



For Our Future: South Carolina's Investments in Early Childhood

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South Carolina First Steps

SC Early Childhood Advisory Council



South Carolina
**Early Childhood
Advisory Council**

South Carolina First Steps

Our Impact

37,163

infants, toddlers & preschoolers directly served

60,000+

children reached in child cares & preschool classrooms

What We Do



In every county, **First Steps partnerships** offer direct services and act as local hubs for early childhood resources and referrals.



First Steps 4K offers free four-year-old kindergarten to qualifying children in private, nonprofit, and faith-based centers across the state.



As the connector and convener of the state's early childhood system, SC First Steps coordinates the activities of the **Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)**.

Why It Matters

Disadvantaged children who experience quality early care and education **earn up to 25% more** in wages as an adult.



Children with access to quality early care and education are:



more prepared for kindergarten



more likely to graduate from high school and pursue higher education



more likely to earn higher wages, experience better health, and build strong families and communities



Early Childhood Advisory Council

As the connector and convener of all early childhood serving agencies, South Carolina First Steps operates the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC), a collaborative body representing the state's early childhood system.



South Carolina
**Early Childhood
Advisory Council**



For Our Future: South Carolina's Birth through Five Plan

7

GUIDING
PRINCIPLES

4

GOALS

19

OBJECTIVES

62

STRATEGIES

7

KEY MEASURES
OF PROGRESS

When we are successful,
every young child in South Carolina will be:



Federal Funds Direct to 25 Local Grantees



State Government

Administration for Children and Families

- Office of Head Start
- Office of Child Care
 - Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
- Preschool Development Grant (PDG)
- Office of Family Assistance
 - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Children's Bureau
 - Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP)

Health Resources and Services Administration

- Maternal and Child Health Bureau
 - Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (MCHBG)
- Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)

Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services

- Medicaid
- Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Food, Nutrition and Community Services

- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

- Part B, Section 619
- Part C

Institute for Education Sciences

- National Center for Education Statistics
- Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Grant (SLDS)



SC First Steps

- Early Childhood Advisory Council
- Local Partnerships
 - Health
 - Parenting
 - Early Care and Education
 - School Transitions
- First Steps 4K



SC Department of Education

- Division of Data, Technology, and Agency Operations
 - SLDS
- Office of Special Education Services
 - Part B, Section 619 (Ages 3-4)
- Office of Early Learning and Literacy
 - State 4K (public school settings; supplemental info 2)



SC Department of Social Services

- SNAP
- TANF
- CACFP
- CCDF
 - SC Voucher
 - Child care licensing
 - ABC Quality
 - Child Care Resource and Referral
- PDG
- Head Start Collaboration Office



SC Department of Health and Human Services

- Medicaid
- CHIP
- Part C (BabyNet Ages 0-30)
- Birth Outcomes Initiative



Department of Health and Environmental Control

- Bureau of Community Nutrition Services
 - WIC
- Bureau of Maternal and Child Health
 - MCHBG
- Local Health Departments: Home Visiting



Children's Trust of South Carolina

- MIECHV
 - SC Home Visiting Consortium
- CBCAP



Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

- Early Intervention (Ages 3-5)



Head Start

- Preschool Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Migrant Head Start
- American Indian Head Start
- Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships

Additional Members of the Interagency Collaboration Committee of the ECAC



Educational Television

- PBS Kids (National Content)
- SCETV Kids (Local Content)
- KnowItAll.org
- Educator Training
- WiFi Hotspots (First Steps, Head Start, After School Alliance)
- Community/Parent Engagement



Department of Mental Health

- Hall Psychiatric Institute - Child and Adolescent Hospital at G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital
- Community Mental Health Services



