





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 CHESTERFIELD COUNTY:

2,558

children under age 5

32.6%

of young children live in poverty or low-income households

73%

of kindergartners are considered "not ready" for school

OUR MISSION

To ensure opportunities for young children and their families, so every child enters school healthy and ready 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

1,110

number of children and adults served by Chesterfield 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.

1201 Chesterfield Highway, Cheraw, SC 29709 | 843-921-1452 | chesterfieldfirststeps.org

Data provided by:





Karen Martini Waller
Executive Director
Chesterfield County First Steps

OUR GOALS→

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our partnership has refocused and rededicated its resources and efforts on direct services to children and their families. CCFS's Compass Point 4K, a collaboration with Northeastern Technical College (NETC), continues to grow and meet its early goals and expectations. Compass Point 4K, like all First Steps early learning programs, utilizes the highest educational and developmental standards and qualified, dedicated personnel to provide a safe and nurturing environment in which to promote the intellectual, emotional, social and physical development of young children. Compass 4K not only positively impacts children and families, but through its partnerships with NETC and the school district, it will also beneficially impact the preparation of future early childhood educators and childcare professionals.

Our emphasis is on high quality, evidenced-based/evidence-informed programs with direct impact on school readiness also encompasses our other early learning programs including our Nurse-Family Partnership in collaboration with McLeod Hospitals, our pre-school programs in collaboration with the Chesterfield County School District, Imagination Library reading program for young children, and our weekend nutrition program in collaboration with Petersburg Primary School, backpack donors and faith volunteer partners.

We remain dedicated to the health, well-being and school readiness of all Chesterfield County children.

Karen Martini Waller

Our partnership's work, in collaboration with our community, is focused on advancing our county towards these strategic goals in support of the Profile of the Ready Kindergartner, South Carolina's description of school readiness:

- Goal 1 To build a dependable, sustainable and diversified funding stream to support First Steps activities.
- Goal 2 To engage more parents in early childhood education efforts.
- Goal 3 Expand services to include areas of need not currently addressed by Chesterfield County First Steps.
- Goal 4 To improve the overall capacity of the board, staff, volunteers and partners to carry out the mission of Chesterfield County First Steps



NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP



an evidence-based program

Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) helps transform the lives of vulnerable first-time mothers and their babies. Through ongoing home visits from registered nurses, moms receive the care and support they need to have a healthy pregnancy, provide responsible and competent care for their children, and become more economically self-sufficient. From pregnancy until the child turns two years old, Nurse-Family Partnership Nurse Home Visitors form a much-needed, trusting relationship with their clients, instilling confidence and empowering them to achieve a better life for their children – and themselves.

BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

33

children served

52

number of home
visits provided

Our partnership with Chesterfield County First Steps has given our moms greater opportunities to engage in reading and play time with their babies. Moms can concentrate more on helping their babies grow and develop with age-appropriate toys and books without sacrificing other essential items. These resources are assets to the program as we continue our mission of empowering first-time mothers to successfully change their lives and the lives of their children through evidenced-based nurse home visiting. *- McLeod Nurse-Family Partnership*



IMAGINATION LIBRARY



an evidence-based program

As the local affiliate of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, we provide free, high-quality books to children from birth until age five, no matter their family's income.

Children enrolled in our Imagination Library program receive one book per month by mail. Each title is selected by a panel of early childhood literacy experts, who are responsible for choosing books that meet the age-specific developmental needs of young children.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

55

children served

654

books distributed

Books are 100% free to children in Chesterfield County because Chesterfield County First Steps secures the funds to cover the cost of books and shipping fees.

Join us by sponsoring a child for just \$30 a year.





COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN



an evidence-informed program

Developed by South Carolina First Steps – and identified as a promising state practice by the National Governor’s Association in 2005 – Countdown to Kindergarten (CTK) is a home visitation program pairing the families of rising kindergartners with their future teachers during the summer before school entry. Teachers complete six visits with each family, establishing strong connections during the summer that facilitate classroom learning throughout the year.

