



**Parents as Teachers**

**Child Care Training**

**Child Care Scholarships**

**Early Intervention & Referral**



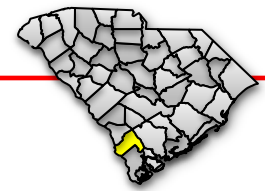
# Annual Report

2016-17



## OUR VISION:

**Every South Carolina child  
will arrive at kindergarten  
ready to succeed.**



## By The Numbers

Indicator	SC	Hampton County
Children Under Five	293,134	1,061
Children In Poverty	24.4%	35.1%
3 <sup>rd</sup> Graders "Does Not Meet" Standard in Reading	22.2%	Hampton 1: 28.9% Hampton 2: 43.6%
Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Diploma	15.0%	15.7%

KIDS COUNT data provided by



- Since inception, Hampton County First Steps has leveraged \$759,429 from sources outside state government. **That's \$.23 for every dollar received.**
- **195 hours of support and guidance** were provided to 10 families in our Parents As Teachers Program.
- Improved parenting practices through **15 Group Connections Parent Workshops.**
- **Total Children Served in FY17: 31**

### Hampton County First Steps

301 First Street East  
 Hampton, SC 29924

Phone: (803) 943-7127  
 Fax: (888) 632-4955

#### Board Chair

KaKela O'Banner Robinson

[www.scfirststeps.com/hampton](http://www.scfirststeps.com/hampton)

Hampton County First Steps

**Dwana Doctor**  
**Executive Director**

"There are no perfect parents, and there are no perfect children, but there are plenty of perfect moments along the way."

Welcome to Hampton County First Steps where we are strong advocates for children and families! *We believe* that parents are a child's first and best teacher through our **Parents As Teachers** program. *We believe* child care staff, teachers and all professionals in early childhood education should have access to high-quality training through our **Child Care Training** program. *We believe* our **Early Identification and Referral** program provides developmental screenings that are intended to produce measurable improvements in infants and toddlers screened for developmental delays. *We believe* that parents should be able to leave their children in safe, high-quality learning environments while they work or attend school through our **Child Care Scholarship** program. *We believe* the physical, social, and emotional development of young children directly affects their overall development. *We believe* that children are our greatest investment and therefore we do our best to support them and their families.



FY 17 Theme: "We Believe!"



Healthy Start



Family Strengthening



Early Intervention



Quality Child Care



Early Education



School Transition

### County Programs

- Parents as Teachers
- Child Care Training
- Countdown to Kindergarten
- Early Intervention & Referral
- Child Care Scholarships

### State Programs

- First Steps 4k



# What We Do

Each of the six color blocks of the First Steps logo represents a core area of service, outlining our comprehensive strategy to prepare children for long-term school success.

With **measurable outcomes across each of its six school readiness strategy areas**, First Steps is getting results.



### Healthy Start

We begin with a focus on providing a healthy start to life. This includes prenatal and post-partum services for both mother and baby. In 2007, First Steps collaborated with key philanthropic and agency partners to bring Nurse-Family Partnership to SC having a significant impact on reducing premature births and Medicaid costs.



### Quality Childcare

Quality childcare starts with quality childcare providers. Our quality enhancement and training strategies lead to improved teacher-student interaction, which research shows has a significant impact on a child's development and success in school.



### Family Strengthening

Our home visitation strategies, such as Parents as Teachers, Parent-Child Home and Early Steps to School Success, are helping parents understand their responsibilities to care for and be positive models for their children. As a result of First Steps' intervention and parenting support, 66% of clients initially assessed at "low" levels of parenting have achieved moderate or high levels of parenting skill.



### Early Education

Private-public partnerships through First Steps 4K have led to significant cost efficiencies in the delivery of publicly funded 4K. One recent analysis suggests First Steps is achieving comparable results, without the need for costly capital construction, for 80 cents on the dollar. Early Head Start expands quality early learning and family support to infants and toddlers.



### Early Intervention

Children's school readiness depends on their healthy growth and development. First Steps helps identify potential delays early through developmental screenings and referring children to BabyNet and other early intervention resources.



### School Transition

Each of the corresponding blocks of services leads ultimately to the goal of transitioning children successfully to school. Programs like Countdown to Kindergarten are ultimately preparing children for school success.

