

SPARTANBURG COUNTY



Early Head Start

Quality Counts

Nurse Family Partnership

The Franklin School



ANNUAL REPORT

2017-2018



VISION:
*Every child in
Spartanburg County
will enter school ready
for success.*

Spartanburg County First Steps
900 South Pine Street, Spartanburg S.C. 29302
864-327-4900
www.1steps.org
Sarah Love, Board Chair
Barbara Manoski, Executive Director



Executive Director's Message

Annual Report 2017-2018

By the Numbers

Indicator	SC	Spartanburg County
Children Under 5	293,653	18,539
Children in Poverty	249,108	24.3%
3 rd Graders Below Standard in Reading	21.1%	20.4%
Birth to mothers with less than a highschool diploma.	14.2%	15.2%

County Statistics

First Steps serves children pre-birth to 5 years old who are at risk of not being ready for school.

- ✚ Since inception, Spartanburg County First Steps has leveraged \$38,032,584 from sources outside of state government. That's \$2.67 for every state dollar received.
- ✚ Quality Counts continues to grow and expand, serving 36 child development centers and 16 classrooms of public school 4K.
- ✚ First Steps successfully managed the EHS and CCP grants at full enrollment in the 2016-2017 program year.
- ✚ Since 2009, over 500 Spartanburg County vulnerable first-time mothers and their babies received services from Nurse Family Partnership.

MISSION

Spartanburg County First Steps will be the engine to drive collaboration, partnership, effective resource utilization and funding to prepare children to be ready for school.

Community Partners are Essential

It is both an honor and a privilege to assume the role of Executive Director for Spartanburg County First Steps (SCFS). As most of you may know, Carolyn Brooks retired from this position on June 30 after faithfully serving First Steps in many capacities since its inception. During this time, the staff grew from two to 44 and the leveraged funds increased to over 500%. Perhaps the most remarkable statistic is that today more than 2500 children, birth to age 4, benefit each week in Spartanburg County from the high-quality, evidenced-based programs supported by Spartanburg County First Steps. These programs include Early Head Start, Quality Counts, Nurse-Family Partnership, and The Franklin School. We are grateful to Carolyn for her vision and leadership that along with our board and staff helped to build a strong commitment to early childhood development in Spartanburg County.

Our efforts continue to stay focused on meeting the needs of the young children and their families in our community. At SCFS we do not work in a silo, our community partners are essential to creating positive change. We share the belief that tomorrow's healthy, prosperous community begins with leveling the playing field for both opportunity and achievement for our youngest citizens, especially those living in poverty. This year we have added two new initiatives to help to support this belief, **Spartanburg Basics** and **The Franklin School**. The Basics are 5 simple things parents can do to help get their children ready for school and The Franklin School is a community collaborative model child development center located in the Northside of Spartanburg. We invite you to read our Annual report to learn more about both.

As I begin my first year as Executive Director, I am full of hope for the future and the possibilities of all that lies ahead. We know our work is not finished until **all** young children have equal opportunities to succeed.

Barbara Manoski, M. Ed.
Executive Director



Healthy Start



Family Strengthening



Early Intervention



Quality Child Care



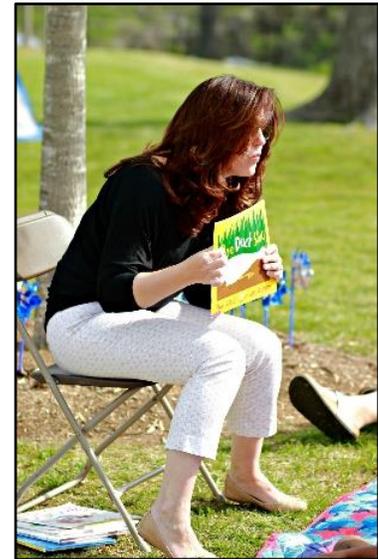
Early Education



School Transition

First Steps Partnership Board

Spartanburg County First Steps Board of Directors are engaged representatives of our community. Our board members faithfully participate board training and volunteer their time to support the First Steps mission. Most recently, Sarah Love, SCFS Board chair and Barbara Manoski, newly appointed ED, participated in a Board Leadership Development series entitled *Board Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion* presented by A. Stan Davis and sponsored by the Mary Black Foundation. The training, five sessions over three months, offered deep-dive discussions into these issues. Sarah Love offered this summary of the experience, “The training allowed us recognize strengths in our board and identify areas for potential growth. More than anything, the training solidified our belief that by engaging partners and embracing the diversity of our families, we can affect positive change in our community and see children arrive at school ready to learn.”



