



PROGRAMS

Early Head Start

Quality Counts

Nurse Family Partnership

ANNUAL REPORT

2015 - 2016

VISION:
*Every child in Spartanburg County
will enter school ready for success.*



First Steps WORKS for the children of Spartanburg County.

Spartanburg County First Steps

Annual Report

2015-2016

By the Numbers

Indicator	SC	Spartanburg County
Children under 5	290,519	18,398
Children in Poverty	27.30%	26.90%
3rd Graders Below Standard In Reading	21.10%	20.40%
Births to Mothers With Less than a High School Diploma	15.70%	18.60%

County Statistics

First Steps serves children pre-birth to 5 years old who are at risk of not being ready for school.

- Since inception, Spartanburg County First Steps has leveraged \$27,756,265 from sources outside of state government. That's \$2.27 for every state dollar received.
- Spartanburg County First Steps Quality Counts Program works with 44% of the child care centers in the county to improve the quality of early education for young children during FY15.
- On March 1, 2015 our program was awarded a \$1,474,814 federal grant. The intent of the grant is for Early Head Start to partner with community childcare centers to serve low-income, working families. The grant targets zip codes that have high concentrations of poverty.
- Since 2009, 500 Spartanburg County vulnerable first-time mothers and their babies received services from Nurse Family Partnership.

Our Results

- ✓ Early Head Start #'s
80 new enrollment slots awarded!
- ✓ Quality Counts #'s
54% early care and education programs in Spartanburg County enrolled in Quality Counts
Over 2000 children benefit daily from quality care.
- ✓ Nurse Family Partnership #'s
Serving 200 first time pregnant moms and children

Wanda Fowler is the author of our 2016 Annual Report message. Wanda was appointed to the planning Committee for Spartanburg County First Steps in 1999 to represent Spartanburg County School District Five. Each of our seven School Districts has had an appointee to the First Steps Board since 1999. The leadership of the School District appointees has been important and truly appreciated over the past sixteen years. Wanda has served as Chairperson of the Board since 2014 filling an incomplete term of a former Chair. Wanda's guidance, experiences and leadership has been instrumental in moving Spartanburg County First Steps in the direction of understanding and working toward fulfilling our mission of getting kids ready for school. Thank you Wanda.

We at Spartanburg County First Steps are delighted to offer you our 2016 Annual Report. The report outlines another year of the services received by some truly amazing and inspirational children in our county. From the countless testimonies of the families we have served, we have gained an awareness of the positive impact of our programs.

We are grateful for the school districts, agencies, and organizations that have partnered with us to provide resources for children and their families. The efforts of our partners, funders, and supporters allow us to give our time each day to raise and sustain the level of all early childcare and to ensure that children of low-income working families are served.

Graham Green made the following statement concerning the success of children:

"There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in."

Spartanburg County First Steps wants to open doors for our children so the future can be bright and filled with promising possibilities.

We hope this report helps you to become even more informed of how Spartanburg County First Steps is an important part of the successful initiatives in our county that are bringing about positive change. Research reminds us that our community is stronger when our children are actively engaged and successful in school and community.

Spartanburg County First Steps provides programs and trainings that will enable our children to be prepared and eager to seize the opportunities that await them as they enter school. We hope this report will not only inform you but also inspire you to be eager and prepared to advocate for programs that safeguard the genuine success of our children.

With gratitude,

Spartanburg County First Steps

900 South Pine Street
Spartanburg S.C. 29302
864-327-4900
www.1steps.org

Board Chair
Wanda L. Fowler



County Programs

- Early Head Start
- Quality Counts
- Nurse Family Partnership

State Programs

- Baby Net
- First Steps 4k



What We Do

Each of the six color blocks of the First Steps logo represents a core area of service, outlining our comprehensive strategy to prepare children for long-term school success.

With **measurable outcomes across each of its six school readiness strategy areas**, First Steps is getting results.



