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Head Start programs earn accreditation

By Holly Roney HILLSDALE COUNTY

— The Community Action Agency’s (CAA) Jonesville and Litchfield Head Start programs have recently earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), which means all seven CAA preschools in the county have achieved NAEYC accreditation. “NAEYC accreditation lets families in our communities know that children in our programs are getting the best care and early learning experiences possible,” said Cynthia Rowe, children’s program manager from CAA. In order to earn the accreditation, the CAA preschools had to meet 10 NAEYC early childhood program standards and over 400 related criteria. They were visited by a NAEYC assessor and are subject to unannounced visits during their 5-year accreditation. More than 7,000 programs are currently accredited by NAEYC. Since it was established 25 years ago it has become a widely-recognized organization of early childhood education. “We are proud to have earned the mark of quality for NAEYC,” Rowe said. “And to be recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards.