



THE NEED

IN SOUTH CAROLINA:

42%

of people live in a childcare desert, where there are more than three times as many children as licensed child care slots

53%

of children ages 3 and 4 are not enrolled in nursery school or preschool



IN BERKELEY COUNTY:

14,114

children under age 5

22.3%

of young children live in poverty or low-income households

66%

of kindergartners are considered "not ready" for school

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to improve the health and education of Berkeley County's youngest children so they can enter school ready to succeed and eager to learn.

OUR APPROACH



High quality programs and services for children and families



Intensive training, resources and support for childcare providers



Strategic partnerships and community education

OUR IMPACT

895

number of children and adults served by Berkeley County First Steps in 2018-2019

JOIN US

We rely on a community of partners, donors, and volunteers – **people like you** – who believe in a brighter future for children and families in our community.

6215 Murray Drive, Hanahan, SC 29410 | 843-863-3030 | www.berkeleyfirststeps.com

Data provided by:



OUR STORY

We are excited to share the Berkeley County First Steps 2019 Annual Report that reflects our achievements vision and commitment to serve young children, parents and early educators in our community

We have evolved since 1999, continuously impacting thousands of Berkeley children, parents and educators. We are building upon our strengths, which are providing quality home visiting and professional developments services, integrity in our governance and business practices and an innovative and collaborative approach to growth and expansion.

A key component to our success now and in the future aligns with our overarching strategic goals:

- Understand early learning in the context of the complex systems and stakeholders that affect the domains of whole child development from birth to age 8 and result in the SC Ready Kindergartener
- Value the critical importance of racial and cultural equity
- Expand and increase the usage of data indicators and outcomes in informing and supporting communication and collaboration in a traditionally fragmented field locally and statewide.

We've taken 2017 community and program needs assessments, consumer feedback surveys, BCSD and Cradle to Career data on reading and math scores in Kindergarten and 3rd grade, to help us establish and maintain our pathway forward.

We extend our thanks to all who have invested time, talent and funding this year and look towards continued growth and achievement in years to come.

OUR GOALS

Our agency leadership is working to create a common language and understanding of high quality early care and parenting supports while fostering collaboration, and investing in data-driven change to improve outcomes for all young children in Berkeley County.

**Brenda Campbell, Chairperson,
Berkeley County First Steps**



EARLY IDENTIFICATION & REFERRAL



an evidence-based program

First Steps' Early Identification and Referral (EI&R) programs serve families with young children with suspected delays in development, 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:



Screenings for children ages 0-5 with suspected delays in development



Referrals, based on screening results, to appropriate resources and support services



Patient information including strategies to monitor growth and development

EI&R BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

83

children served

115

materials distributed

19

referrals to BabyNet or other local services



Our EI&R program:

- Is a collaboration with PASOs of South Carolina and Berkeley County First Steps and incorporates the PASOs Community Health Worker (Promotor) model to build trust and best meet the needs of the Latino Community.

More numbers:

- 249 books given
- 9 events attended and with outreach to 185 people
- 29 children identified with one or more potential delays

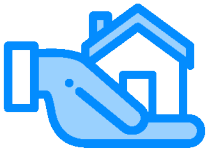


PARENTS AS TEACHERS



an evidence-based program

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is a home visiting program designed to build strong communities, thriving families and children who are healthy, safe and ready to succeed. PAT services include:



Personal visits from a parent educator at least twice monthly



Monthly group connections with other PAT families



Screenings and assessments to identify developmental concerns



Connections to outside resources that families may need to succeed

Families Served



85



Personal



1,458



Children Served



100



Group Connections



62



PAT IN THE NEWS:

Berkeley County Parents as Teachers builds path for student success

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPg1W6CuNYM&t=3s>



Parents as Teachers

SCREENINGS:

100% Children Screened

40 Identified Delays/Concerns



CHILD CARE QUALITY ENHANCEMENT



an evidence-based program

Many private child care centers strive to provide high quality care but lack the resources often available to publicly-funded early childhood programs. Our Child Care Quality Enhancement (QE) program aims to produce measurable improvements in the quality of care provided to young children.

