



# FIRST STEPS

Getting children ready for school.

SOUTH CAROLINA

## 2017 March Leadership Webinar



March 21 , 2017 10:00-11:30 AM  
To access this meeting by voice, please  
dial 888-537-7715,  
participant code 43126552#



# Today's Agenda

1. Welcome from Director
2. Legislative Update
3. Evidence Based/Evidence Informed Update
4. SHAPES/SC– Dale Murrie & Christina Moyer, USC Arnold School of Public Health (*New program designed to increase physical activity and prevent obesity among young children.*)
5. Raising a Reader – Rebecca Armstrong, Assistant VP Raising a Reader
6. Finance Update
7. FY 18 Renewal Plan Template
8. Data System update
9. Program Updates – CTK, PAT, 4k, EHS
10. Announcements and Key Dates

# Legislative Update

Evidence Based/Evidence Informed  
Update

# Promoting Children's Physical Activity in the Childcare Setting



# **The Children's Physical Activity Research Group (CPARG)**



**Interdisciplinary team of faculty, staff, and graduate students who are dedicated to expanding the body of knowledge on physical activity and its promotion in children and adolescents**



- ◆ An evidence-based program for training early childhood educators to promote physical activity throughout the day
  - ◆ Grounded in theory
  - ◆ Based on research findings
  - ◆ Field-tested
  - ◆ Ready for large-scale application

# Goal

Train early childhood educators to help young children become more physically active by providing the tools and resources needed to reach this goal

# SHAPES: Key Features

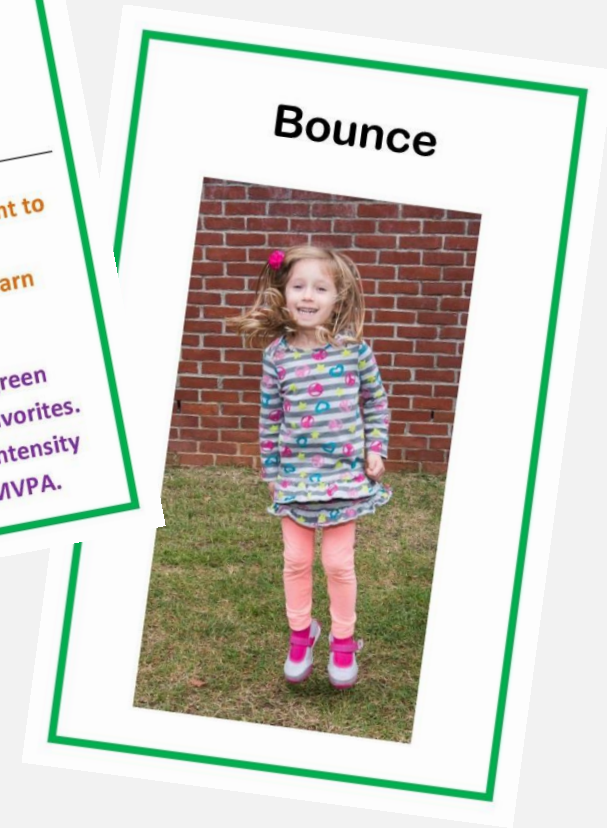
- Interactive online training program
- Ongoing support and feedback
- Flexible and adaptable





# SHAPES Online Resources

- Discussion board
- Pinterest boards
- Video library
- Guidebook
- Virtual Activity Binder
- Activity Cards



# Program Format

- Six online modules
  - One module per week for six weeks
  - New strategies implemented every week
- Six quizzes
- One hour of CCCCD training credit for each completed module

# Module Content Overview

1. Introduction to PA & intensity
2. Move Inside
3. Move Outside
4. Move to Learn
5. Strategies to improve PA quality
6. Self-Assessment



Raising A Reader:  
Helping South Carolina Families to Bond.  
Read. Succeed.



# Raising A Reader



**Raising A Reader** (RAR) helps families develop, practice and maintain the habit of sharing books—a habit that research demonstrates is *essential* to developing reading skills.

