Meeting of the Board of Trustees

August 19, 2021 2:00 PM

https://zoom.us/j/93597311398?pwd=dkl3MkRKbytrMEtvMHJkQ2JqQWVYUT09

AGENDA

I. Roll Call (Georgia Mjartan)

II. Public Comment Period
The public is invited to provide comments relevant to the SC Early Childhood Advisory Council and/or South Carolina First Steps during this period. Members of the public wishing to speak must either email ajones@scfirststeps.org or notate their interest in speaking in the comment box on Zoom *prior* to the start of the meeting. Comments should be limited to no more than three minutes per speaker.

III. Call to Order and Approve Agenda (David Morley)
Motion: To adopt the agenda as submitted
Motion: To adopt the June 17, 2021 minutes as submitted
Attachments: June 17, 2021 Minutes

IV. Executive Committee Report (David Morley)
Attachments: Executive Committee Report, Executive Committee Meetings Minutes

V. Executive Session (Dave Morley)
Agency head annual review and compensation

VI. Consent Agenda: **Motions Recommended by Committees** (David Morley)

- **a.** Motion to prohibit the following local partnerships from being awarded future competitive and targeted grants from South Carolina First Steps until all of the partnerships' issues contained in their Corrective Action Plans and until any pending investigations are resolved; Unresolved Fiscal Year 19 corrective action and unresolved OIG investigation- Abbeville County FS and Greenwood County FS; New unresolved Fiscal year 21 Corrective Action- Barnwell County FS, Horry County First Steps, Jasper County FS, and Kershaw County FS. (Programs and Grants Committee recommends)
- **b.** Motion to accept the Early Childhood Innovation Grant Awards to 5 applications representing the following 7 Local Partnerships as recommended by the SC First Steps grant review committee- Chesterfield, Anderson, Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Cherokee, and Colleton County Local Partnerships. (Program and Grant Committee recommends)

VII. Finance and Administration Committee (Walter Fleming)
Attachments: Finance and Administration Committee Report, Finance and Administration Committee Meeting Minutes, FY 2021 Financial Status Report as June 30, 2021, FY 2021 Donations Report as of June 30, 2021 FY 2022 Financial Status Report as July 31, 2021, FY 2022 Donations Report as of July 31, 2021

VIII. Local Partnership Program and Grants Committee (Jennifer McConnell)
Attachments: Local Partnership Program and Grants Committee Report, Local Partnership Program and Grants Committee Meeting Minutes, FY21 Corrective Action Plan, Designated Board Vacancies, Legislative Appointee Vacancies

IX. Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee (Dr. Amy Williams)
Attachments: Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee Report, Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes

X. Legislative Committee (Sen. Gerald Malloy)

XI. Executive Director's Report (Georgia Mjartan)
Attachments: Executive Director's Report

XII. **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting of the SC First Steps Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees Meeting

June 17, 2021

2:00PM

https://zoom.us/j/92196505922?pwd=WnA4MFlyZWJXWmFJU21xK2YzWndFdz09

Draft Minutes

Members Present (15):

Dave Morley, Chair
Dr. Shelley Canright
Rep. Jerry Govan
Mary Lynne Diggs
Sue Williams
Michael Leach
Dr. Edward Simmer
Walter Fleming
Alexia Newman
Tim Holt
Jesica Mackey
Roger Pryor
Jennifer McConnell
Dr. Amy Williams
John Hayes

Members Absent (8):

Rep. Rita Allison
Sen. Gerald Malloy
Sen. Greg Hembree
Constance Holloway
Dr. David Mathis
Robert Kerr
Nicole Wynkoop
Janie Neeley

Others Present (65)

Georgia Mjartan
Laura Baker
Samantha Ingram
Anna Workman
Avian Jones
Betty Gardiner
Betty Washington
Candi Lalonde
Carletta Isreal
Chelsea Richard
Cheryl Scales-Chavis
Cindy Ellis
Cindy Kellett
Cindy Galloway
Clark Phillip
Constance Martin Witter
Cu'Shan Brown
Debbie Robertson
Derek Cromwell
Dione Brabham
Dorian Young
Dorothy Priester
Gina Beebe
James Hicks
Janice Kilburn
Jennifer Williams
Jessica Garrett
Jon Artz
Joy Mazur
Justina Siuba
Karen Oliver
Kate Roach
Kathy Fitzgerald
Kaytlen Caldwell
Kiara Hopkins
Kristine Jenkins
Lavinia Tejada
Lis Giuamares
Mark Barnes
Martha Strickland
Mary Howard
Monique Branagen
Paula Calhoun
Phaedra Carolina
Pierce McNeil
P. Plowden
Rachal Hatton-Moore
Redelona Saxby
Rogers Pender
Ryan Shinn
Sarah Crawford
Sarah Eargle
Sharon Bruton
Shayla Pettigrew
Shelia Cornwell
SheKiah Reese
Sherry Gilliam
Sheryl Stewart
Suanetta Tisdale
Tiffany Outlaw
Tom Lacas
Tonya Mack
Teresa Nelson
Tricia Richardson
Valencia Johnson

Ms. Mjartan conducted a roll call.

