



Executive Committee Meeting
January 26, 2022 at 3:00 pm by Zoom

AGENDA

Members: David Morley, Dr. Shelley Canright, Jennifer McConnell, Walt Fleming, Dr. Amy Williams, Sen. Gerald Malloy, **Staff Liaison:** Georgia Mjartan

ACTION ITEM:

Approve the 2022 Board of Trustees and ECAC meeting dates.

Informational Items

- I. Legislative Update
 - Budget Request
 - JCLCC
 - Paid Parental Leave for State Employees
 - Governance
- II. Grantmaking Update
 - ESSER Parenting Expansion Grants Fundraising Update
 - End of Year Campaign
 - A Night to Celebrate Community
- III. Local Partnerships
 - Corrective Action
 - Child Care Scholarships
- IV. 4K
 - Statewide Expansion
 - 2022 – 2023 Applications Launched
 - EOC Report
- V. ECAC
 - Birth through Five Plan
 - o ICC Role & Next Steps
 - o Final Document
 - o Press Conference
 - First Five SC
 - o Soft Launch
 - o Press Conference
 - o Marketing Campaign
 - Other initiatives:
 - o Family Voice Council
 - o Technical College Work Skills Scholarships for First Steps Families
 - o PreK to K Family Engagement Transitions Working Group (Ed. Commission of the States)

- ECE Business Collaboratory Working Group (First Children's Finance)

VI. Personnel / HR

- New Hires & Vacancies
- EPMS / Review
- Pay for Performance
- All Team Survey
- COVID-19 Update
- Rosewood Building



2022

Board of Trustees and Early Childhood Advisory Council

Meeting Dates

Meetings will be held at 2 p.m. at

FEBRUARY 17, 2022	BOARD OF TRUSTEES EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL
APRIL 21, 2022	BOARD OF TRUSTEES RETREAT EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL
JUNE 16, 2022	BOARD OF TRUSTEES EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL
AUGUST 18, 2022	BOARD OF TRUSTEES EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 20, 2022	BOARD OF TRUSTEES EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 1, 2022	2022 SC SUMMIT ON EARLY CHILDHOOD
DECEMBER 2, 2022	BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL MEETING EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL



SC First Steps Budget Request Summary FY 2022-2023

Priority #1: Every Child READY

- READY: Resources for Early Acceleration and Development in Youth
- **\$6,000,000** in recurring funds to be distributed to First Steps Local Partnerships through a competitive and targeted grant-making process approved by the South Carolina First Steps Board of Trustees.
 - First Steps local partnership programs successfully get children ready for school, however, 76% of the children who qualify for these public programs cannot access them due to lack of funding to support sufficient reach.
- **Purpose:** Increase the number of infants, toddlers and preschoolers participating in programs proven to:
 - Accelerate early learning and development
 - Improve early childhood health
 - Strengthen families, building on a parent’s role as their child’s first teacher
 - Expand access to high-quality child care
 - Support a successful start to school
- **Mechanism:** Distribute to First Steps Local Partnerships:
 - Through competitive and targeted grants
 - Prioritize programs for children birth through three, rural communities, and communities where KRA scores are below state average
- **Uses:**
 - Support and expand effective programs
 - Build local partnerships’ capacity, staffing and infrastructure
 - Monitor and evaluate measurable progress toward goals

Proviso Revision Request: 1.55 & 1A.29

No New Funds Requested – Authorization Only

- SDE EIA: Full Day 4K (CERDEP)
- Requesting an increase of **\$270** in the annual tuition rate of a child for a total reimbursement of \$5,070 to private providers.
 - The increase is based on the inflation rate of 5.6%
 - This will help address the rising costs of staffing and supplies and help close the gap between the \$4,800 being paid now and the >\$7,000 cost per child per year.
- Requesting an increase of **\$32.88** to the transportation reimbursement per child.
 - This increase is based on the inflation rate of 5.6%
 - This will increase the total transportation reimbursement per child from \$587 to \$620.
- Requesting an increase of **\$400** to the amount per child for a classroom set up.
 - This will increase the total amount per child for a classroom set up from \$1,000 to \$1,400.
- Requesting an increase of **\$4,000** to the total amount per classroom for a classroom of 7 or more students.
 - This will increase the total amount per classroom from \$10,000 to \$14,000.
 - This amount has not been increased since the start of the program and is critical to improving the quality of the classroom experience.