# Implementation Integrity Builds Home Literacy Habits



## DEVELOP

*Helping Families Build  
Book Sharing Routines*

**Parents** receive training in research-based practices to **develop the habit** of sharing books.



## PRACTICE

*The Weekly Book Bag  
Rotation*

**Children** bring home a red book bag each week that is filled with award-winning books to **practice the habit** of sharing books.



## MAINTAIN

*The Library  
Connection*

Families are connected with **libraries** to **maintain the habit** of borrowing and sharing books.

## Raising A Reader's Theory of Change (and Program Model)

*If...*

**The Child Drives the Process**

**Coordinators** Access highest quality materials

**Implementers** Engage families through literacy

**Caregivers** Learn research-based practices

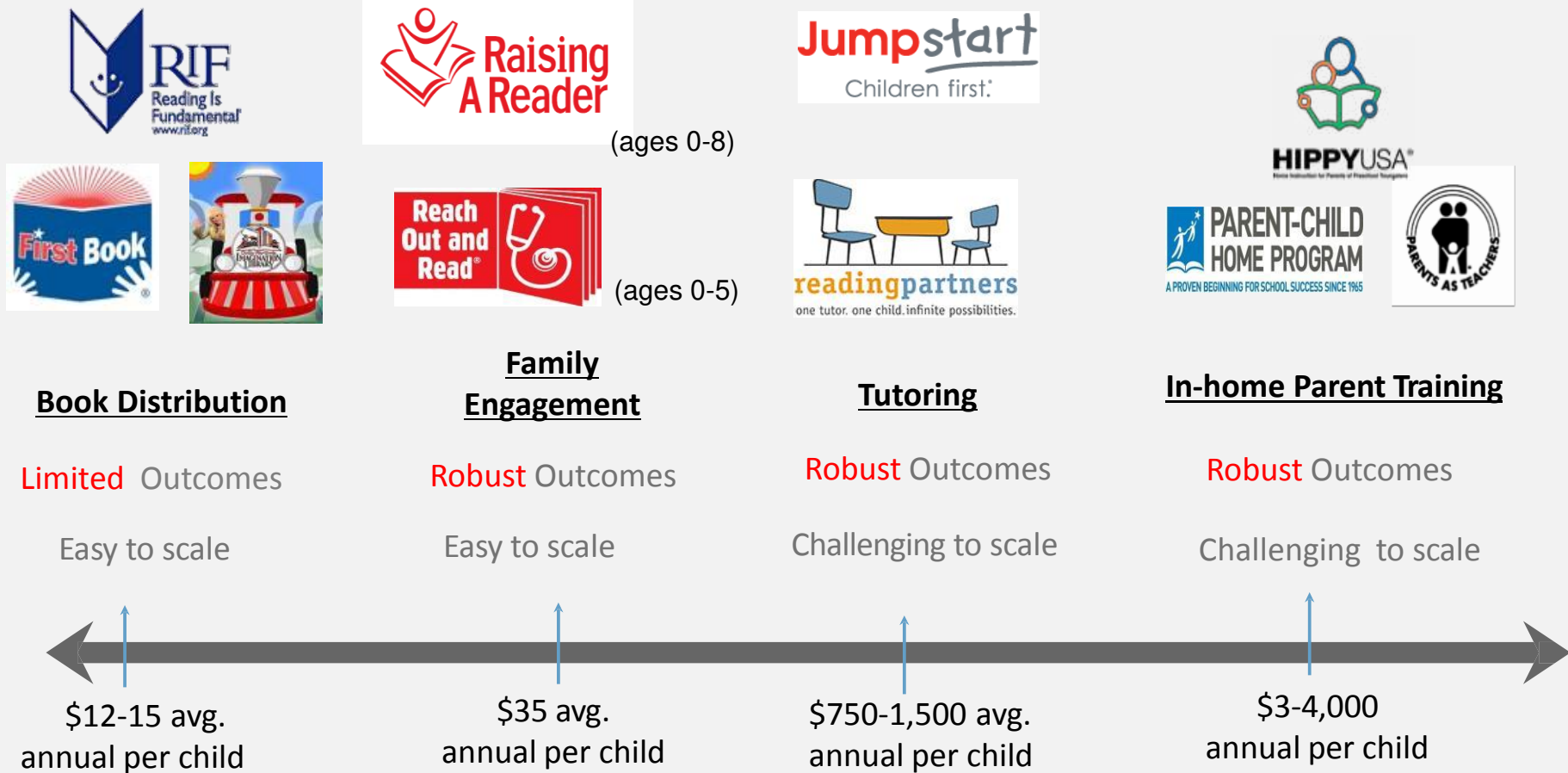
**Libraries** Become trusted resources

*Then...*

Families will develop the home literacy habits essential for:

- language/literacy skills
- parent-child bonding
- healthy brain development

# What makes RAR Different?





# RAR's Book Collection

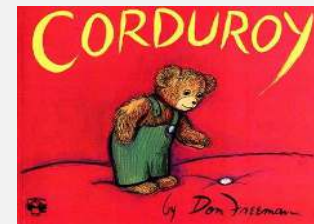
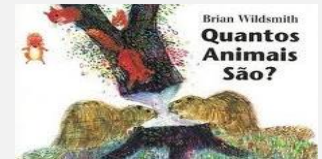
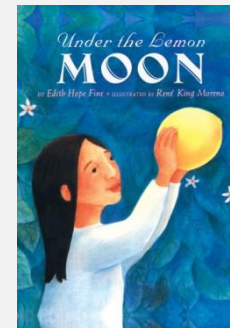
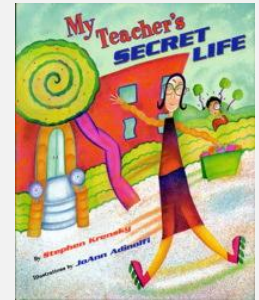
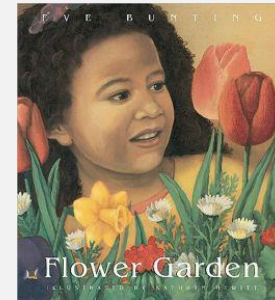
## Philosophy:

*'Books should be both windows into new worlds and mirrors through which children can see themselves.'*

(Dr. Rudine Simms-Bishop)

## Fast Facts:

- More than 2000 titles
- Special collections created to reflect community needs. (14 languages, Touch and Feel, Wordless Books, Special Needs, STEM, School Themed)
- Carefully vetted to insure high quality, diversity
- Organized developmentally (0-2, 3-4, Pre-K, and School-Age)
- Covering for durability (Kapco)—books and materials last 5-7 years



# Implemented With Integrity Across the Nation in:

## Community Agencies



## Educational Settings

BALTIMORE CITY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## Public Libraries



## Subsidized Housing Agencies



## Home Visiting Programs



## Teen Parent Programs



## Migrant Programs



## Afterschool Programs



## Employers (as an employee benefit)



# Raising A Reader Balances Growth and Integrity

## What does RAR National do?

First we share the program.

Then we listen.

Then we collaborate.