Ms. Mjartan stated there were no members of the public who were present requested to speak.

Mr. Morley called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. Mr. Morley reported on the Executive Committee and introduced new Board members, Director Robert Kerr of Department of HHS and Nicole Wynkoop. He acknowledged Debbie Robertson's retirement and thanked her for her contributions to SC First Steps.

Dr. Matthew Lavery presented on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) results. Statewide 27% of students demonstrated readiness to engage with kindergarten readiness instruction.

Mr. Morley requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Williams provided the motion. Mr. Holt provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the April 15, 2021 minutes. Dr. Canright provided the motion. Ms. McConnell provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the following consent agenda. Ms. McConnell provided the motion. Dr. Canright provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda: **Motions Recommended by Committees** (David Morley)

a. Motion to approve revising the FY22 First Steps Program and Operational Guidelines for Core Functions by adding language clarifying the existing requirement regarding "operation in a location accessible to the public" by adding the following:
   a dedicated physical space in their county with appropriate signage that is accessible to the public and clients they serve. This will provide an official Local Partnership address that is open according to a set weekly schedule with publicized hours that are posted publicly. In addition, phone access will be available during regular business hours each week that includes voice mail and the capability to receive and return messages (phone, text, email, etc.) in a timely manner. (Programs and Grants Committee recommends)
b. Motion to approve the Local Partnership budgets for state funds as proposed in their Funding Formula grant applications and summarized in the attached report. Upon final grant application review after the fiscal year ends, corrective action plans may be issued as part the FY22 grant award process in cases where grant qualifications for funding were not met. (Programs and Grants Committee recommends)
c. Motion to approve adding Healthy Steps and Family Connects to the First Steps Board Approved List of Evidence Based Programs. (Program and Grants Committee recommends)

Mr. Fleming reported on the Finance and Administration Committee. He announced that the SC First Steps state office move to 636 Rosewood Drive has been delayed and will take place at the end of July. First Steps staff is working with Abbeville County First Steps and Greenwood County First Steps and their attorneys to resolve corrective action items that were identified in the 2019 Financial Audit. Abbeville County First Steps has submitted a Corrective Action Plan that will bring them into compliance if completed over the next year. Greenwood County First Steps has also submitted a Corrective Action Plan that will bring them into compliance if completed over the next year. However,

there are concerns that have been identified and they have been turned over to the Inspector General's office and the Legislative Delegation have been made aware. The accounting firm representing the partnerships will not release the audits for 2020 until the Inspector General's office completes their investigation.

Ms. McConnell thanked Ms. Robertson for her work with the Program and Grants committee in lieu of her retirement. Ms. McConnell reported on the Programs and Grants Committee. She reviewed the revision of the FY22 First Steps Operational Guidelines regarding Core Functions. Ms. McConnell discussed the addition of Healthy Steps and Family Connect to the Approved List of Evidence Based Programs. She also went over the grant and funding information breakdowns for the Local Partnerships.

Dr. Williams reported on the Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee and provided updates on current projects and the Data and KITS system that are being developed.

Ms. Mjartan provided the Executive Director's report. Results from the Client Voice Program Evaluations were shared. Ms. Mjartan gave an update and timeline on the build out of the Knowledge, Information, and Teaming System (KITS). She reviewed additional philanthropic grants. Ms. Mjartan provided a legislative update on the budget process, introduced new team members, and presented the agency's vacancies.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Canright provided the motion. Mr. Holt provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 pm by Mr. Morley.

To: SC First Steps Board of Trustees

From: David Morley, Chairman, Executive Committee

Date: August 19, 2021

RE: Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees met on July 16, 2021 and August 9, 2021. Minutes of the meetings are attached. The following motions were approved unanimously. At the August 9th meeting, the committee acted on behalf of the full board in performing the Agency Head Director's Annual Performance Review. The following votes were taken:

Motion to rate Executive Director Mjartan as "exceeds" in all categories of the review.
Motion by Amy Williams, Second by Walt Fleming, unanimous approval

Motion to accept the review of Georgia Mjartan with edits discussed.
Motion by Walt Fleming, Second by Amy Williams, unanimous approval

The agency head review has been shared with all board members, including the cumulative scores for each question on the survey that Trustees completed. Thanks to each member who took the time to complete the Agency Head Review Survey. This information was used by the committee to perform the agency head review.