in
to

2017-2018 Spartanburg County First Steps Partnership Board

Name	Position	Board Category
Krishenda Alexander	Spartanburg County School District Six	School District Representative
Kim Ashby	Spartanburg County School District Two	School District Representative
Terrill Banks	Former Early Head Start Parent	Parent
Tamara Cook	USC Upstate Nursing Professor (Mary Black Hospital)	Healthcare Provider
Payton David	DHEC	State Agency Representative
Loreta Dylgieri	SC School for the Deaf and Blind	Early Education Apointee
Wanda Fowler	Middle Tyger Community Center, ED. Retired	School District Representative
Carolyn Gibson	Legislative Apointee	State Apointee
Kimberly Gist	Department of Social Services	State Agency Representative
Amy Goulding	Attorney – 7 th Circuit Solicitor’s Office	Attorney
Ava Hughes	Arts Education Director/Chapman Cultural Center	Business (Non-Profit)
Dr. Susan Little	Spartanburg County School District Three	School District Representative
Sarah Love	SC Virtual Charter School	Early Childhood Representative
Kim McAbee	Spartanburg County School District Four	School District Representative
Leverne McBeth	Spartanburg County Library	Library Services
Bob Page	Retired Principal	Early Childhood Representative
Dr. Terry Pruitt	Spartanburg County School District Six	School District Representative
Anna Strom, CPA	McAbee, Talbot, Halliday (CPA)	Fiscal – Required by EHS



FS Board Chair, Sarah Love, and members Dr. Terry Pruitt, and Carolyn Gibson, read to children.

We work to get children ready

THE NEED

School readiness **depends on the capacity of caregivers** to provide children with consistent, nurturing, and responsive relationships in safe, stimulating learning environments, **continuously**, starting at birth. Unfortunately, these quality early childhood experiences happen for too few children in Spartanburg County.

How Are Spartanburg County's Children Doing?		What early learning programs are available for children in our county? Last year:		Where can families access child care in our county?	
Children Under 5	18,539	Attended Early Head Start as Infants and Toddlers	300	Licensed child care centers	100
Children in Poverty	24.3%	Atended free preschool or Head Start as 3-year olds.	219	Licensed group family homes	32
Birth to Mothers with less than a HS diploma	15.2%	4-year-olds attended free full-day public school 4K or Head Start	1,152	Participate in the state's Quality Rating System (ABC Quality)	34%
3 rd Graders Below Standard in Reading	20.4%	0-5 year olds received early intervention or special ed.	17,143	Providers are rated B or higher by ABC Quality	32
Last year's kindergartners demonstrating readiness	35.6%	Were served by 	134	Families received assistance with affording child care last year.	1,214
Kids Count data provided by: 		Data provided by: 		 and 	

THE GOALS

Our partnership's work, in collaboration with state and local partners, is focused on advancing Spartanburg County towards these strategic goals in support of the **Profile of the Ready Kindergartner**, South Carolina's description of school readiness:

1. To successfully administer the Early Head Start programs to ensure best practice, quality and compliance with the Head Start Performance Standards
2. To successfully administer Quality Counts to ensure the improvement and sustainability of high quality learning environments in early care and education programs, and maintain fidelity to Quality Counts Standards
3. To provide families with opportunities to assess their child with the Ages and Stages Questionnaire- 3
4. To continue to expand and grow Quality Counts to include early care and education programs on the waiting list
5. To offer professional development on the Palmetto Basics to directors and teachers in early care and education programs to benefit caregivers and the families of the children in their care
6. To support Spartanburg County First Steps staff with opportunities to learn and engage from community partners and agencies to strengthen and support families

THE IMPACT

In 2017-18, Spartanburg County First Steps provided:

- ✓ **2602 children and 582 adults with intensive support** to equip parents and caregivers with the confidence and competence to be a child's first and best teacher, and strengthen their family's health, economic, and overall well-being
- ✓ **443 child care staff working in 42 child care providers** (this includes, private-for-profit, faith-based, chain, Early head Start, Head Start, and public school 4K) supported with training, technical assistance, resources, **helping them better meet the needs of children ages 0-5 in their care** (all 44 Quality Counts programs)
- ✓ **4058 books given to spark the love of reading for 2602 children**(all 42 Quality Counts programs)

- ✓ a total of **2602 children** and **1025 adults** were impacted by Spartanburg County First Steps programs, resources, activities and events.

Based on the needs assessment of our community, Spartanburg County First Steps focuses is investments in Quality Counts , Early Head Start, and The Franklin School.

School Readiness Outcomes

What is the KRA?