Healthy Start

We begin with a focus on providing a healthy start to life. This includes prenatal and post-partum services for both mother and baby. In 2007, First Steps collaborated with key philanthropic and agency partners to bring Nurse-Family Partnership to SC having a significant impact on reducing premature births and Medicaid costs.



Quality Childcare

Quality childcare starts with quality childcare providers. Our quality enhancement and training strategies lead to improved teacher-student interaction, which research shows has a significant impact on a child's development and success in school.



Family Strengthening

Our home visitation strategies, such as Parents as Teachers, Parent-Child Home and Early Steps to School Success, are helping parents understand their responsibilities to care for and be positive models for their children. As a result of First Steps' intervention and parenting support, 66% of clients initially assessed at "low" levels of parenting have achieved moderate or high levels of parenting skill.



Early Education

Private-public partnerships through First Steps 4K have led to significant cost efficiencies in the delivery of publicly funded 4K. One recent analysis suggests First Steps is achieving comparable results, without the need for costly capital construction, for 80 cents on the dollar.



Early Intervention

According to recent federal evaluations, outcomes for clients participating in BabyNet early intervention programs are above national averages. BabyNet matches the special needs of infants and toddlers who have disabilities and/or developmental delays with customized, community-based resources.



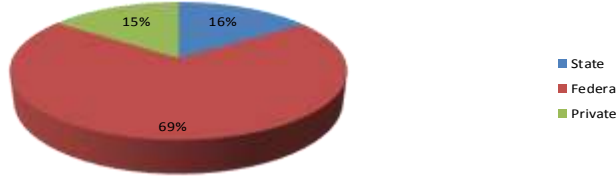
School Transition

Each of the corresponding blocks of services leads ultimately to the goal of transitioning children successfully to school. Programs like Countdown to Kindergarten and From Day One to Grade One are ultimately preparing children for school success.

Based on the needs assessment of our community, Spartanburg County First Steps focuses its investments in Quality Childcare and Early Head Start.

Financial Impact

Expenditures by Funding Source
FY1516 (07/01/15 - 06/30/16)



Total 2015-2016 Expenditures
\$4,148,283
Funds Leveraged 541%

Fiscal Year	State	Federal	Private	Total	
07/01/2015 - 06/30/2016	\$ 647,500	\$ 2,875,983	\$ 624,799	\$ 4,148,282.52	
State Leverage %:	541%				
Strategy	State	Federal	Private	Total	%
Administrative	\$ 214,301	\$ 21,948	\$ -	\$ 236,249	6%
Programmatic	\$ 124,931	\$ 83,343	\$ 33,663	\$ 241,937	6%
Quality Counts	\$ 308,268	\$ -	\$ 208,992	\$ 517,260	12%
Early Head Start	\$ -	\$ 1,459,398	\$ 2,041	\$ 1,461,440	35%
Child Care Partnership	\$ -	\$ 942,465	\$ -	\$ 942,465	23%
Nurse Family Partnership	\$ -	\$ 368,829	\$ 380,103	\$ 748,932	18%
Total:	\$ 647,500	\$ 2,875,983	\$ 624,799	\$ 4,148,283	100%
	16%	69%	15%		100%

EHS Federal Grant Analysis (Awarded vs Expenditures) FY 15-16 07/01/2015 - 06/30/2016

Agency Name	Agency #
Spartanburg County First Steps - EHS	04CH4602
Program Year Begin Date	July 1

Section A - Budget Summary					Non-Federal			
Program Function / Activity	Federal Domestic Assistance Number	Federal		Obligated / Expended	Unobligated	Required	Received	Shortage
		Awarded	Obligated / Expended					
3) PA-25	93.600	1,432,095	1,432,095	-	-	366,860	366,860	-
4) PA-1126	93.600	35,343	35,343	-	-	-	-	-
5) Totals	93.600	1,467,438	1,467,438	-	-	-	-	-