Board Additions and Transitions
We are pleased to welcome **DHHS Director Robert Kerr** and parent of a young child **Nicole Wynkoop**. These new members were both introduced with their bios at our last meeting, but as this is the first meetings they are attending, we wanted to recognize them again.

Board-to-Board Regional Meetings
As has been noted previously, a series of Board-to-Board Regional Meetings kicked off in December 2020 with each region having an opportunity to participate. All regional meetings have now taken place. These were fruitful, and we thank our state board members as well as local partnership board members for actively participating. We look forward to having these meetings again next year.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2021, 11:00 am, by Zoom

The Executive Committee met on July16, 2021 at 11:00 am via Zoom. Members present were David Morley, Dr. Shelley Canright, Jennifer McConnell, and Dr. Amy Williams. Members absent were Sen. Gerald Malloy and Walt Fleming. Executive Director Georgia Mjartan was present, and Karen Oliver, Program Manager for the Early Childhood Advisory Council, attended the beginning of the meeting.

Chairman Morley called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. The order of the agenda was rearranged so the Early Childhood Advisory Council business could be presented first. Mjartan presented an update on the status of the Birth through Five Plan, reminding members of the importance of the upcoming August Board meeting and subsequent B-5 Plan work session. Mjartan also provided information about the SC Summit on Early Childhood. Karen Oliver provided additional information about The Summit.

Mjartan presented an update on actions taken by the General Assembly during the 2021 session relevant to South Carolina First Steps and the ECAC, including significant budget increases and proviso changes impacting First Steps 4K. There was discussion about the implications of the provision allowing 5-year-olds to attend 4K if they were eligible the previous year but did not attend. The following budget information was presented:

<u>Legislative Session Update - $15,679,911 in new funding</u>

I. **$15,435,911 added to First Steps 4K to expanded statewide**
   - $10,215,935 in recurring EIA
   - $5,219,976 in one-time, EIA

II. **$142,448 for Data System**
   - Recurring, General Funds

III. **$102,000 for Early Childhood Advisory Council**
   - Recurring, General Funds

IV. **16 FTE's**

Mjartan shared positive news about a partnership between the South Carolina Department of Education and South Carolina First Steps. SDE will provide significant funding to SC First Steps from ESSER III (federal emergency education relief funds) to address the academic impact of COVID-19. The funds, all targeted at young children five and under, will enable South Carolina First Steps to expand existing programs and add new interventions with proven efficacy in improving early childhood outcomes. A press conference will be held July 28th, and more details will follow. Until that time, information is embargoed. Members present remarked on the strength of the partnership with SDE and how valuable it is that the South Carolina Department of Education has chosen to invest some of the ESSER III funds in early childhood.

Mjartan gave updates on two significant, grant-funded projects: Connected Families, which is funded by The Duke Endowment and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and AmeriCorps.

The three year project period for Connected Families began July 1, 2021, and progress is already being made. A project coordinator has been hired, local partnerships have begun recruiting parent educators, and partnership meetings with the key partners have all taken place (DMH, DSS, PAT National, and SCIMHA).

The first year of the AmeriCorps project was just completed, with 31 members engaged in service and 20 who completed terms. 13 members will be returning for a second term in August for the 2021 – 2022 AmeriCorps project year. 34 families completed HIPPY (an intensive home visiting program delivered by the AmeriCorps members), 12,227 families received information and education about First Steps programs and resources, 1,871 families were referred to programs that meet their young children's needs, 1,893 books were distributed throughout the year and an additional 373 books were distributed through the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Project. Mjartan reported that recruitment is currently underway for AmeriCorps for 2021 – 2022. New local partnerships sites mean more opportunities for AmeriCorps members to serve throughout the state, and more opportunity to use this valuable resource to reach children and families. Mjartan encouraged Executive Committee members to spread the word about the opportunity to serve as an AmeriCorps members.

Summarizing the impact of these significant grant investments, the historic increase from the legislature, and anticipated funding from ESSER III through SDE, Mjartan shared a draft revenue projection for FY2022 indicating significant budget growth. Mjartan talked through the implications, especially for 4K.

