

NAEYC:
National Association for the Education of Young Children

For more than 80 years, the National Association for the Education of Young Children has worked to raise the quality of programs for all children from birth through age eight. A major part of NAEYC's efforts to improve early childhood education is through different systems of accreditation for programs that are committed to meeting national standards of quality. One of these is accreditation of programs for young children.

Since 1985, NAEYC has offered a national, voluntary accreditation system to set professional standards for early childhood education programs, and to help families identify high-quality programs. Today, NAEYC Accreditation represents the mark of quality in early childhood education. Over 7,000 child care programs, preschools, early learning centers, and other center- or school-based early childhood education programs are currently NAEYC-Accredited. These programs provide high quality care and education to nearly one million young children in the United States, its territories, and programs affiliated with the United States Department of Defense.

UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start is proud to hold accreditation of the NAEYC. Parents and guardians of our students can be assured their children are receiving a quality childhood educational experience.



Tennessee's Star Quality Program

In 2000 and 2001, Tennessee launched a broad program to improve child care and give parents more information about the quality of care their children receive. The Star Quality Program is a part of this and participation is strictly on a volunteer basis, meaning that programs that participate do so because they desire excellence.

During the process of licensing, a child care provider is evaluated on many factors. Assessors look at indoor and outdoor spaces, activities, materials and other components. They look at interaction between adults and children and among the children themselves. Child care programs receive from one to three stars when assessments are rated.

The UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start is proud to have maintained a 3 star rating since the inception of the State of Tennessee's Star Quality Program.