In 2017-18, kindergartners across the state were given for the first time South Carolina's newest assessment of school readiness: the **Kindergarten Readiness Assessment**, or KRA. The KRA provides a snapshot of students' abilities at the beginning of the school year, in four domains: Social Foundations, Language and Literacy, Mathematics, and Physical Development and Well-Being. Here are the results locally and for the state:

School District 1 (343 children)			
Domain	Emerging	Approaching	Demonstrating
Social Foundations	28%	27%	45%
Language&Literacy	28%	40%	33%
Mathematics	28%	37%	45%
Physical Dev&WB	29%	25%	46%
OVERALL	29%	25%	46%

School District 5 (623 children)			
Domain	Emerging	Approaching	Demonstrating
Social Foundations	25%	25%	50%
Language&Literacy	21%	47%	32%
Mathematics	2%	40%	33%
Physical Dev&WB	31%	26%	44%
OVERALL	24%	38%	39%

School District 2 (726 children)			
Domain	Emerging	Approaching	Demonstrating
Social Foundations	23%	24%	53%
Language&Literacy	23%	45%	31%
Mathematics	30%	42%	28%
Physical Dev&WB	22%	20%	57%
OVERALL	23%	41%	36%

School District 6 (764 children)			
Domain	Emerging	Approaching	Demonstrating
Social Foundations	26%	27%	47%
Language&Literacy	27%	41%	32%
Mathematics	34%	34%	32%
Physical Dev&WB	22%	22%	56%
OVERALL	28%	36%	36%

School District 3 (220 children)			
Domain	Emerging	Approaching	Demonstrating
Social Foundations	38%	33%	29%
Language&Literacy	27%	48%	25%
Mathematics	44%	42%	15%
Physical Dev&WB	32%	36%	32%
OVERALL	34%	46%	20%

School District 7 (#579 children)			
Domain	Emerging	Approaching	Demonstrating
Social Foundations	38%	27%	35%
Language&Literacy	29%	39%	33%
Mathematics	36%	34%	29%
Physical Dev&WB	30%	27%	44%
OVERALL	34%	33%	33%

School District 4 (183 children)			
Domain	Emerging	Approaching	Demonstrating
Social Foundations	27%	26%	46%
Language&Literacy	19%	40%	42%
Mathematics	33%	40%	27%
Physical Dev&WB	18%	27%	55%
OVERALL	22%	40%	39%

SOUTH CAROLINA (54,927 children)			
Domain	Emerging	Approaching	Demonstrating
Social Foundations	28%	27%	45%
Language&Literacy	23%	43%	34%
Mathematics	31%	38%	31%
Physical Dev&WB	28%	24%	48%
OVERALL	26%	38%	36%

Data Informed Strategies Supporting Kindergarten Readiness

Spartanburg County First Steps values data as a means to determine strategies and programs that support healthy brain development in children birth to 5. The data sources include the results of the following research-based assessments: Environment Rating Scales, the Classroom Assessment Scoring System, GOLD assessment, and the Ages and Stages Questionnaire-3. Other sources of data include those recognized by our state, KRA and PALS, and the EDI data, collected last year by Spartanburg Academic Movement.





Early Head Start



Program Description

Early Head Start provides high quality, culturally sensitive child development and parent support in homes and centers.



South Carolina First Steps to Spartanburg County Early Head Start promotes school readiness by:

- Conducting Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment checkpoints three times a year on children!
- Facilitating parent engagement in their children's learning experiences!
- Promptly referring children with an identified developmental concern to Baby Net
- Facilitating the receipt of monthly Imagination Library books to every EHS family's home
- Collaborating with PCA Head Start and local school districts to ensure children's successful transitions to their next learning environment!

- All parents, who identified themselves as smokers, participated in a Smoking Cessation survey and received information on cessation.
- All parents who reported a weight concern participated in a weight management class.

School Readiness

- ✓ Is interwoven throughout all EHS services
- ✓ Parents read to their children in the home environment a total of 829 hours!

FS EHS by the Number\$

Early Head Start		
Funding Source	FY1617	FY1718
State Funding	\$ -	\$ 52,040
<i>South Carolina First Steps</i>	\$ -	\$ 52,040
Federal Funding	\$ 1,529,127	\$ 1,565,183
<i>Early Head Start</i>	\$ 1,493,216	\$ 1,507,795
*CACFP	\$ 35,911	\$ 34,409
*ABC	\$ -	\$ 22,979
Private Funding	\$ 2,616	\$ 1,430
<i>Parent Co-Pays</i>	\$ 2,616	\$ 1,430
Total:	\$ 1,531,743	\$ 1,618,653

*CACFP - Child and Adult Care Food Program
*ABC - ABC Childcare Program

<i>FS EHS Enrollment and Attendance</i>	EHS	CCP
<i>Funded Enrollment-</i>	120	80
<i>Average Monthly Enrollment</i>	120	80
<i>Number of Children Served</i>	207	149
<i>Number of Families Served</i>	164	127
<i>Percentage of Eligible Children Served</i>	100%	100%
<i>Percentage of Attendance for the Year</i>	80%	80%
<i>Number of Pregnant Women Served</i>	18	n/a
<i>Number of Children & Families on Waitlist</i>	49	14 (24%)
<i>Children Served With Medical Home</i>	129 (88%)	166 (100%)
<i>Children with Health Insurance</i>	138 (93%)	195 (94%)
<i>Children with Dental Home</i>	98(67%)	130 (65%)
<i>Pregnant Women Who Received Dental Services</i>	n/a	0
<i>Children Up to Date on Immunizations</i>	132 (90%)	166 (80%)
<i>Pregnant Women Rec'd Post-Natal EHS Visit within 14 Days</i>	n/a	100%
<i>Health Services Advisory Meetings</i>	2	2