Our services include:



Rigorous quality assessments



On-site technical assistance at least twice monthly



Funding for equipment and materials



Training and workforce development



Coordination with community partners

QE BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

2

child care providers served

9

number of TA visits provided

34

number of children 0-5 enrolled in provider classrooms



Being a Family Child Care Provider, I was so excited that my children was involved in the STEAM Program. I watched little lightbulbs go on in their minds. They were so interested in making airplanes and drones with Legos. We are still benefiting from ideas shared by Nicole and Starr (CML). I also enjoyed the teacher field trips and activities.

Denise Stanley Baker, Niecy's Child Development Center





CHILD CARE TRAINING



an evidence-based program

High-quality child care hinges on high-quality professional development that meets the needs of the local child care workforce. Our training programs are certified through the SC Center for Child Care Career Development and include topics in the areas of nutrition, health and safety, curriculum, child guidance, professional development and program administration. Our 2018-2019 trainings included:

**Assessing Student Development & Learning Work Sampling
All About Teaching Strategies Gold**

The Right Fit

Full STEAM Ahead: Implementing STEAM in the Preschool Classroom

Trauma Informed Care for Early Childcare Providers

Supporting Social Emotional Dev. Through Early Learning Standards

Compassion and Self-care for Early Childhood Professionals

Mental Health First Aid

TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

143

total training attendance

33

child care teachers and
directors served

9

number of training
sessions offered

Mental health First Aid was an eye opener. Being in classrooms for 50 years, you see the challenges of the children and only recently did I realize that too often the actions of the children are based on symptoms exhibited by the adults with which they live or spend time. Mental Health First Aid gave me facts about conditions, encouraged me to care and gave me words to speak to those hurting. You opened my eyes.

Dr. Jerlean Holmes, House of Smiles



CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS



an evidence-based program

For many families in Berkeley County, the cost of quality child care is out of reach. Our scholarship program makes payments to child care providers to care for children from low-income families so their parents can return to school or work.

Our partnership integrates scholarships with evidence-based home visitation programs such as PAT , and NFP. To be eligible, applicants must reside within Berkeley County, be employed or in school, and meet income standards. All children eligible for a scholarship receive health and developmental screenings. All participating families receive a class on how to select quality child care. Families must choose a center that is a Level B or higher.

SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

17

number of children
served

7

number of providers
served

17

number of
developmental
screenings provided

**100% the money paid to child care providers
goes back into our local economy to benefit the
citizens of Berkeley County.**

4K

FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN



an evidence-based program

South Carolina First Steps provides eligible children with free enrollment in full-day four-year-old kindergarten programs. In coordination with First Steps local partnerships and more than 200 private, faith- and community-based preschool providers, First Steps 4K expands access to quality child care across the state.



ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for enrollment, a child must:

- ✓ Be 4 years old on or before September 1
- ✓ Qualify for Medicaid or a free or reduced-price lunch program
- ✓ Live in one of 64 qualifying school districts

FIRST STEPS 4K IN ABC COUNTY 2018-2019

62

children enrolled

6

participating classrooms

4K NEWS

In fiscal year 2019-2020, South Carolina First Steps is launching a pilot program to expand 4K enrollment within underserved communities. Age- and income-eligible children residing in any SC school district may qualify for a slot in a participating center that also serves students from eligible districts.



PUBLIC AWARENESS



an evidence-informed program

The Berkeley Early Education and Care Collective (BEE Collective) is a community-based network that was formed to build an integrated mental health framework to improve the social-emotional development outcomes of children, prenatal to 6. The mission of the BEE Collective is to ensure that every child enters kindergarten socially and emotionally ready to learn, that every educator has positive well-being and the tools to handle challenging behaviors, that families are resilient and that our community reduces mental health stigma for all ages. Our vision is to build upon the assets of our hardest to reach children, parents and educators so that we can co-create beloved community in early education where everyone is treated with dignity. The BEE Collective uses a collective impact approach and builds on previous work and best practices that coalition partners and direct services providers have found successful to achieving community change.

BERKELEY EARLY EDUCATION & CARE COLLECTIVE BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

220

materials
distributed

14

events held

191

total event
attendance





COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Addressing the needs of young children is a shared endeavor. In addition to providing services to families and support for child care providers, Berkeley County First Steps mobilizes partners and community members to ensure all children in Berkeley County begin school ready to succeed. We serve as a:

LOCAL PORTAL

connecting preschool children and
their families to services

CONVENER

of community stakeholders to develop an effective
and comprehensive early childhood system

CHAMPION

of the importance of school
readiness to our children's future

OUR PARTNERSHIPS BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

192

Families served

137

Teachers, staff,
and partner org
staff served

6

Community
Collaborations

“ Thank you for featuring the food from my country! I felt special and proud. No one would know how wonderful my food is unless they visited Peru. Now we need to have teachers do this because they work with our children and they need to know our children come from places that have good things going on. ”

NAME, TITLE OR DESCRIPTION



OUR SUPPORTERS

Through partnerships and collaborations, as well as financial support from grants and contributions, Berkeley County First Steps leverages state dollars to enhance and expand services to children and families.

