



FIRST STEPS IS HERE

Last year, because of York County First Steps:



2,525 children

were directly served in York County



1,741 parents & caregivers

received services and support to be their child's first and most important teacher



123 educators

participated in First Steps training and professional development, benefitting 500+ children

PROVEN RESULTS

A 2019 study found that children who received First Steps local partnership services were:



74% more likely

to score at the highest level on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment



34% less likely

to be chronically absent in kindergarten

THE NEED PERSISTS IN YORK COUNTY

First Steps works but we need to expand our reach to ensure that all children are ready.

19,095

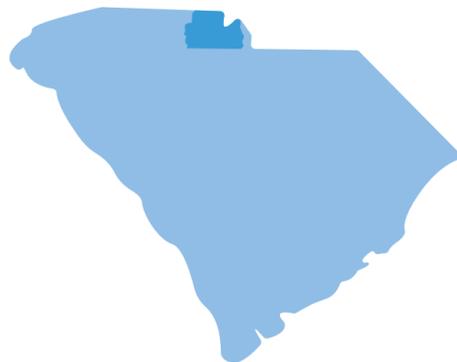
children under age 5

29%

of young children live in poverty or low-income households

54%

of kindergarteners are considered "not ready" for school



Serving York County's children birth through age five.

Our Local Supporters

Children's Trust - MIECHV \$132,400
 Rock Hill Housing Authority \$113,870
 United Way of York County - York Technical College \$38,700
 United Way of York County - Nurse-Family Partnership \$25,000
 Foundation for the Carolinas \$20,000
 Rock Hill School District #3 \$11,500
 SC Endeavors \$2,500.00
 Board Members and Individual Donors \$2,800
 Kaplan
 Lakeshore
 Children's Trust - Child Abuse Prevention

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2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTACT US

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OUR MISSION

To assist children, birth to six, and their families by supporting collaborative efforts that ensure all children are prepared to succeed in school.



David Lisk

Executive Director

John F. Kennedy said "Children are the living messages we send to a time we will not see". This quote helps capture the essence that drives our efforts to serve the children in our communities. The families we serve desire to nurture their children and equip them to reach their full potential.

We have been blessed to continue in our expansion of interventions and programs adding more childcare centers with our Quality Enhancement Program, nurturing our pilot outreach initiatives with Healthy Steps and Tri-County Pediatrics, Connected Families/Parents as Teachers with DSS, and childcare vouchers with the Rock Hill Housing Authority, United Way of York County, and York Tech.

These partnerships have allowed us to touch even more families and strive to enable these families to send a positive message well into the future, "to a time we will not see". We invite you to review our annual report, think about how you can help our community shape that message, and contact us to get involved.



Cindy Taubenkimel

Board Chair

York County First Steps truly believes in the wisdom of the proverb, 'Oran a azu nwa,' "originating from the Nigerian Igbo culture, which emphasizes the communal effort required to nurture a child". This sentiment, popularized by the book 'It Takes a Village,' underscores the shared responsibility of our community in empowering families and young children for success in their educational journey and in life.

We work hand in hand with parents and community partners to ensure they grasp their pivotal role as their child's first and most influential teacher. Together, we strive to create a secure, nurturing environment where children can grow, thrive, and ultimately realize their hopes and dreams.

PROGRAMS

PARENTING

Parents as Teachers

Offers research-based curricula that help families raise children to be healthy, safe, learning, and ready for school.

76 130 1,064

children served group meetings and events home visits

Connected Families

Prevents the unnecessary removal of young children from their homes by providing parents and caregivers with voluntary, coordinated services.

84 65 375

children served families served home visits

Nurse-Family Partnership

Home visitation for first time mothers, from pregnancy until the child turns two.

77 84 1,321

children served families served home visits

HEALTH

Healthy Steps

A pediatric primary care program that supports early childhood development and effective parenting.

1,163 2

children served health clinics served

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

Quality Enhancement

Promotes quality in child care by providing early educators with one-on-one coaching and support.

326 9 451

children served providers served technical assistance hours

Training & Professional Development

Certified and registered training hours for the early childhood workforce.

3,638 242 29.5

children served providers served certified training hours

Child Care Scholarships

Eligible children receive tuition-free enrollment at quality child care centers.

9 9 2

children served families served providers served

SCHOOL TRANSITION

Countdown to Kindergarten

Supports transitions into kindergarten by connecting incoming students, their families, and their teachers in a series of one-on-one sessions during the summer.

107 14 627

children served schools served home visits

Countdown to 4K

Supports transitions into pre-kindergarten by connecting incoming students, their families, and their teachers in a series of one-on-one sessions during the summer.

51 4 306

children served schools served home visits

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

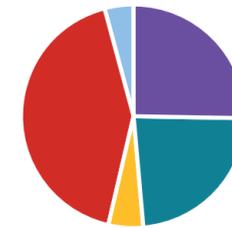


\$1 = \$3.88

York County First Steps leveraged \$1,293,224.45 from sources outside of state government, providing a match of \$2.88 for every state dollar invested.

EXPENDITURES

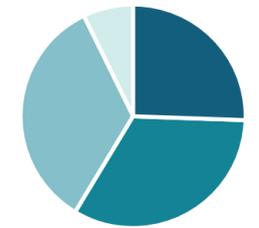
Total: \$1,852,235.14



- Parenting - \$472,331.79
- Early Care & Education - \$430,475.93
- School Transition - \$94,996.77
- Health - \$779,554.93
- Administrative - \$74,875.72

FUNDING SOURCES

Total: \$1,741,792.45



- State Funding - \$448,568
- Federal Funding - \$576,546.29
- Private Funding - \$595,221.53
- In-kind Contributions - \$121,456.63

FUNDING SUPPORT BY SOUTH CAROLINA FIRST STEPS

- State Education Improvement Act (EIA) Funding
- State READY Funding
- Federal Preschool Development Grant Funding**
- Federal ESSER Funding***
- The Duke Endowment & Doris Duke Foundation
- State Income Tax Check-off and Private Donations to SC First Steps

*Resources for Early Acceleration and Development in Youth (READY) Proviso 1.105

**Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Initiative (PDG B-5), Grant Number 90TP0080-01-00 from the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, awarded to the South Carolina Department of Social Services, Division of Early Care and Education

***American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, awarded to the South Carolina Department of Education