CLOSING THE GAP

In 2019, South Carolina First Steps commissioned the Institute for Families in Society at the University of South Carolina to conduct research assessing the initiative’s impact on children and families statewide. Here’s what they found:

First Steps local partnership services are closing the gap for children in poverty.

Children who receive First Steps services are:

- 74% more likely to score Demonstrating Readiness on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- 34% less likely to be chronically absent in kindergarten

First Steps services increase parent competence and confidence.

First Steps has positive effects on child care quality.

Achieving these important results is a function of the strong collaborations of the First Steps local partnerships.

Learn more at SCFIRSTSTEPS.ORG