FUNDING SUPPORT

Boston Medical Center for the BEE&CC
Collective - \$70,000

Children's Trust of SC - \$480

Sisters of Charity - \$3000

Coastal Community Foundation (Charles
Webb/Ed Croft) - \$2500

Magnolia Foundation - \$1000

The Joanna Foundation - \$2500

Coastal Community Foundation (HOME
Telecom) - \$3000

Greenville Technical College (CCCCD) -
\$2000

TSNE Mission Works - \$1500

Private donations - \$1365

IN-KIND SUPPORT

Berkeley County School District
Department of Social Services
Children's Museum of the
Lowcountry
Birthing With A Purpose
MUSC

The AIO Group

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

AccessAbility

Berkeley Early Education & Care Collective
(BEECC)

Birthing with Purpose

Charleston Area Justice Ministry

Children's Museum of the Lowcountry

YWCA of Greater Charleston

Networks of Opportunity for Child
Wellbeing/Vital Village

Nurse Family Partnership

SC Thrive

Trident Technical College

BEECC Community Champion: R. Simone Lee

BEECC Mental Health Consultant: Stacy Albarran

BEECC Project Director: Alexa Stephens

JOIN US

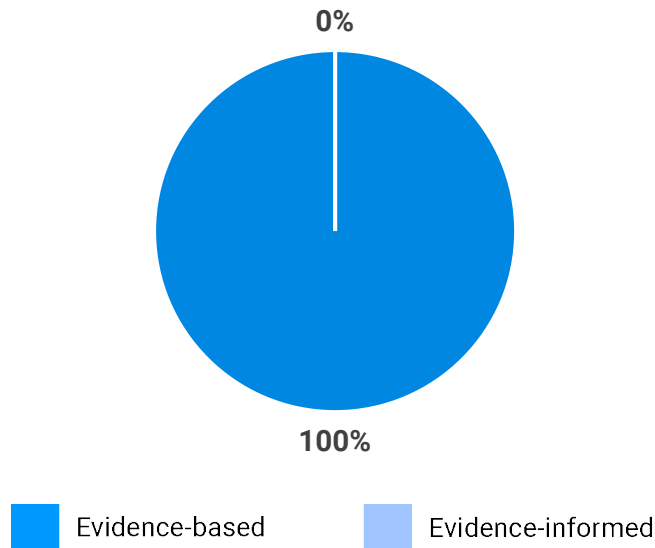
For more information on partnership opportunities, or to make a donation, visit our website at www.berkeleyfirststeps.com.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

OUR INVESTMENT IN QUALITY

Expenditures by Program Type



ESTIMATION OF COST SAVINGS

Since inception, Berkeley County First Steps has leveraged **\$2,267,399** from sources outside of state government.

That's **\$0.22** for every state dollar.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES BY STRATEGY

	State Funding	Federal Funding	Private Funding	Total
Parents as Teachers	\$283,201	\$	\$6051	\$289,252
Child Care Quality Enhancement	\$33,614	\$	\$935	\$34,549
Child Care Training	\$25,975	\$	\$1140	\$27,115
Scholarship Initiatives	\$31,939	\$	\$	\$31,939
Early Identification and Referral	\$72,208	\$	\$	\$72,208
Early Head Start	\$2359	\$4908	\$	\$7267
Partnerships & Community Education	\$49,315	\$1920	\$37,539	\$88,774
Administrative Support	\$33,642	\$	\$1929	\$35,571
Total Expenses	\$532,253	\$6828	\$47,594	\$586,675



LEADERSHIP

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STAFF and CONSULTANTS

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Stephanie Cook-Olazabal, Program Coordinator
Abigail Santiago, Community Health Worker
Garin Williams, Inclusion Specialist
Alexa Stephens-Program Coordinator BEE Collective
Stacy Albarran. Mental Health Consultant

CONTACT US

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