April 28th 2022 6pm -10pm

A NIGHT TO CELEBRATE

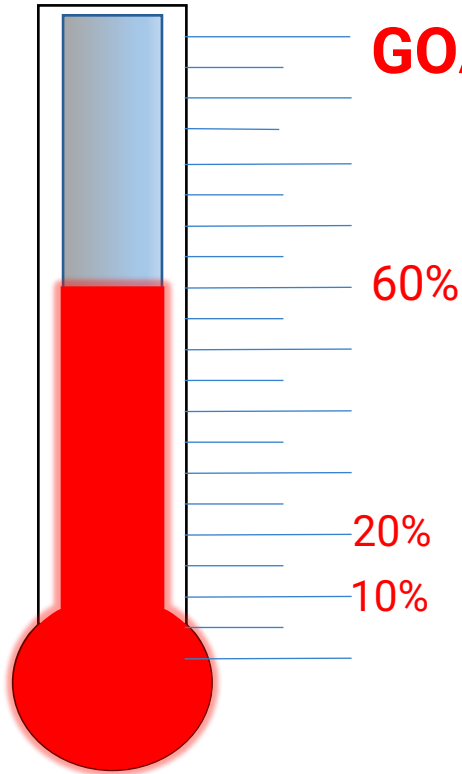
Community

A fundraiser for South Carolina's children

The Hall at Senate's End
320 Senate Street, Columbia, SC



Sponsorships Committed



Committed	Sponsorship
First Citizens Bank	\$15,000.00
37 Gears, Website Design and Development	\$5,000.00
Canright-Keller Family	\$5,000.00
Manley Garvin	\$5,000.00
Dave and Cheryl Morley	\$2,500.00
Georgia and Dominik Mjartan	\$1,000.00
Dr. and Mrs. Aaron Wynkoop	\$1,000.00
Scott and Company	\$1,000.00
T. S. Holt Company	\$1,000.00
Ms. Jesica Mackey	\$1,000.00
Anlar	\$1,000.00
Debbie and Mark Robertson	\$1,000.00
Joel Lourie	\$1,000.00
Teaching Strategies	\$1,000.00
Terry Richardson	\$500.00
	\$42,000.00
Another Printer	\$300 of printing

FY21 First Steps Child Care Scholarships Report

23 First Steps Local Partnerships operated a Child Care Scholarships program in FY21. This includes both DSS-purchased and in-house scholarships.

FY21 E.I.A. Allocation Funds (incl. carry forward) Spent on Scholarships (both In-house and DSS-purchased)	\$ 1,355,252.75
FY21 E.I.A. Allocation Funds Spent on DSS – Purchased Scholarships	\$ 725,338.86
FY21 E.I.A. Allocation Funds Spent on In-House Scholarships	\$ 543,696.79
Three counties (Hampton, Jasper, and Orangeburg) operated both in-house and DSS-purchased scholarship programs. For these counties, we can only gather state-level finance data on the total amount spent on scholarships (including both in-house and DSS-purchased). The amount spent in FY21 (in-house and DSS purchased) by these three counties is shown in the next column.	\$ 86,217.10

Local Partnerships that Operated a First Steps Scholarship Program in FY21

DSS – Purchased Scholarships <i>Total = 13 counties with 3 operating both DSS-purchased and in-house scholarship programs</i>	In-House Scholarships <i>Total = 13 counties with 3 operating both DSS-purchased and in-house</i>
Allendale Bamberg Berkeley Colleton Dorchester Florence *Hampton (both DSS and In-House) *Jasper (both DSS and In-House) Lee Marion Marlboro *Orangeburg (both DSS and In-House) Sumter	Aiken Barnwell Edgefield Fairfield Georgetown *Hampton (both DSS and In-House) *Jasper (both DSS and In-House) Laurens McCormick Oconee *Orangeburg (both DSS and In-House) Pickens York