Phone- 864-327-4900
www.1steps.org

Child Care Partnership		
Funding Source	FY1617	FY1718
State Funding	\$ -	\$ 52,040
<i>South Carolina First Steps</i>	\$ -	\$ 52,040
Federal Funding	\$ 1,196,552	\$ 1,224,213
<i>Child Care Partnership</i>	\$ 1,148,539	\$ 1,169,545
*CACFP	\$ 26,202	\$ 26,244
*ABC	\$ 21,811	\$ 28,424
Private Funding	\$ 10,031	\$ 7,615
<i>Parent Co-Pays</i>	\$ 10,031	\$ 7,615
Total:	\$ 1,206,583	\$ 1,283,868

*CACFP - Child and Adult Care Food Program
*ABC - ABC Childcare Program

Evidence of Effectiveness:

Our partnership's Early Head Start program meets the First Steps legislation's definition of an **evidence-based** program.

Early Head Start



First Steps successfully managed two Early Head Start programs in the 2016-2017 program year. The following Childcare Partnerships participate in the programs:

- **Traditional EHS:** SCSDB – Kelly’s Kids, Woodruff Primary, Kings and Queens, Roy C. Henderson and the Early Learning Center.
- **Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (CCP):** The Sunshine House, Early Learning Center, Mother Goose and Abundant Blessings

Early Head Start Federal Review & Audit Results

Results Audit
The A133 Single Audit of 2016-2017 was completed with no material findings and was filed with the Federal Clearinghouse in March 2018.

Results Federal Review
The triennial review was held December 18 – 22, 2017. South Carolina First Steps to Spartanburg County was found to have met the requirements of all applicable Head Start Program Performance Standards, laws, regulations, and policy requirements.

***Deficiency Corrective Action Plan**
The EHS-CCP received a deficiency due to a child abuse incident that occurred at a partner center’s Early Head Start classroom. All reporting and response policies were followed including termination of the employee and reporting to the Office of Head Start. However, a deficiency occurred due to violation of the safe learning environment standard (P.S. 1302.90 ©(1)(ii)(A)). All items of the Deficiency Corrective Action Plan have been completed. The deficiency is not a part of the triennial Federal Review.



- 187 children received Imagination Library Books
- 157 parents experienced an employment gain
- 83 parents experienced an educational gain

By the Numbers

EHS and CCP Families participated in 1722 home visits.

Curriculum Fidelity & Coaching were initiated this year.

28,788 CACFP meals were served to traditional **EHS** children in 2017-18
36,542 CACFP meals were served to **EHS-CCP** children in 2017-18.

Community Referrals!!

- ✓ **EHS received 631**
- ✓ **CCP received 115**

Staff provided support and follow-up regarding family's receipt and satisfaction with referral services.

Socialization Activities

- **EHS:** 65 parents & children attended 25 events in the library, park or an apple farm!

Parent Engagement Activities
Families received training and education throughout the year on topics mandated by EHS and based upon community needs.

- **EHS Families: 7, 367** parent engagement events
- **CCP Families: 4,140** parent engagement events
- **167 families participated in a financial literacy activity**

Training topics included: child health, mental health and nutrition, parenting, budgeting, family literacy, pedestrian safety and school readiness.

Quality Counts serves 36 child development programs in Spartanburg County. Through an Education Oversight Grant, Quality Counts has expanded to work with 16 4K classrooms in Spartanburg School Districts 3 and 7.

Quality Counts Program Information

What is Quality Counts?

Quality Counts is an evidence-based initiative that uses a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) framework to improve quality in early care and education programs. Beginning as a pilot in January 2012, Quality Counts went to full implementation in July 2013. The strengths of the initiative are relationship-based coaching, diagnostic technical assistance, and SMART goal-oriented quality improvement plans that begin with a valid and reliable assessment. Other supports include professional development based on best practice and improvement grants to support quality goals.

Who is Participating?

Quality Counts is open to all early care and education centers who are licensed, registered, or approved by DSS. In Spartanburg County 36 centers are participating. In May 2016, Quality Counts began working with 3 4K classrooms in **Spartanburg School District 7**. After a successful year of coaching, modeling and providing professional development for the teaching staff, Quality Counts partnered with **Spartanburg School District 3** to add 6 more 4K classrooms. Now in the third year of the EOC grant, 16 4K classrooms in 6 elementary schools in Spartanburg School Districts 3 and 7 are participating. This partnership has continued to grow and offers children an opportunity to enter kindergarten better prepared for successful school transition.



