

DILLON COUNTY



Getting children ready for school.

**Board Chair:**

**Mrs. Kristi Bourgoin**

**Executive Director:**

**Dr. Daniel W. Blue, Jr.**

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**Total children in county under age 6: 2,898**

**Children under age 6 living in poverty: 15%**

**Dillon County Highlights**

- Parent Child Home
- Library Based Program
- Scholarship Initiative
- Child Care Training and Professional Development
- CDEPP 4-K
- New Hope Tutoring Program
- Wise Guys – Male Responsibility
- Extra! Extra! Read All About It!
- Play & Stay
- Center of Excellence

# Dillon County First Steps Partnership *Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Dillon County First Steps Partnership Board is proud to present our 2008 Annual Report to the Dillon County community and South Carolina First Steps on the elements of this operation.

The Dillon County First Steps Board and staff collaborated and networked with BabyNet, DSS, DHEC, DHHS, Dillon County Collaborative Council, Dillon County Library, Dillon County Chamber of Commerce, Dillon School Districts 1, 2, and 3, and many other key organizations in Dillon County to prepare our children for public school.

The resources are small and the need is greater than the resources. Nevertheless, we want our children to get ready for a great future to be qualified, responsible, dependable and educated in order that the business and industry leaders will feel good about investing money in our county by creating good jobs for our citizens.

Dillon County has served 1,912 children; 271 adults/families; 25 child care facilities, with 733 children 0-5 years of age at those facilities; made 3,294 home visits; trained 89 child care staff; provided 60 4-K slots; distributed 1,219 books; lent 59 books and 32 literacy kits; and distributed 780 manipulatives.

Our goal is to stay focused on the children to do all we can to make a difference.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Blue, Jr., Ed.D  
Executive Director  
Dillon County First Steps

## **First Steps to School Readiness Strategy Areas**

*The First Steps initiative approaches children's school readiness needs in five ways:*

**Family Strengthening:** A parent is a child's first and best teacher. First Steps works to help parents become the best parents they can be. First Steps also helps parents further their own education.

**Healthy Start:** Children's development and ability to learn are profoundly impacted by their health in the earliest years. First Steps works to help families understand children's health needs through education and screenings while also working to help them access needed health services.

**Quality Child Care:** Quality child care provides immediate and long-term learning benefits for children. First Steps works to expand the availability of quality child-care to families and to enhance the level of quality in existing child-care environments.

**Early Education:** Research shows that children who participate in high-quality preschool classes are more likely to start school ready to learn, as well as be more successful later in life. First Steps works to expand high-quality 3-year-old and 4-year-old kindergarten opportunities in public and private settings.

**School Transition:** The transition into kindergarten is a critical time that sets the tone for children's perspectives about the school years, as well their parents' perspectives. Making a strong initial connection between school and home -- and supporting both parents and students during this transition time -- has been shown to impact students' later school success and parents' later involvement during the school years.

## **2007-08 County Partnership Programs by Strategy**

### **FAMILY STRENGTHENING.**

#### **Parent Child Home Program**

**Program description:** Increase the capacity of parents to be their child's best and most important teacher by expanding home visitation services through the Parent Child-Home Program. This First Steps-school district partnership provides home-based literacy and parenting services to families challenged by poverty, poor education, and language barriers. Emphasis is placed on parent-child verbal interaction critical to early childhood brain development. Families receiving these services must have children 2-3 years old and experience language barriers, poor education, and limited/poor financial resources. Home Visitors will visit each family twice per week.

#### **Program results:**

- The Parent Child Home Program (PCH-P) served 73 families (with 79 children).
- 28.9% average increase in parenting skills, as indicated on the KIPS assessment pre- and post- scores.
- ACIRI Assessment indicated an average of 31.1% increase in interactive literacy skills for Adult participants.
- ACIRI Assessment indicated an average of 36.7% increase in literacy skills for Child participants.
- 2,870 actual home visits were made.
- 1,015 books were distributed.
- 669 manipulatives were distributed.
- The Positive Parent-Child model was used in the home.
- The PCH-P was provided in Dillon School Districts 1, 2 & 3.
- 94.85% of the parents surveyed indicated they were satisfied with the services their family received.
- 94.54% of the parents indicated that program staff is supportive.
- 97.68% of the parents surveyed indicated that program staff is friendly and respectful.
- 96.01% of the parents surveyed indicated that program staff is knowledgeable and skilled in working with their family.
- 88.28% of the parents surveyed indicated that their family was involved in making decisions about services provided to them.
- 91.13% of the parents surveyed indicated that their family is better off because of these services.
- 93.16% of the parents surveyed indicated that this program was delivered without delay.
- 94.88% of the parents surveyed indicated they would recommend this program to a friend.
- Parents commented that they would like for the home visits to last longer and for the home visitors to come more frequently.

