to every family enrolled in Head Start
Parent Committee Center Meetings	All sites have parent meetings
Policy Council Meetings	Members are current Head Start parents and community representatives.
Parent Training	Pedestrian and Bus Safety Literacy Fire Prevention Oral Health & Nutrition CPR/FIRST AID Budgeting/ Income Tax Transition Activities Child Abuse / Domestic Violence ATV Safety Continuing Education Fire Works Safety / Lake Safety Health
Volunteer in the classroom	Based on individual participation
Self-Assessment	Participation in self-assessment planning and observation of classroom and playgrounds
Health Advisory Committee	Parent participation on committee
Home Visits & Parent Teacher Conferences	Each family is offered two educational home visits and two parent teacher conferences per year.
Transition Activities	Transition activities are offered throughout the school year. This includes visits to elementary schools, assistance with kindergarten enrollment, and parent orientations.
Education Advisory Committee	Parent participation on committee
Family & Community Partnership Coalition	Parents participate in coalition and community meetings.

Head Start 2024 Annual Report

Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten:

Big Five Head Start is using Creative Curriculum and book study guides as the theory base for educational outcomes. As well as the High Reach Curriculum and ELQA (Early Literacy Quick Assessment) to meet the goals of Head Start Outcomes, State of Oklahoma Core Curricula, and the individual goals set by our school districts, where we have pre-school partnerships. Each of these curriculums is normed and validated and scientifically research-based. These curriculums provide developmentally appropriate learning activities for preschool children and encourage family engagement. In Family Engagement, we added "Love, Read and Learn" from the State Department of Education. Children are given the Brigance Development screening on the first day of school, followed by the Learning Accomplishment Profile-Diagnostic after 45 days in the classroom, again at mid-term, and a final assessment in April. This assessment identifies the child's strengths and weaknesses, providing a baseline for individualization and family involvement in the learning process. The ELQA (Early Literacy Quick Assessment) is given online three times a year, with individual reports printed for parents and monitored by the Education team. Year-end data will provide data for kindergarten success. This is a normed and validated assessment from the University of Oklahoma.

Resources, priorities, and concerns of the family, together with support services, enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of their child and prepare them for kindergarten. This is part of the school readiness plan and meets the Head Start Performance standards for Framework Outcomes and School Readiness.

Health Promotion

The primary focus of Big Five's Health Promotion program is to inform and educate seniors on managing their own chronic disease or the chronic disease of a loved one.

Big Five offers Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance to individuals age 60 and older living in Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Coal, Garvin, Johnston, Love, Marshall, Murray, and Pontotoc counties. This program helps older adults improve balance and reduce the risk of falling. Research shows that participants who complete the program are half as likely to fall and experience less fear of falling. Designed for older adults who can walk without assistive devices, the program teaches balance skills, proper body alignment, and smooth, coordinated movements.

Big Five also offers A Matter of Balance (MOB), an evidence-based program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among community-dwelling older adults. The program consists of eight two-hour classes in small groups of 8–12 participants, led by trained coaches. MOB empowers participants to view falls as controllable, set activity goals, make small changes to reduce home fall risks, and engage in exercises that improve strength and balance.

Participants in these programs often experience improved physical health—such as greater strength, flexibility, and mobility—as well as enhanced mental health, including increased confidence, reduced fear, and less social isolation.

**Health Promotion
Served 53 Clients with
437 Hours**



|Outreach

The purpose of Outreach is to promote communication between the elderly in using community resources. Big Five Outreach will identify potential clients or their caregivers, make referrals to needed services, and encourage their use of existing services and benefits.

All individuals aged 60 and over are eligible for services. There are no mandatory fees for services. Older persons, however, are encouraged to make contributions to help defray the costs of services. Under current law, these contributions are used to expand services.

**Outreach
served 22
clients,
22 units of
service**

**Homemaker
served 89
clients,
4,792 service
hours**

**Chore
served 25
clients,
378
service
hours**



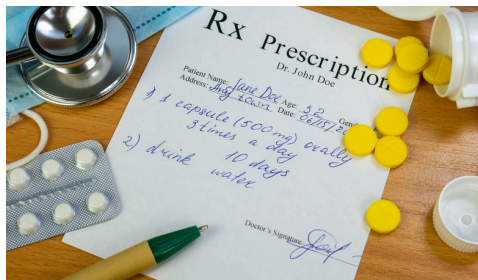
Rx for Oklahoma

Big Five Community Services, Inc. assists individuals in Bryan, Carter, Coal, Love, and Pontotoc counties with access to free or low-cost prescription medications. Through this program, clients receive help completing the required applications for participating pharmaceutical companies.

This service is limited to maintenance medications and does not cover short-term or emergency prescriptions. All approved medications are mailed directly to the client or their prescribing physician. Big Five does not dispense medications or pay for prescriptions.



Rx for Oklahoma Served 8 Clients with 25 Medications



SUCCESS STORY

I would have had to pay \$600 out-of-pocket each month for the insulin I desperately needed to manage my diabetes. As a senior, I would not have been able to afford this extra expense. Thanks to Big Five, they were able to help me get my insulin and other medications for free. I am profoundly grateful for the help I received from Big Five!

