

## Introduction

Per First Steps legislation (Section 52-152-70 (A)), each First Steps Partnership Board shall bring the community together to identify the area needs related to the goals of First Steps, develop a strategic long-term plan for meeting those needs, and then develop specific initiatives to implement the elements of the plan while integrating service delivery where possible. The partnership board is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the partnership's comprehensive strategic plan, which shall include direct service provision, contracting for service provision, and organization and management of volunteer programs. In addition, each partnership's comprehensive plan shall include the following core functions:

- a) service as a local portal connecting families of preschool children to community-based services they may need or desire to ensure the school readiness of their children;
- b) service as a community convener around the needs of preschool children and their families; and
- c) support of state-level school readiness priorities as determined by the State Board.

Needs and Resources Assessment: Each local First Steps partnership undergoes a community needs and resources assessment process every three years, in consultation with its local board, staff, clients and partners. A description of this process can be found online at <http://scfirststeps.com/fy-17-needs-and-resources-assessment/>.

Alignment to State First Steps Priorities: Each local First Steps partnership is a non-profit organization created in legislation in support of the statewide First Steps initiative, which is governed by a state board of trustees and supported by the State Office of First Steps. Each local plan aligns with the priorities of the South Carolina First Steps Strategic Plan, **Vision 2020** (<http://scfirststeps.com/resources-and-state-reporting/>). These priorities are:

- Increase access to quality early childhood programs and resources
- Enhance leadership development and capacity building
- Strengthen interagency accountability and public-private collaboration

Support for First Steps Legislative Goals: The strategic goals of this comprehensive plan support one or more goals of the First Steps initiative, as defined in state legislation (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t59c152.php>):

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."

Promotion of South Carolina's Definition of School Readiness: The goals and objectives of this comprehensive plan promote one or more descriptions of school readiness (Ready Children, Ready Families and Caregivers, Ready Schools and Educators, Ready Communities) as defined in South Carolina's Profile of the Ready Kindergartner (<http://www.ican.sc>), adopted in 2015 by the South Carolina First Steps Board of Trustees and the South Carolina Board of Education as the state's readiness benchmarks.

# South Carolina's School Readiness Description (Profile of the Ready Kindergartner)

## 1 Ready Children

- 1A Approaches to Learning & Inquiry (10)
- 1B Emotional & Social Development (12)
- 1C Physical Development, Self-Help & Motor Skills (4)
- 1D Language & Literacy Development (24)
  - o Listening, Speaking and Understanding (8)
  - o Early Reading (12)
  - o Early Writing (4)
- 1E Mathematical Thinking (9)
  - o Number Sense (5)
  - o Matching, Sorting, Classifying (4)

## 2 Ready Families and Caregivers

*Ready Kindergartners have the foundation of family and caregivers who:*

- 2A Provide safe and loving home environments in which children can grow and develop optimally.
- 2B Ensure that their children's pediatric health and dental needs are regularly addressed.
- 2C Create "language rich" homes in which conversation and written literacy are modeled daily.
- 2D Ensure that their young children receive adequate rest and a healthy diet.
- 2E Expose young children to regular and varied learning experiences in and out of the home.

## 3 Ready Schools and Educators

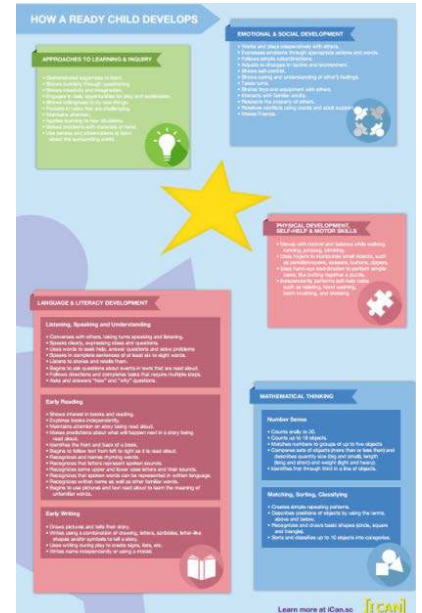
*Schools and educators for the Ready Kindergartner:*

- 3A Understand that each child develops on a unique timeline.
- 3B Are prepared to meet the unique, individual needs of all students.
- 3C Are highly knowledgeable in both child development and the progression of early learning.
- 3D Provide the social, emotional and academic supports needed to advance their students abilities.
- 3E Create emotionally safe and nurturing environments that are free of stress.
- 3F Are equipped to support the needs of their students' parents and caregivers.