FY22 First Steps Scholarships Report

21 First Steps Local Partnerships are operating a Child Care Scholarships program in FY22. This includes both DSS-purchased and in-house scholarships. Lancaster started a new scholarships program in FY22. Allendale, Orangeburg, and Pickens operated a program in FY21, but discontinued their scholarships program for FY22.

FY22 E.I.A. Allocation Funds (incl. carry forward) Budgeted for Scholarships (both in-house and DSS purchased)	\$ 1,287,595.00 <i>**This is a \$67,657.75 decrease from the total amount of E.I.A. funds spent in FY21.</i>
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Local Partnerships Operating a First Steps Scholarship Program in FY22

DSS – Purchased Scholarships <i>Total = 11 counties with 2 operating both DSS-purchased and in-house scholarship programs</i>	In-House Scholarships <i>Total = 12 counties with 2 operating both DSS-purchased and in-house scholarship programs</i>
Bamberg Berkeley Colleton Dorchester Florence *Hampton (both DSS and In-House) *Jasper (both DSS and In-House) Lee Marion Marlboro Sumter	Aiken Barnwell Edgefield Fairfield Georgetown *Hampton (both DSS and In-House) *Jasper (both DSS and In-House) Lancaster Laurens McCormick Oconee York

1/19/2022

FY-22 Program 703 Budgets

	Budgets
02 - Aiken	
Total Expenses	\$176,063.00
05 - Bamberg	
Total Expenses	\$28,044.00
06 - Barnwell	
Total Expenses	\$11,175.00
08 - Berkeley	
Total Expenses	\$25,885.00
15 - Colleton	
Total Expenses	\$41,740.00
18 - Dorchester	
Total Expenses	\$3,387.00
19 - Edgefield	
Total Expenses	\$50,094.00
20 - Fairfield	
Total Expenses	\$36,558.00
21 - Florence	
Total Expenses	\$120,575.00
22 - Georgetown	
Total Expenses	\$107,066.00
25 - Hampton	
Total Expenses	\$73,178.00
27 - Jasper	
Total Expenses	\$9,474.00
29 - Lancaster	
Total Expenses	\$1,520.00
30 - Laurens	
Total Expenses	\$123,609.00
31 - Lee	
Total Expenses	\$71,367.00
33 - Marion	
Total Expenses	\$80,173.00
34 - Marlboro	
Total Expenses	\$67,498.00
35 - McCormick	
Total Expenses	\$40,707.00
37 - Oconee	
Total Expenses	\$72,049.00
43 - Sumter	
Total Expenses	\$104,757.00
46 - York	
Total Expenses	\$42,676.00
Total Budgeted for FY22	\$ 1,287,595.00



First Steps 4K is Reaching More Children than Ever Before While Providing Parents with More Choice

In the 2021 – 2022 school year:

- **35% more students enrolled** in First Steps 4K this school year compared to last school year, thanks to statewide expansion of 4K.
- More students are enrolled in First Steps 4K than at any time in the past – even when comparing today’s numbers (mid-pandemic) with student enrollment *before* the pandemic.
- Added **66 new First Steps 4K classrooms** across the state, giving families the opportunity to choose from any one of the **244 private, nonprofit, and faith -based centers and schools** that offer First Steps 4K.
- That’s a **26% increase** in child care centers and private, nonprofit, independent schools offering First Steps 4K this school year compared to last school year.