### **Extra! Extra! Read All About It!**

**Program description:** This program will provide each kindergarten student the opportunity to publish two hardback books. One of these books will be presented to their parents at the Kindergarten Celebration held at the end of the school year. The other book will be added to the teacher's classroom library.

#### **Program results:**

- 144 children served through this Rural Initiative project.
- 90% of the students had at least one adult care-giver present at the year end celebration.
- The most significant outcome was observing the students and adults share their books.

### **HEALTHY START.**

#### **WISE GUYS – Male Responsibility**

**Program description:** To provide the role of male responsibility in a young man's life. Concentration was on personal and family values, communication and masculinity, sexuality, dating violence, abstinence, sexually transmitted infections, goal setting, decision making, and parenthood.

#### **Program results:**

- 58 young males were served through this Rural Initiative project.
- 100% of the young men seemed genuinely interested in these topics.

#### **Play and Stay**

**Program description:** Play and Stay served children birth to six years of age and who have been diagnosed with a special need or who are considered high risk for developmental delays. An Early Interventionist will demonstrate techniques for the parent/guardian to work with their child.

#### **Program results:**

- 27 children served through this Rural Initiative project.
- 7 students aged out of the program.
- 330 actual home visits were made.
- 129 books were distributed.
- 111 manipulatives were distributed.

## **QUALITY CHILD CARE.**

### **Child Care Training and Professional Development**

**Program description:** The Center Staff Training and Development program provides certified trainings for child care providers that are approved through the Center for Child Care Career Development (CCCCD). All trainers are certified and child care provider hours are registered and maintained on file at CCCCCD. The topics and materials presented in the trainings represent research-based and best practices for early childhood programs. CCCCCD ensures that all training topics meet these requirements.

#### **Program results:**

- 25 or (41.7%) of the child care facilities in Dillon County participated in one or more of the Child Care Training sessions provided by Dillon County First Steps.
- 89 child care staff received certified training hours.
- Average of 733 children at these facilities 0-5 years of age and 382 6+ years of age, totaling 1,115 children served through child care trainings in Dillon County.
- 6 Child Care Network Sessions were held at the Dillon School District Two Technology Center that resulted in 15 certified training hours.
- 15 DSS certified training hours were provided by DCFS. Certified Training Hours include 5 hours Child Growth and Development, 2.5 hours Health and Safety, 5 hours Curriculum Activities, and 2.5 hours Professional Development.
- 7 child care providers earned all 15 training hours.
- 10.5% average increase in the pre-post test scores of the providers attending the Child Care Networking Sessions.
- Average program results are as follows, using a 1-5 rating score with 1=worst and 5=best:
  - Organization of the sessions – 4.59
  - Session Content – 4.62
  - Instructor’s Knowledge of Subject – 4.68
  - Instructor’s Teaching ability – 4.66
  - Usefulness of Information - 4.60

### **Library Based Program**

**Program description:** The library based program is designed to reach the children in child care centers and provide them with library services. The goal is that every child will have access to books and other materials used to enhance learning. The bookmobile visits childcare centers every 3 weeks. Books are loaned at no cost to the provider and are made available to be used with the children.

#### **Program results:**

- 109 adults and 647 children are served through this program.
- 384 books are lent to the childcare providers monthly.
- 32 literacy kits are lent to the childcare provider monthly.

- 37 library cards were issued.

### **Scholarship Initiative**

**Program description:** Increase the number of children receiving quality child care by making child care affordable to parents.

**Program results:**

- The Scholarship Initiative was implemented by the Department of Social Services – ABC Division.
- 15 half-time scholarships were awarded to thirteen low income families.
- 100% of the scholarships were awarded.

### **New Hope after School Tutoring Program**

**Program description:** To serve 50 additional children ages 4-14 by employing two additional certified teachers and one assistant to give special tutoring to students who need to raise their PACT scores and improve their grades.

**Program results:**

- 129 students served after school through this Rural Initiative Strategy.
- 70% of the students enrolled in the program raised their grades in Reading and Math.
- 20 group meetings were held.
- Average attendance was 96 was at each group meeting.