## 4 Ready Communities

*Communities that support the Ready Kindergartner:*

- 4A Provide access to the resources necessary to ensure good health and optimal physical, social/emotional and cognitive development.
- 4B Create environments in which children:
  - o Can grow and develop in the absence of fear, stress, danger and hunger.
  - o Have access to needed pediatric, dental and mental health resources.
  - o Spend their days in nurturing, language-rich, and developmentally supportive environments (whether a loving home, a high-quality early education setting or both).
  - o Are cared for by loving adults attentive to their physical, emotional and developmental needs.



Profile of the Ready Kindergartner brochure

Profile of the Ready Kindergartner brochures are available from each local First Steps office.

Profile of the Ready Kindergartner resources: <http://www.ican.sc/>

### South Carolina's Definition of School Readiness (Section 59-152-25 (G))

"School readiness' means the level of child development necessary to ensure early school success as measured in the following domains: physical health and motor skills; emotional and social competence; language and literacy development; and mathematical thinking and cognitive skills. School readiness is supported by the knowledge and practices of families, caregivers, healthcare providers, educators, and communities."



To Whom It May Concern:

Lancaster County First Steps is the leader in the strategic planning process for Early Education Initiatives for our county. Over the last year partners have been meeting to strategically plan the next steps. A Community Needs and Resource Assessment was completed with over 2000 surveys being completed by parents, child care workers, and community partners. This Assessment as well as the County Profile Data and Promise Neighborhood Data has helped shape the LCFS Comprehensive Plan.

In February 2018 the LCFS Board had a retreat where the data was presented to the Board of Director's. During that retreat the information was analyzed and discussed with priorities given to five areas of development over the next three years; Increasing efforts of working with county wide partners to strengthen the early education initiatives, Integrating school readiness information within all LC partners, Increasing revenue to build a sustainable and diversified funding stream, Increasing community awareness and support of LCFS programs and services, and improving the capacity of the staff, board, and partners to carry out the mission, deliver and support evidence programs.

Lancaster County First Steps makes up a group of committed Board of Directors that works closely with collaborating partners and volunteers that are dedicated to always putting the children in Lancaster County first.

The Lancaster County First Steps 2020 Strategic Plan was approved by the Executive Board of Director's on March 12, 2018.

Respectfully,

*Lora P Bryson*

Lora P Bryson  
Executive Director

*Dr. Paul N McKenzie*

Dr. Paul N McKenzie  
Chairman

## Vision, Mission, and Values

Source: *Guiding Principles and Best Practices for South Carolina Nonprofits, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition* (TogetherSC, 2017)  
<http://www.togethersc.org/?page=GPBP>

In order to engage in strategic thinking that steers the organization in a **mission-focused direction**, the local partnership board must clearly define its mission, vision and values and use these statements to guide planning and action.

Mission and vision statements capture the essence of your organization's beliefs and values, and define its place in the world. A **vision statement** explains the overall goal of your organization looking into the future, while the **mission statement** outlines the present plan to realize the vision.

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### VISION

Communicates the desired future we seek for the community we serve.

**SC First Steps Vision 2020 Vision Statement**

Every South Carolina child will be prepared for success in school.

- The partnership board adopts the following vision statement for its 2018-2020 Strategic Plan:

**Lancaster County First Steps Vision Statement**

Every Lancaster County child will enter school ready to succeed.

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### MISSION

Describes the purpose that guides everything we do.

**SC First Steps Vision 2020 Mission Statement**

Collaborating with other entities, First Steps helps South Carolina families and caregivers prepare their children for school success by maximizing public and private community resources to deliver, enhance and expand high-quality early childhood services.

- The partnership board adopts the following mission statement for its 2018-2020 Strategic Plan:

**Lancaster County First Steps Mission Statement**

Collaborating with other entities, Lancaster County First Steps helps Lancaster County families and caregivers prepare their children for school success by maximizing public and private community resources to deliver, enhance and expand high-quality early childhood services.

## VALUES

Core values and beliefs reflect how our people – and the organization itself – behaves.

### Lancaster County First Steps Vision 2020 Core Values

The years of early childhood are a critical window of development during which much of human potential is shaped.

Families are the single most important influence on the development of their young children.

The work of supporting families and caregivers is a collaborative effort between state and local stakeholders within the public, private and faith sectors.