Object Class Categories	Program Funds			Professional Development			Totals			Notes
	Awarded	Obligated / Expended	Unobligated	Awarded	Obligated / Expended	Unobligated	Awarded	Obligated / Expended	Unobligated	
A) Personnel	679,004	683,548	(4,544)	-	-	-	679,004	683,548	(4,544)	
B) Fringe Benefits	315,738	282,688	33,050	-	-	-	315,738	282,688	33,050	
C) Travel	-	-	-	12,363	12,363	-	12,363	12,363	-	
D) Equipment	-	6,217	(6,217)	-	-	-	-	6,217	(6,217)	
E) Supplies	29,671	66,689	(37,018)	-	-	-	29,671	66,689	(37,018)	
F) Contractual	240,210	256,861	(16,651)	-	-	-	240,210	256,861	(16,651)	
G) Facilities/Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
H) Renovations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
I) Other	107,978	105,591	2,387	22,980	22,980	-	130,958	128,571	2,387	
J) Total (A-I)	1,372,601	1,401,594	(28,993)	35,343	35,343	-	1,407,944	1,436,937	(28,993)	
K) Indirect Charges	59,494	30,501	28,993	-	-	-	59,494	30,501	28,993	
L) Total (J-K)	1,432,095	1,432,095	-	35,343	35,343	-	1,467,438	1,467,438	-	

EHS CCP Federal Grant Analysis (Awarded vs Expenditures) FY 15-16 07/01/2015 - 06/30/2016

Agency Name	Agency #
Spartanburg County First Steps - CCP	04HP0038
Program Year Begin Date	March 1

Section A - Budget Summary					Non-Federal			
Program Function / Activity	Federal Domestic Assistance Number	Federal		Obligated / Expended	Unobligated	Required	Received	Shortage
		Awarded	Obligated / Expended					
3) PA-25	93.600	1,781,438	1,090,703	690,735	-	499,968	293,000	206,968
4) PA-1126	93.600	218,435	49,787	168,648	-	-	-	-
5) Totals	93.600	1,999,873	1,140,490	859,383	-	-	-	-

Object Class Categories	Program Funds			Professional Development			Totals			Notes
	Awarded	Obligated / Expended	Unobligated	Awarded	Obligated / Expended	Unobligated	Awarded	Obligated / Expended	Unobligated	
A) Personnel	451,637	501,568	(49,931)	-	-	-	451,637	501,568	(49,931)	(a) Non-Federal Match is based on an 18 month grant schedule.
B) Fringe Benefits	139,238	190,126	(50,888)	-	-	-	139,238	190,126	(50,888)	(b) This report reflects figures from March 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.
C) Travel	-	-	-	61,702	24,831	36,871	61,702	24,831	36,871	
D) Equipment	30,000	4,887	25,113	-	-	-	30,000	4,887	25,113	
E) Supplies	160,678	100,486	60,192	-	-	-	160,678	100,486	60,192	
F) Contractual	849,337	174,706	674,631	-	-	-	849,337	174,706	674,631	
G) Facilities/Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
H) Renovations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
I) Other	109,591	81,009	28,582	156,733	24,956	131,777	266,324	105,965	160,359	
J) Total (A-I)	1,740,481	1,052,783	687,698	218,435	49,787	168,648	1,958,916	1,102,570	856,346	
K) Indirect Charges	40,957	37,920	3,037	-	-	-	40,957	37,920	3,037	
L) Total (J-K)	1,781,438	1,090,703	690,735	218,435	49,787	168,648	1,999,873	1,140,490	859,383	



Early Head Start (FS EHS)



Program Description
Early Head Start provides high quality, culturally sensitive child development and parent support in homes and centers.

Spartanburg County First Steps Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten.

- Spartanburg County First Steps **Quality Counts** works with 50 % of the child care centers in the county to improve the quality of early education for young children.
- All seven school districts are represented on the First Steps Board.
- The School Readiness Community Team includes School District Personnel.
- **FS EHS** contracts with two school districts to provide Early Head Start services with family literacy sites.



