

Dayton Daily News

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009

Head Start agency gets \$6.8M in stimulus grants

By Anthony Gottschlich, Staff Writer

DAYTON — A local group that provides Head Start services in the Miami Valley has received \$6.8 million in federal stimulus funds to expand operations and serve more children.

The funding will allow Miami Valley Child Development Centers Inc. to enroll another 379 young children into its early childhood development programs, the agency announced Thursday, Dec. 3.

One grant for \$5.6 million is earmarked for 286 infants and toddlers, ages newborn to 3. The second award for \$1.2 million will allow for 93 additional preschool slots, ages 3 to 5.

“We competed for these funds because so many parents have been and continue to be displaced from their jobs in our community,” said Mary Burns, the center’s president and CEO.

The center, which serves 2,910 children in Clark, Madison and Montgomery counties, will contract with subproviders to add home-based services. Eight center-based classrooms also will be added within the next two months. The funding cycle runs through September 2011 and includes dollars for required employee training.