School readiness is the result of a child's development in many areas, with each contributing to the child's success.

Services must be individualized and adaptable to meet the unique needs of children and families.

We value, and demonstrate in our collaborative work and advocacy, diverse perspectives in the development of public policy and programs.

To achieve desired results, services must be high-quality and grounded in strong evidence. First Steps operates within a culture of accountability.

- The partnership board adopts the SC First Steps Vision 2020 core values for its 2018-2020 Strategic Plan

## STRATEGIC GOALS

Strategic goals set the direction for how the organization intends to implement its mission and address the needs of its focus population(s) for the duration of the plan.

#	<b>Lancaster County First Steps Strategic Goals, 2018-2020</b>	<b>FS Legislative Goal(s) Addressed</b> (abbreviate as Goal 1, 2, etc.)	<b>Profile of the Ready Kindergartner Benchmark(s) Addressed</b> (abbreviate as 1A, 2B, etc.)
1	Increase efforts of working with county wide partners to strengthen the early education initiatives in Lancaster County.	Goal 5	Benchmark 1-4
2	Integrate school readiness information within all Lancaster County partners	Goal 5	Benchmark 4A, 4B
3	Improve the capacity of the staff, board, and partners to carry out the mission, deliver and support evidence based programs.	Goal 1-5	All
4	Increase revenue to build a sustainable and diversified funding stream	Goal 1-5	4A
5	Increase community awareness and support of LCFS programs and services	Goal 4, 5	3B, 4A, 4B

## Lancaster County First Steps Partnership

# 2018-2020 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Organized by the partnership’s current and proposed programs and services, as well as the core functions common to all First Steps partnerships (serving as a local portal connecting families of preschool children to services; serving as a community convener in support of the needs of preschool children and their families; and supporting state readiness priorities).

<b>Local Portal</b>			
Lancaster County First Steps will connect families of preschool children to services designed to strengthen families and promote optimal child development (State Priority: Core Function).			
<b>Objective</b>	<b>In Support of Partnership Strategic Goal(s)</b> (abbreviate as 1, 2, etc.)	<b>Success Metrics</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
Each objective addresses one or more priorities of the SC First Steps Strategic Plan, <i>Vision 2020</i> : 1) Increase access; 2) Build capacity; 3) Strengthen interagency accountability & collaboration		Evidence for demonstrating progress, or achievement, of this objective (assessments, surveys, evaluations, focus groups, or other documentation)	Major activities to be initiated in support of the objective (to be operationalized by staff and partners)
LCFS will lead the Early Education Initiative for Promise Neighborhood Project	1-5	<p>Additional funding to focus on the Clinton Attendance zone</p> <p>Apply and receive the Promise Neighborhood grant</p> <p>Create focus groups in this attendance zone</p> <p>Survey 2000 families with needs survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Meet monthly and engage local partners to identify evidence programs to address the needs of this at-risk population</li> <li>▪ Apply for EHS Expansion funds to serve this population</li> </ul>
Increase awareness of “School Readiness” in all LC partners	2	The number of partners receiving “School Readiness” materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue to share School Readiness materials to all community partners</li> <li>▪ Assure that all agencies have School Readiness materials available</li> <li>▪ Provide materials to Pediatrician offices, local realtors (welcome to Lancaster packets), churches, all schools</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Add School readiness materials to Community Outreach plan</li> <li>▪ Post additional information on social media</li> <li>▪ Train Board members to be Champions for Children</li> <li>▪ Continue to have an active role in the Chamber of Commerce Education Committee</li> <li>▪ Continue to present at local Rotary Clubs</li> </ul>
Further develop professional development for ED, staff, and Board members.	3	<p>Attendance at Professional Development opportunities. Sharing lessons learned with staff and Board</p> <p>Number of presentations by staff or board using the packaged information.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Yearly professional development plan for staff</li> <li>▪ Create and provide a packet of information on LCFS with the same message to be used by staff and board.</li> </ul>
Continue to apply for Federal, State, and local grants for Early Learning Initiatives – based on needs and resource assessment	4	<p>Number of grants applied</p> <p>Number of grants received</p> <p>Amount of funds received</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Research grants available and set up a schedule for applying</li> <li>▪ Continue to collaborate with other agencies and organizations in the community</li> </ul>
Increase community awareness activities based on level of exposure and audiences	5	<p>Number of activities planned</p> <p>Social media posts</p> <p>Number of households receiving LCFS materials delivered through partner providers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Contract with Community Engagement Consultant</li> <li>▪ Create a more aggressive Community Engagement plan</li> <li>▪ Involve the Board in more community wide events</li> </ul>