School Readiness

- ✓ Readiness does not happen at the same time or in the same way for all children
- ✓ 91% of Early Head Start children were developing typically based on GOLD Assessment- April 2016

FS EHS by the Number\$

Early Head Start		
Funding Source	FY1415	FY1516
State Funding	\$ 51,439	\$ -
South Carolina First Steps	\$ 51,439	\$ -
Federal Funding	\$ 1,522,043	\$ 1,500,769
Early Head Start	\$ 1,467,438	\$ 1,467,438
*CACFP	\$ 36,084	\$ 33,331
*ABC	\$ 18,521	\$ -
Private Funding	\$ 107,707	\$ 2,993
School District 7	\$ 103,851	\$ -
Parent Co-Pays	\$ 3,856	\$ 2,993
Total:	\$ 1,681,189	\$ 1,503,762
*CACFP - Child and Adult Care Food Program		
*ABC - ABC Childcare Program		

FS EHS Enrollment and Attendance	EHS	CCP
Funded Enrollment-	120	80
Average Monthly Enrollment	119	40
Number of Children Served	206	102
Number of Families Served	177	85
Percentage of Eligible Children Served	99	49
Percentage of Attendance for the Year	85	88
# of Pregnant Women Served	23	n/a?
# of Children & Families on Waitlist	33	7

Child Care Partnership		
Funding Source	FY1415	FY1516
State Funding	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Funding	\$ 147,216	\$ 989,612
Child Care Partnership	\$ 147,216	\$ 968,096
*CACFP	\$ -	\$ 17,532
*ABC	\$ -	\$ 3,984
Private Funding	\$ -	\$ 5,208
Parent Co-Pays	\$ -	\$ 5,208
Total:	\$ 147,216	\$ 994,820
*CACFP - Child and Adult Care Food Program		
*ABC - ABC Childcare Program		

Health Services	CCP	EHS
Children Served With Disabilities	9 (11%)	26 (22%)
Children Served Who Received Medical Exams	n/a	81 (39%)
Children Served Up to Date Vision Screenings	67 (66%)	75 (36%)
Children received Dental Examinations	12 (12%)	14 (7%)
Pregnant Women Who Received Dental Services	n/a	48%
Children Up to Date on Immunizations	73%	78%
Pregnant Women Rec'd Post-Natal EHS Visit within 14 Days	n/a	100%
2 Health Services Advisory Meetings		

All parents who identified themselves as smokers participated in a Smoking Cessation survey and received applicable guidance on quitting. All parents also participated in a weight management survey and upon interest, they received education and upon interest, CCP parents: Five identified themselves as smokers and at the end of the year, four were non smokers.

➤ EHS parents: 1 person identified



Early Head Start



*First Steps successfully managed two Early Head Start programs in the 2015-2016 program year.
The following Childcare Partnerships participate in the programs:*

- **Traditional EHS:** SCSDB – Kelly’s Kids, Woodruff Primary, This is my Child, Roy C. Henderson and the Early Learning Center.
 - **Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (CCP):** The Sunshine House, Early Learning Center, Mother Goose and Abundant Blessings
- Note: *This Is My Child has elected not to renew their partnership for the 2016/2017 program year*

CACFP

Nutritious breakfasts, lunches and snacks were served at FS EHS/CCP centers. **EHS – 16,891**
CCP – 8,969

EHS Parents read to their children a total of **1015.5** hours this year!
CCP Families read to their children a total of **215.02**

EHS and CCP Families participated in 1584 home visits.

By the Numbers

Community Referrals!!

- **EHS received 681**
 - **CCP received 114**
- Staff provided support and follow-up regarding family's receipt and satisfaction with referral services.

Socialization Activities

- **EHS: 60** parents & children attended **23** events!
- Most were offered in the library, park or the apple farm!

Early Head Start Federal Review & Audit Results

Results Audit

The A133 Single Audit of 2014-2015 was completed with no material findings and was filed with the Federal Clearinghouse in March 2016.