Mjartan provided a report on First Steps 4K, outlining the agency's data-driven approach to statewide expansion. With clear targets for student enrollment, center and classroom participation, and geographic reach, the agency is hyper-focused on using the funds available to grow First Steps 4K aggressively while maintaining the highest quality. Expansion will have implications for staffing – additional coaches are being hired – and will require the purchase or lease of additional vehicles. Mjartan provided updates on children accepted, centers and classrooms approved, and targets.

A discussion about local partnership operations included a focus on governance and the agency's approach to sharing information about diversity, equity and inclusion. Mjartan shared that Derek Cromwell, the new Chief Partnership Officer, has prioritized going out into the field to visit partnerships in person, with over a dozen visits already completed or in the works for the coming weeks. With the grant awards approved at the last board meeting and the funding made available to partnerships through the Connected Families project, South Carolina First Steps has awarded its single largest amount to partnerships in 15 years. First Steps has a media strategy related to this including check presentations involving local media and legislative delegations and a state-level press released that can be customized locally.

The meeting concluded with a brief update on the move to Rosewood July 26 – 30, information about new hires and current vacancies, and a reminder about the Agency Head Review Process.

Mjartan exited the meeting so members could meet privately to review the results of the survey completed by most members of the Board of Trustees regarding the Executive Director's performance for FY2021. The members reviewed the Agency Head Goals established in the planning document and established a date to reconvene to vote, on behalf of the full board, on the agency head's review, for submission to the Agency Head Salary Commission. The group will reconvene on Monday, August 9th, at 11:00 am.

With a motion to adjourn by Shelley Canright and a second by Jennifer McConnell, the meeting concluded at 1:00pm.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2021, 11:00 am, by Zoom

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of South Carolina First Steps met by Zoom on August 9th for the purpose of discussing and finalizing an annual performance review for Executive Director Georgia Mjartan. The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Morley at 11:00 am. Members present were as follows: David Morley, Dr. Shelley Canright, Jennifer McConnell, Walt Fleming, Dr. Amy Williams. Members absent were as follows: Sen. Gerald Malloy, Georgia Mjartan was present at the beginning of the meeting to answer questions, then she left the meeting while the members discussed her performance. She returned to the meeting for a discussion of the review.

The members took action on behalf of the full board due to the time-sensitive nature of the agency head review needing to be submitted to the legislative committee (Agency Head Salary Review Committee) on August 13, 2021, prior to the next board meeting. The executive committee today took two votes, in both acting on behalf of the full board. The votes were as follows:

Motion to rate Executive Director Mjartan as "exceeds" in all categories of the review.
Motion by Amy Williams, Second by Walt Fleming, unanimous approval

Motion to accept the review of Georgia Mjartan with edits discussed.
Motion by Walt Fleming, Second by Amy Williams, unanimous approval

In response to a discussion about ways South Carolina First Steps can support the local partnerships, Mjartan shared with the members about the continued feedback the office has been receiving regarding competitive grants. There was some discussion about the FY2023 budget request, the intention to request significant funding to expand programs targeting birth through three, and the idea that the request would not only be restricted to program funding and competitive grants to local partnerships but would also include targeted funding and funding responsive to the needs relayed by local partnerships. The committee concurred with this approach.

The meeting concluded at 12:30 pm.

To: SC First Steps Board of Trustees

From: Walter Fleming, Chairman, Finance and Administration Committee

Date: July 21, 2021

RE: Finance and Administration Report

The Finance and Administration Committee met via Zoom conference call on July 21, 2021 to receive updates from staff. Detailed meeting minutes are attached. The committee brings forward no action items, and the following updates.

First Steps State Office

Mr. Barnes presented an update to the Committee on the following.
The new year's State Budget, the 4K Program, and other items. In addition, he shared the following information.

Financial Report

2020-21: The YTD financial report was reviewed by Mr. Barnes. The organization spent less than budgeted for the 2020-21 fiscal year. This is due to the impact of COVID on the 4K providers. The state provided more than $15.6 million in new funds for the 2021-22 fiscal year. Most of these funds are to expand the 4K Program statewide. Our total budget, at this point, for FY 2021-22 will exceed $63 million, which is a large increase over 2020-21.

Local Partnerships: Update on Corrective Action Plans

The state office staff continues to work with Abbeville County First Steps and Greenwood County First Steps along with their attorneys to finalize the Corrective Action Plans that were identified in the 2018-19 Financial Audit. The State Inspector General is continuing their investigation into the situation. No action is requested at this point.

Local Partnerships: Update on Corrective Action Plans

The State Office is working with their attorney to develop a plan that would allow for Local Partnership employees to participate in the State Retirement System. We have met with PEBA's attorney and are working closely with Florence County First Steps.

