

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

2021 – 2023



Mission

Our mission is to ensure opportunities for young children and their families in Chesterfield County so that every child enters school healthy and ready to learn.

Vision

Every child in Chesterfield County, SC will enter school prepared for success.

Values

1. The years of early childhood are a critical window of development during which much of crucial brain connections are formed.
2. Readiness to learn includes physical, mental, social, emotional, economic, and developmental well-being.
3. We support the role of families as the child's first and best teachers.
4. Community participation is essential to our success.
5. Collaborative partnerships are vital to supporting families and caregivers effectively.
6. First Steps and the community are mutually accountable for the success of all children.
7. Services must be high-quality, grounded in strong evidence, and adaptable to meet the unique needs of children and families.

Message from the Board Chair



The Chesterfield County First Steps 2021-2023 Comprehensive Plan reflects our organization's continued commitment to getting the children of Chesterfield County ready to learn and succeed in school.

Through best practices, evidence-based programs and meaningful collaborations with other community stakeholders, Chesterfield County First Steps will continue to expand its efforts to help families ensure the health, well-being and school readiness of every child in our service area.

Achieving the goals stated in this plan will test the capabilities of our underfunded organization – our board, our staff, our partners, our volunteers, and our donors - in this small, rural county with limited resources. Nevertheless, Chesterfield County First Steps will make every effort to meet our local goals and support the mission and goals of South Carolina First Steps to benefit the children and families we serve.

Tony Nolan
Board Chair
Chesterfield County First Steps

Overarching Measure of Success

MORE CHILDREN ARRIVE AT KINDERGARTEN READY FOR SUCCESS

South Carolina:

By 2025, the percentage of children who score at the highest level on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment will increase by 2% each year from 37% to 47%.

Chesterfield County:

By 2025, the percentage of children who score at the highest level on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment will increase by 2% each year from 27% to 37%.

As with all Chesterfield County programming, EQUITY will be a fundamental premise.

Objectives

- 1. Families are supported as their child's first and most important teachers.**
- 2. Families can access and afford high quality early care and education programs that meet the needs of their children and families.**
- 3. Children are healthy and safe.**

Objective 1: Families are supported as their child's first and most important teachers

STRATEGY 1.1 Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

SMART GOALS

- By the end of FY23, increase funding to expand capacity beyond children served by the Compass Point 4K and Nurse Family Partnership to more children birth to 5 years old.
- By the end of FY21, conduct parent survey of all Compass Point 4K and NFP families which measures an increase in the frequency of reading to their child after they began receiving books in the mail.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS

- McLeod Health, United Way Success By Six & the Rotary Club to increase capacity *(We hope to add more new partners!)*

STRATEGY 1.2 Nurse Family Partnership

SMART GOALS

- By the end of FY21, conduct a brief needs assessment of NFP parents and staff to determine other potential parent support opportunities for CCFS.
- By the end of FY23, collaborate with NFP to further support families, either by offering a group parent meeting component or other needed activity identified in needs assessment.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR

- McLeod Health

Objective 2: Families can access and afford high quality early care and education programs that meet the needs of their children and families

STRATEGY 2.1 Compass Point 4k

SMART GOALS

- In FY 21-22, Compass Point 4k will enroll and complete the school year with at least 10 children and by FY 23 achieve full enrollment, with 13 new children recruited.
- In FY21, FY22, and FY23, 90% of children will increase from beginning of the year to year-end in meeting or exceeding the Teaching Strategies Gold subscales.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS

- Northeastern Technical College, Chesterfield County Schools and McLeod Health to increase enrollment

STRATEGY 2.2 Community Education

SMART GOALS

- By FY21, develop a brochure describing CCFS programming, community need and engagement opportunities and distribute at community events.
- In FY21, FY22, and FY23, we will host two community open house events as info sessions to share and showcase information about Compass Point 4K, what high quality care looks like and how to apply for a child care voucher.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS

- Northeastern Technical College and Chesterfield County Schools

Objective 3: Children are healthy and safe

STRATEGY 3.1 Blessings in a Backpack

SMART GOAL

- By the end of FY23, have recruited and trained five new volunteers to ensure the stability of the program is maintained.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS

- Chesterfield County Schools, business, faith & medical communities, youth groups

STRATEGY 3.2 Nurse Family Partnership

SMART GOAL

- By the end of FY23, collaborate with NFP to further support families, either by offering a group parent meeting component or other needed activity identified in needs assessment.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS

- McLeod Health, DSS and Domestic Violence Coalition

STRATEGY 3.3 Community Education

SMART GOALS

- By FY21, develop a brochure describing CCFS programming, community need and engagement opportunities and distribute at community events.
- Host two community open house events per year to share and showcase information about healthy child development.
- Participate in at least one community event per year related to health and well-being of young children.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS

- Northeastern Technical College, Chesterfield County Schools, DSS, Health Department & McLeod Health