### **Centers of Excellence**

**Program description:** The Centers of Excellence Project expands child development centers through a two-year pilot program, serving at-risk children ages zero to four within South Carolina school districts that participated in the school funding lawsuit. The Centers of Excellence Model is distinguished by the coordinated interplay of nine critical components:

For Children and Families:

- Targeted recruitment and need-based scholarships
- Nurturing care and research based instruction
- Developmental screening and appropriate child assessment
- Parent education and involvement
- Health supports

For Providers:

- Quality enhancement (facility and materials)
- On-site mentoring and technical assistance
- Incentives to stable, qualified personnel, including scholarships to further their learning
- Sustainable operation

**Program results:**

- The Center of Excellence Project (COE) served 15 families (with 19 children; 2 Exited)
- 17 Scholarships were granted to Little Treasures Christian Learning Center at a 90% reimbursement rate.
- 94 actual home visits were made.
- 75 books were given to the families.
- 125 books and age-appropriate toys were lent to the families.
- 55 Technical Assistance site visits.
- 30 Technical Assistance classroom visits.
- 11 Successful Group Meetings (once a month)
- 19 children received health screenings.
- 12 children were identified with possible health and/or development problems.
- 3 Speech delays were identified.
- 1 Vision delay was identified.
- 4 Dental delays were identified.
- 5 Medical delays were identified.
- 5 were referred for further evaluation.
- 10 received follow-up services.
- KIPS Assessment was done on 17 children.
- KIPS Pre-Assessment Average was 3.22 based on a 1-5 scoring scale.  
KIPS Post Assessment Average was 3.26 with a gain of .04 based on a 1-5 scoring scale.
- ACIRI Assessment was done on 13 Adults.
- ACIRI Pre-Assessment Average for Adults was .86.  
ACIRI Post Assessment Average for Adults was 1.73 with a gain of .87.  
ACIRI Pre-Assessment Average for Children was .76.  
ACIRI Post Assessment Average for Children was .99 with a gain of .23.
- E-LAP Receptive Language Development Assessment Beginning Average: 68.89%, Mid Average: 72.86% and End Average 70.00% with a gain of 3.97%.  
E-LAP Expression Language Skills Development Assessment Beginning Average: 67.43%, Mid Average: 73.89% and End Average: 72.91% with a gain of 6.46%
- LAP-3 Language Development Assessment Beginning Average: 43.15%, Mid Average: 47.99% and End Average: 58.93% with a gain of 10.95%  
LAP-3 Literacy Development Assessment Beginning Average 10.08%, Mid Average: 10.78% and End Average: 14.99% with a gain of 4.22%  
LAP-3 Mathematics Development Assessment Beginning Average: 30.71%, Mid Average: 32.59% and End Average: 38.83% with a gain of 6.24%.
- LAP-3 Science Development Assessment Beginning Average: 9.29%, Mid Average: 17.78% and End Average 26.00% with a gain of 8.22%.
- LAP-3 Creative Arts Development Assessment Beginning Average: 35.71%, Mid Average 41.11%, and End Average 51.00% with a gain of 14.29%.
- LAP-3 Social/Emotional Development Assessment Beginning Average: 63.06%, Mid Average: 71.81% and End Average: 77.80% with a gain of 5.99%

- LAP-3 Approach for Learning Development Assessment Beginning Average: 100.00%, Mid Average 100.00% and End Average 100.00%.
- LAP-3 Physical Health Development Assessment Beginning Average: 54.74%, Mid Average 59.14% and End Average 57.24% with a gain of 2.5%.
- \$12,900 was used in Quality Enhancement for Little Treasures Learning Center in Curriculum Materials, Books, and Furnishing.
- 200 Books were donated to Little Treasures Learning Center.
- \$42,588.00 was given in scholarships for 17 children.
- An overall total of 50 Training Hours for the Center Director and Staff was given in Creative Curriculum and E-LAP and LAP-3 Training.

## **EARLY EDUCATION.**

### **S.C. Child Development Education Pilot Program (CDEPP)**

**Program description:** CDEPP offers state-paid tuition of 4-year-old kindergarten classes to eligible students living in the 37 trial and plaintiff school districts involved in the school funding equity lawsuit, *Abbeville et al. vs. South Carolina*. First Steps oversees CDEPP 4K classes offered in non-public school environments. To qualify for state-paid tuition, a student's family must qualify for TANF or free/reduced-price lunch, be 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2007, and live in an eligible school district.