Minutes from Finance and Administration Committee Meeting
July 21, 2021

Members present: Walter Fleming, Chairman, Tim Holt, David Morley

Members not present: N/A

Nonmembers present: Mark Barnes, Director of Administration; Lavinia Tejada, CPA Director of Finance and Audits

Meeting was called to order by Walter Fleming at 10:31 am.

First Steps State Office

Financial Report/State Budget Update

The YTD financial report for 2020-21 was reviewed by Mr. Barnes. The expenses were down for last year due to COVID, mostly in the 4K Program. In addition, the Revenue and Federal Funds increased. This left us with a large surplus. These funds will roll forward into the new year. Mr. Barnes also shared a report showing the beginning financial budget for the 2021-22 fiscal year. We received over $15.6 million in new state funds for the new year. This, along with the additional Federal funds, has raised our total budget to over $63 million in the new year. This allows us to implement a statewide expansion of the 4K Program for the new year.

Local Partnerships

Update on Blackbaud and Raisers Edge

We have made considerable progress on improving the speed of the Blackbaud Financial Management system. In addition, we have started working on implementing Raisers Edge, which is the fundraising system that was secured when we set up the contract for Blackbaud. Cindy Kellett, our new fundraising staff person is taking the lead on this effort.

Update on Corrective Action Plans

Mr. Barnes gave an update on the Corrective Action Plans that were requested related to the Financial Audits completed for FY 2018-19 for Greenwood County First Steps and Abbeville County First Steps. Working through the attorneys we have been able to agree in concept on Corrective Action Plans for both local partnerships. There are still two potential issues associated with the situation, but no additional actions are being recommended at this point. The State Inspector General's Office is continuing their investigation into the situation. No timeline has been presented at this point for the completion of the investigation.

Local Partnership Retirement Efforts

The State Office retained an attorney to assist with supporting Local Partnership staff to be eligible to enroll in the state's retirement system. We have met with the attorney from the State Retirement System (PEBA) and are working to develop a plan to resolve their issues. We are working closely with Florence County First Steps on this effort. There was general discussion on this issue.

4K Program

Staff gave an update on the program's status. This included an update on the statewide expansion efforts.

Other

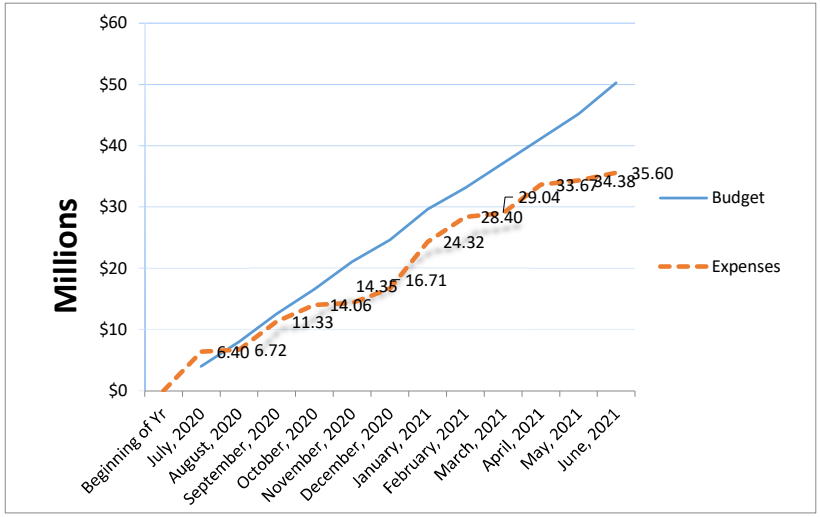
With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Walter Fleming at 11:15 AM

