



FIRST STEPS IS HERE

Last year, because of Greenville County First Steps:



9,763 children

were directly served in Greenville County



3,464 parents & caregivers

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



248 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 GREENVILLE COUNTY

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

27,602

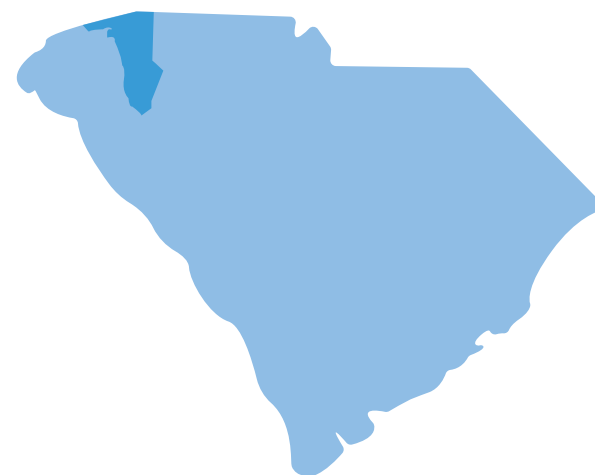
children under age 5

36%

of young children live in poverty or low-income households

57%

of kindergarteners are considered "not ready" for school



Eric Hassman

Board Chair

Greenville County's 2040 growth plan anticipates our community will continue to experience exponential growth within the next 2 decades- with a projected 35% increase in our population.

Through the expansion of DSS scholarships, SC First Steps 4K, Greenville County Schools 4K, and SHARE HeadStart, we have reached a place where more than 2,200 FREE and heavily subsidized childcare slots are available for 4K students across the county. Let's celebrate the rallying efforts of our community to address this need.

As our community continues to grow, emphasis now needs to be placed on infant and toddler care. Currently, there are an estimated 4,000 children age 0-24 months who cannot find childcare in our community.

A blending of additional home-based childcare, church-based care, and businesses offering onsite childcare for employees will be needed to tackle this problem. We are excited to see the number of community partners coming to the table to help us tackle this need.

Our Local Supporters

The Duke Endowment \$1,000,000

The Greenville Health Authority \$600,000

Children's Trust of SC and the Duke Endowment \$250,000

United Way of Greenville County \$50,000

Margaret Linder Southern Endowment \$40,000

Private Individual Donations \$25,000

In Kind - Greenville Health Authority \$500,000

In Kind - SC DHEC \$300,000

Board of Directors

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CONTACT US

700 N Pleasantburg Dr Greenville, SC 29607 | 864-248-4757 | greenvillefirststeps.org



2022-2023
ANNUAL REPORT

OUR MISSION

To serve as a convener of early childhood champions to coordinate services to measurably improve the early childhood development of all children in Greenville County.



Derek Lewis
Executive Director

Imagine being the parent of a newborn. For months now, you have planned, read, and sought the advice of dozens of parents. You think you have it all figured out. The day finally arrives and you and your new daughter head home. Everything has changed, and the sense of isolation, of the weight of a million unanswered questions, and the crying – the constant crying- can become overwhelming.

Family Connects Greenville launched in March 2023 to help families recognize and address the stress of bringing a newborn into the home by pairing parents of newborns with a DHEC nurse, who visits the family in the hospital, and then again 5 weeks later in the home.

Family Connects has demonstrated a reduction in maternal stress, infant injuries, and DSS cases- and is universally available throughout the community. We are thrilled to bring this program to Greenville. Learn more at www.FamilyConnectsGreenville.com.

PROGRAMS

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

Training & Professional Development

Certified and registered training hours for the early childhood workforce.

3,557 children served 74 providers served 109 certified training hours

Enhanced Early Education

Provides important support to students and their families through supplemental materials and book distributions to classrooms

708 children served 708 families served 87 group meetings and events

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.

29 children served 169 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.

40 children served 236 home visits

PARENTING

Nurturing Parenting

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

34 children served 46 home visits

Nurse-Family Partnership

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

247 children served 316 families served 2,227 home visits

Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) Levels 2 and 3

A parenting and family support system designed to prevent – as well as treat – behavioral and emotional problems in children.

973 children served 744 families served 97 group meetings and events

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Free, high-quality books mailed to the home of children from birth until age five.

1,136 children served 11,883 books distributed

Reach Out and Read

Site visits for home child care providers to encourage developmentally appropriate practices.

5,000 children served 10,000 book distributed

Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) Level 4

A parenting and family support system designed to prevent – as well as treat – behavioral and emotional problems in children.

46 children served 43 families served 32 group meetings and events

HEALTH

Health Services

First Steps coordinates with partners to support the health and well-being of families with young children.

1,500 children served

Serving Greenville County's children birth through age five.



"Triple P has taught me how to talk to my children in order to coach and teach them better with their behaviors so that they are able to grow and have normal social skills and communication skills."

Greenville County First Steps parent

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

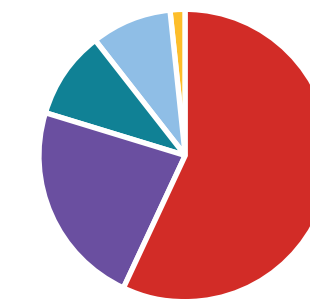


\$1 = \$2.59

Greenville County First Steps leveraged \$1,650,981.68 from sources outside of state government, providing a match of \$1.59 for every state dollar invested.

EXPENDITURES

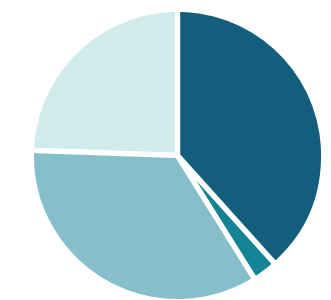
Total: \$2,570,790.84



- Parenting - \$582,930.75
- Early Care & Education - \$227,666.18
- School Transition - \$37,876.96
- Health - \$1,469,257
- Administrative and Core Functions - \$253,059.95

FUNDING SOURCES

Total: \$2,690,225.68



- State Funding - \$1,039,244
- Federal Funding - \$91,659.96
- Private Funding - \$909,321.72
- In-kind Contributions - \$650,000

FUNDING SUPPORT BY SOUTH CAROLINA FIRST STEPS

State Education Improvement Act (EIA) Funding
Federal Preschool Development Grant Funding*
Federal ESSER Funding**

*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