**Program results:**

- 63 students served
- Kid's L.T.D. and Whittaker Head Start providers offered CDEPP 4K classes.
- Each Classroom teacher has completed curriculum training.
- South Carolina 4-K requirements were satisfactorily implemented for Dillon County's CDEPP children
- Each classroom in Early Education revealed a higher rating on the assessment scoring scale.
- Credentialed teachers provided instruction.
- Transition of children to five year old kindergarten was effective because of the cooperation and collaboration with the Dillon County First Steps Board and school districts.
- Provided quality care so parents can safely go to work and decrease the unemployment rate in our county.
- Classrooms benefitted from age-appropriate educational materials and curriculum based technology that will assist the children in math, reading, science, and social relations.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

<b>Expenditures By Funding Source</b>	
State Appropriation <i>(Fund 10)</i>	\$213,893
E.I.A. Appropriation <i>(Fund 55)</i>	\$12,992
C.D.E.P.P. Appropriation <i>(Fund 60)</i>	\$257,620
C.O.E. Appropriation <i>(Fund 65)</i>	\$139,633
State Private <i>(Fund 15)</i>	\$29,104
Local Private <i>(Fund 20)</i>	\$4,122
Federal <i>(Fund 30)</i>	\$2,591
In-Kind <i>(Fund 25)</i>	\$43,333
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$703,288</b>

<b>Expenditures By Program / Strategy Name</b>	
Parent Child Home	\$128,041
Library Based Program	\$4,779
Child Care Training & Professional Development	\$19,299
Scholarship Initiatives	\$21,000
New Hope After School Tutoring Program	\$14,581
Play and Stay - DSN	\$8,016
Wise Guys – Male Responsibility	\$5,600
Extra! Extra! Read All About It!	\$2,153
Full Day 4-K – Kids L.T.D.	\$179,960
Full Day 4-K – Whittaker Head Start	\$78,087
Parents As Teachers – COE	\$27,288
Child Care Quality Enhancements – COE	\$36,663
Child Care Training & Profess. Dev. - COE	\$10,490
Scholarship Initiatives – COE	\$54,627
Public Health Based Services – COE	\$10,298
Indirect Programmatic Functions	\$64,587
Administrative Functions – COE	\$2,858
Administrative Functions – 4-K	\$1,772
Administrative Functions	\$33,189
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$703,288</b>

**NOTABLE DONORS**

<i><b>DONOR'S NAME</b></i>	<i><b>AMOUNT</b></i>
A.R.S. Marketing, Inc.	\$25.00
AFK Distributing	\$25.00
AK Promotions	\$35.00
Angela Coward	\$25.00
B&W Auction, Inc.	\$25.00
Bartell Funeral Home, LLC	\$25.00
Beauty & The Beads	\$25.00
Bill's Korner	\$25.00
County Coroner/Neighbor to Neighbor	\$25.00
Dillon Church of God	\$25.00
Dillon County Chamber of Commerce	\$25.00
Dillon County Sheriff's Office	\$25.00
Dillon School District Two Family Literacy	\$25.00
Dr. Daniel W. Blue, Jr.	\$100.00
Family Sports Center	\$60.00
First Bank	\$35.00
First Citizens Bank	\$60.00
Kimberly Parrish	\$25.00
Kwik Mart	\$35.00
L&LD Photography & Video Services	\$25.00
Lil' Bill's 1 & 2	\$25.00
Little Pumpkin/SAS	\$60.00
Little Treasures Christian Learning Center	\$60.00
M & M Hair & Beauty Supply	\$25.00
Marvin's Convenience	\$35.00
McLeod-Dillon	\$100.00
Miller Plumbing & Electric	\$25.00
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church	\$60.00
PDCAP Head Start	\$150.00
Petal Pusher	\$25.00
Ready Mart Hwy. 9	\$25.00
Riverdale Convenience Store	\$25.00
Thomas Florist	\$25.00
Trechic Hair Studio	\$25.00
Vendor's Warehouse	\$40.00
Wix Filtration	\$55.00
Young World	\$25.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,460.00</b>

*Local Match Percentage for FY 2008: 20.24%  
(at least 15% Legislative requirement)*

