

LUZERNE COUNTY HEAD START, INC.

Benefit Package

A Competitive Benefits Package "Comparable to None" from the area's Leader in Early Childhood Education!

- Bi-Annual Physical Exam:** Committed to keeping staff healthy, required bi-annual exams with TB screen are reimbursed up to \$25.
- Bilingual Adjustment:** Eligible staff proficient in the use of a second language that benefits the agency can receive 5% pay adjustment.
- Bi-Weekly Pay Schedule:** Bi-weekly pay schedule, Friday pay; 10-month staff can receive pay in a full year option with separate account withholding.
- Career Development/Tuition Reimbursement Program:** Reimbursement at the state equivalent rate for college coursework per semester.
- Career Pay Program "Educational Pay":** Annual subsidy awarded for years of service and advanced education beyond minimum job requirement.
- College Tuition 529 Program-"nowU":** Payroll deduction available; voluntary employee contribution for child college education.
- Cost of Living Allocation:** Staff employed on the date of the Federal award will receive a Cost of Living Allocation, based on approved funding.
- Employee Assistance Program:** Clinical, outreach and prevention/education services, with referral services for a variety of personal needs including drug/alcohol counseling, mental health, financial services.
- Employee Connection Committee (ECC):** Staffing committee to coordinate agency activities that promote positive employee morale.
- Employee Referral Program:** Current employees can refer a prospective applicant for employment in the agency and receive a \$150 award.
- Direct Deposit of Paycheck:** Available with all banking institutions, credit unions; LCHS is a member of the Cross Valley Federal Credit Union
- Flexible Benefit Plan-Section 125 Plan:** A voluntary employee tax-deferred savings program to offset medical and day care expenses.
- Health Insurance:** Geisinger Health Plan Solutions with Guardian Dental; optional Vision Plan. Coverage 1st of the month following a 90-Day waiting period. Employee co-pay of premium at 10% of cost. A "Cash Out" Option is if covered elsewhere. Coverage can include Individual to Family. An HRA-Health Reimbursement Account-is coupled with the plan to assist employees and their families with meeting the employee's portion of the annual deductible (\$1500 individual/\$1500 maximum). Summer coverage at Individual plan for 10-month staff is continued per Affordable care Act at no additional employee cost.
- Holidays:** PAID schedule: New Years' Day Memorial Day President's Day Fourth of July (per schedule) Labor Day
Columbus Day Martin Luther King Day Veteran's Day Spring Vacation (3 days) Thanksgiving (3 days) Christmas Day/Extended Holiday
- "Jean Days":** Casual dress days, typically Fridays each week; staff contribute \$1 to "give back" for specified charitable causes.
- Life Insurance:** FT staff only, Agency-paid plan a 1x annual salary; No cost to eligible staff.
- Long Term Disability:** FT staff only, Agency-paid plan, automatically enrolled following 90-Day Waiting period; LTD at 60% of monthly salary.
- Mileage Reimbursement:** Reimbursement for use of personal vehicle for business related purposes at established Federal Rate.
- Personal Time:** 3 days/school year according to a defined schedule (Sept 1, Dec1, Mar 1), 6 days max; Full Year staff receive 1 day per year (Sept 1).
- Retirement Plans:** LCHS 401(k) plan following a 1 year waiting period, employer-only contribution savings plan at 7% of salary with investment opportunities; Optional 401(k) plan is a voluntary employee-only contribution program with investment opportunities.
- Safety and Wellness Programs:** LCHS is dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of all staff, children and families in the program with a State certified Safety Committee; staff Wellness Committee promoting/maintaining a healthy lifestyle.
- Sick Days:** Paid time off for the purposes of illness/medical, available after 90 Days. Average number of days accrued per year is 11/ max accrual is 65 working days.
- Smoke Free Environment:** All Head Start facilities are smoke-free; we serve as a role model for children, families and the community.
- Staff Newsletter "Center Connection":** Agency prepared newsletter keeping the staff "connected" by sharing agency news and benefits.
- Student Loan Forgiveness:** Deferment and/or cancellation of eligible student loans for bachelor's degree; certain restrictions apply.
- Teacher Stipend:** For Teachers holding an AAS Degree and actively pursuing a BA/BS, a \$750 stipend is given after 12 credits obtained.
- Training Opportunities:** Paid training opportunities for the employee's professional development and career path.
- Vacation Time:** Only Full Year/12-month staff receive 2 weeks (yr 1) up to 4 weeks (yr 5); time is accrued bi-weekly, carry-over from one calendar year to next up to 1 week. Vacation Buy-Back: Up to 1 week's unused time can be requested to "buy back" at the end of a fiscal year, pending avail funding.
- Work a "School Schedule":** The majority of LCHS services operate on a school year basis with preschool **Head Start/Pre-K Counts** center-based services, August-June; staff work Aug--June with an established summer break; the **Early Head Start** Home Visiting program operates on a 12-month schedule.