Results Federal Review

The triennial review was held January 6-10, 2014. South Carolina First Steps to Spartanburg County (Spartanburg County First Steps) was found noncompliant for Part 1306- Head Start Staffing Requirements and Program Options-Grantees implementing a home-based program option must: maintain an average caseload of 10-12 families per home visitor with a maximum caseload of 12 families for any individual home visitor

The agency created a Home-Based Program Option Compliance Plan which addressed and corrected the staffing problem which was sent to Atlanta in April 2014. A letter was received from Ann Linehan, Acting Director, Office of Head Start in August stating that the information provided to ACF was sufficient to close the previously identified findings.

serves *more than 50% of the eligible child care programs* in Spartanburg County, including three 4K classes at District 7 School, Cleveland Academy of Leadership



Quality Counts Partners

Quality Counts is a partnership between the Mary Black Foundation and Spartanburg County First Steps. Public-private partnerships are essential to the success of Quality Counts. These partnerships support the credibility and visibility of Quality Counts in the community.

Funding Partners

Mary Black Foundation

Spartanburg County First Steps

Community Partners

Spartanburg Academic Movement

Institute for Child Success

Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce

Spartanburg County Foundation

Spartanburg Herald-Journal

Spartanburg Regional Foundation

Spartanburg Regional Healthcare

Spartanburg County School Districts

United Way of the Piedmont

Continuous Quality Improvement: The Heart of Quality Counts

The heart of Quality Counts is the *Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)* loop. This approach provides a clear roadmap with supports for the director and staff to meet their quality goals. The CQI loop begins with the program assessment score, including the baseline Environment Rating Scale (ERS) assessment. The ERS (ITERS and E-3) are completed by a rater who maintains yearly reliability with the authors. Classrooms are randomly drawn during the assessment window and 50% are assessed. This allows for an ERS center average score to be determined. This approach helps to ensure program quality by potentially assessing all classrooms. All classrooms in the program are eligible to be assessed and can receive technical assistance (coaching, modeling, specialized training, assistance with room design, etc.) throughout the year.

This is the first step in the CQI loop and provides a clear beginning for the roadmap to quality.

Barbara Manoski, Director Quality Counts

*Quality Counts highlights Spartanburg School District 7 as a community partner for 2015-2016. Spartanburg School District 7 is known as leader in education in South Carolina. Locally, Spartanburg 7 has partnered with Quality Counts in multiple ways. The most recent being the receipt of a grant, **Spartanburg Quality Counts Pre-K Coalition Project**, submitted by Spartanburg 7 to the Education Oversight Committee. The one year grant is a one year matching grants initiative designed to encourage sustainable partnerships among South Carolina school districts and community groups.*

Parent Engagement Activities:
Families received training and education throughout the year on topics mandated by EHS and based upon community needs.

➤ **EHS Families: 1849** parent engagement events

➤ **CCP Families: 395** parent engagement events

Quality Counts is one of the most exciting initiatives with the greatest potential to make a real difference in the quality of early learning and early childhood education I have seen in my 35 years in education. Our county's investment and support of Quality Counts is critical in our collective efforts to ensure all our children are ready at every age and stage to learn and thrive and be successful in school and life.

*Terry Pruitt, Deputy Superintendent
Spartanburg County School District 7*

**2015-2016
Spartanburg**



Quality Counts Community Impact



Slide into Summer Reading 2016



In partnership with the *Spartanburg Academic Movement, SAM*, Quality Counts offered a summer reading initiative for 3 and 4 year-old classrooms during the summer months of June and July, *Slide into Summer Reading*. Each classroom was provided with a “Book of the Week” and had a goal of reading a total of 1,200 minutes. Students could read at home or at school. There were suggested activities to support learning opportunities connected to the book. Teachers in participating classrooms were asked to log the number of minutes they



read aloud to their students each day. Also, the teacher created a bar graph chart showing the number of minutes read each week, so students can easily see their reading progress. Families played an important role in the project, as each family received a tracking sheet to log the time they spent reading to their child at home. The sheet was returned and the total was added to the classroom total each week. The reading program lasted 8 weeks and each child received a free book and all participating classrooms were treated to a **pizza/veggie/ice-cream and fruit party!**

Thirty-seven By the Numbers **read more than**

Quality Counts		
Funding Source	FY1415	FY1516
State Funding	\$ 296,077	\$ 308,268
<i>South Carolina First Steps</i>	<i>\$ 296,077</i>	<i>\$ 308,268</i>
Federal Funding	\$ -	\$ -
Local Private	\$ 181,750	\$ 208,992
<i>Mary Black Foundation</i>	<i>\$ 181,750</i>	<i>\$ 208,992</i>
Total:	\$ 477,827	\$ 517,260

Reading chart by the 3 and 4 year old's Preschool.