Mary Black Foundation Key Partner

The Mary Black Foundation has been a key partner to Quality Counts since 2010. Not only does the Foundation provide grant funds but they also support First Steps with opportunities for board training and professional development for our staff. Thank you!

Quality Counts Teacher Education & Retention Awards

Building quality requires an educated staff and a staff that is consistent over time for the children and parents. With the support of **the Mary Black Foundation, Quality Counts was able to give \$20,000 in awards to 98 assistant teachers, lead teachers and directors for Early Childhood Education.** The awards were based on education levels and at least one year of service in the current child development center. The awards ranged from \$50.00 for an AA out of field to \$800.00 for a masters in early childhood. These awards were delivered to centers in November 2017.

Funding By the Numbers

Quality Counts		
Funding Source	FY1617	FY1718
State Funding	\$ 314,557	\$ 427,311
<i>South Carolina First Steps</i>	\$ 314,557	\$ 427,311
Federal Funding	\$ -	\$ -
Local Private	\$ 225,174	\$ 129,000
<i>Mary Black Foundation</i>	\$ 225,174	\$ 129,000
Total:	\$ 539,731	\$ 556,311

Evidence of Effectiveness:

Child Care Quality Enhancement meets the First Steps legislation's definition of an *evidence-based* program.



2018 Summer Slide Into Reading Program

The third year of the Summer Slide Into Reading program had 100% participation from programs operating during the summer months! More than 600 three and four year olds were given carefully chosen books and teachers were challenged to develop STEM and literacy activities based on the book. Quality Counts partnered with Scholastic to provide centers with books such as *Pete the Cat, Go Pete Go!* and *Worm Weather* to support early literacy. The



8 week program challenged centers and parents to read for 35 minutes a day, 175 minutes a week, reaching the goal of 1400 minutes during June and July. At the end of the challenge, all children received a book and classrooms meeting the goals received a “pizza and veggie” celebration. Quality Counts also provided books for the infant, toddler and two year old classrooms for teachers to read and plan activities for even the youngest of learners.

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Quality Counts by the Numbers

Participating child care centers and schools	42
Child care staff served	443
TA Visits	712
TA Hours	1,379
Children enrolled in QC classrooms	2,602

Spartanburg Academic Movement Leads ASQ-3 Project

In a project led by Spartanburg Academic Movement and StriveTogether, Quality Counts is partnering along with USC Upstate, the Mary Black Foundation, and Help Me Grow SC to increase the number of Ages and Stages Questionnaires being completed in Spartanburg County. The project is working with 12 centers to help educate parents on the importance of early screening, and with center led plans to increase the number of children being screened. **The goal is to have 100% parent participation screening their children 2 times per year. Over 750 children will be screened with this pilot.**



Jessica Flowers, Conscious Discipline trainer,
Cindy Rollins, Director of Kids First, and
Karen Connor, Director of Inman First Baptist CDC
at a recent training.

Spartanburg County First Steps

900 South Pine Street, Suite C | Spartanburg SC, 29302
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Early Learning Through Discovery

The Franklin School is a community collaborative where leading research & expertise on early education will be put into practice serving infants, toddlers and preschoolers from all socio-economic & cultural backgrounds.

This state-of-the-art facility will serve as a model for Spartanburg County & beyond, providing nurturing, well-qualified teachers who will facilitate our children's natural curiosity & desire for discovery, which is critical in preparing young minds for success in school & life.



Franklin School Partners

- Northside Development Corporation
- Piedmont Community Actions – Head Start (3K)
- Spartanburg County First Steps (Administrator/Operator)
- Spartanburg County First Steps – Early Head Start
- Spartanburg School District 7 (4K)
- University of South Carolina Upstate

Our Journey...

Several years ago, community leaders began a unique collaboration around the need for a state-of-the-art early care and education center in the Northside of Spartanburg, SC. The Mary Black Foundation provided a lead grand of 2.5 million for the construction of the facility that will support diversity, inclusion, an evidenced-based curriculum.

The Franklin School brings together private-pay child care and programs that support the cost of a high-quality learning environment designed to promote optimal brain development. Relationship-based teaching will guide young children through exploration and discovery, providing a strong foundation for all future learning.

What Makes the Franklin School Special?

- Staff dedicated to providing high-quality learning experiences
- 4:1 child to teacher ratio for children 6 weeks thru age 2
- State of the art building naturalized playgrounds

OPENING JANUARY 2019!

For More Information Contact:
Shawna Bynum, Director
864-327-4913, sybynum@1steps.org



NFP...Positively Transforming the Lives of Mothers and Babies.