## What does success look like?

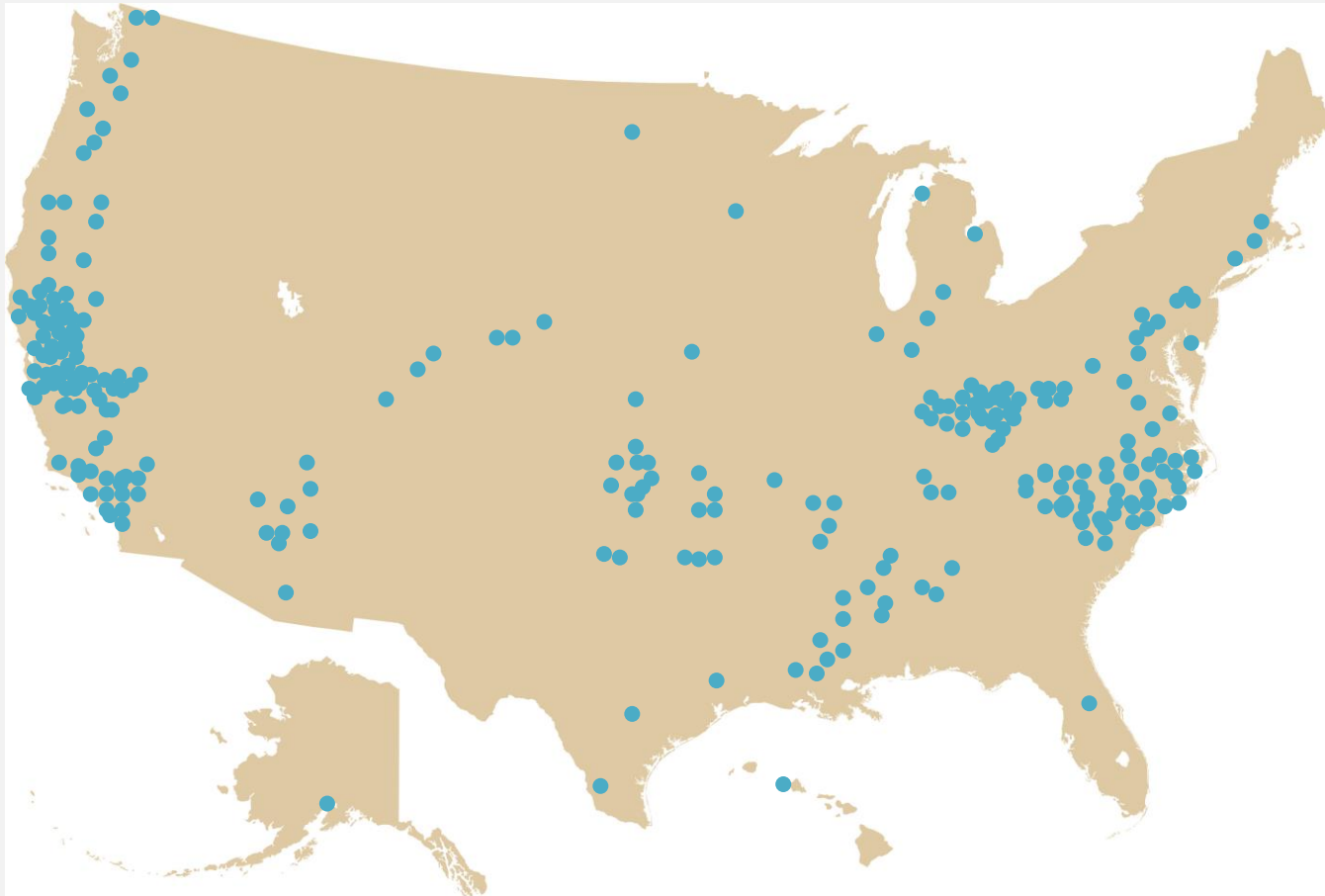
RAR extends and connects (***but does not replace***) local services.

Affiliates have the capacity to independently implement with fidelity.

RAR National provides ongoing program support.

Affiliates transition from private (grants) to public funding.