Ms. Davis

Public Transportation



SORTS provides reliable transportation for all transit needs, including rides to work, school, shopping, medical appointments, dining, and visiting friends. All vehicles meet ADA requirements, with wheelchair-accessible vans and buses available throughout our service area. We also comply with ADA standards for communication, offering operator-assisted relay services for individuals with hearing or speech impairments. Safety is our priority. All drivers undergo background checks, random drug and alcohol testing, and maintain clean driving records. Large bus operators hold a valid CDL with a passenger endorsement and a current medical card.

Our general hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. However, Sooner Ride and Work routes are available outside of these hours, including evenings and weekends. Additional public transportation services may also be scheduled beyond standard hours as needed, and all services are open to the public.



Public Transportation



42,335
Passenger Trips

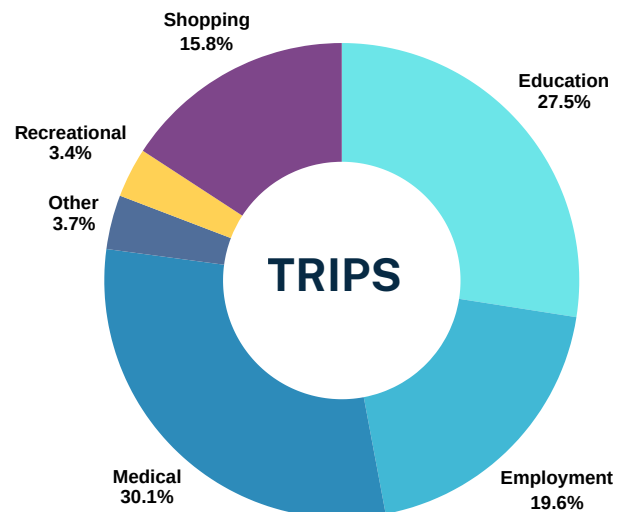
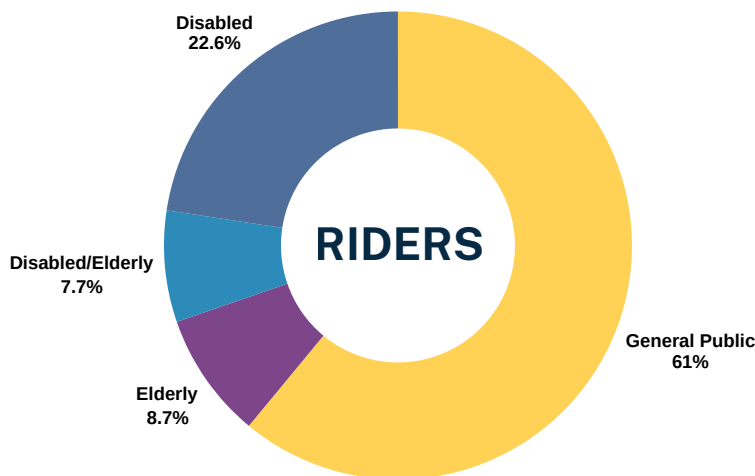
347,233
Passenger Miles

27,602
Service Hours

SENIOR MEDICAL

1,169
Passenger Trips

A portion of the project costs are met by the state and federal Older Americans Act funds from the SODA Area Agency and OKDHS Aging Services Division.

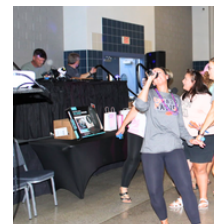


SORTS charges \$2.00 per one-way trip within city limits and a minimum of \$5.00 per county ride, depending on distance.

2024 A Year in Review



2024 A Year in Review



2024 A Year in Review



Success Stories

Head Start

I am the mother of Mason Jacob Arnold - an energetic Inquisitive 4 year old boy who attends Head Start program in Woodward, Oklahoma. He loves his school and teachers! The school programs are very interactive and educational with the parents as well as the students. The fact that they serve breakfast and that the parents are welcome to join their child/children is a bonus! We love that the school handouts tell us what they are eating for lunch and breakfast a month ahead! I love that they participate in medical dental programs.



Head Start has helped our family by giving and advice or information needed or requested. Head Start has also helped our family by helping our son talk a lot more and actually come out of his little shell. Since he started going to Head Start we have noticed a big difference in our son over all, and we are so blessed to have the teachers he has. If it was not for them and the rest of the staff I do not think he would be where he is at today without their help.



Success Stories

Senior Programs



These programs (Homemaker and Chore) are wonderful and they are really set up to help elderly people stay in their homes and it has helped me stay independent within my own home without having to worry about taking care of things by myself as a disabled elderly person.

-Norman Coy

The services I received from Big Five are awesome! These programs have given me more time to spend with my family and more freedom to relax as well as improve my quality of life. Homemaker, Family Caregiver, and the Chore services are the best thing to happen to me and my family. I am so thankful for Big Five.