## **COUNTY PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Ms. Kristi Bourgoïn, Chair, pre-kindergarten through primary educator  
Ms. Karla Berry, business community  
Mr. L. Charles Bethea, family education, training & support provider  
Ms. Christina Blackard, Dillon County Library  
Ms. Nina Bradley, Assistant Secretary, DHEC  
Ms. Belva Britt, parent of pre-school children  
Rev. Brenda Bucy, healthcare provider  
Ms. Shalana Buie, Secretary, childcare & early childhood devel./education provider  
Ms. Krista Byrd, Dillon School District Three  
Ms. Christina Campbell, parent of pre-school children  
Ms. Sharron Charles, Pee Dee CAP Head Start  
Ms. Sharon T. Davis, childcare & early childhood devel./education provider  
Ms. Vickie Ford, pre-kindergarten through primary educator  
Ms. Beulah Fowler, early childhood education  
Mr. Randolph Gurley, Legislative Appointee  
Mr. John Harlow, business community  
Rev. Mary Kinney, Legislative Appointee  
Ms. Carolyn Lupo, early childhood education  
Ms. Agnes McDonald, healthcare provider  
Ms. Willie D. McQueen, family education, training & support provider  
Ms. Ruthabell Nance, Dillon School District One  
Rev. Eugene Paige, Legislative Appointee  
Ms. Ja-Novice Greene-Richardson, Dillon School District Two  
Rev. Allen Robinson, faith community  
Ms. Inetta Robinson, faith community  
Ms. Jackie Rowland, DSS  
Rev. Frankie D. Thomas, Legislative Appointee  
Rev. Dianne Thompson, non-profit organization (families & children)  
Mr. Robert Thompson, parents of pre-school children  
Ms. Evelyn Williams, early childhood education

## **COUNTY DATA SNAPSHOT**

In FY08, First Steps County Partnerships statewide made it a priority to become increasingly data-driven. County Partnerships successfully began using powerful new components of the First Steps data system, and County Partnerships also utilized data in new ways to drive their FY09 program plans. In addition to enhanced program data tracking, County Partnerships are also focusing on the best available data about children and families to best understand their communities' needs. At the end of FY08 and the beginning of FY09, County Partnerships began an extensive analysis of this data, including data about the risk factors known to impact children's potential school success, such as low birth weight, teen mothers, and families living in poverty. A county-level risk data report is included in the subsequent pages of this report.

## Success Stories

Since my child has been in the program, she loves to read books before she goes to bed, play with her leap pad, and play with her blocks. Even when older people talk to her they say she's not the average 2 year old. I believe that when she starts school she will be very comfortable. Thank you for the services that Latta School District has provided for my child because I must say I'm very proud of my daughter.

-Latta

Parent Child Home Program

Darshawn has improved so much. She knows how to count and say her ABC's. As her guardian, I appreciate this opportunity and all the help provided with her learning abilities. Thanks in advance!

-Latta

Parent Child Home Program

My two girls started in this program two years ago. They were very shy with Mrs. Powell, but she is a very wonderful person and a great teacher. She knew just what to do to keep their attention and they grew to love her and look forward to her coming by to teach them new things. They learned colors, shapes, words, animals, sounds, and words. They have grown in so many ways and learned so much from Mrs. Powell, Thank you for having this program and thank you for Mrs. Powell!!

- Haley & Melissa Martin

Dillon

Parent Child Home Program

This program has done wonders for my twin girls. Before Ms. Kim P. started coming to see my girls they were shy, they were not very talkative. So when she started coming the first week they were still shy. One didn't talk unless the other one said something. But as time progressed they were saying their numbers, alphabets, days of the week, months of the year. They knew all sounds the animals make. She really taught me how to make learning fun for my girls.

-Dillon Parent

Parent Child Home Program

The program has really helped my family. All the books and activities were very interesting. My child was really excited. He enjoyed all the activities and books. When his siblings would come home from school he could not wait to tell them about his book and what he learned. He was very excited to show and explain to them about his toys and how they work or how to do them, especially the puzzles. They were really amazed that he could tell them about everything that he had learned each day Mrs. Jones visited him. He also did not like for anyone to be bothering his books and puzzles, etc. So this has really helped my child, especially at an early age and the home setting. He was not afraid. He just joined right in and responded very openly.

-Lake View Parent

Parent Child Home Program

Every since my child entered this program he has been more interested in books even though he cannot read yet; he has developed the ability to look at the pictures in the books and tell his version of the story. This program has encouraged my son to want to read. It has also taught him patience. He used to run around and not pay attention, even though he might be a little active when its time to look at new books and learn, he learns.

-Lake View Parent

Parent Child Home Program

April Matthews, the mother of Nicholas and Noah Matthews has been in the COE program since October 2007. April stated that “she has learned a lot from the COE program. She has learned how to play with her kids better.” She also plays with them more now than ever since she’s had help from her home visitor to guide her in “tough situations as these.” When it comes to hands on activities, April stated that she would usually just watch them play, but now she joins them on the floor or wherever they maybe. She stated that her kids now know how to get along with other kids, how to share their toys and other objects and they’ve learned how to take turns. She stated that the Parents as Teachers discipline lesson plan have helped her in many ways. She knows how to discipline her kids in many ways now instead of just the one ordinary way. Before entering the program, Nicholas and Noah wouldn’t talk at all! Now, they’ve learned how to speak very well and understandable to their mother and others. She stated that her kids are doing better than ever! April thanks the program for helping her and she wants to continue to be a part of it.