# National Footprint



● indicates affiliate locations

## RAR BY THE NUMBERS

Number of books in rotation  
**15,000,000**

Total number of children served by RAR  
**1,500,000**

Children served annually  
**130,000**

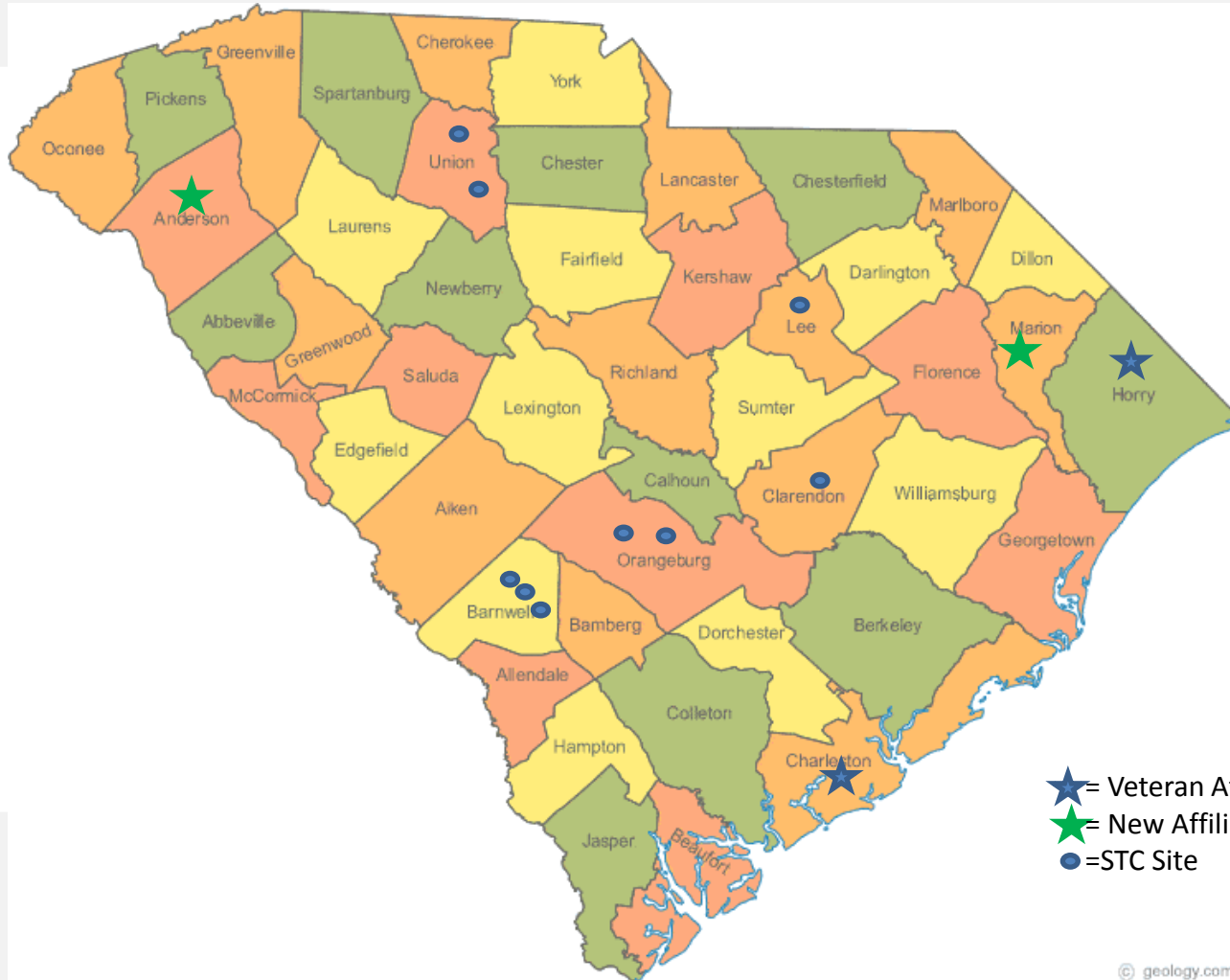
Implementing sites  
**2,700**

Affiliate agencies  
**240**

Number of states  
**34**

Independent evaluations  
**32**

# South Carolina Footprint



## RAR BY THE NUMBERS

Number of books in rotation  
**3,000+**

Total  
Children served annually  
**775**

Implementing sites  
**11**

Affiliate agencies  
**4**

Number of counties  
**9**

# How do we know RAR works?

## 3 levels of evaluation:

**Internal: Pre/Post**

**External: Independent**

**External: University-RCT**

- Since 1999, 34 *Independent* Evaluations Demonstrate Statistically Significant Increases in:
  - Home literacy behaviors
  - Language and literacy skills
- Please visit this page [Raising A Reader Evaluations](#) for details

# Raising A Reader First Steps Programming Options

RAR Core Component	Evidence-Based	Evidence-Informed
RAR Kick Off Orientation	✓	✓
Family Skill Building Workshops	Required 5-Part Workshop Series with Mandatory Parent-Child Component	Flexible Skill Building Workshop Options
Weekly Book Bag Rotation	✓	✓
Library Connection	✓	✓