In 2015-2016 Quality Counts Accomplished:

- **74 hours of free, high quality training**, including Teaching Strategies on Creative Curriculum and Jessica Flowers on Conscious Discipline were offered to teachers and Directors.
- **4 Quality Counts Team members** become certified Observers on the CLASS Preschool tool.
- **84 reliable Environment Rating Scale observations** were completed for Quality Counts programs.
- **Named a partner** in an *Education Oversight Committee* grant with Spartanburg School District 7.

Spartanburg County First Steps
 900 South Pine Street, Suite C | Spartanburg SC, 29302
 Phone- 864-327-4900
www.1steps.org



Nurse-Family Partnership



Helping vulnerable first-time moms empowers them to achieve a better life for themselves and their children.

Program Description

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP (NFP) IN OUR COMMUNITY

Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) is an evidence-based, community health program that helps transform the lives of vulnerable mothers pregnant with their first child. Each mother served by NFP is partnered with a registered nurse early in her pregnancy and receives ongoing nurse home visits that continue through her child's second birthday. Independent research proves that communities benefit from this relationship — **every dollar invested in NFP can yield more than five dollars in return.**

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP GOALS

1. Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women engage in good, preventive health practices, including thorough prenatal care from their healthcare providers, improving their diets, and reducing their use of cigarettes, alcohol and illegal substances
2. Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care
3. Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education and find work.

Why NFP Works

NFP is supported by the most extensive research foundation of any maternal and child health program. Three randomized controlled trials in 1997, 1988 and 1994 - which are still being examined today for long-term impact - show consistently proven results in the areas of **improved prenatal health, fewer childhood injuries, fewer subsequent pregnancies, increased intervals between births, increased maternal employment, and improved**

Program Results 2009-2016

Spartanburg County NFP by the Numbers

- ✓ 613 Clients served
- ✓ 440 Babies Born to Program
- ✓ 75% moms initiating breastfeeding.
- ✓ Premature Birth rate 8.9%
- ✓ 98% of children immunized
- ✓ 9.5% Subsequent pregnancies

Nurse Family Partnership		
Funding Source	FY1415	FY1516
State Funding	\$ 1,500	\$ -
<i>South Carolina First Steps</i>	\$ 1,500	\$ -
Federal Funding	\$ 253,025	\$ 368,829
<i>Children's Trust Fund of SC</i>	\$ 253,025	\$ 368,829
Local Private	\$ 529,600	\$ 368,829
<i>Duke Endowment</i>	\$ 500,000	\$ 339,229
<i>United Way of the Piedmont</i>	\$ 29,600	\$ 29,600
Total:	\$ 784,125	\$ 737,658

Thank you to our partners!

*DHEC Region 2
Spartanburg Regional Hospital Systems
United Way of the Piedmont
Congregational Nursing Program
Spartanburg Regional Home Care
Spartanburg County First Steps
SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
The Duke Endowment
Children's Trust of South Carolina*

Risk Factor Profile:

% Single Mothers	88.7
% < HS Diploma	59.7



In Spartanburg County, Nurse-Family Partnership is implemented through Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, Home Health Division and Spartanburg County First Steps serves as Fiscal Manager and hosts the Community Advisory Board.

Spartanburg County First Steps

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Getting Children Ready for School

Early Learning ... A Priority in Spartanburg

In collaboration to learn from each other and help change a community of learners, Spartanburg County School District Seven set as a priority an early learning center concept in the Park Hills community.