## Community Education and Outreach

Lancaster County First Steps will increase understanding in the community of school readiness domains and assessment, and “what works” to help young children succeed, and will make information easily accessible in all communities and for all families. (State Priority: SCFS Strategic Plan)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Each objective addresses one or more priorities of the SC First Steps Strategic Plan, <i>Vision 2020</i>: 1) Increase access; 2) Build capacity; 3) Strengthen interagency accountability &amp; collaboration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Support of Partnership Strategic Goal(s)</b> (abbreviate as 1, 2, etc.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Success Metrics</b></p> <p>Evidence for demonstrating progress, or achievement, of this objective (assessments, surveys, evaluations, focus groups, or other documentation)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Action Items</b></p> <p>Major activities to be initiated in support of the objective (to be operationalized by staff and partners)</p>
<p>Increase the number of “Champions” for children to share the value of early education and FS programs</p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 5</p>	<p>Number of additional partnerships developed Numbers of parents being reached by partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Host another business early education investment summit</li> <li>▪ Convene business groups in “lunch and learn” sessions</li> <li>▪ Increase the amount of Ready Kindergarten materials distributed</li> </ul>
<p>Strengthen community-wide collaborations to increase understanding of school readiness domains</p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 5</p>	<p>10,000 households will receive school readiness messaging delivered through partner providers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Create, print and distribute school readiness materials</li> <li>▪ Enhance web page to include more information on school readiness.</li> </ul>
<p>Increase access to evidence based early education programs</p>	<p>1-5</p>	<p>150 participants in evidence based early education programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Apply for and receive the EHS Expansion funds to provide additional spaces for families to participate.</li> <li>▪ Add additional evidence based programs</li> </ul>
<p>Increase the number of families served per year to 200 by the end of 2020.</p>	<p>1,3,5</p>	<p>Number of families served Number of materials distributed Number attending Lunch and Learn Number of social media postings Evaluation of community engagement consultant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hire a more energetic community engagement consultant</li> <li>▪ Schedule at least 2 postings on social media per week</li> <li>▪ Plan “Lunch and Learn” events with local businesses</li> <li>▪ Plan activities with local University, Children’s Theatre, etc. – twice a year</li> <li>▪ Schedule Rotary presentations (3 a year)</li> <li>▪ Print materials for presentations – profile of ready K, etc.</li> <li>▪ Schedule presentations at DSS, DHEC, BabyNet,</li> </ul>

			etc ▪ Participate in local fairs and activities
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## Mobilizing Communities on Providing Enhanced Services to Support Families and their Young Children

Lancaster County First Steps will serve as a community convener to address the needs of preschool children in the community, in support of state readiness priorities (State Priority: Core Function).

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<p>Partnership will continue to collaborate with other local agencies and organizations to secure grants and to address specific needs</p>	<p>1, 4</p>	<p>Number of grant applications Number of grants awarded Number of collaborations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chair the Promise Neighborhood Early Education Initiative</li> <li>▪ Serve on the Chamber of Commerce Education Committee</li> <li>▪ Lead the Early Identification and Referral Committee</li> <li>▪ Lead the SC Rural Health – Blueprint for Lancaster Initiative</li> </ul>
<p>Increase outreach efforts</p>	<p>1,2,3,5</p>	<p>Number of outreach efforts Number of collaborative initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase participation in county wide events</li> <li>▪ Increase educational programs offered in the community</li> <li>▪ Increase number of “Lunch and Learn” programs offered</li> <li>▪ Plan “Week of the Young Child” activities</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪</li> </ul>

## Incredible Years

**Description:** The IY is a series of 8 week , evidence-based group sessions for parents, supported by research. The goal is to prevent and treat young children’s behavior problems and promote their social, emotional and academic competence

**Integration:** This strategy is in-house and is integrated with our Weekend Backpack, Early Identification and Referral, and Dolly Parton Imagination Library program

