

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

2021 – 2023





Mission

The mission of the McCormick County First Steps Partnership is to collaborate with the community to holistically support all preschool aged children and their families to ensure all preschool aged children are ready to succeed in school.

Vision

All preschool aged children in McCormick County have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Values

Support – children and families prenatal to age 5

Equity – all children and families have the same opportunities and resources for success

Innovation – embrace continuous improvement, creativity, and change

Collaboration – collaborative effort with our community partners and stakeholders

Message from the Executive Director



NaToya Cartledge
Executive Director
McCormick County First
Steps

During the next three years a major focus will be on ensuring that all preschool aged children in McCormick County are granted equal opportunities for school success. We plan to increase our availability to early care and education so that more children arrive at kindergarten ready for success. We will continue our collaborative efforts with our current community partners, and it is our plan to establish new partnerships as well.

McCormick County First Steps staff and board members will regularly revisit this plan to ensure it accurately reflects the organization's changing needs.

Overarching Measures of Success

Increase availability of high-quality early care and education opportunities offered by First Steps

By FY23, McCormick County First Steps will offer a minimum of one continuous scholarship opportunity to another certified and quality early care and education center.

More children arrive at kindergarten ready for success

By FY23, the percentage of children not ready for kindergarten will decrease by 2% each year to 38% (currently at 44% who aren't ready).

Objectives

1. CHILDREN HEALTH AND SAFETY

2. INCREASE ACCESS

**3. STRENGTHEN INTERAGENCY ACCOUNTABILITY AND
COLLABORATION**

1. CHILDREN HEALTH AND SAFETY

STRATEGY 1.1

Community Education

SMART GOAL

1. By the end of FY23, McCormick County First Steps will host or participate in at least three health fairs which will have a heavy focus on WIC enrollment.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- We will partner with McCormick County DHEC in planning our community health fairs.

2. INCREASE ACCESS

STRATEGY 2.1

Child Care Scholarships

SMART GOAL

1. By the end of FY23, McCormick County First Steps will grant at least three childcare scholarships (minimum of one per year) to Durant Family Daycare.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- We will partner with Durant Family Daycare and McCormick County DSS in choosing eligible families to receive scholarships.

3. STRENGTHEN INTERAGENCY ACCOUNTABILITY AND COLLABORATION

STRATEGY 3.1

Nurturing Parenting

SMART GOAL

- By the end of FY23, McCormick County First Steps will have established a solid partnership with McCormick County DSS to reduce the number of maltreatment cases by 1% (total number of cases 17 as of 2019) by enrolling intakes into the Nurturing Parenting program.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR(S)

- We will partner with McCormick County DSS to reduce the number of maltreatment cases.