-LaKeisha Dunson

Center of Excellence Parents As Teacher Home Visitor

## 2008 School Readiness Risk Profile

# Dillon County

Total Children Under Six: 2,898

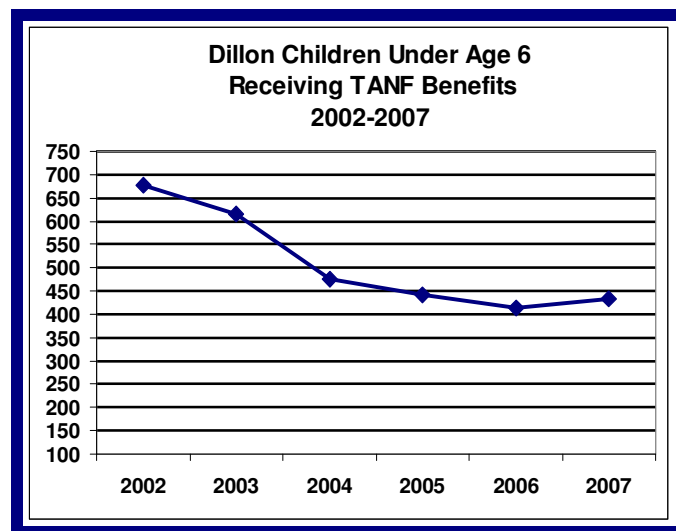
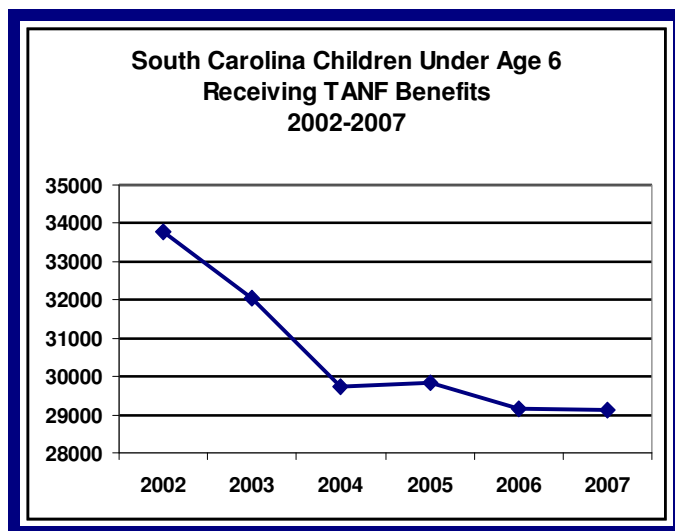
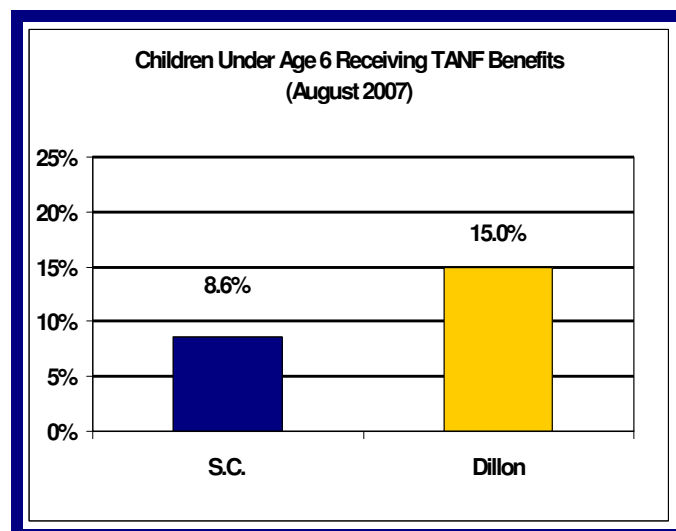
### CHILD POVERTY (Children in Families Receiving TANF Benefits)

Statewide Average (2007): 8.4%      Dillon County (2007): 15.0%

***Fast Fact:*** 1 in 7 Dillon County children has an annual family income equivalent to \$10,325 (or less) for a family of four. A recent statewide analysis suggests that 45% of these children will be retained or score at the "below basic" level (PACT) by third grade.

Children in deep poverty often face a wide variety of school readiness obstacles, ranging from inadequate prenatal care and nutrition to low maternal education.

434 of Dillon County's 2,898 children under age 6 received federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits during 2007, indicating a family income at or below 50% of the federal poverty definition.