**Collaboration:** Child Care Centers, Churches, Schools, Early Head Start and Head Start

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Each objective addresses one or more priorities of the SC First Steps Strategic Plan, <i>Vision 2020</i>: 1) Increase access; 2) Build capacity; 3) Strengthen interagency accountability &amp; collaboration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Support of Partnership Strategic Goal(s)</b> (abbreviate as 1, 2, etc.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Success Metrics</b></p> <p>Evidence for demonstrating progress, or achievement, of this objective (assessments, surveys, evaluations, focus groups, or other documentation)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Action Items</b></p> <p>Major activities to be initiated in support of the objective (to be operationalized by staff and partners)</p>
<p>Increase the number of families with risk factors. (Pregnant teens, domestic violence, etc.)</p>	<p>1,2,3, 5</p>	<p>Number enrolled Attendance Number of group meetings Pre-post surveys Satisfaction surveys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Secure additional child care centers to participate</li> <li>▪ Contact other local churches to offer this program</li> <li>▪ Enhance LCFS referral network</li> </ul>
<p>Remove barriers to family participation and retention</p>	<p>1,3,5</p>	<p>Number enrolled and retained</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide child care for parents attending sessions</li> <li>▪ Provide greater incentives</li> <li>▪ Ask the location (child care center, schools etc. to provide the invitations)</li> </ul>

## Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

**Description:** The Dolly Parton Imagination Library program provides parents with access to reading materials for their children's home libraries and promotes the literacy development of their preschool children.

**Integration:** All families participating in EHS-CC, Weekend Backpack, Incredible Years, CTK are encouraged to participate.

**Collaboration:** LC School District, Businesses (funds), Head Start, United Way, Literacy Council, Partners for Youth, Prevention Coalition

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Each objective addresses one or more priorities of the SC First Steps Strategic Plan, <i>Vision 2020</i>: 1) Increase access; 2) Build capacity; 3) Strengthen interagency accountability &amp; collaboration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Support of Partnership Strategic Goal(s)</b> (abbreviate as 1, 2, etc.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Success Metrics</b></p> <p>Evidence for demonstrating progress, or achievement, of this objective (assessments, surveys, evaluations, focus groups, or other documentation)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Action Items</b></p> <p>Major activities to be initiated in support of the objective (to be operationalized by staff and partners)</p>
<p>Increase the number of children served per year by 100 by the end of 2020.</p>	<p>1, 3, 4, 5</p>	<p>Data system tracking of numbers served Surveys on satisfaction, increase in reading to children etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementing the Resource Development Plan</li> <li>▪ Training provided to Board Members on fundraising</li> <li>▪ Board members providing individual support</li> </ul>

## Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership

**Description:** Early Head Start provides comprehensive services to 72 children and families for children 0-3 years of age. Comprehensive services include full day, full year child care, disabilities, health, dental, nutrition, mental health, family services, home visiting, community engagement, etc. The services are provided through our local child care providers.

**Integration:** Children are enrolled into Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Evaluated through the Early Identification and Referral, participate in parenting and use the Parent Resource Center

**Collaboration:** DSS, DHEC, United Way, Carolina Community Action, BabyNet, ABC Voucher Program, Pediatricians, School District, Child Care Centers, Disabilities, Mental Health

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Each objective addresses one or more priorities of the SC First Steps Strategic Plan, <i>Vision 2020</i>: 1) Increase access; 2) Build capacity; 3) Strengthen interagency accountability &amp; collaboration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Support of Partnership Strategic Goal(s)</b> (abbreviate as 1, 2, etc.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Success Metrics</b></p> <p>Evidence for demonstrating progress, or achievement, of this objective (assessments, surveys, evaluations, focus groups, or other documentation)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Action Items</b></p> <p>Major activities to be initiated in support of the objective (to be operationalized by staff and partners)</p>
<p>Increase the number of the number of children by 72 and the number served per year to 144 by the end of 2020. At least 100% of clients served will participate in the program for at least 12 months. Usually 3 years.</p>	<p>1,2,4,5</p>	<p>Number of children being served increased Amount of time each child is served</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Apply for EHS Expansion Grant offered in August 2018</li> </ul>

## Countdown to Kindergarten

**Description:** This strategy provides education to the parents regarding the Kindergarten learning standards. For rising Kindergarten students it involves five in-home visits and one visit in the child’s classroom using the evidence based CTK curriculum. Children receive a book bag and many resources for the start of school. Certified K Teachers implement this program.

