

Advantages of Southeast Arkansas, Inc.

Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report



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2023 Board of Directors

Dr. Lynne Thompson, President

Mr. Ray Hearron, Vice-President

Mrs. Sandra Patrick, Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Jamaal Jones, Member

Mr. James Sanders, Member

Dr. Tim Simon, Member

Mrs. Susan Wishard, Member



About our Board

Advantages, Inc. is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. The membership of the board represents families, professionals, and the community at large. This valued group of volunteers use their time, energy, and expertise to provide overall direction to the organization, set policy, and approve the annual budget. Board meetings are generally held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 3 p.m. and are open to the public. Meetings are held at Discovery Children's Center in Monticello.

Our Mission Statement

The mission of Advantages of Southeast AR, Inc. is to provide a community based service system of individualized instruction and support geared toward maximizing independence, self-support, employment opportunities, and normal living for persons with developmental disabilities in our 14 county service area.

"You really can change the world if you care enough."

– Marian Wright Edelman

Letter from the Executive Director

We are pleased to present our annual report for FY 2023. The information provided in this booklet is an overview of the services provided and the accomplishments achieved in 2023.

We are in our 53rd year of operation and we remain dedicated to our mission of providing a community based service system of individualized instruction and support geared to independence, self-support, employment opportunities and normal living. We applied for and received ARPA funding that allowed us to award bonuses to all qualifying staff. Once again in FY23, our DPSQA reviews for each division had zero deficiencies. We also passed our external financial audit with zero findings.

Our agency continues to move forward in providing quality services. Our Board of Directors and management team are following service/funding trends at both the federal and state level. We remain committed to maximizing funding available to ensure that we offer exceptional services to the individuals and families that we serve.

Programs central to our operations include Discovery Children's Centers located in Monticello, Hamburg, and Star City; Discovery Skills Center located in Monticello; and our Waiver program based in Monticello, but encompassing 14 counties. We also provide supported employment and occupational, physical and speech therapy services to qualifying individuals. On behalf of our Board of Directors, our dedicated staff, and the people we serve, we are committed to continuing our efforts to provide meaningful and effective programs.

-DeAnna Doherty, Executive Director



Our Facilities

168 West College,
Monticello, AR



178 West College,
Monticello, AR



1036 N Main St,
Hamburg, AR



706 East Arkansas St,
Star City, AR



Our Services*

We offer an adult development day program (ADDT) that we call Discovery Skills Center. Discovery Skills Center is open Monday thru Friday 730 am until 3pm and is open to adults over 18 that meet the DDS and Advantages, Inc. entry requirements. The center is open year round with the exception of major holidays, Christmas break, and Spring break. Each participant has an individualized program plan that targets skill areas such as personal hygiene, daily living, job preparedness, technology, and creative expression. We offer community integration and volunteer opportunities during the program year as well.

We call our early intervention day treatment services (EIDT) Discovery Children's Center. Our preschool centers are located in Monticello, Hamburg, and Star City. The preschools operate Monday thru Friday 730 am until 3pm and are open to children ages six weeks to school age that meet the DDS and Advantages, Inc. entry requirements. The centers are open year round with the exception of major holidays, Christmas break, and Spring break. We offer a low staff to child ratio, certified teachers, and physical, occupational, and speech therapists at each center. Each child attending Discovery Children's Center has an individualized plan as well as being exposed to core preschool curriculum which include age and topic appropriate field trips.

Our community waiver program provides needed supports for individuals with disabilities that want to live in the community. Participants in this program are provided with individual staff and a plan of care approved by their PASSE. Waiver participants work on a host of skills including budgeting, banking, hygiene, and appropriate interpersonal communication. We also provide financial management services to participants of the waiver program.

*For a complete list of services, contact our office at 870-367-6825.