-Nancy Cavner/Zelphia Miller

Success Stories

Senior Programs



I have been on the Big Five programs for about 5 years now and the Homemaker, Chore, and Respite programs have been the biggest blessing I could have every received.

The Respite program has helped me tremendously with taking care of my grandchildren and providing them what they need on top of allowing me to have some peace of mind. Big Five has allowed me to get my grandchildren into after school care allowing me to take some time for myself to take care of the things I need to during the week as well as having someone come in to help me with some of those every day tasks that need taken care of.

Besides the Respite program, the Homemaker and Chore program have helped me greatly when it comes to maintaining my home and lawn for my grandchildren as well as being able to maintain my own health so that all of my attention can be given to my priorities.

This program has helped me realize that I am not alone and has provided me with more hope. Truthfully, me and my family needed the spark that all of these programs provide

-Winnie Fox



Success Stories

Senior Programs

Tai Chi gives me somewhere to be social and active. In my smaller community there are not many opportunities like this, so when Tai Chi classes begin it gives me something to look forward to.
-Neva Stewart



Tai Chi helps with my arthritis and provides me some help in getting around better. Tai Chi has been useful in giving me a fun and useful activity to do during my day.
-Marlene Sampson



Head Start Center Information



Blaine County

Watonga EHS - 714 E. "A" Street, Watonga
Watonga Office - 714 E. "A" Street, Watonga
Watonga Collab. HS - 900 N. Leach, Watonga

Bryan County

Achille Public School HS, 201 N. 5th, Achille
Bill Haddock Center HS - 1502 N. 1st Street, Durant
Calera Public School HS, 111 N. 3rd, Calera
Colbert Public School HS - 630 Collins Street, Colbert
Jackie Watson (JWCDC) - 3725 W. Arkansas St, Durant
Rock Creek Public School HS - 200 Steaklet St., Bokchito
Silo Public School HS, 86 Texas Street, Silo
SOSU HS - 1335 N. 6th St, Durant

Canadian County

Yukon Public School HS - 801 W. Vandament, Yukon

Carter County

Will Rogers PS HS - 1441 N. Washington, Ardmore
Healdton Bull Pups - 457 Carter, Healdton
The Learning Cove-30515 US/HWY 70 W., Ardmore
Zaneis HS - 30515 US Hwy 70 W, Wilson

Coal County

Coalgate HS - 111 W. Fox Ave, Coalgate
Cottonwood HS - 16963 Main St., Coalgate
Tupelo Public School HS - 200 S. 7th Ave., Tupelo

Custer County

Clinton 123 HS - 700 Avant, Clinton

Garfield County

Enid Carver HS - 815 Pastor Alfred Baldwin Jr. Way, Enid
Enid Park Place HS - 306 W. Park Ave, Enid
Enid Applewood HS/EHS - 525 S. Quincy, Enid
Turn the Page HS & EHS - 1524 E. Broadway, Enid
Summerhill HS & EHS - 4619 West Randolph Ave, Enid

Grant County

Medford EHS - 223 N. 2nd, Medford

Harper County

Buffalo Little Bison Daycare Collab, 217 SW 1st Ave, Buffalo

Hughes County

Calvin Public School HS - 222 4th St., Calvin
Holdenville Public School HS - 601 S. Broadway, Holdenville
Holdenville Center - 510 E. Main, Holdenville
Moss Public School HS - 8087 E. 134 Road, Holdenville

Kingfisher County

Hennessey HS & EHS - 520 S. Cherokee, Hennessey

Love County

Marietta HS - 910 W. Main, Marietta
Marietta DC - 800 S. Hwy 77, Marietta

Major County

Fairview - 1400 E. Elm, Fairview
Adventure Time HS & EHS - 720 Cedar Springs Rd, Fairview

Okfuskee County

Weleetka Public School HS - 112 E. 9th, Weleetka
Weleetka - 302 E. 6th, Weleetka

Pontotoc County

Ada HS -1023 Arlington St., Ada
Allen Public School HS- 110 N. Richmond St., Allen
Latta Kids Zone - 13924 CR 1560, Ada
Roff HS - 21880 Co Rd 3499, Fitzhugh
Stonewall HS - 26050 Co Rd. 3590, Stonewall

Texas County

Guymon HS - 611 N. Academy, Guymon

Woods County

Alva HS - 901 14th St, Alva

Woodward County

Woodward ECC Collab. HS - 3801 34th St., Woodward
Woodward HS/EHS - 813 Madison, Woodward



| Contact Us

Big Five Community Services, Inc.

 580-924-5331

 contactus@bigfive.org

 www.bigfive.org

 Find us Facebook

CORE COUNTY OFFICES:

Bryan: 1502 N. 1st St, Durant | 580-924-5331

Carter: 201 A St SW, Ardmore | 580-223-4613

Coal: 210 N. Main St, Coalgate | 580-927-2381

Love: 910 W. Main St, Marietta | 580-276-3198

Pontotoc: 1023 Arlington St., Ada | 580-332-8233