CTK BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

3

kindergarten teachers
trained as home visitors

9

children served

18

total home and school
visits



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 CHESTERFIELD COUNTY 2018-2019

7

children enrolled

2

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.





NUTRITION PROGRAM



an evidence-informed program

Nutrition is fundamental to school readiness. Studies have repeatedly confirmed that children participating in weekend nutrition programs show improvement in attendance, behavior, academic achievement and overall health.

Blessings in a Backpack is a weekend nutrition program that provides nutritious, easy to prepare food for the forty 4K students and their siblings at Petersburg Primary in Pageland. Each week during the school year, volunteers pack backpacks with food for the children to ensure that their nutritional needs can be met over the weekends.

Chesterfield County First Steps has partnered with members of the Pageland faith, business and education communities to fund, organize and staff the program.

Blessings in a Backpack BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

70

children served

14,280

meals provided

192

volunteer hours



Chesterfield County First Steps is so grateful for and so proud of our all our Blessings in a Backpack faith partners who give loving care to the 4K children's weekend nutrition as they take their turns each week packing the bags. The photo to the left is of volunteers from Wolf Pond Baptist Church and it shows the volunteers with the bags they filled for the children to carry home for the weekend. What a great example of neighbors helping neighbors.

-Rev. Ernest Winburn, CCFS board chair



OUR SUPPORTERS

New programmatic priorities established for First Steps by the SC General Assembly directs the organization towards operating evidenced-based direct services for young children. Although, Blessings Resource Center (BRC) served as a portal to reach young children, it did not fall within the new required evidenced-based scope of services to help us reach our mission and therefore, the program ceased in February. Chesterfield County First Steps thanks all those who made its operation possible.

During the 7 months of operation last fiscal year: BRC assisted clients 1,169 times; distributed more than 50,000 pounds of food to 313 households

FUNDING SUPPORT FOR Blessings Resource Center in 2018

First Baptist Church, Pageland
Presbytery of Charlotte
Timney, Delaney
Tucker, Carl and Linda
Union Hill Baptist Church - Ladies Class
Union Hill Baptist Church
Wolf Pond Baptist Church
Zion United Methodist Church
Lamb, Gene and Marty
List, Donna
Lynn, Theda
Mangum, Julie
Moore, Nancy
McLeod Nurse Family Partnership
Patrick, Marilyn
Rocky Creek Presbyterian Church
Sandhill Telephone Cooperative Food/Toy Drive
Small Group
South Pointe Christian School
Sutton, Ogden
Union Hill Baptist Church
Walmart Distribution
First Presbyterian Church of Pageland



OUR SUPPORTERS

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

FUNDING SUPPORT FOR Blessings in a Backpack

**First Baptist Church Christmas Class
First Presbyterian Church of Pageland
Presbytery of Charlotte
Providence Baptist Church
Providence Baptist Church Ladies Adult Sunday School Class
South Pointe Christian School
Union Hill Baptist Church Ladies Adult Class
Wolf Pond Baptist Church
Zion United Methodist Church
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Usher
Karen Martini Waller
Catherine Williams
Steve & Kathy Jackson
Gerard Myatt
Myra Coffey
Vanessa Tyson
Theda Lynn
Lisa Bergwerff in honor of Amelia Clontz
Robin & Neil Mungo
Relous Lynn Williams
First Citizens Bank
Hills Creek Forest Products, Inc..
Screwomatics of S.C. Inc.
M & S Investments Properties LLC
Sandhill Telephone Cooperative
Walmart Distribution Center**

JOIN US

For more information on partnership opportunities, call us at 843-921-1452



OUR SUPPORTERS

Chesterfield County First Steps established earlier this year the Mary B. Redfearn Fund for Early Literacy in honor of Mrs. Redfearn's lifetime of dedication to children and education. The fund supports CCFS programs that promote reading as an essential part of its early childhood education initiative including Imagination Library.