# How does RAR maintain strong programs over many years?



## Raising A Reader:

- Partners with strong local agencies (“RAR Affiliates”)
- Enhances but does not replace local programs
- Provides strong connections to other local agencies (e.g., libraries)
- Helps affiliates access private and public funding



**We're here to help bring RAR to your community.  
Please let us know how.**

**Rebecca Armstrong**

Assistant Vice President,  
Program Quality and Advancement

[rarmstrong@raisingareader.org](mailto:rarmstrong@raisingareader.org)



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[www.raisingareader.org](http://www.raisingareader.org)

# Finance Update

## ➤ Reminders:

- Document in-kind match (15% required)
- Expend Carry forward (fund 56) by June 30<sup>th</sup>

## ➤ FY 18 Partnership Planning Allocations approved by State Board March 17<sup>th</sup>

- Working group will be established to revisit allocation formula

# FY 18 Renewal Plan Template

## The Challenge

- Pending reauthorization would increase local partnership accountability and reporting
- Need to develop a “Comprehensive Plan” template for local partnerships (1<sup>st</sup> due 10/1/17) that aligns with annual reporting requirements. Each partnership’s plan must be posted on the SC First Steps web site.
- Pending policies for state-funded programs (EB/EI)
- Avoid (as much as possible) duplication of effort. In particular, components of partnership grant applications (aka “Renewal Plan”) and the TBD Comprehensive Plan would have common elements, as well as with Priority Goals/Objectives

# FY 18 Renewal Plan Template

The Solution: Divide the Renewal Plan into 2 parts.

## Renewal Plan

*(released 3/20/17)*

1. Cover Page
2. Instructions
3. Strategy Summary for 2017-18 (one page)
4. Performance Summary for 2016-17:
  1. Priority Goals/Objectives
  2. Strategies
  3. Core Functions
  4. Governance
  5. Resource Development
5. New Strategies for 2017-18
6. Budget Spending Plan
7. Required Attachments

Due Date: May 5, 2017

## Comprehensive Plan

*(To be released April 2017 with ED input)*

Will serve as the local partnership's

**Comprehensive Plan** and include:

1. Strategic Goals for the partnership (Priority Goals and Objectives), including plans for developing new strategies and initiatives, collaborations, etc. based on the NR Assessment
2. For Each Strategy and Core Functions:
  1. Description
  2. Rationale (based on NR Assessment)
  3. Numbers Served and goals for increasing # served over 3-5 years
  4. Partnerships and collaborations

Due Date: TBD

Estimated shelf life: 3 years

# Data System Update

- NEW: Transfer Cases function for ED (admin) logins
- NEW: Group Meeting Detail Report
- Coming soon: additions to CTK data entry:
  - Entry of “staff” (CTK home visitors and 5K teachers) and attendance at CTK 2017 training
  - Indicate CTK home visitor and 5K teacher, by child
- New risk factors (effective July 1)
- Mid-year data checks by TAs
- Next data deadline: May 5 (data through April 30)
- Final data deadline for strategy approvals: June 1

# Parents as Teachers



Parents as Teachers



## Update on Training for all SCFS Home Visitation Programs and PAT affiliates

- ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE 2 Training Scheduled for March 27<sup>th</sup> in Columbia at SCFS office. **Please register by March 24<sup>th</sup>.**
- ACIRI Training Scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> in Columbia at the SCFS office. **Deadline to register is March 24<sup>th</sup>.**
- PAT Foundational and Model Implementation Training –April 24-28 in Columbia, SC. **Registration deadline is April 7<sup>th</sup>.**
- PAT Foundational 2 Training– May 15-16 in Greenville, SC. Registration is open and on the Website.

# Parents as Teachers



Parents as Teachers



- Will be scheduling a PAT Teen Curriculum training in Sept. to be held in Beaufort. Date TBD—will send out once determined.
- LSP Training TBD (Likely April 7<sup>th</sup>) Will send out once final.
- Parenting Conference Planning starting—if you would like to be on our planning Team contact Mary Anne.