More detail:

- 244 First Steps 4K providers total including 50 *new* centers and schools
- 269 classrooms total (some centers and schools have more than one classroom) including 66 new classrooms

First Steps 4K Empowers Parents to Work

- In a recent survey of parents of First Steps 4K students, **64% credit their ability to work** or go to school to their child’s participation in First Steps 4K. Three out of four of those parents reported that enrolling their child in First Steps 4K allows them to **work full -time**.
- One young mom (18– 24 years old) responded saying, “This is a wonderful program for children to have the opportunity to go to school and help struggling parents find a job.”

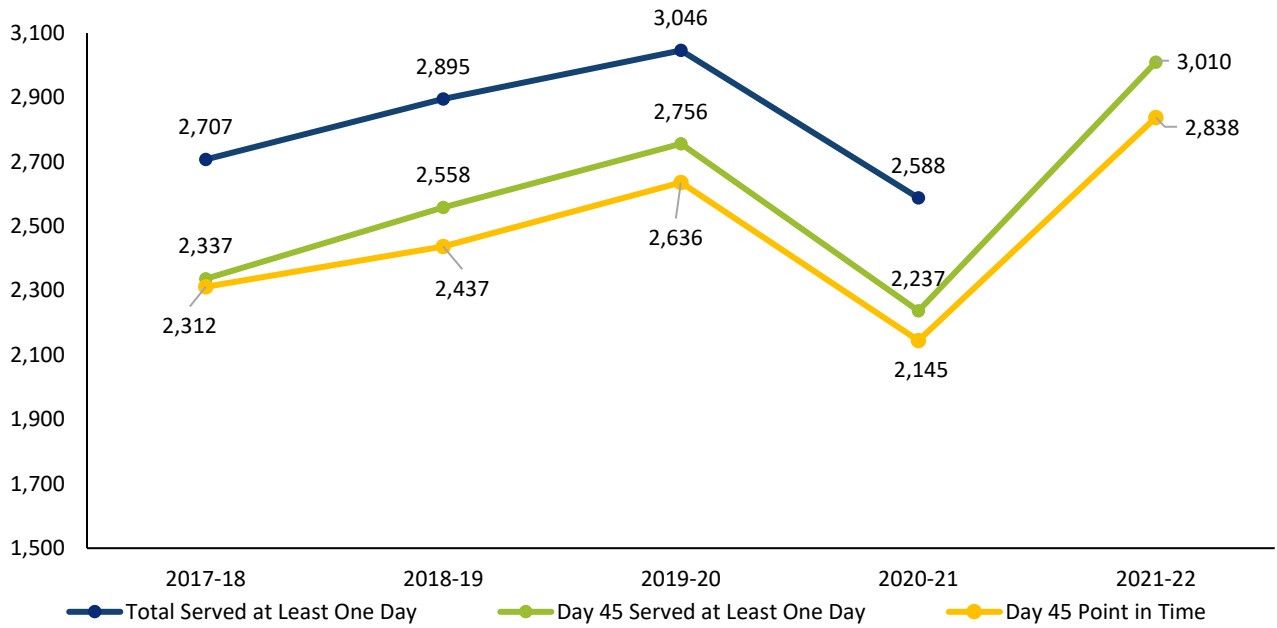
First Steps 4K Successfully Closes the Gap in Kindergarten Readiness for Children in Poverty

- Without 4K, only 11% of South Carolina children in poverty started kindergarten ready. But when those same children were enrolled in First Steps 4K, **27% entered kindergarten ready**.
- **More First Steps 4K students walked into kindergarten ready than their like-peers in poverty** as measured by the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, and they were **equally as ready** as all kindergartners.

The Data on Students Served Year-to-Year

First Steps 4K Student Enrollment						
	Served to Date			Point-in-time Enrollment		
	20-21	21-22	% Increase	20-21	21-22	% Increase
Day 45	2,237	3,010	35%	2,145	2,838	32%

4K Students Served





Sometimes the world is so loud and busy that you'd give anything for a moment of quiet. But not all quiet moments are created equal. This is a lesson that Deborah Underwood shares with children in *The Quiet Book*.

She describes "sleeping sister quiet" – you know, the kind of quiet that is forced upon an older sibling so that the whole family can get some rest. And then there's "making a wish quiet" – a quiet that is full of expectation before a child blows out a candle on a birthday cake.