**Based on the needs of our community, Hampton County First Steps focuses its investments in....  
Parents As Teachers, Child Care Training, Child Care Scholarships and Early Intervention & Referral.**

# Early Identification and Referral

Identifying and referring children with possible developmental delays can help assure school readiness.

## Program Description

First Steps' Early Identification and Referral (EI&R) programs serve families with young children with suspected delays in development and coordinates public awareness for BabyNet services, acting as a local portal to connect families to community-based services they may need or desire to ensure the school readiness of their children

### EI&R services include:

1. **Screenings** (developmental, vision, hearing) for children ages birth to 5 years with suspected delays in development
2. **Referrals**, based up the screening results, to appropriate community resources. This could include the local BabyNet System Point of Entry Office, the local school district, and/or support services such as speech therapy, physical therapy, and programs in libraries and other community resources.
3. **Parent information** including strategies to monitor growth and development.

### Our EI&R program:

- ✓ Provides early detection of developmental delays and health issues
- ✓ Promotes services and activities that promote child development
- ✓ Increases children's school readiness and school success

Hampton County First Steps serves families in greatest need. Among our EI&R families:

100% ... live in poverty

30% ... exposed to parental depression

"Play gives children chance to practice what they are learning."  
 - Mr. Rogers



## EI&R by the Numbers 2016-17

Children Served	41
Materials Distributed	144

## This year, our Early Identification and Referral program:

- ✓ Screened 25 or more children using Ages and Stages Questionnaire
- ✓ Referred families to community resources after screening indicated need

## Thank you to our partners!

Babynet

Hampton School District Two

Tiffine Forester (Youth Generation Matters)

Hampton County First Steps

301 First Street East, Hampton, SC, 29924

803-943-7127

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**Parents play a critical role in their child's development.**

## Program Description

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is an evidence-based home visiting program designed to build strong communities, thriving families and children who are healthy, safe and ready to succeed. PAT services include:

1. **Personal Visits** at least twice monthly
2. **Monthly Group Connections** with other PAT families
3. **Screenings and Assessments** to identify developmental concerns
4. **Connections to Outside Resources** that families may need to succeed

**Hampton County First Steps serves families in greatest need. Among our PAT families:**

100% ... live in poverty  
 40% ... were teen parents  
 100% ... were single parent households



A child has a special way of adding joy to every day!

*Parents as Teachers has made a tremendous impact on how I teach my daughter at home!*

Shayla Campbell

## PAT by the Numbers 2016-17

Families Served	10	
Children Served	12	
Total Home Visits	195	
Hours Spent Serving Families	237	
Average gain, <i>Keys to Interactive Parenting Scale</i> (pre-to-post):	3.32	3.46

## This year, our Parents as Teachers program:

- ✓ Averaged 2.1 home visits per family
- ✓ Identified and addressed 5 potential developmental delays, and made 3 connections for families to services such as speech and hearing
- ✓ Improved parenting practices
- ✓ Improved literacy skills through the use of ACIRI assessments

## Thank you to our partners!

Hampton School District One and Two  
 Family Solutions of the Lowcountry  
 Hampton County Library

### Hampton County First Steps

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# Child Care Training

**Those who care for young children need high-quality, accessible, and affordable professional development.**

## Program Description

High-quality child care hinges on high-quality professional development that meets the needs of the local child care workforce.

First Steps-sponsored training is certified through the SC Center for Child Care Career Development and includes topics in the areas of nutrition, health and safety, curriculum, child guidance, professional development and program administration. Best practices in training include not only the training itself, but follow-up in the classroom.

### Child Care Training Sponsored by Hampton County First Steps, 2016-17

Topic:	Sessions:
Benefits of Quality Child Care	Two Sessions
Stem for Young Children	One Session
The Hiring Process	One of Two
How Leaders Set the Tone	Two of Two



### Training by the Numbers, 2016-17

Total Training Attendance	22
Child Care Teachers and Directors Served	7
Number of Training Sessions Offered	5

### This year, our Training program provided:

- ✓ 7 early childhood staff with high quality training
- ✓ 11 hours of certified training and for staff to meet annual re-certification requirements
- ✓ 5 follow-up visits with training participants to help put training into practice

### Thank you to our partners!

SC Resource & Referral
Peace Project
Hampton County Library

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# Child Care Scholarships

Too many families in Hampton County cannot afford quality care for their children.