Program Description

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP (NFP) IN OUR COMMUNITY

Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) is an evidence-based, community health program that helps transform the lives of vulnerable mothers pregnant with their first child. Each mother served by NFP is partnered with a registered nurse early in her pregnancy and receives ongoing nurse home visits that continue through her child's second birthday. Independent research proves that communities benefit from this relationship — **every dollar invested in NFP can yield more than five dollars in return.**

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP GOALS

1. Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women engage in good, preventive health practices, including thorough prenatal care from their healthcare providers, improving their diets, and reducing their use of cigarettes, alcohol and illegal substances
2. Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care
3. Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education and find work.

Nurse Family Partnership

Funding Source	FY1617	FY1718
State Funding	\$ -	\$ -
<i>South Carolina First Steps</i>	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Funding	\$ 269,488	\$ 457,258
<i>Children's Trust Fund of SC</i>	\$ 269,488	\$ 457,258
Local Private	\$ 24,012	\$ 16,536
<i>United Way of the Piedmont</i>	\$ 24,012	\$ 16,536
Total:	\$ 293,500	\$ 473,794

Risk Factor Profile:

% Single Mothers	89
% < HS Diploma	62

In Spartanburg County, Nurse-Family Partnership is implemented through Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, Women's and Children's Services and Spartanburg County First Steps serves as Fiscal Manager and hosts the Community Advisory Board.

Why NFP Works

NFP is supported by the most extensive research foundation of any maternal and child health program. Three randomized controlled trials in 1997, 1988 and 1994 - which are still being examined today for long-term impact – show consistently proven results in the areas of **improved prenatal health, fewer childhood injuries, fewer subsequent pregnancies, increased intervals between births, increased material employment, and improved school**

Program Results 2009-2018

Spartanburg County NFP by the Numbers

- 839 Clients served
- 615 Babies Born to Program
- 78% moms initiating breastfeeding.
- Premature Birth rate 10%
- 98% of children immunized
- 20% Subsequent pregnancies

Thank you to our Partners!

*DHEC Region 2
Spartanburg Regional Hospital Systems
United Way of the Piedmont
Congregational Nursing Program
Spartanburg Regional Women's and Children's Services
Spartanburg County First Steps
The Duke Endowment
Children's Trust of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services*



Evidence of Effectiveness:

Nurse-Family Partnership meets the First Steps legislation's definition of an *evidence-based* program.



Community Impact

Spartanburg Academic Movement (SAM) is powered by StriveTogether, a nationwide movement engaging nearly 70 partnerships employing a model of data driven, research-based action to improve educational outcomes, cradle to career. SAM invited SCFS to participate in the **Kindergarten Readiness Collaborative Action Network**. This group, representing school districts, universities, corporations, foundations, and non-profits worked together over the course of several years to strengthen existing programs and to fill gaps. Some of the results from this work included a **Summer Slide Reading Program** for children birth to 5 and most recently participation in a national project, **Prenatal to Age Three Impact and Improvement Network**. **Spartanburg County first Steps, Help Me Grow, the Mary Black Foundation, and USC Upstate** were selected as **partners for this 2 year project**. The goal of the project is to increase the number of children being screened with ASQ-3. Thank you SAM!

