

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 ABBEVILLE COUNTY:

1,151

children under age 5

62%

of young children live in poverty or low-income households

65%

of kindergartners are considered "not ready" for school

OUR MISSION

To provide quality services and support for Abbeville County families with children newborn to five.

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

1419

number of children and adults served by Abbeville 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.

1402C Highway 72 West, Greenwood SC 29649 | 864-388-4102 | www.acfirststeps.org









Abbeville and Greenwood County First Steps have been partnering for years across county lines. Last year, the two county partnerships worked together to implement a new evidence-based model in South Carolina, The Nurturing Parenting Program. This program provides a home visitation model, and many group-based programs inclusive of Fatherhood programs. Through this great partnership and with The Social Change Initiative, programs have been offered for over 100 families in Abbeville and Greenwood Counties.

OUR GOALS

Abbeville County First Steps Strategic Goals 2018-2020

Goal 1: Provide Comprehensive Parenting Programs

Goal 2: Provide High Quality Comprehensive Parenting Programs inclusive of Fathers

Goal 3: Provide High Quality Trainings for childcare providers and early childhood educators

Goal 4: Serve as a local community portal for families to receive high quality services

Goal 5: Serve as community convener to partner with agencies in the community to promote comprehensive services to families





Abbeville County First Steps is a great partner for many agencies. Ursula Best, Abbeville DSS





CHILD CARE TRAINING



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 though 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:

- **Stress Can Affect Child Development**
- **Creative Activities for Children**
- **Preventing SIDS**
- How to Deal w/Stress in the Classroom
- **Guiding Children in the Right Direction**
- Working with Socialization Disorders
- Together We Can Make a Difference
- **Guiding Children's Behaviors in the** Classroom
- **Blood Bourne Pathogens**
- Safety in the Classroom
- **Safety First!**
- Integrating Early Learning Centers into the · Developmental Milestones in Social Classroom: STEAM
- A Difference is made When...

- Making your classroom more inviting for children with special needs.
- The Art of Imagination...
- · Learning Through Play
- **Classroom Management**
- **Working with Special Needs Children**
- **Literacy in Early Childhood Development**
- Learning Through Play in the Classroom
- The Art of Leading, Through Imagination **Working with Special Needs Children**
- The Importance of Promoting
- **Environments**

TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

total training attendance

child care teachers and directors served

number of training sessions offered





We are very thankful for the training hours offered by First Steps.

Prissy, Child Care Worker, Abbeville, SC





The Nurturing Parenting Program is a compilation of evidence-based programs designed to offer long term, more comprehensive parenting education. Parents & Their Infants, Toddlers & Preschoolers participate in a Home Visitation Program that utilizes a parenting curriculum that allows more interactive time between parent and child.

NURTURING PARENTING BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

39

552

families served





- Open to families in Greenwood and Abbeville Counties who have children prenatal to five years old.
- Home visits are provided twice a month with books, educational toys, and school readiness materials.
- Home Visitors provide community resource information to all families.

I am very proud of Arianna and what she is learning from Jessica. She is doing great with learning her colors and shapes. Arianna's language has improved greatly.

Ashley, Nurturing Parenting Participant







The Nurturing Parenting, Parent Training Program is a comprehensive group-based parenting program for parents of young children. Sessions are offered weekly and parents learn skills needed for a healthy nurturing parenting lifestyle. Group and individualized sessions are offered through Parent Training. Clients must complete a total of 13 sessions to receive a certificate of program completion. This program is operated in-house and the goal is to increase Parental involvement and reduce abuse and neglect.

PARENT TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

18
families served

50 total group meetings

Thanks to a charitable donation from the Abbeville Rotary Club. Thanks to the Rotary Club for providing funding for meals for families in the program.

Your support makes a difference!





NURTURING PARENTING Nurturing Fathers - Fatherhood Program



Workshops are offered to equip, educate, and empower fathers with the necessary tools to engage positively in their children's quest to be successful. The goal is to increase father involvement and reduce child abuse and neglect.

"Any Man can be a Father, but it takes a REAL MAN to be a DAD"

NURTURING FATHERS BY THE NUMBERS 2018-2019

families served

45 total group meetings





Michael did a great job teaching Fathers. He is a great advocate for fathers.

Matt, Fatherhood Initiative





COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

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

592

Families connected to services

644

Materials distributed





I appreciate all of the housing resources, food, and books given through First Steps. These are great resources for families.



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

FUNDING SUPPORT

South Carolina State Government: \$200,000
Walmart: \$1000
West Carolina Telephone: \$500
Abbeville Rotary Club: \$500
West Carolina Telephone
Freshwater Coast Foundation: \$\$2,500
Dr. Randall T. Ruble \$1000
Abbeville First Bank: \$250.00
CSX Transportation: \$1500
Sage Automotive: \$250
Abbeville Area Medical Center: \$350

IN-KIND SUPPORT/PARTNERS

Lander University

The Social Change Initiative

Greenwood County First Steps

Guardian ad Litem

Abbeville County Department of Social Services

Abbeville School District 60

Little River Baptist Church

JOIN US

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



OUR INVESTMENT IN QUALITY

Expenditures by Program Type



ESTIMATION OF COST SAVINGS

Since inception,
Greenwood County First
Steps has leveraged
\$1,397,530 from
sources outside of state
government.

That's \$0.38 for every state dollar.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES BY STRATEGY

	State Funding	Federal Funding	Private Funding	In-Kind	Total
Nurturing Parenting	\$178,306.00		\$9,715.01	\$192,146.00	\$380,167.01
Countdown to Kindergarten		\$4,142.70			\$4,142.70
Child Care Training	\$11,239.00		\$556.01		\$11,795.01
Core Functions	\$9,203.15	\$570.00	\$314.80		\$10,087.95
Administrative Support	\$4,432.00		\$380.68		\$4,812.68
Total Expenses	\$203,180.15	\$4,712.70	\$10,966.50	\$192,146.00	\$411,005.35



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CONTACT US

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