



HAMPTON COUNTY



Getting children ready for school.

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019

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 HAMPTON COUNTY:

1,029

children under age 5

66%

of young children live in poverty or low-income households

65%

of kindergartners are considered “not ready” for school

OUR MISSION

To collaborate with other entities, Hampton County First Steps helps 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.

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

448

number of children and adults served by ABC 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.

301 First Street East, Hampton SC 29924 | 803-943-7127 | www.hamptonfirststeps.org

Data provided by:

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



From left to right: Starr Dunbar (Parent Educator), Valaree Smith (Board Chair), Dwana Doctor (Executive Director) and Victoria Powell (Parent Educator)

Dwana Doctor
Executive Director
Hampton County First Steps

The world as we know it today moves faster than ever. And at times we need to take a pause to simply say 'Thank You'! As we continue to expand our reach in our community, it is imperative to acknowledge how grateful beyond measure we are of the support of our staff, board members, donors, partnerships and SC First Steps who helped us stand strong to empower families while strengthening community unity. We are enthusiastic to continue to build partnerships, provide trainings and host community engagements to increase awareness and accessibility to services which are available to all our citizens.

Our first Annual Meeting Kids Health & Safety Fair of 2018 was an extremely successful event. Over 20 vendors and 200+ visitors participated from Hampton County and surrounding areas. It is impossible to do great endeavors like this alone. Which is why we depend on you to join us to move and breathe as one in these efforts in our community. And for that we again say, Thank YOU for all of what you have done and continue to do.

Dwana Doctor

OUR GOALS

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

- To increase public awareness and financial support of the programs and services of Hampton County First Steps in the local community
- To increase the reach of programs and services of Hampton County First Steps in order to serve more children and families
- To improve coordination with other state and community level entities in delivering services to families

In April I was able to participate and partner with Hampton County First Steps during their child abuse awareness month activities. This partnership over the last few years has helped to strengthen community connections and inform parents on very important subjects. Thanks for allowing us to help continue cultivating our communities.

J. Morall, Hopeful Horizons



GRAPHICS LIBRARY

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PAGE TITLE



an evidence-based program



an evidence-informed program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION TEXT BOX. Provide a program description here.

SUBTITLE BLUE

SUBTITLE NAVY



families served





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

29

children served

83

materials distributed

10

referrals to BabyNet or other local services



Hampton County First Steps provides effective early intervention and referral services. We know that the earliest start is the best start. Through Baby Net and other agencies, we help to prepare individualized plans for children and families who are in need. In addition to Ages and Stages 3, we also provide ASQ 2 and ASQ-SE (Social –Emotional) screenings for all families.

"Ms. Victoria assisted me in screening my 6 month old and it was reassuring to know that she was on track in all developmental levels." D. Blake, PAT Parent

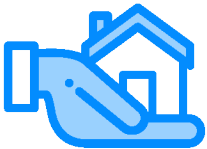


PARENTS AS TEACHERS



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



PAT IN THE NEWS

PAT recently received the highest rating from the federal Prevention Services Clearinghouse. This recognition validates the effectiveness of Parents as Teachers as a strategy for improving parenting practices, promoting early detection of developmental delays and health issues, preventing child abuse and neglect, and enhancing school readiness and success.

PAT IN HAMPTON COUNTY 2018-2019

15

families served

235

total home visits



Parents as Teachers



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

87

children served

435

books distributed

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

Join us by sponsoring a child for just \$25 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

2

kindergarten teachers
trained as home visitors

20

children served

100

total home and school
visits



Semaj Bellamy and his parents participated in Countdown to Kindergarten this program year. In his kindergarten year, he grew over 300 points and was one of the top 3 in his school for academic growth! The average gain is approximately 150 points of growth for a child entering on grade level (yearly), which he doubled! We recognize and celebrate Semaj’s student achievements as a student of CTK program!





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:

Early Childhood Directors: A Broad View Part 1 & 2
Connecting Parents to Community Resources
Promoting Parent & Teacher Engagement Improves Good Health
Mistaken Behavior: Understanding Conflicts, Aggression & Challenging Behavior
Early Childhood Is A Time of Rapid Physical Development
The Concept of Creativity in an Early Childhood Classroom
Feeding Toddlers & Young Children
A Reflection of Responsive Self-Evaluation I & II

TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

28

total training attendance

30

child care teachers and
directors served

10

number of training
sessions offered

“Hampton County First Steps has been one of the greatest assets to our center. We used to travel over an hour to attend trainings from our favorite trainer. Thanks to HCFS we are able to stay in our county and save time and gas!”

B'nita Grant, Children's Place Child Care Center



CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS



an evidence-based program

For many families in Hampton 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.