FUNDING SUPPORT FOR Mary B. Redfearn Early Literacy Fund

Treacy Bozard
Joan Yates
Delta Kappa Gamma Omicron Chapter
CAMPBO, INC./Bojangles of Chesterfield
Open Door SS Class Chesterfield Baptist
McLain Insurance Agency, Inc.
Sara Lear
Curtis Oil Company
John E. Williams
Faithful Workers/Dorcas Sunday School Class of Chesterfield Baptist Church
Friendship Sunday School Class of Chesterfield Baptist Church*
Tommy & Libby Atkinson*
William & Barbara Watson*
Edward & Diane Brock*
Pat Griggs*
Chesterfield Baptist Church Brotherhood*
Charles & Madge Rivers*
Roger & Sarah Jane Henderson*
Mary Redfearn*
Michael Kaltwang/Cfield Co. Library System
Karen Martini Waller
Pearline Hutto
Ernest Winburn

JOIN US

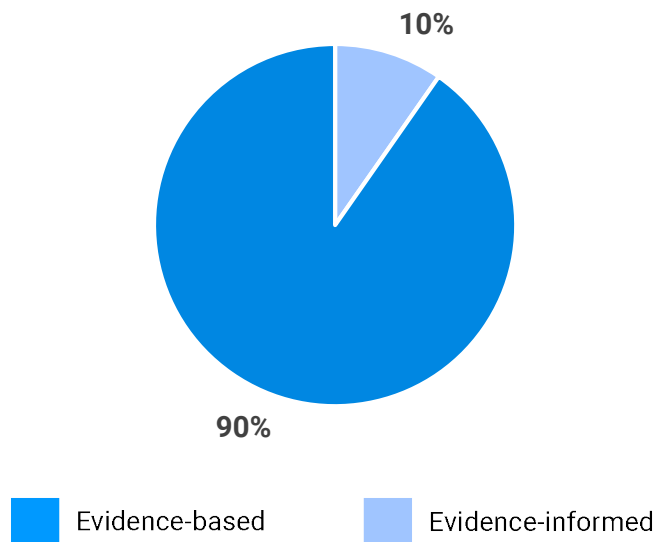
For more information on partnership opportunities, call us at 843-921-1452



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

OUR INVESTMENT IN QUALITY

Expenditures of State Funds by Program Type



ESTIMATION OF COST SAVINGS

Since inception, ABC County First Steps has leveraged **\$3,137,375** from sources outside of state government.

That's **\$0.84** for every state dollar.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES BY STRATEGY

	State Funding	Federal Funding	Private Funding	In-Kind Contributions	Total
Countdown to Kindergarten	\$	\$1,697.56	\$8	\$	\$1,705.56
Parent Training	\$	\$	\$	\$685.64	\$685.64
HHS Service Coord.	\$	\$968.99	\$32,336.01	\$115,751.87	\$149,056.87
Nutrition Services	\$15,599.39	\$5,000.00	\$12,848.11	\$6,774.09	\$40,221.59
Nurse Family Partnership	\$5,895.78	\$	\$	\$	\$5,895.78
Imagination Library	\$3,654.00	\$	\$1,434.19	\$	\$5,088.19
Full Day 4K	\$155,628.99	\$	\$24,189.10	\$	\$179,818.09
Partnerships & Community Education	\$22,104.00	\$728.61	\$1,092.31	\$	\$23,924.92
Administrative Support	\$20,678.34	\$	\$4,227.89	\$	\$24,906.23
Total Expenses	\$223,560.50	\$8,396.16	\$76,135.61	\$123,212.60	\$431,302.87



LEADERSHIP

2018-2019 CHESTERFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Ernest Winburn, Chairman
Mr. Ralph Laney, Vice Chairman
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STAFF

Stephanie Terry, Program Assistant
Karen Martini Waller, Executive Director
Contracted:
Justine Wayne, Evaluator
DeTyscha Diggs, 4K co-teacher

Due to the limited space in this report, please see our website for a list of in-kind donors and our many invaluable volunteers.

CONTACT US

1201 Chesterfield Highway, Cheraw, SC 29520 | 843-921-1452