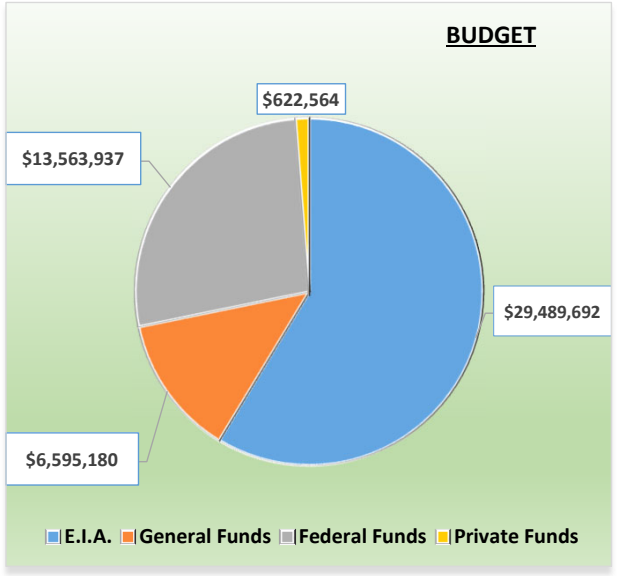
FY 2021

FIRST STEPS SOUTH CAROLINA

As of June 30, 2021

Spending Rates	
Projected	100%
Actual	71%





PROGRAMS / OPERATIONS	STATE APPROPRIATIONS			FEDERAL GRANTS			PRIVATE FUNDS			GRAND TOTAL		
Description	Budget	Expenses	Balance	Budget	Expenses	Balance	Budget	Expenses	Balance	Budget	Expenses	Balance
LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS	14,435,228	14,435,228	-	1,358,200		$ 1,358,200	327,445	212,306	115,139	16,120,873	14,647,534	$ 1,473,339
LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS SUPPORT & TECH ASST.	2,514,638	2,076,553	438,085	436,305		$ 436,305			-	2,950,943	2,076,553	$ 874,390
PRIVATE 4-K	17,021,778	14,970,346	2,051,432	9,015,441		9,015,441			-	26,037,219	14,970,346	$ 11,066,873
EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL	82,155	76,769	5,386	2,112,060	2,111,657	403			-	2,194,215	2,188,426	$ 5,789
AMERICORPS				312,123	189,936	122,187	5,535		5,535	317,658	189,936	$ 127,722
POLICY & ACCOUNTABILITY	2,031,073	1,468,177	562,896	329,808		329,808	289,584	62,330	227,254	2,650,465	1,530,507	$ 1,119,958
GRAND TOTAL:	36,084,872	33,027,072	3,057,800	13,563,937	2,301,593	11,262,344	622,564	274,635	347,929	50,271,373	35,603,301	$ 14,668,072

Notes:

1) Local Partnerships:

a. Funding Sources: Education Improvement Act (EIA) Funds
b. Formula allocation cash advances are disbursed on a quarterly basis
c. Expenditures reflect disbursements from SC First Steps (state-level)
d. Does not include local-level actual expenses to staff and vendors

2)Private budgets based on Projected Fund Raising and income & prior year cash.

29,489,692	E.I.A.
6,595,180	General Funds
13,563,937	Federal Funds
622,564	Private Funds

3)LP Support & Technical Assistance

a. Contracted accounting firm(Manley Garvin, LLC)
b. Accounting Software network support & Data Housing
c. Programmatic data housing & network support
d. Workers' compensation insurance coverage
e. External programmatic evaluation
f. Financial audits-annually each LP

Federal Funds:	
AmeriCorps:	312,123
SLDS:	149,546
PDG:	3,733,885
4K - COVID	4,368,383
GEER Funds	5,000,000
	13,563,937

3) LP Support & Technical Assistance (cont.)

g. Does not include local-level actual expenses to staff and vendors
h. OFS program & finance staff (payroll, rent, contractual, supplies, travel, etc.)
i. Includes LP Countdown to Kindergarden program

4) 4K E.I.A Appropriations includes proviso authorized carry over cash for quality and technology.

5) 4K Appropriations includes $917,142 of EIA, and $280,466 of General Funds in Carry Forward cash. (These funds carried forward $870,970 in carry forward commitments leaving a balance of $326,638.)

6) State Appropriations Include EIA Funds and General Funds.

7) $5 million in GEER Funds were awarded April 1 (reimbursable)

