



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR HAMPTON COUNTY FIRST STEPS

2021 – 2023





Mission

Fueling and inspiring children emotionally, socially and physically in order to achieve their personal best in school (through collaboration with parents, caregivers and communities).

Vision

Empowering families and children to pursue school readiness at their highest potential.

Values

RESPECT

Every individual will be respected on a basis of trust and morality regardless of cultural or diversified differences.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

We will work responsibly together as a team to consistently deliver quality services and programs that will produce achievable outcomes.

FAMILIES

We aim to empower and foster a healthy environment for families to thrive, engage and promote safety as a unit.

COMMITMENT

Committed to collaborate with families and our community to deliver services that will provide optimal results.

Message from the Executive Director



DWANA DOCTOR
Executive Director
Hampton County First Steps

On behalf of Hampton County First Steps, we are delighted to present the 2021-2023 Comprehensive Plan highlighting our goals and objectives for the next three years. Although this year has truly been one of challenges and transformations, we will continue to serve our children and families by improving and continuing to provide high-quality service. Our collaborative efforts with local libraries, school districts and other community partners will aid and guide us to continue to make young children and families our number one priority.

Message from the Board Chair



VALAREE SMITH
Board Chair
Hampton County First Steps

Greetings,

On behalf of Hampton County First Steps Board of Directors, we are honored to present our 2021-2023 Comprehensive Plan. We are equally excited about our renewed vision and mission statements! We graciously thank the staff, board members, families, parents, early childhood educators and community partners for their pivotal role in planning this roadmap to success.

Overarching Measure(s) of Success

INCREASE THE REACH OF FIRST STEPS SERVICES

By FY23, the percentage of children in need who are directly served by Hampton County First Steps will increase from 25% to 27%.

MORE CHILDREN ARRIVE AT KINDERGARTEN READY FOR SUCCESS

By FY23, the percentage of children who score at the highest level on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment will increase by 2% each year to 40%.

Objectives

1. PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF CHILDREN

- Childhood Immunizations
- Mental Health

2. INCREASE ACCESS FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES TO PREPARE FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS

- Reliable Internet Access.
- Early Childhood Coalition.
- Sexual Behavior and Contraceptive Use.

3. KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS WILL ENTER SCHOOL AT A HIGH SUCCESS RATE

- Countdown to Kindergarten
- Literacy Initiatives

1. Promote well-being and safety of children.

STRATEGY 1.1

Increase childhood immunizations

SMART GOAL(S)

- By the end of FY21, at least one annual health and safety fair will occur educating families on the importance of immunization.
- By the end of FY23, the number of children not being able to enroll in school due to outdated shot records will be less than 2%.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- Potential vendors for expanded health fair to include Ronald McDonald Mobile, MUSC health screenings, local providers, and area nonprofits.
- HCFS will partner with DHEC to provide immunizations for children in attendance.
- Hampton County School District

1. Promote well-being and safety of children.

STRATEGY 1.2

Engage and educate families of young children and staff with mechanisms to improve mental health.

SMART GOAL(S)

- By the end of FY22, we will design a mental health initiative tailored for infants, parents and staff of HCFS.
- By the end of FY23 we will implement at least one mental health initiative for infants, parents and staff of HCFS.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- Coastal Empire Mental Health
- SC Thrive
- Molina Health Care
- SC Infant Mental Health Association

2. Increase access for educational opportunities to prepare for success.

STRATEGY 2.1

To help actively seek and research opportunities to help all students have quality internet access.

SMART GOAL(S)

- By FY21, HCFS will have shared information on possible devices, and platforms for families to have access to internet services.
- By FY 23, HCFS will have participated in at least three advocacy initiatives to emphasize the need for reliable internet access in rural communities in Hampton County.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- Hampton County School District
- Hampton and Estill Libraries
- Century Link
- Verizon
- Local legislatures

2. Increase access for educational opportunities to prepare for success.

STRATEGY 2.2

To collaborate with agencies and school districts to invest in programs and resources that are beneficial to young children and families.

SMART GOAL(S)

1. By the end of FY22, HCFS will convene an early childhood coalition to create increased access and affordable educational opportunities for families and children.
2. By the end of FY23, ten organizations will consider themselves active members of the early childhood coalition

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- Hampton School District, principals, parents, health professionals, DSS, local officials, funders and libraries.

2. Increase access for educational opportunities to prepare for success.

STRATEGY 2.3

To improve responsible sexual behavior and contraceptive use.

SMART GOAL(S)

- By the end of FY22, HCFS will host a family engagement conference geared toward single parents.
- By the end of FY23, HCFS will educate families at least twice a year using the Choose Well initiative and additional support provided by Fact Forward.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- DSS
- Fact Forward
- Choose Well
- DHEC

3. Kindergarten students will enter school at a high success rate.

STRATEGY 3.1

To expand the continuation of Countdown to Kindergarten.

SMART GOAL(S)

- By the end of FY21, we will secure a majority of kindergarten teachers to implement the summer intensive program.
- By the end of FY22, 80% of pre-school students at-risk will participate in the Countdown to Kindergarten.
- By the end of FY23, the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment results for Hampton County will increase by 2%.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- Hampton County Districts
- LCAA Head Start
- First Steps 4K – Child Care Centers

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COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- Hampton County Districts
- LCAA Head Start
- First Steps 4K – Child Care Centers

3. Kindergarten students will enter school at a high success rate continued

STRATEGY 3.2

Literacy initiatives

SMART GOAL(S)

- By the end of FY22, there will be an additional three Free Little libraries located throughout Hampton County.
- By the end of FY23, a plan will be in place to make sure all Little Free Libraries have appropriate books.
- By the end of FY21, a plan to increase literacy among elementary age children will be in place.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- Community partners
- Local library
- Local churches
- Board Members