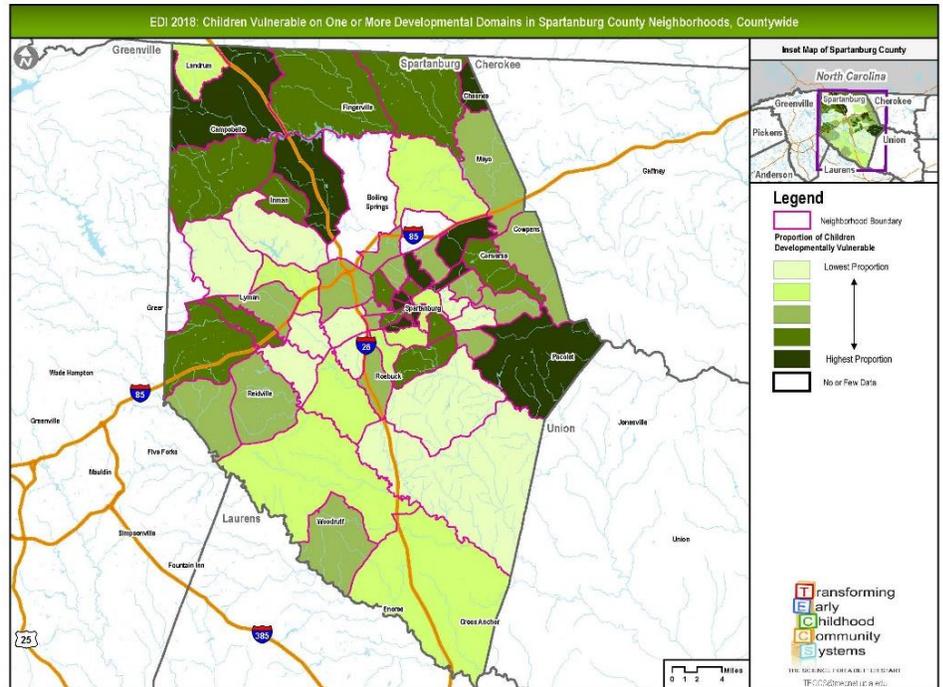
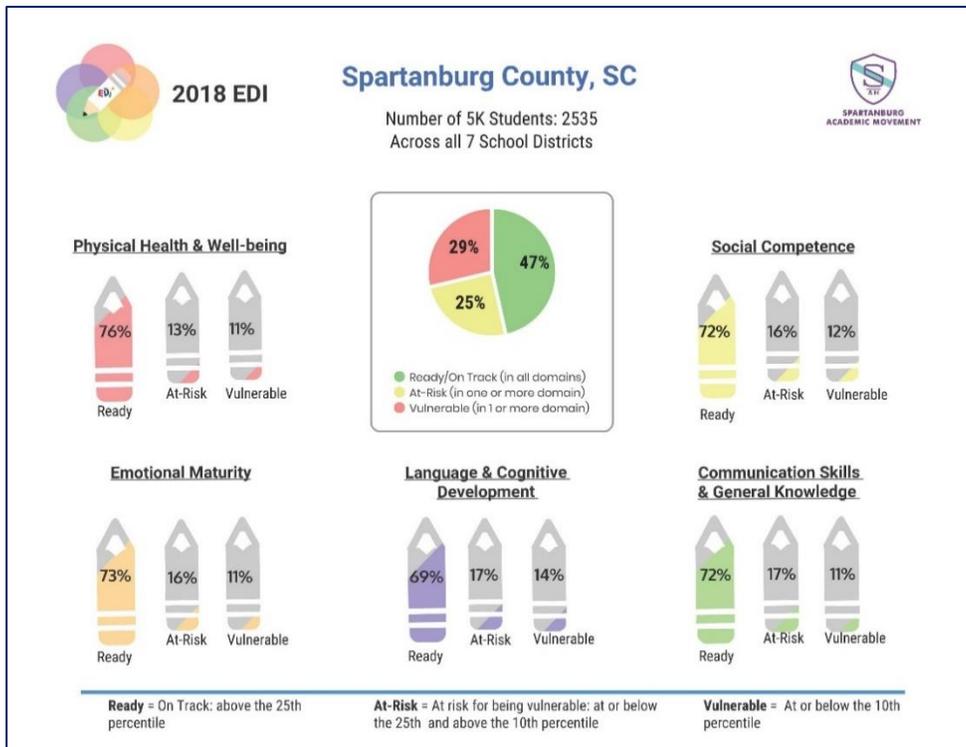


Figure 1 This is an example of EDI Data Mapping



What is the EDI?

The **Early Development Instrument (EDI)** is a population measure of child development and school readiness, which means that it collects information about kindergarten age children in participating geographic areas and creates an overall snapshot of their developmental progress. The EDI does not label or identify individual children with specific problems. Instead, it looks at how experience at home and in the community can help prepare children to succeed in school.

Community Impact

Spartanburg Basics

The **Spartanburg Basics** are five fun, simple yet powerful ways that every family can give every child a great start in life:

- *Maximize love, manage stress*
- *Talk, sing, and point*
- *Count, group and compare*
- *Explore through movement and play*
- *Read and discuss stories*



This early learning becomes the foundation for all future learning. In our community the Basics are being supported by the Mary Black Foundation, Spartanburg County First Steps, and The Children’s Museum of the Upstate- Spartanburg. A plan is currently being developed to help child care providers and families with information to support our youngest learners. The Basics are designed to help caregivers and parents realize all of the good things they are doing and how to do more of it!