Principal Wanda Owens-Jackson said ... *“It will help us to get on one chord, as far as serving our early learners. We’ll be able to pool our resources and make this a wonderful experience for our early learners.”*

Over 20 partnerships were formed to make this early education effort possible including Spartanburg First Steps Early Head Start, the Mary Black Foundation, Boys and Girls Club, ReGenesis Community Health Center, Silver Hill United Methodist Church, Spartanburg County Adult Education Program, Spartanburg County Foundation, Spartanburg Housing Authority, Spartanburg Regional Foundation and others.

Spartanburg County First Steps Partnership Board

Name	Position	Board Category
Donna Anderson	Department of Social Services Support Provider	DSS
Kim Ashby	Spartanburg County School District Two	School District Representative
Terrill Banks	Former Early Head Start Parent	Parent
Joan Blalock	Spartanburg County Library	Library
Jean Brewington	Spartanburg County School District Three	School District Representative
Tamara Cook	USC Upstate Nursing Professor	Healthcare Provider
Loreta Dylgieri	SC School for the Deaf and Blind	Early Education
Wanda Fowler	Middle Tyger Community Center, ED. Retired	School District Representative
Carolyn Gibson	Legislative Appointee	State Apointee
Clarisa Giles	Nurse Family Partnership, Director	Healthcare Provider
Amy Goulding	Attorney – 7 th Circuit Solicitor’s Office	Attorney
Ann Greene	Spartanburg County School District One	School District Representative
Ava Hughes	Arts Education Director/Chapman Cultural Center	Business
Sarah Love	Childcare, Early Childhood Development	Children, Early Childhood
Kim McAbee	Spartanburg County School District Four	School District Representative
Dr. Lindi Metcalf	Spartanburg County School District Six	School District Representative
Bob Page	Early Childhood Education	Retired Principal
Kay Phillips	Budweiser of Spartanburg/Business	Legislative Appointee
Terry Pruitt	Spartanburg County School District Seven	School District Representative
Anna Strom	McAbee, Talbot, Halliday (CPA)	Fiscal – Required by EHS

Spartanburg County First Steps

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BabyNet

South Carolina's Early Intervention System

First Steps is the lead agency for BabyNet, South Carolina's early intervention system for children under 3. Parents of children 0-2 years old with disabilities or suspected developmental delays should contact their local BabyNet office to schedule an evaluation.

Local BabyNet Office: Serving Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union

Location:

S.C. School for the Deaf and Blind
355 Cedar Springs Road
Spartanburg, SC 29302

Lead Supervisor: Melissa Swann

Office: 864.591.8645
Cell: 864.360.4102
Main Telephone Line: 864-591-8641

BabyNet is South Carolina's interagency early intervention system for infants and toddlers under three years of age with developmental delays, or who have conditions associated with developmental delays.

BabyNet matches the special needs of infants and toddlers who have developmental delays with the professional resources available within the community. Services are provided in everyday routines, activities and places relevant to the life of the family. BabyNet is funded and regulated through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and managed through South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness.

Anyone (a parent, doctor, caregiver, teacher or friend) can make a referral by the number listed below. The earlier a baby or toddler receives help, the better!

To make a referral or to get more information call [1-877-621-0865](tel:1-877-621-0865) or send an email to babynet@scfirststeps.org for assistance



The Goals of First Steps

- (1) Provide parents with access to the support they might seek and want** to strengthen their families and to promote the optimal development of their preschool children
- (2) Increase comprehensive services** so children have reduced risk for major physical, developmental, and learning problems
- (3) Promote high-quality preschool programs** that provide a healthy environment that will promote normal growth and development
- (4) Provide services** so all children receive the protection, nutrition, and health care needed to thrive in the early years of life so they arrive at school ready to succeed
- (5) Mobilize communities** to focus efforts on providing enhanced services to support families and their young children so as to enable every child to reach school healthy and ready to succeed.

-- Section 59-152-30



Interested parents can contact any participating 4K providers to complete an application. To view a list of participating First Steps 4K providers, visit:

<http://scfirststeps.org/4k>

Spartanburg County First Steps

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