Donations

FY 2021

As of June 30st, 2021

DATE RECEIVED	GENERAL	DONOR/PAYOR	FUNDS	PURPOSE / COMMENTS
Jul 20, 2020	$ 25	Angel Johnson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jul 20, 2020	$ 648	Terry Richardson	Restricted	Start With a Book Campaign
Jul 20,2020	$ 25	Chanel Jackson	Restricted	Start With a Book Campaign
Jul 20,2020	$ 50	Andrew Shiavone	Restricted	Donated to Richland County First Steps
August 20,2020	$ 25	Angel Johnson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
August 20,2020	$ 500	Karen R. Jenkins	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
August 20,2020	$ 50	Andrew Shiavone	Restricted	Donated to Richland County First Steps
Sep 21, 2020	$ 25	Angel Johnson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Sep 21, 2020	$ 50	Andrew Shiavone	Restricted	Donated to Richland County First Steps
Oct. 20, 2020	$ 25	Angel Johnson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Oct. 20, 2020	$ 50	Andrew Shiavone	Restricted	Donated to Richland County First Steps
Oct. 20, 2020	$ 6,896.16	Michael W. King	Restricted	Bamberg County First Steps
Oct. 20, 2020	$ 6,896.16	Michael W. King	Restricted	Barnwell County First Steps
Oct. 20, 2020	$ 25.00	Trimeka Johnson	Restricted	Dorchester County First Steps
Oct. 20, 2020	$ 24.25	Tracy Elmore	Restricted	Dorchester County First Steps
Oct. 20, 2020	$ 10	Almarie Scroggins	Restricted	Dorchester County First Steps
Nov 24, 2020	$ 25	Angel Johnson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 3, 2020	$ 25	Margaret Williams	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 3, 2020	$ 15	Marilyn Jenkins	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 7, 2020	$ 500	Marchelle Canright	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 7, 2020	$ 25	Hampton Early Learning Academy	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 7, 2020	$ 100	Janet & Jim Riddle	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 8, 2020	$ 10,000	David and Cheryl Morley	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 8, 2020	$ 100	Scott W. & Jan P. Smoak	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec10,2020	$ 2,500	Sisters of Charity	Restricted	Summit on Early Childhood
Dec 10, 2020	$ 100	A.D or KE Washington	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 10, 2020	$ 50	James r. and Sharon Turner	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 10, 2020	$ 25	David and Betty Jean Addison	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 10, 2020	$ 500	J. Gregory Hembree	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 25	Angel Johnson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 250	TS Holt Co.	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 50	Rachal Hatton	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 50	Earl & Krishenda Alexander	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 50	Laura Baker	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 25	Loraine Fields & Lou Paradis	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 25	Carletta Isreal	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 23, 2020	$ 50	Delores Rock	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 100	Mary Lynne Diggs	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 25	Cassie Barber	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Dec 21, 2020	$ 1,000	Julie Hussey	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 4, 2021	$ 1,000	Hal Kaplan	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 6, 2021	$ 100	Alan & Mary Ann Matthews	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 25	Beth Moore	Restricted	Richland County First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 50	Ginny Owens	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 25	Bridgett Shealey	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 25	Angel Johnson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 50	Lavinia A. Tejada	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 50	Michael Leach	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 100	David Mathis	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 50	Marilyn Artz	Restricted	Richland County First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 100	Deborah Robertson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 100	Mark Robertson	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 50	Susan Jones	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 100	Betty Gardiner	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Jan 19, 2021	$ 50	Debra Scott	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 500	Georgia Mjartan	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jan 19, 2021	$ 1,000	David and Pamela Evette	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Jan 19, 2021	$ 1,000	The Capital Corp	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Jan 19, 2021	$ 250	Karen R. Jenkins	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Feb 2, 2021	$ 50	Pamela Bradley	Unrestricted	SC First Steps

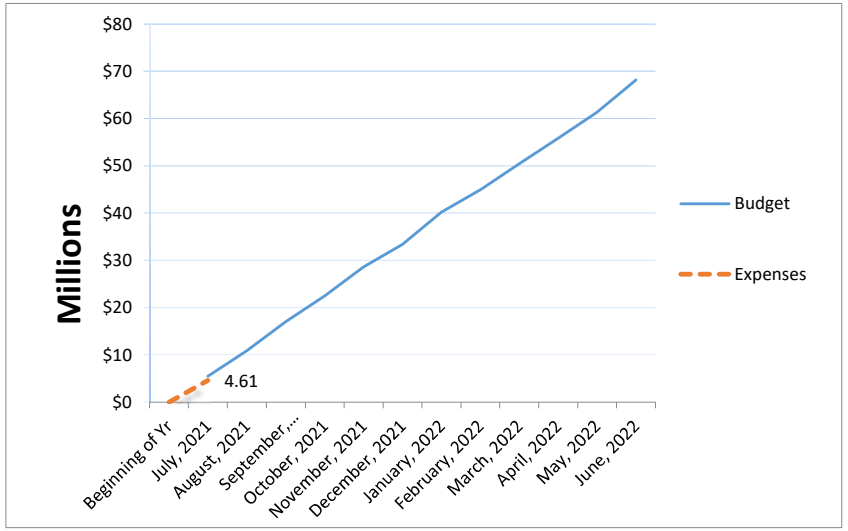
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	Anderson County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	Cherokee County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	Chester County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	Lauren County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	Newberry County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	Pickens County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	Union County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	York County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	100	Janice Killburn	Restricted	Oconee County First Steps
Feb 22, 2021	$	24	Chelsea Richard	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	8	Virginia Ryall	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	240	David Morley	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	30	Beatrice Brown	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	120	Valencia Johnson	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	24	Rachal Hatton	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	50	Mark Barnes	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	24	Taylor Roach	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	24	Lynn Catoe	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	24	Deborah Robertson	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Feb 22, 2021	$	120	Jesica Mackey	Restricted	MLK Book Drive
Apr 21, 2021	$	100	Linda Wehril	Restricted	Aiken County First Steps
Apr 28, 2021	$	10	Catherine Morton	Restricted	Berkeley County First Steps
May 1, 2021	$	12	Catherine Morton	Restricted	Berkeley County First Steps
May 3, 2021	$	500	Marchelle Canright	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
May 17, 2021	$	25	Bethany Counts	Restricted	Newberry County First Steps
May 17, 2021	$	25	Susan Jones	Restricted	Horry County First Steps
Jun 7, 2021	$	200	Flour Enterprise/American Online Giving	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jun 7, 2021	$	12	Catherine Morton	Restricted	Berkeley County First Steps
Jun 14, 2021	$	2,500	Kaplan Early Learning Academy	Restricted	Summit on Early Childhood
Jun 17, 2021	$	43	Giving Foundation, Inc.	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jun 17, 2021	$	47	Giving Foundation, Inc.	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jun 17, 2021	$	96	The Blackbaud Giving Fund	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jun 25, 2021	$	10	Catherine Morton	Restricted	Berkeley County First Steps
Jun 29, 2021	$	25	Nicole Bently	Restricted	Beaufort County FS
Jun 29, 2021	$	250	Alex Krisovich	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jun 29, 2021	$	50	Jennifer Phelan-Ninh	Restricted	Richland County First Steps
Jun 29, 2021	$	3,000	Michael McCown-Enterprise	Unrestricted	SC First Steps