## Program Description

Access to quality child care is essential for children while away from their primary caregivers. Yet, of those families income-eligible for child care assistance in South Carolina, only a small fraction receive it due to lack of funds. In the absence of nurturing and consistently available family, friends or neighbors, parents are faced with few - or no - affordable care options.

**Hampton County First Steps serves families in greatest need. Among our scholarship families:**

- 100% ... live in poverty
- 25% ... were teen parents

In addition to regular monitoring of child care providers that receive First Steps scholarships, First Steps conducts at least one developmental screening each year with scholarship children and connects families to needed services within the community.

Hampton County First Steps integrates scholarships with our Parents as Teachers program.

*I am forever grateful to Hampton County First Steps for allowing me to work in peace knowing my child is in a safe, learning environment!*

C. Kinard



“Children are the world’s most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.”

### Scholarships by the Numbers, 2016-17

Children Served	20
Providers Served	4

### This year, our Scholarship program:

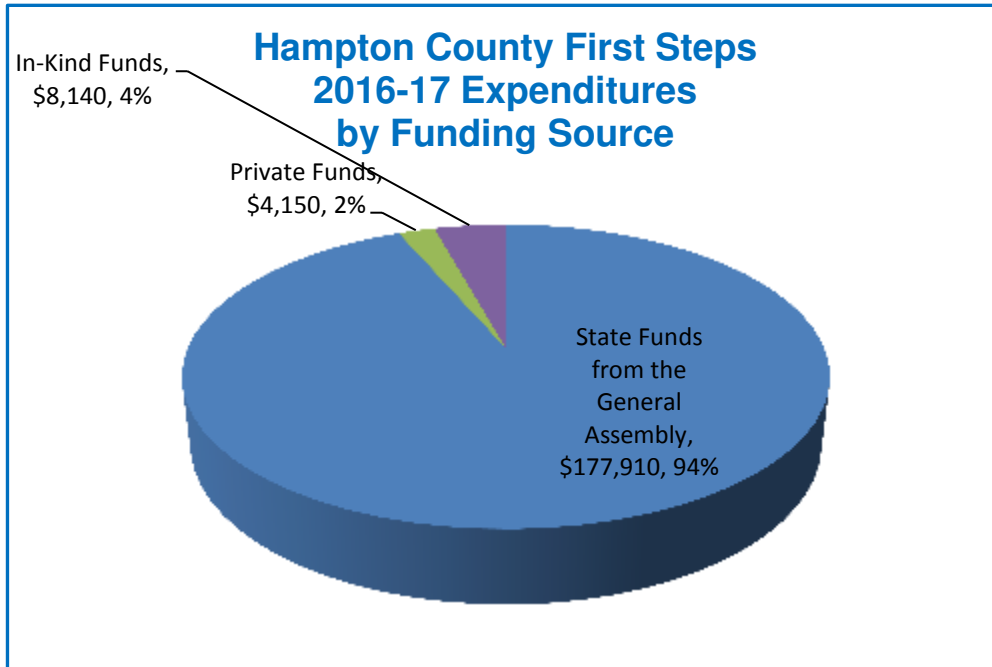
- ✓ Identified and addressed potential developmental delays among scholarship children
- ✓ Provided 20 children with scholarship assistance so their parents could work or attend school
- ✓ Made 11 connections for families to services such as employment, housing resources and adult education
- ✓ Supported 4 small businesses in Hampton County by subsidizing child care tuition for families who would not otherwise be able to afford quality care
- ✓ Provided 4 hours of training for scholarship parents in topics such as the Benefits of Quality Child Care

### Thank you to our partners!

- South Carolina Department of Social Services
- Children’s Keepers Child Care Center
- Children’s Place Child Care Center

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# Financial Impact



**Total 2016-17 Expenditures: \$190,201.00**

**State Funds Leveraged in 2016-17\*: 7%**

\*Percentage of state dollars matched by additional federal, private, and/or in-kind funds

	State \$	Federal \$	Private \$	In-Kind \$	Total \$	% of 2016-17 Expenditures
Parents as Teachers	\$39,174	\$0	\$2,590	\$681	\$42,445	22%
Early Identification & Referrals	\$23,865	\$0	\$0	\$135	\$24,000	13%
Child Care Training	\$16,098	\$0	\$1,400	\$81	\$17,579	9%
Child Care Scholarships	\$56,000	\$0	\$0	\$7,000	\$63,000	33%
Countdown to Kindergarten	\$3,888	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,888	2%
Other Program	\$15,588	\$0	\$0	\$81	\$15,669	8%
Program Support	\$6,253	\$0	\$0	\$122	\$6,375	3%
Administrative Support	\$17,045	\$0	\$161	\$41	\$17,246	9%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$177,910</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,150</b>	<b>\$8,140</b>	<b>\$190,201</b>	

