Learning
Children are provided with a variety of age appropriate early childhood education learning experiences to foster intellectual, social, and emotional growth. They participate in indoor and outdoor play and are introduced to concepts of words, numbers, and other pre-kindergarten skills.

Health Services
Children are provided with comprehensive medical, dental, mental health, and nutritional services including meals/snacks each day. Parents are made aware of the need for early attention to any special problems their children may have. Head Start then makes needed referrals to community resources.

Parent Involvement
Parent involvement is the key ingredient to the success of the Head Start children and their families in meeting many of their goals. Participation includes volunteering in the classroom, actively participating in home visits, making decisions regarding curriculum planning, training and all aspects of Head Start.

Family Assistance
Families are provided with social service assistance to access and better meet their various needs. Typical services are referrals to needed resources, family partnership agreements, information about available community resources, emergency assistance and/or crisis intervention.

Red Lake Nation Head Start Staff

Red Lake Center
Interim Director: Karen Martin
Admin Asst. /FCP: Cheryl Holthusen
FCP Coordinator: Dawn Barrett
Education/Disability: Karen Martin
Receptionist: Maelyn Strong
Behavioral Health: RL Comp Health
School Nurse: Melissa Perkins
Speech Pathologist: Amy Kircher
Kitchen Staff: Felicia Barron
Rhonda May
Maintenance: Barry King
John Smith

Ponemah Center
Center Manager: Shirley Rosebear
Kitchen Staff: Glendoris Kingbird
Maintenance: Llewellyn Kingbird Sr.
Teachers: Teana Clark, Brenda Johnson, Shirley Rosebear, Esther Spears.

Americorps: Service to New Scholars
Service to New Scholars will assist to teach the Head Start five Essential domains of School Readiness for preschool at both locations.

Revised 05/23/17
Policy Council 05/26/17
Tribal Council 00/00/17

Red Lake Head Start
P.O. Box 53
Red Lake, MN 56671
218-679-3396 Phone
218-679-2923 Fax

Ponemah Head Start
P.O. Box 262
Ponemah, MN 56666
218-554-7331 Phone
218-554-7386 Fax
Our Mission is:

To demonstrate a commitment to young children and their families to assure they have resources and opportunities to succeed. This is accomplished in a positive learning environment in which they can be creative as well as develop a sense of cultural identity. Our staff will promote the development of academic, social, emotional, and physical skills.

Philosophy

The Red Lake Nation Head Start believes our purpose is to make a positive difference in children’s lives. Our goal is to provide services and support to families in our service area. We hope to accomplish this goal by recognizing the strength in working as a team to improve the quality of life for both children and their families. All children, including those with disabilities or exceptional challenges, deserve the opportunity to learn and be supported by people who can give strength, guidance, and encouragement through their experience and education. We believe in respect for each individual and the individual efforts of every child, adolescent, adult, and elder. The need for family and community efforts are of high importance to accomplish our goals to help others and give every child their best possible start in scholastic achievement and enriching the family circle in the community.

Eligibility

Families must meet Head Start and Child Care Income Guidelines and other eligibility requirements to be eligible for services. A child must be at least three years old on or by September 1st. Children who have documented special needs and/or disabilities are given priority and are placed in Head Start according to the Criteria points as long as an opening is available.

Enrollment Information

Applications are accepted throughout the school year. Listed below are a few items you will need to bring that will help get your child’s enrollment complete and ready to be approved, or be put on the waiting list.

- Enrollment Application
- Birth Certificate
- Physical Exam
- Immunization Record
- Dental Exam
- 12 Months of Income Verification
- Guardianship Papers for Foster/Relative Care Children

Hours of Operation

- Monday, Monday
- 8:00 am – 2:00 pm (staff only)
- Tuesday thru Friday
- 7:45 am – 4:30 pm (student days)

Service Area

Our Program currently serves 160 children throughout the Red Lake Nation.

Program Description

Red Lake Nation Head Start operates one child development center in Red Lake that serves 130 children and one child development center in Ponemah that serves 30 children. Families in these programs receive supportive services for education, health, nutrition, parent involvement, social services, special needs services, and training/technical assistance.

The goal of Red Lake Nation Head Start is to provide the opportunity for low-income children to experience social life skills, language development and self-esteem so they will be ready to excel in Kindergarten.

Red Lake Nation Head Start works in partnership with families to provide quality pre-school experience for children ages 3 to 5 years old. The center based model provides a classroom experience for 160 children from Tuesday to Friday. Extended Head Start is provided for parents working, or going to school and is available from 7:45 am – 4:00 pm. Extended Head Start children will need to be picked up before 4:00 pm.

A nutritious breakfast and lunch are served each day, along with a snack in the afternoon for extended Head Start.

Parents/Guardians are welcome and encouraged to participate when ever possible.