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.
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!”
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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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

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

EI&R by the Numbers 2016-17

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children Served</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials Distributed</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Thank you to our partners!

- Babynet
- Hampton School District Two
- Tiffine Forester (Youth Generation Matters)
Parents as Teachers

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

PAT by the Numbers 2016-17

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Families Served</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Served</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Home Visits</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours Spent Serving</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average gain, Keys to Interactive Parenting Scale (pre-to-post):</td>
<td>3.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

Shayla Campbell

Hampton School District One and Two

Hampton County Library

Hampton County First Steps

301 First Street East, Hampton, SC, 29924
803-943-7127
hampton1steps@gmail.com
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Sessions:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benefits of Quality Child Care</td>
<td>Two Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stem for Young Children</td>
<td>One Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hiring Process</td>
<td>One of Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How Leaders Set the Tone</td>
<td>Two of Two</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Training by the Numbers, 2016-17

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Training Attendance</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Teachers and Directors Served</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Training Sessions Offered</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Hampton County First Steps
301 First Street East, Hampton, SC, 29924
803-943-7127
hampton1steps@gmail.com
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.

Scholarships by the Numbers, 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children Served</th>
<th>20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providers Served</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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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.”

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301 First Street East, Hampton, SC, 29924
803-943-7127
hampton1steps@gmail.com
### Financial Impact

#### Hampton County First Steps 2016-17 Expenditures by Funding Source

- **State Funds from the General Assembly**: $177,910 (94%)
- **Private Funds**: $4,150 (2%)
- **In-Kind Funds**: $8,140 (4%)

#### 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

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

*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.
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.

**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.

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.*
The Hampton County First Steps Board of Directors consists of a group of professional, family-oriented individuals who come together for the best of families and children. In December 2016, our board made a collaborative effort to raise money for Christmas gifts for the elderly. The fundraiser was titled “Santa for Seniors”. The funds were used to provide toiletries, blankets and socks for the families of local nursing home residents. The fundraiser was a huge success!

Hampton County First Steps Partnership Board, 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Board Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kakela Robinson, Chair</td>
<td>Early Childhood Coordinator, Hampton School District One</td>
<td>School District Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chezrai McClorn</td>
<td>Imagine That Early Childhood Center</td>
<td>Child Care/Early Childhood Provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Deloach</td>
<td>Executive Director, Hampton Adult Education</td>
<td>Family Education, Training &amp; Support Provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Rivers</td>
<td>Hampton County Department of Social Services</td>
<td>DSS Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerri Buhler</td>
<td>Hampton County Department of DHEC</td>
<td>DHEC Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bettye Bostick</td>
<td>Estill Head Start</td>
<td>Head Start Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debra Heyward</td>
<td>Children’s Keepers</td>
<td>Pre-K/Primary Educator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cynthia Deloach</td>
<td>Hampton County Library – Estill Branch</td>
<td>HC Library Appointee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Ayers</td>
<td>Stay At Home Mom</td>
<td>Parent of preschooler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Wooding</td>
<td>Hampton School District Two</td>
<td>School District Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valaree Smith</td>
<td>Family Solutions of the Lowcountry</td>
<td>Non-profit Organization that Serves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lillian Wright</td>
<td>Estill Head Start Teacher</td>
<td>Families &amp; Children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
Like us on Facebook: icansc