Challenges Recruiting and Retaining Qualified Early Head Start Teaching Staff

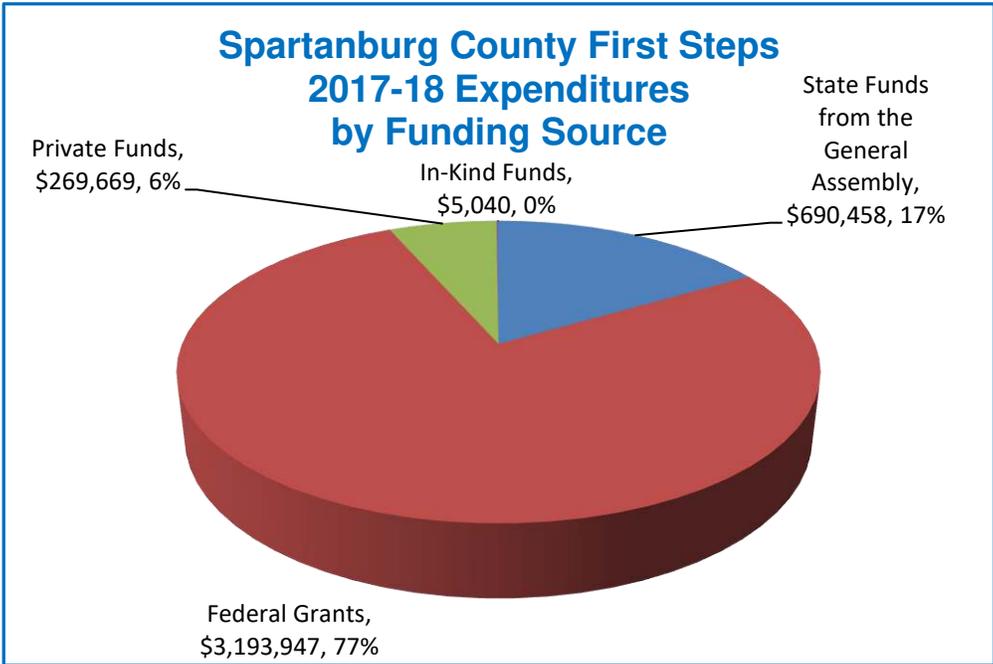
The **Early Head Start** program statewide and in Spartanburg County have experienced challenges in recruiting, hiring and retaining qualified **Early Head Start** Teaching staff. Per the H.S. Performance Standards, a qualified Early Head Start Teacher must have: *“a minimum of a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or comparable credential, and have been trained or have equivalent coursework in early childhood development with a focus on infant and toddler development.”*



Early Head Start added a new program goal to the annual grant application per the recommendation of Head Start and it is as follows: SCFS EHS will facilitate a Teacher recruitment, hiring and retention initiative that will meet the demand for qualified infant/toddler Teachers. The objective of this goal is to establish recruitment and training collaborations with a local college and a CDA trainer.

Collaborations with local colleges as well as pay incentives for Teachers’ education achievement have been implemented by the **South Carolina First Steps to Spartanburg County’s (SCFS) Quality Counts program**. In response to the teacher shortage, a **SC Early Care and Education Workforce Study**, administered by the **University of South Carolina**, Child Development Research Center, is presently underway in the community. This was study initiated in March 2018 and SCFS EHS is participating in this study. Presently, SCFS EHS is contracting with a local CDA instructor to offer CDA courses to Teachers in preparation to work in the classrooms. All EHS classrooms have experienced Teacher shortages as the number of qualified Teachers is low and the retention rate for infant/toddler Teachers is high. The preceding significantly impacts the quality of care for infants and toddlers.

Financial Impact



Total 2017-18 Expenditures: \$4,159,113

2017-18 Expenditures by Strategy

	State \$	Federal \$	Private \$	In-Kind \$	Total \$	% of 2017-18 Expenditures
Nurse Family Partnership	\$0	\$457,258	\$17,530	\$0	\$474,788	11%
Head Start (Private)	\$0	\$397,129	\$2,486	\$0	\$399,615	10%
Head Start (Public)	\$0	\$121,168	\$0	\$5,040	\$126,208	3%
Head Start (In House)	\$104,079	\$2,126,921	\$728	\$0	\$2,231,728	54%
Child Care Quality Enhancement	\$427,311	\$0	\$242,549	\$0	\$669,860	16%
Community Education	\$3,823	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,823	0%
Program Support	\$83,846	\$91,472	\$6,374	\$0	\$181,692	4%
Administrative Support	\$71,399	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$71,399	2%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$690,458	\$3,193,948	\$269,667	\$5,040	\$4,159,113	

State Funds Leveraged in 2017-18*: 502%

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

Unaudited numbers for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Since inception, Spartanburg County First Steps has leveraged \$38,032,584 from sources outside of state government. That's \$2.67 for every state dollar.

What is First Steps?

At the state level and in every county, First Steps leverages state funding with other public and private resources to help South Carolina’s children enter kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed. First Steps programs and services support families as their child’s first and most important teacher and are customized to meet the unique needs of local communities, grounded in strong evidence, fueled by stakeholder collaboration, and accountable for results.

First Steps Goals

- (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.

First Steps Building Blocks of Quality Early Childhood Programs and Services



Healthy Start



Family Strengthening



Early Intervention



Quality Child Care



Early Education



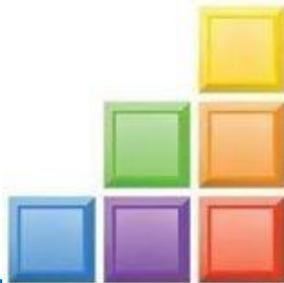
School Transition

From Greenville to Charleston, Abbeville to York, First Steps local partnerships serve as ...

Local portals connecting preschool children and families to services

Conveners of community stakeholders to address the needs of young children and their families

Champions of the importance of school readiness to our children’s future.



for South Carolina and to learn about First Steps 4K programs in your area:

scfirststeps.org

for Spartanburg County First Steps:

www.1steps.org



[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.

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