# 2008 School Readiness Risk Profile

# Dillon County

Total Children Under Six: 2,898

## CHILDREN AT LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (Less Than 5.5 lbs.)

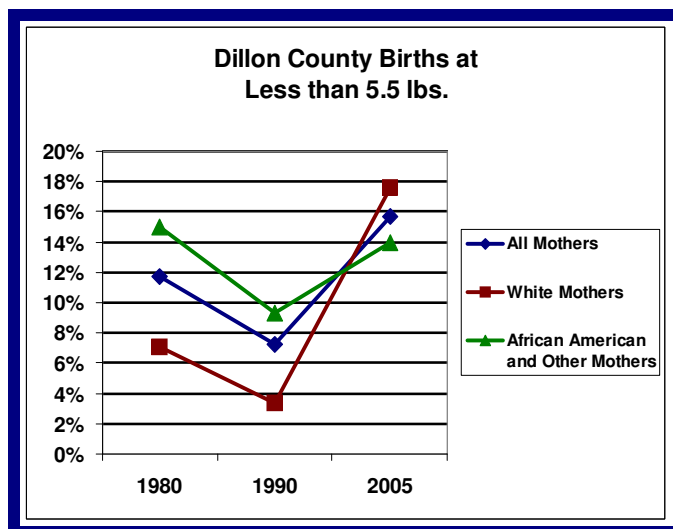
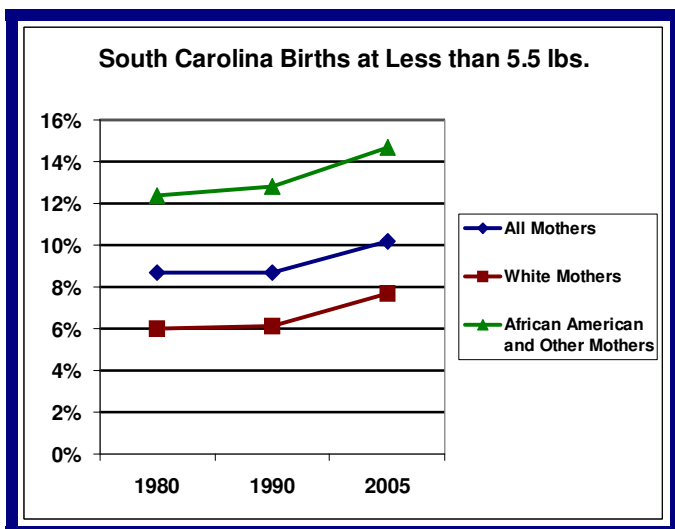
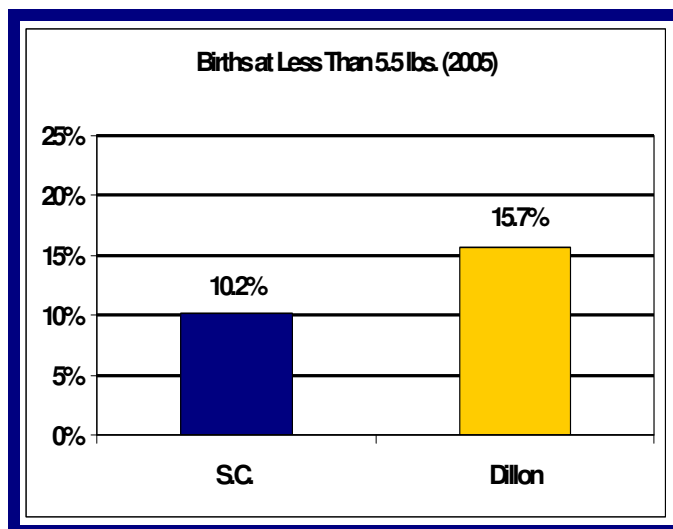
Statewide Average (2005): 10.2%      Dillon County (2005): 15.7%

**Fast Fact:** 1 in 6 Dillon County children is born at a weight less than 5.5 lbs. A recent statewide analysis suggests that at least one-third of these children (36%-52% depending on weight category) will be retained or score at the "below basic" level (PACT) by third grade.

Babies born at low weights are often prone to developmental delays associated with early academic failure.

Many have received inadequate prenatal care and suffer from significant health complications.

70 of the 447 children born in Dillon County during 2005 weighed less than 5.5 lbs.