Unaudited numbers for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

**Since inception, Hampton County First Steps has leveraged \$759,429 from sources outside of state government. That's 23 cents for every state dollar.**



# Thank you supporters!

Through partnerships and collaborations, as well as financial support from grants and contributions, Hampton First Steps leverages state dollars to enhance and expand services to children and families.

## Funding Support

State of South Carolina: \$200,000  
(through South Carolina First Steps)



## In-Kind Support

Hampton County School District  
Hampton County Library  
Pearl's Professional Alterations  
SC Department of Social Services

Hampton County First Steps celebrated Read Across America Day with special guest, Dr. Seuss' Cat in the Hat!! The kids loved it as you can see from their smiles!

## How your support helps children in Hampton County:

- ✓ \$25 provides a young child a book per month for one year!
- ✓ \$50 feeds dinner to low-income families attending a parenting workshop.

**HOW TO GIVE:** If you are an individual, business or any other entity that would like to make a donation, please call us at (803) 943-7127 or email us at [hampton1steps@gmail.com](mailto:hampton1steps@gmail.com).

## SAVE THE DATE!

Hampton County First Steps

FY18 Annual Meeting

November 7, 2017

Contact our office for more information!

Support Hampton County First Steps today through a tax-deductible donation, or volunteer!

## Partnering Together to Make A Difference

*Hampton County First Steps & Family Solutions of the Lowcountry*

### Think Pink for Breast Cancer

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month we collaborated with Family Solutions of The Low Country for our monthly group meeting. Our guest speaker was Ms. Sabrina Early, community health worker for Best Chance Network. Ms. Early is a Hampton County native and a breast cancer survivor. Our meeting was very informative and everyone had an awesome time. She explained the importance of breast cancer awareness by giving her own testimony as well as outstanding visuals.



Presenter discussing the importance of monthly breast exams.



Hampton County First Steps partnered with Hampton School District Two Title One program Parent Night. We gave an overview of our services to parents who visited our table. Parents of children 0 to 5 signed up to complete an Ages & Stages Questionnaires. Free books were given to the children, information was shared with parents as well as parents of children

ages 0 to 5 were given a ticket for an additional free book if they completed

*Ms. Victoria Powell, Parent Educator, watches patiently as a parent signs up to complete an ASQ-3.*





# Getting children ready for school.

## The Goals of First Steps

- (1) provide parents with access to the support they might seek and want** to strengthen their families and to promote the optimal development of their preschool children;
- (2) increase comprehensive services** so children have reduced risk for major physical, developmental, and learning problems;
- (3) promote high-quality preschool programs** that provide a healthy environment that will promote normal growth and development;
- (4) provide services** so all children receive the protection, nutrition, and health care needed to thrive in the early years of life so they arrive at school ready to succeed; and
- (5) mobilize communities** to focus efforts on providing enhanced services to support families and their young children so as to enable every child to reach school healthy and ready to succeed.

-- Section 59-152-30



Interested parents with Medicaid-eligible children who live in eligible school districts can contact any participating provider to complete an application for free, full-day 4K. To view a list of participating First Steps 4K providers, visit:

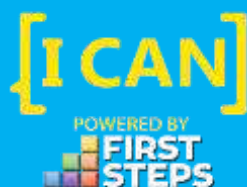
<http://scfirststeps.org/4k>



### EARLY HEAD START – CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

Low income families with children 0-36 months, and families with infants or toddlers with special needs, are invited to apply for this year-round, comprehensive program. Available in the following counties: Allendale, Anderson, Bamberg, Berkeley, Dillon, Georgetown, Laurens, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Saluda and York, and coming soon to Fairfield and McCormick counties. To apply, visit:

<http://scfirststeps.org/ehs/>



[I CAN] is First Steps' public awareness campaign for school readiness, in support of the state's Profile of the Ready Kindergartener. Includes resources for parents, providers and communities to learn what they can do to support school readiness.

Visit: [ican.sc](http://ican.sc)

Like us on Facebook: [icansc](https://www.facebook.com/icansc)