Address scholarship eligibility here. Hampton County First Steps integrates scholarships with, Parents As Teachers as well as Early Intervention and Referral. Example: ABC County First Steps offers scholarships to families enrolled in our Parents as Teachers program, as well as income-eligible children whose parent attends school or works at least 20 hours per week. All parents are required to have their child(ren) assessed with an Ages and Stages Questionnaire through our EI&R program.

SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

32

number of children
served

5

number of providers
served

34

number of
developmental
screenings provided

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

#

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.





PARENTS AS TEACHERS PROGRAM



an evidence-based program

Parents as Teachers is a nationally acclaimed, research-based home visitation program that provides parent education and support to families throughout pregnancy until kindergarten entry. Hampton County First Steps PAT's goal is to provide parents with child development knowledge and with educational activities that will increase their child's school readiness. Our certified parent educators provide home visits at least twice a month in addition to monthly group meetings for extra support.

PARENTS AS TEACHERS BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

15

families served

235

total home visits





COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Addressing the needs of young children is a shared endeavor. In addition to providing services to families and support for childcare providers, Hampton County First Steps mobilizes partners and community members to ensure all children in Hampton 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

10

New partnerships

2

Focus group
meetings

“ We love the outreach, programs and events that Hampton County First Steps implements. You guys are a doing a phenomenal job and we love partnering with you! ”

Y. Williams, Coastal Empire Mental Health



OUR SUPPORTERS

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

FUNDING SUPPORT

Greenville Technical College \$2,000

State of South Carolina through SCFS \$200,000

Debbie Elrod, State Farm Insurance \$100

Hampton County Sheriff's Office \$75

Amerifleet \$1,000

IN-KIND SUPPORT

South Carolina Department of Social Services
CODE92

Molina Health

Palmetto Project

Hampton School District One

SHEWill

Hampton County Library

PMPED Law Office

Debbie Elrod State Farm Agency

Hampton County Sheriff's Department

Hampton Regional Medical Center

James Hagood Learning Center

SC Child Care Resource and Referral

Hopeful Horizons

JOIN US

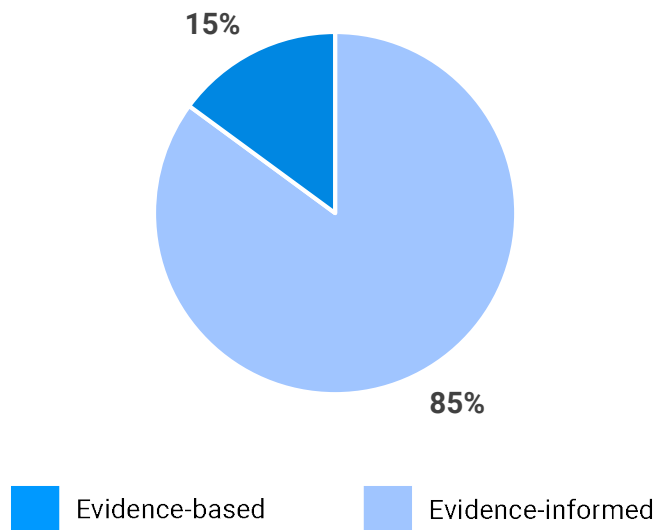
For more information on partnership opportunities, visit our website at
hamptonfirststeps.org



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

OUR INVESTMENT IN QUALITY

Expenditures of State Funds by Program Type



ESTIMATION OF COST SAVINGS

Since inception, Hampton County First Steps has leveraged **\$827,703.68** 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	In-Kind Contributions	Total
Parents as Teachers	\$70,843.50	0.00	\$655.07	\$4917.37	\$16,292.39
Child Care Scholarships	\$49,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,500.00	\$59,500.00
Child Care Training	\$20,686.59	\$0.00	\$2147.77	\$955.72	\$23,790.08
Countdown to Kindergarten	\$6,040.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$76.65	\$6,117.05
Early Identification & Referral	\$15,067.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,322.34	\$16,389.87
Scholarship Initiatives (In-House)	\$15,285.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$782.34	\$16,067.93
Imagination Library	\$5,020.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.12	\$6,520.37
Administrative Functions	\$18,035.57	\$0	\$1032.17	\$7,682.37	\$26,750.11
Core Functions	\$13,787.57	\$757.45	\$0.00	\$1747.37	\$16,292.39
Total Expenses	\$213,767.00	\$757.45	\$3,835.01	\$29,484.28	\$247,843.74



LEADERSHIP

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STAFF

Dwana Doctor, Executive Director
Victoria Powell, Parent Educator
Starr Dunbar, Parent Educator

CONTACT US

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