



FIRST STEPS IS HERE

Last year, because of Abbeville County First Steps:



27 children

were directly served in Abbeville County



23 parents & caregivers

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



331 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 Abbeville COUNTY

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

1,361

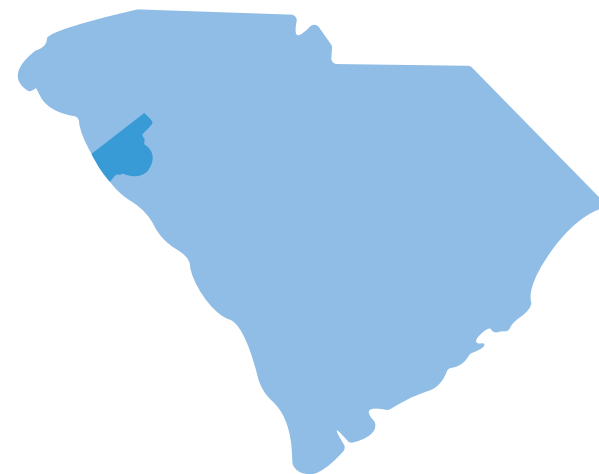
children under age 5

54.9%

of young children live in poverty or low-income households

65%

of kindergarteners are considered "not ready" for school



Board of Directors

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2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTACT US

400 Greenville Street, Abbeville, SC 29620 | (864) 378-8575 | rlyman@acsdsc.org

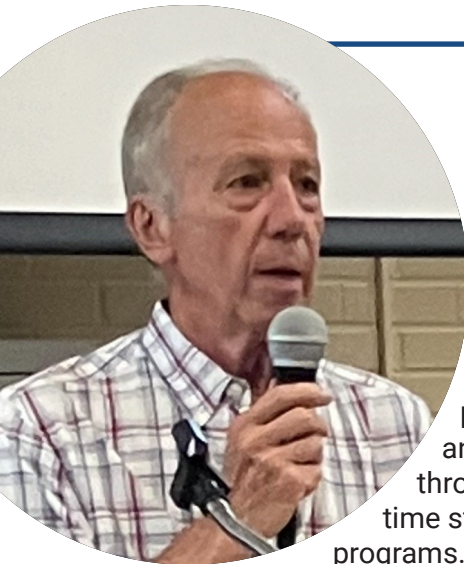
OUR MISSION

To continue working with parents and children to help them achieve their goals for future success in all areas of their lives.



Rebecca Lyman
Executive Director

It is a great honor and privilege to be the Executive Director of Abbeville County First Steps. Although I have not filled the position long, I am looking forward to being a part of the impact Abbeville County First Steps and its partnerships make in this community. I believe creating strong ties within the community will only further Abbeville County's success in reaching as many parents and children as possible. Pinpointing the needs of our community is my main goal. Partnering with community resources has only ensured further success toward that goal. I would like to reassure that the children and the families in this community feel valued and ready to reach their highest potential. Family and community are the greatest assets in a person's life. I know this is just the start of many great things to come for Abbeville County and I will continue to ensure that the parents and children of this community are positively impacted by this organization in more ways than one.



Lou Paradis
Board Chair

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2023-2024 Abbeville County First Steps Annual Report. As Chair of Abbeville County, it has been my honor to serve in this position and work with such a great group of dedicated professionals in delivering critical and life changing services to the children and families throughout our county. It has been a very challenging year and through a great amount of effort by the entire team we have come through this time stronger, more stable, a renewed sense of purpose and additional staff and programs.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions on how we can improve in our delivery of these critical programs, please do not hesitate to contact me at PLG153@outlook.com or 864 378 7291.

PROGRAMS

PARENTING

Nurturing Parenting

Designed to build nurturing parenting skills as an alternative to abusive and neglecting parenting and child-rearing practices.

25 children served **18** families served **347** home visits

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

Quality Counts

Certified and registered training hours for the early childhood workforce.

2,302 children served **126** providers served **29** training hours provided

Serving Abbeville County's children birth through age five.

"The Nurturing Parenting Home Visitation Program is great for young mothers who have children. My children love when their "teacher" comes to do their visit. It is a great program!"

Abbeville County First Steps parent



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

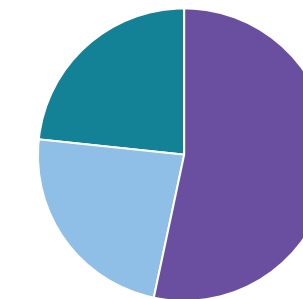


\$1 = \$1.21

Abbeville County First Steps leveraged \$38,082.74 from sources outside of state government, providing a match of \$0.21 for every state dollar invested.

EXPENDITURES

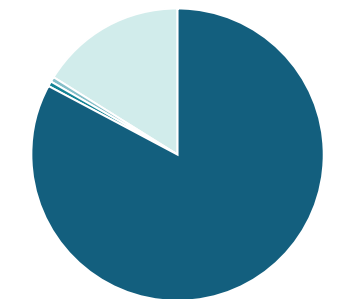
Total: \$170,919.44



- Parenting - \$91,279.91
- Early Care & Education - \$39,997.08
- Administrative - \$39,642.45

FUNDING SOURCES

Total: \$221,413.41



- State Funding - \$183,330.67
- Federal Funding - \$1,500.00
- Private Funding - \$1,415.27
- In-kind Contributions - \$35,167.47

FUNDING SUPPORT

State Education Improvement Act (EIA) Funding