



JASPER COUNTY



**FIRST
STEPS**

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 JASPER COUNTY:

1659

children under age 5

34%

of young children live in poverty or low-income households

86%

of kindergartners are considered "not ready" for school

OUR MISSION

To help 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

2466

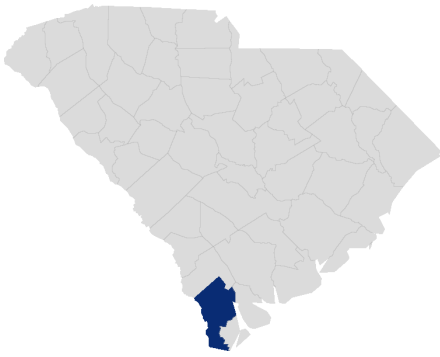
number of children and adults served by Jasper County First Steps in 2018-2019

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.

456 Grays Hwy|, Ridgeland, SC 29936 843-726-5100 | www.jaspercountyfirststeps.org

Data provided by:



OUR STORY

Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success. I am thankful for the beginning, the progress, and the success here at JCFS. I am a first year Parent Educator at JCFS; however, I have worked with children and families for 13 years. I have a passion for what I do. Since being a part of JCFS, I have been able to help facilitate a partnership between JCFS & my church home Kingdom Touch Ministries. From this partnership KTM has volunteered at group connections, provided meals for families during group connections, awarded families with gift cards to assist in purchasing household items, and provided our families with sneakers, uniforms, socks, and undershirts as a back-to-school support. I believe the best collaborations create something BIGGER than the sum of what each person can create on their own. Just one great partnership with the right person can have an incredible impact on a business' success. We have many great partnerships here at JCFS and we plan to make many more.

Cierra Jenkins, PAT Parent Educator

OUR GOALS

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

- **Goal 1** To increase Partnership presence within the local community
- **Goal 2** To increase the reach of programs by building capacity through the development and strengthening of human, institutional and funding resources
- **Goal 3** To identify and recruit board members who are active, committed participants within the Partnership and community

The best partnerships aren't dependent on a mere common goal but on a shared path of equality, desire, and no small amount of passion.

Sarah MacLean



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

33

children served

55

materials distributed

33

referrals to BabyNet or other local services



With as many as 1 in 4 children at risk for developmental delay, universal early childhood screening provides an opportunity to identify delays early and intervene during the most critical period of development.

Birth to 5: watch me thrive! a primary care provider's guide for developmental and behavioral screening. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Education; 2014

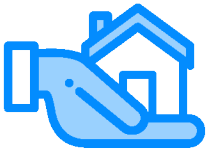


PARENTS AS TEACHERS



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 Jasper COUNTY 2018-2019

23

families served

296

total home visits

Awarded the SC Ports Authority Giving Community Grant to support **"Dads Matter"** Initiative purposed to recognize and support paternal involvement in a child's development and overall success.



Parents as Teachers.
Model Affiliate



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

624 **5404**

children served

books distributed

Books are 100% free to children in Jasper County because Jasper 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

5

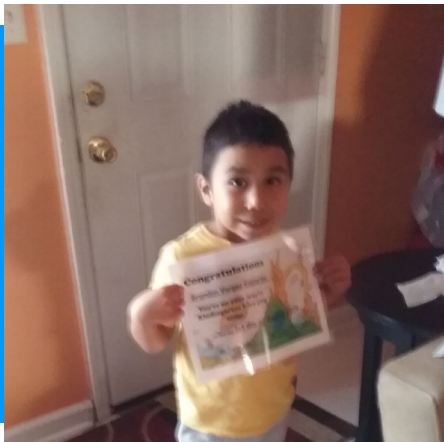
kindergarten teachers
trained as home visitors

29

children served

174

total home and school
visits



OH, THE PLACES YOU WILL GO

You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.
You're on your own, and you know what you know.
And you are the guy who'll decide where to go.

DR. SEUSS





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:

List your training topics here

Example: Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect

Example: Early Literacy in the Childcare Classroom

Add a second column if you have more than 5 topics.

Adjust font size and layout as needed.

TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

48

total training attendance

31

child care teachers and
directors served

6

number of training
sessions offered

“ Thank you for your donation to our center. It is our goal to continue to be one of the best facilities in Jasper County, and we cannot do this without the help and support of organizations such as yours. We look forward to working with you to support literacy in our community. ”

Alvonia Shepherd, Owner/Director, 1+1=2 Day Care Center



CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS



an evidence-based program

EDIT: Summarize your child care scholarship program here. Example: For many families in Jasper 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. If your partnership integrates scholarships with another program, such as PAT, Imagination Library, etc., mention that here. Example: Jasper County First Steps offers scholarships to families enrolled in our Nurse-Family Partnership program, as well as income-eligible children whose parent attends school or works at least 20 hours per week.

SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

11

number of children
served

2

number of providers
served

22

number of
developmental
screenings provided

**100% the money paid to child care providers
goes back into our local economy to benefit the
citizens of Jasper 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 Jasper COUNTY 2018-2019

22

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.





COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

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

53

Community
Outreach Events

15

Sponsored Little
Free Libraries

“ Thank you again for sponsoring us and for the great introduction to our Little Free Library. We might not have seen many neighbors that day, yet the LFL books are rotating so it is getting used! ”

Debbie Melnick, LFL Patron, Hearthstone Lake Community



OUR SUPPORTERS

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

FUNDING SUPPORT

South Carolina First Steps:	\$200,000
Jasper County Government:	\$15,000
South Carolina Ports Authority:	\$1,000

IN-KIND SUPPORT

Jasper County School District
Dollywood Foundation
Hargray Telecommunications

JOIN US

FY20 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, October 23, 2019 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Palmetto Electric, 4063 Grays Hwy, Ridgeland, SC 29936

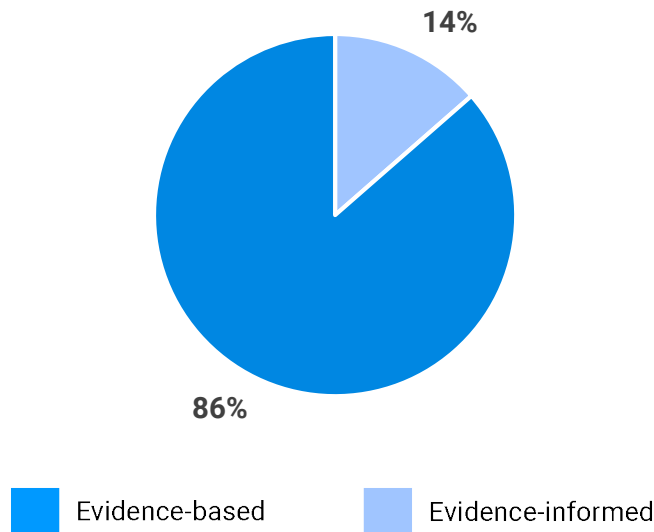
For more information on partnership opportunities, visit our website at
www.jaspercountyfirststeps.org



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

OUR INVESTMENT IN QUALITY

Expenditures of State Funds by Program Type



ESTIMATION OF COST SAVINGS

Since inception, Jasper County First Steps has leveraged **\$1,434,273** from sources outside of state government.

That's **\$0.41** for every state dollar.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES BY STRATEGY

	State Funding	Federal Funding	Private Funding	In-Kind Contributions	Total
Parents as Teachers	\$120,870	\$0	\$6,922	\$21,053	\$148,845
Imagination Library	\$0	\$0	\$10,933	\$62,582	\$73,515
Child Care Training	\$11,472	\$0	\$398	\$1,220	\$13,090
Countdown to Kindergarten	\$7,541	\$0	\$1,068	\$0	\$8,609
Scholarship Initiative-Public, In-House	\$10,960	\$0	\$13	\$305	\$11,278
Early Identification & Referrals	\$29,784	\$0	\$798	\$5,187	\$35,769
Core Functions	\$8,330	\$1,886	\$74	\$1,220	\$47,279
Administrative Support	\$11,296	\$0	\$154	\$1,526	\$12,976
Total Expenses	\$200,253	\$1,886	\$20,360	\$93,093	\$315,592



LEADERSHIP

2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Deloris Dunham, Chairperson

Eleanor Hazel, Vice-Chairperson

Dr. Tom Balliet, Treasurer

Constance Martin-Witter, Secretary

Kenneth Bell, Member

Dr. Kelvin Bostick, Member

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Mildred Daniels, Member

Hazel Holmes, Member

Maribel Luna Sanchez, Member

Kimberly Malphrus, Member

Rev. Dave A. Mitchell, III, Member

Mattie Wideman, Member

Margaret Williams, Member

STAFF

Duchett Polite Hylton, Executive Director

Pamela Rose, PAT Parenting Supervisor

Cierra Jenkins, PAT Parent Educator

CONTACT US

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