## 2008 School Readiness Risk Profile

# Dillon County

Total Children Under Six: 2,898

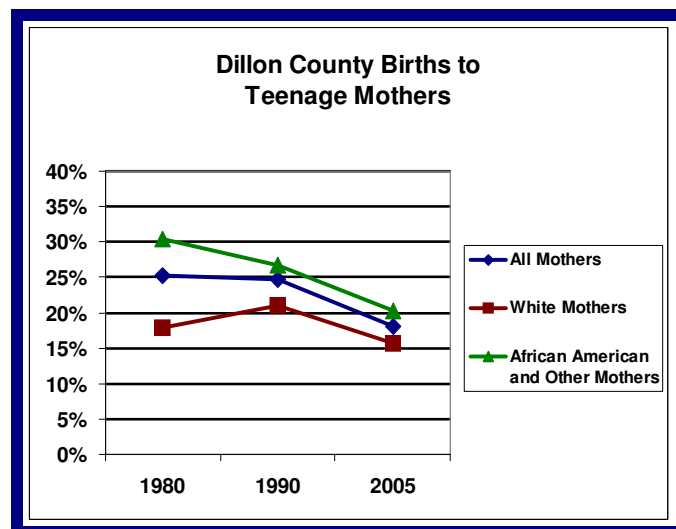
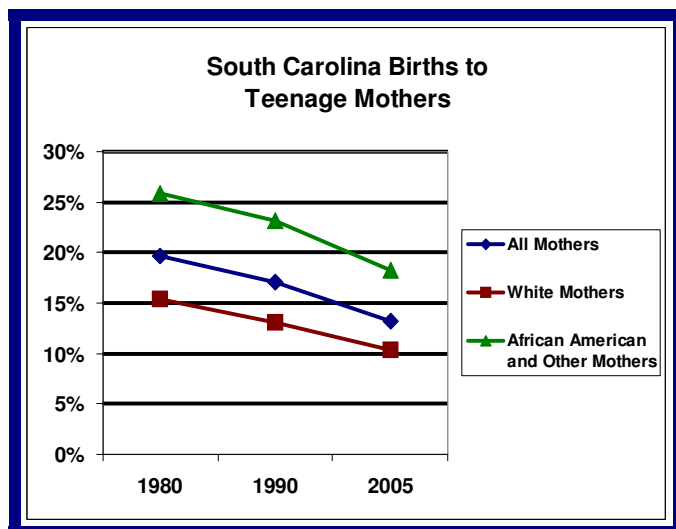
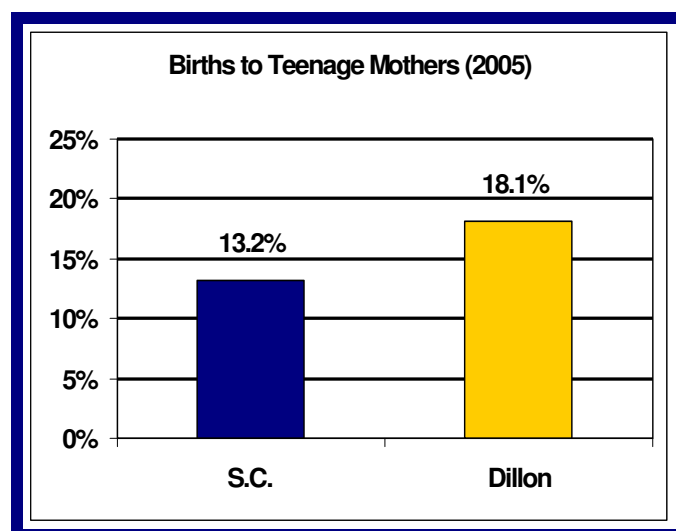
### BIRTHS TO TEENAGE MOTHERS

Statewide Average (2005): 13.2%      Dillon County (2005): 18.1%

**Fast Fact:** Nearly 1 in 5 Dillon County births is to a mother under 20 years of age. A recent statewide analysis suggests that 43% of these children will be retained or score at the “below basic” level (PACT) by third grade.

Teenage parents often lack the maturity and knowledge required to optimally fulfill important parental responsibilities, are less likely to advance their own educational attainment and often fail to advance beyond low-income status.

81 of the 447 children born in Dillon County during 2005 had teenage mothers.



# 2008 School Readiness Risk Profile

# Dillon County

Total Children Under Six: 2,898

## BIRTHS TO MOTHERS WITH LESS THAN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Statewide Average (2005): 23.7%      Dillon County (2005): 34.7%

**Fast Fact:** Just over 1 in 3 children in Dillon County is born to a mother possessing less than a high school diploma. A recent statewide analysis suggests that roughly half (48%) of these children will be retained or score at the “below basic” level (PACT) by third grade.

Research suggests that a mother’s own educational attainment is closely linked to the subsequent academic performance of her children.

155 of the 447 children born in Dillon County during 2005 had mothers with less than a high school diploma.