## **Quality and Data Update**

- Quality Endorsement for Cohort 2 –Self study is due on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Quality Endorsement selection for Cohort 3 begins this summer and will be completed with self study by April 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. 14 Affiliates were selected and 8-9 will be participating.
- Parenting Data review will be ongoing from April-May in order to ensure that all data is in the system for the Renewal Process.





## 4K Update

- 187 centers with 205 classrooms and 2234 enrolled students
- The 2017-2018 New Center Application is on our website. We appreciate any recommendations and guidance from our Executive Directors on possible 4K partners.
- All participating and renewed centers have received the 2017-2018 Student Application. Please refer any interested parents!
- March 17 was our last professional development day for this term. Our topic was “Kindergarten, Here I Come!”. Teachers primed for using the K Readiness study in Creative Curriculum, reviewed reports to parents and prepared summer take home packets.
- Help us welcome two new Regional Coordinators to our 4K team:
  - Meada Fogle ([mfogle@scfirststeps.org](mailto:mfogle@scfirststeps.org), 803-622-1291) will be serving Barnwell, Bamberg, Calhoun and parts of Aiken County.
  - Jeanne Voltz-Loomis ([jvoltzloomis@scfirststeps.org](mailto:jvoltzloomis@scfirststeps.org), 803-622-5182) will be serving Georgetown, Williamsburg and parts of Horry County.



## 4K Territories:

**Barbara Black**- Chester, Kershaw, Lee, Richland, York

**Sharon Bruton**- Anderson, Cherokee, Oconee, Pickens,  
Spartanburg, Union

**LaDrica Christian**- Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Chesterfield

**Deborah DePaoli**- Lexington, Sumter

**Kristine Jenkins**- Florence, Horry, Marion

**Cassandra Johnson** - Laurens, Richland

**Joy Mazur**- Beaufort, Berkeley, Dorchester, Jasper, Orangeburg

**Marley Via** – Aiken, Edgefield, Greenwood, Lexington,  
Newberry, Saluda

**Meada Fogle**- Aiken, Barnwell, Bamberg, Calhoun, Hampton

**Jeanne Voltz-Loomis**- Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg

# Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Grant Award



- **\$16.2 million over 4 ½ years**
- **162 additional children**
- **11 counties (expands capacity within 9 of 12 Round 1 counties and adds two underserved - Fairfield and McCormick)**