**Integration:** Weekend Backpack program, parenting, and families are informed of all LCFS programs

**Collaboration:** LC United Way, The Springs Close Foundation, EOC, School District

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Each objective addresses one or more priorities of the SC First Steps Strategic Plan, <i>Vision 2020</i>: 1) Increase access; 2) Build capacity; 3) Strengthen interagency accountability &amp; collaboration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Support of Partnership Strategic Goal(s)</b> (abbreviate as 1, 2, etc.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Success Metrics</b></p> <p>Evidence for demonstrating progress, or achievement, of this objective (assessments, surveys, evaluations, focus groups, or other documentation)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Action Items</b></p> <p>Major activities to be initiated in support of the objective (to be operationalized by staff and partners)</p>
<p>Increase the number of children served per year to 125 by the end of 2020. At least 100% of clients served will participate in the program for at least all six sessions of the curriculum</p>	<p>1-5</p>	<p>Number served Number completed six sessions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Apply for additional funding to implement the CTK program</li> <li>▪ Seek funding from the local school district to fund the program</li> </ul>

## Weekend Backpack Feeding Program

**Description:** Weekend Backpack Feeding Program is a weekend nutrition program that provides nutritious, easy to prepare food for 425 students at Clinton Elementary and Brooklyn Springs Elementary (4-K, K, and special needs children). Each week during the school year, volunteers in collaboration with Second Harvest Food Bank, unload the backpacks, insert educational materials and distribute them to the classrooms for the children to take home over the weekend.

**Integration:** Incredible Years, Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, CTK, Parent Resource Center

**Collaboration:** Schools, Volunteers, Second Harvest Food Bank, The Springs Close Foundation

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Each objective addresses one or more priorities of the SC First Steps Strategic Plan, <i>Vision 2020</i>: 1) Increase access; 2) Build capacity; 3) Strengthen interagency accountability &amp; collaboration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Support of Partnership Strategic Goal(s)</b> (abbreviate as 1, 2, etc.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Success Metrics</b></p> <p>Evidence for demonstrating progress, or achievement, of this objective (assessments, surveys, evaluations, focus groups, or other documentation)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Action Items</b></p> <p>Major activities to be initiated in support of the objective (to be operationalized by staff and partners)</p>
<p>Increase the number of children served per year by 25 by the end of 2020. At least 90% of clients served will participate during the enrolled school year</p>	<p>1,2,4,5</p>	<p>Number of children served Parent surveys and focus groups Number of education materials shared in backpacks</p>	<p>Work with Schools to determine children’s needs Develop collaborating partners for the materials and information Consult with Second Harvest Food Bank – which serve other backpack programs Create developmentally appropriate materials and information for distribution</p>



## Early Identification and Referral

**Description:** The Early Identification and Referral Initiative serves as a community liaison between Lancaster County First Steps, BabyNet, local families and various community resources. All parents are encouraged to utilize this service should their child display potential developmental delays. Lancaster County manages the success of EI&R in four areas: 1) Public Awareness 2) Screenings 3) Community Referral Partnerships 4) Follow-up

**Integration:** EHS-CC, Parenting, Community Awareness

**Collaboration:** BabyNet, Disabilities board, School District, Pediatricians, The Children’s Council, Hospital, DSS, DHEC, Child Care Centers

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Each objective addresses one or more priorities of the SC First Steps Strategic Plan, <i>Vision 2020</i>: 1) Increase access; 2) Build capacity; 3) Strengthen interagency accountability &amp; collaboration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Support of Partnership Strategic Goal(s)</b> (abbreviate as 1, 2, etc.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Success Metrics</b></p> <p>Evidence for demonstrating progress, or achievement, of this objective (assessments, surveys, evaluations, focus groups, or other documentation)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Action Items</b></p> <p>Major activities to be initiated in support of the objective (to be operationalized by staff and partners)</p>
<p>Increase the number of children served per year by 10 by the end of 2020. At least 100% of clients served will participate in the program until assessed and referred to another agency if needed.</p>	<p>1,2,3,5</p>	<p>Number of clients served Number of referrals to other agencies Number of children receiving BabyNet services</p>	<p>Community Awareness activities Reminders to collaborating partners to refer families to LCFS for screenings</p>
<p>Strengthen interagency accountability and collaboration with the Early Identification and Referral Task Force</p>	<p>1,2,3,5</p>	<p>Number of agencies attending the Early Identification and Referral Task Force meetings on a quarterly basis Number of referrals Number of ASQ, ASQ-SE</p>	<p>Create a community wide event to share information about the early identification initiative Present to all Elementary Education Principals about the initiative and provide referral information Update on an annual basis the Resource and referral guide</p>