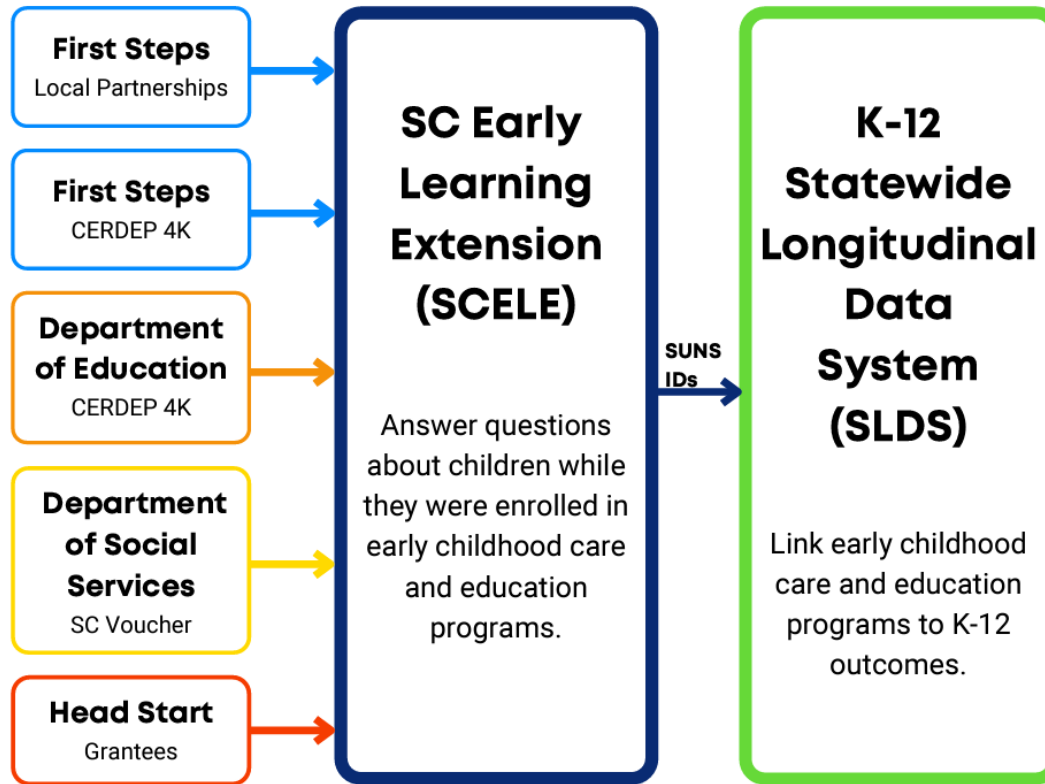
State Library



Commission on Higher Education



Actionable Data for Decision Making





Our Approach



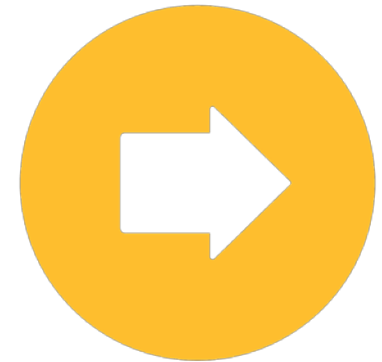
HEALTH



PARENTING



**EARLY CARE &
EDUCATION**



**SCHOOL
TRANSITION**

We take a holistic approach to accomplishing our mission, offering services that improve children's health, strengthen families, expand access to quality child care, increase participation in four-year-old kindergarten, and help transition rising kindergartners into school.



First Steps 4K



First Steps 4K, First Nazareth Child Development Center, Columbia

First Steps 4K offers curriculum-driven, full-day pre-K in private, nonprofit, and faith-based child care centers and schools. Teachers support early learning across multiple domains: learning and inquiry, physical development and motor skills, language and literacy, social and emotional development, and mathematical thinking.

Economic Impact of Child Care in SC



183,665
child care slots



183,665
parents can now go
to work



\$49,390
median income of a
one-earner household



\$9.1 billion

Taxable wage income available
because of child care centers



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