**Total EHS-CCP Funding: \$34.7 million, 14 counties, 416 slots**

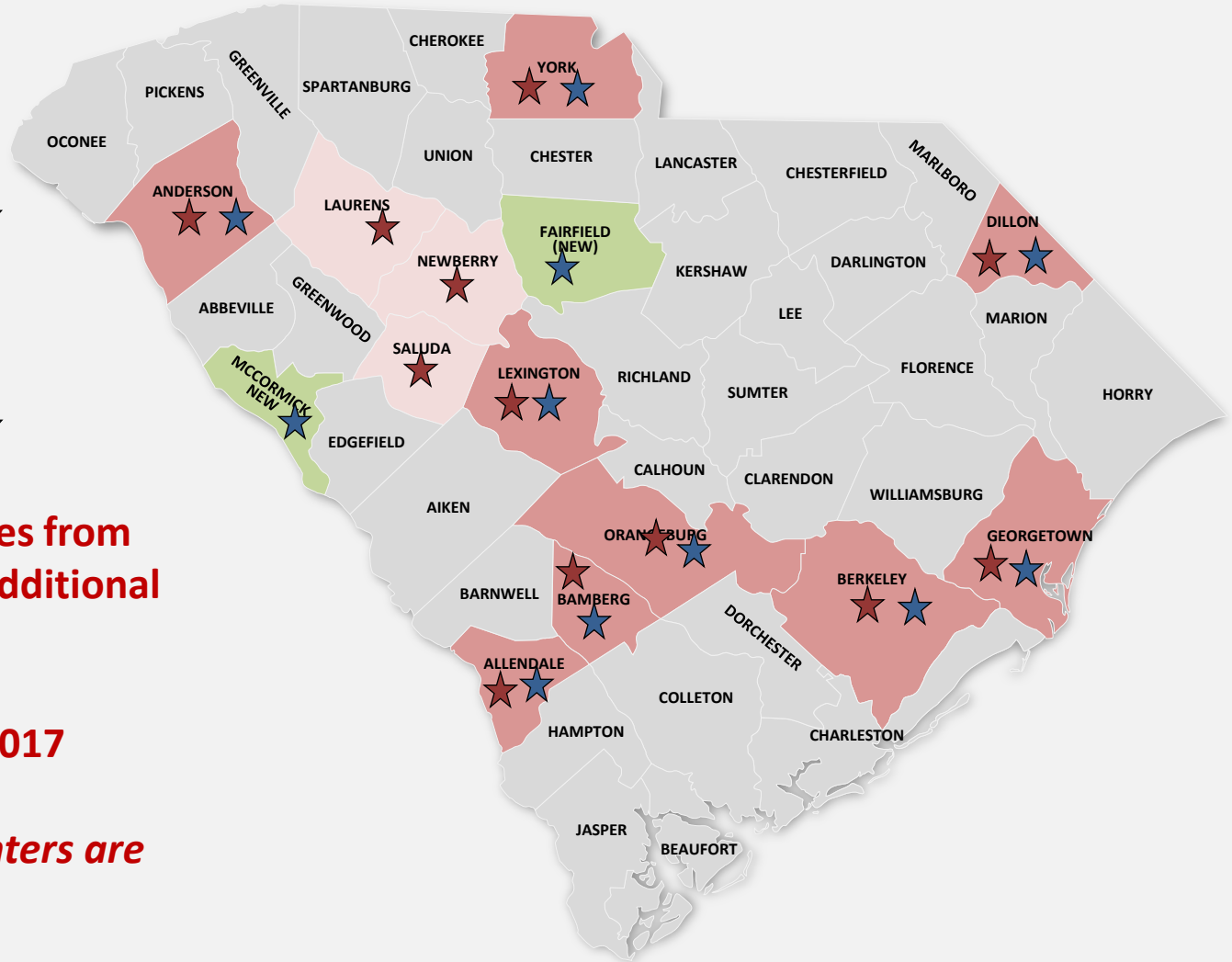
# SC First Steps to School Readiness Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships (EHS-CCP)

**EHS-CCP: Round 1:** ★  
**254 slots**  
**12 counties**

**EHS-CCP: Round 2:** ★  
**162 additional slots**  
**11 counties (9 counties from Round 1 and 2 new additional counties)**

**Beginning March 1, 2017**

***EHS-CCP Round 2 Centers are to be determined.***



# Countdown to Kindergarten

- Modifications are planned in teacher/home visitor training and parent and teacher surveys to move toward evidence-based status
  - No plans to change the curriculum
- Parent and teacher forms will be posted on our website soon

# Countdown to Kindergarten

## Important Ordering Dates

- Numbers Served form is due to [jkilburn@scfirststeps.org](mailto:jkilburn@scfirststeps.org) by March 31
- Kaplan toolkit order form is due to [broberts@kaplanco.com](mailto:broberts@kaplanco.com) by April 14 to get free shipping
  - Cost of toolkits will increase next year! Order extras this year if you can.

# Countdown to Kindergarten Teacher/Home Visitor Training

- 5 sites throughout state for state training (Aiken, Anderson, Colleton, Lee, York)
- Each site will have its own live webinar with Nefretiti Poyner, Devereux Center for Resilient Children, in AM; CTK “The Basics” in the PM
- Continuing education credit for teachers and child care providers
- Dates, times, specific locations are forthcoming
- Lexington County will offer CTK home visitor training June 6<sup>th</sup> – contact Jim Riddle for details

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



# FY 17 Calendar of Events

April 4 – SC Read In, SC Statehouse Grounds,  
Columbia

April 17-22 – SC Head Start Association Meeting,  
North Charleston

April 24-28 – NAEYC Week of the Young Child

# Key Partnership Dates

April 18- First Steps Leadership Webinar

May 5 – FY 18 Renewal Plan due

June 16 – State Board Meeting, Renewal Plan review and approval