Our Personnel

Administration

DeAnna Doherty, Executive Director

Angie Burton, Finance & Human Resources

870-367-4383

Waiver Specialists

James Scott

John Hadley

Chelsea Duncan

870-367-6825

Discovery Children's Center

Becky Griffin, Preschool Director

Monticello, 870-367-4333

Jody Keen Newman, Preschool Director

Hamburg, 870-853-0857

Leanne Patterson, Preschool Director

Star City, 870-628-3097

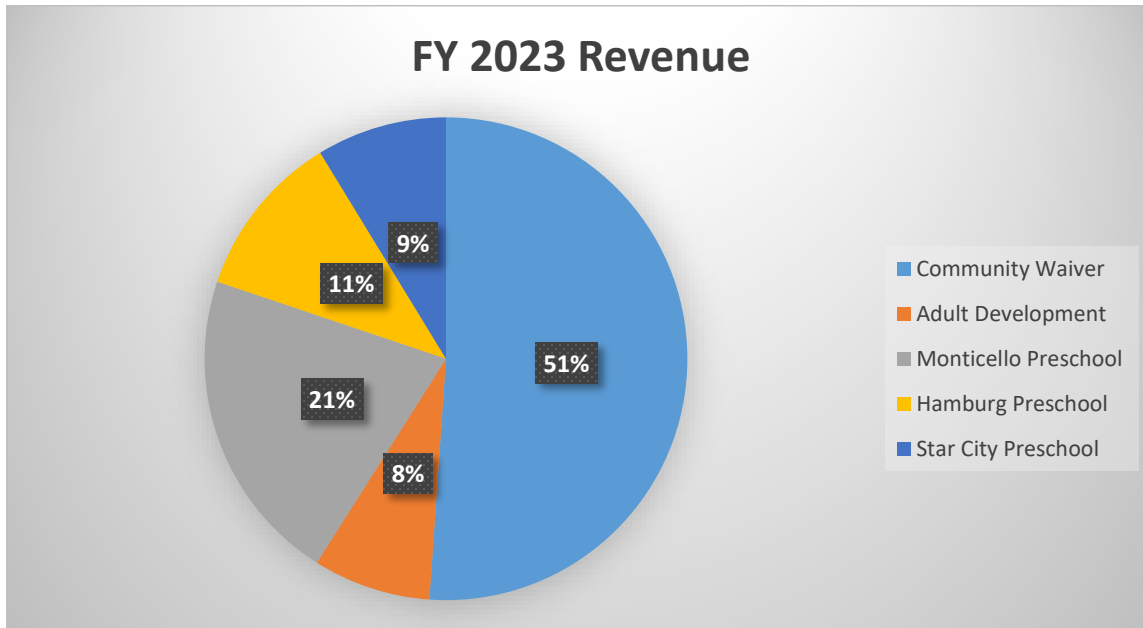
Discovery Skills Center

Neal Doherty, ADDT Director

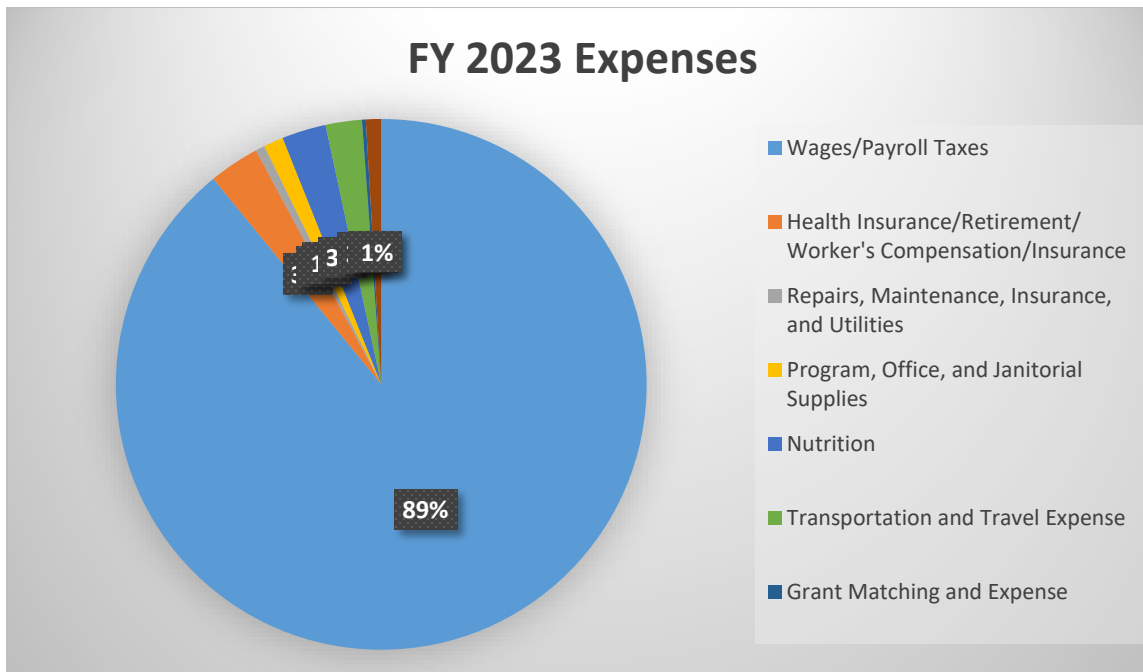
Monticello, 870-367-8475



Advantages, Inc.'s FY 2023 Operating Resources



Advantages, Inc.'s FY 2023 Expenses



FY 2023 Something to Talk About

This section is to highlight the Top 5 accomplishments for this FY

- 1. Discovery Children's Center Hamburg hosted an "Every Child is an Artist" art show for their families. They showcased the children's art and offered refreshments.**
- 2. Discovery Children's Center Star City obtained a sponsor to cover winter coats for 20+ children in need in the Star City Center.**
- 3. Jodie Partridge Center celebrated 50 years of service to the Dumas area!**
- 4. We added additional therapists to our staff to meet the growing demand of our EIDT programs.**
- 5. We partnered with UAMS to bring the Mammo van on campus for our eligible staff and clients to receive mammograms.**



OUTCOMES REPORT

Outcomes are goals that are set by Advantages, Inc.'s management team. Advantages, Inc. monitors the goals and reports quarterly to the management team and annually to stakeholders. Goals are set in each division and are categorized as efficiency, effectiveness, access, and satisfaction. Satisfaction is reported in the Stakeholder Satisfaction section. The information presented below is the measurement of a sample of Advantages' goals for the 2023 FY.

Efficiency:

Conduct service to billing audits in each division monthly

-Met, with 100%

Create and administer curriculum training for all ADDT instructors

-Met, the Instructional Coordinator developed and trained all ADDT instructors in this area.

Effectiveness:

Each EIDT/Preschool Site will offer at least 20 hours of professional development training for the classroom and office staff.

-Met, each center offered more than 20 hours of professional development for the FY.

75% of individuals at Discovery Skills Center will master at least one goal on their treatment plan.

-Met, with 95% of individuals at Discovery Skills Center mastering at least one goal on their treatment plan.

Access:

LEA's for all surrounding school districts will receive information about our services prior to high school graduation transition meetings.

-Met, 4 surrounding districts received information and 1 new referral for services was received.

External financial audit will be published on our agency website.

-Met, audit results published to our website in the 3rd quarter of FY23.

Activities

Participants are offered a wide variety of activities that include community outings, visitors, and volunteer opportunities.





ADVANTAGES OF SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS

Discover The Advantage Of A Better Tomorrow

Advantages of Southeast Arkansas, Inc.

PO Box 359

Monticello, AR 71657

www.advantageseark.org



Discovery Skills



Center

Discover the skills for a better tomorrow!