As a First Steps parent, you've experienced a different type of quiet – the "I've just made a decision that can change my family's life quiet" that comes from participating in an education program for your child. South Carolina's technical colleges can bring a new quiet, too, with their free, short-term training programs, where you can gain new job skills. Whether you want to re-enter the workforce or start a new career, we offer training programs that will fit your interests, your schedule and your wallet.

The next time you're at the library, check out *The Quiet Book*. Talk about all the different types of quiet with your child. And remember the one that will describe when you've landed a better-paying job, earned that certificate or secured employment doing work you love.

South Carolina's technical colleges allow you to explore training programs that might interest you and that meet your needs. Now you can attend these trainings programs AT NO COST TO YOU.

You can:

Discover a training program that's right for you.

Share your contact information and interests, and we'll match you with a short-term training program offered at one of South Carolina's technical colleges.

Find free training that you can complete quickly.

Enroll in a no-cost training program at your local technical college for 16 weeks or less.



Equip yourself with a skillset that South Carolina employers need.

Gain skills in industries as diverse as manufacturing, information technology and healthcare. These in-demand career fields that will set you up for employment with competitive wages.

**Are you interested in that kind of quiet?
If so, begin by checking out the training programs at
<http://sctechsystem.edu/training/firststeps/>
(or scan the code above on your phone camera)**



SC FAMILY VOICE COUNCIL

The SC Family Voice Council is made up of parents and caregivers of young children who are currently or have participated in state early childhood programs or services. Council members ranging in age, physical ability, race, ethnicity, household income, geographic location, family size, family type and education level come together to share their experiences as parents and caregivers to talk about issues facing young children in our state. Recruitment is ongoing for this dynamic group of family leaders.

At monthly meetings, council members hear from a variety of public programs, share thoughtful feedback and ideas to improve services, and hear back on how their voices are making a difference. If you are willing to share your voice, please complete this interest form and email it to Rachal Hatton-Moore, Two-Generation Coordinator, at rhatton@scfirststeps.org or mail it to the address on the back of this page. We will be contacting you to follow-up. Please reach out if you have needs or questions.

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ City & County of Residence: _____

❖ May we send text messages? Yes No

❖ Are you a parent or caretaker of a young child, ages birth-five? Yes No

❖ What are the ages of your child/children? _____

❖ Which services have you or your family used? (Select all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> TANF	<input type="checkbox"/> First Steps 4K	<input type="checkbox"/> Early Intervention
	<input type="checkbox"/> SNAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Public School 4K	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare
	<input type="checkbox"/> WIC	<input type="checkbox"/> Early Head Start	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid
	<input type="checkbox"/> Head Start	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Home Visiting Programs

Other: _____

❖ Do you have reliable home internet access either through a phone or another device? Yes No

❖ Do you have access to transportation to attend in-person meetings in the Columbia area? Yes No

❖ Why would you like to serve on the SC Family Voice Council?

If you join the SC Family Voice Council, list some days & times when you would be able to attend meetings.

Days	Times (morning, afternoon, evening)



SC FAMILY VOICE COUNCIL

Lead with passion

Lend your voice

Share your story

Are you a parent or caregiver of children ages birth through five participating in public programs?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Be a part of a dynamic group who will serve as the SC Family Voice Council to share experiences and talk about issues facing young children in our state.

Never served on a board or council before? No problem! You have the life experience necessary to contribute. Members need only to give a few hours per month and have an interest making a difference!

- ❖ Meetings will be once a month
- ❖ Stipends are available to members to honor their time and compensate them for the personal costs associated with participation
- ❖ Members are asked to serve for one year

If you would like to participate, complete the form on the back side of this page and email it to Rachal Hatton-Moore, rhatten@scfirststeps.org. Reach out to her if you have questions.



1300 Sumter Street, Columbia, S.C. 29201
EarlyChildhoodSC.org