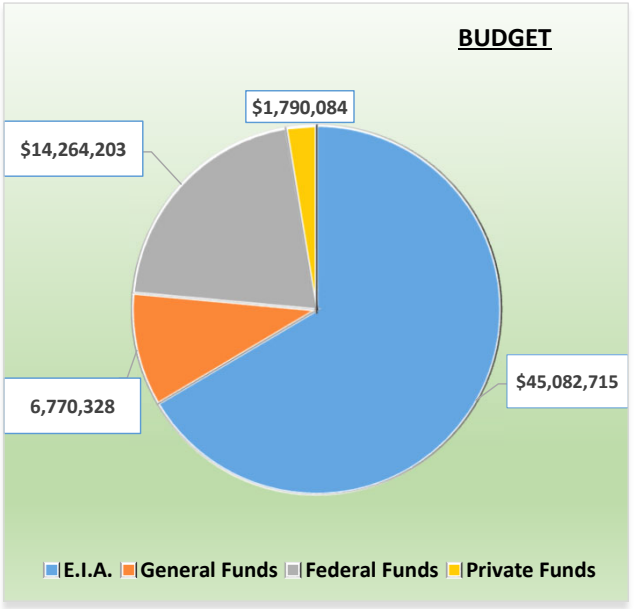
Total $ 44,207

FY 2022

As of
July 31, 2021

Spending Rates	
Projected	8%
Actual	7%





PROGRAMS / OPERATIONS	STATE APPROPRIATIONS			FEDERAL GRANTS			PRIVATE FUNDS			GRAND TOTAL		
Description	Budget	Expenses	Balance	Budget	Expenses	Balance	Budget	Expenses	Balance	Budget	Expenses	Balance
LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS	14,435,228	1,220,420	13,214,808	2,025,313		$ 2,025,313		-	-	16,460,541	1,220,420	$ 15,240,121
LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS SUPPORT & TECH ASST.	2,896,900	252,509	2,644,391	3,385,280		$ 3,385,280	198,393		198,393	6,480,573	252,509	$ 6,228,064
PRIVATE 4-K	32,014,655	2,837,462	29,177,193	5,307,914		5,307,914			-	37,322,569	2,837,462	$ 34,485,107
EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL	193,500	8,107	185,393	2,531,685	83,950	2,447,735	130,000		130,000	2,855,185	92,058	$ 2,763,127
AMERICORPS				326,703	27,855	298,848			-	326,703	27,855	$ 298,848
POLICY & ACCOUNTABILITY	2,557,208	175,897	2,381,311	687,308		687,308	1,461,691	7,037	1,454,654	4,706,207	182,935	$ 4,523,272
GRAND TOTAL:	52,097,491	4,494,396	47,603,095	14,264,203	111,805	14,152,398	1,790,084	7,037	1,783,047	68,151,778	4,613,238	$ 63,538,540

Notes:

1) Local Partnerships:

a. Funding Sources: Education Improvement Act (EIA) Funds
b. Formula allocation cash advances are disbursed on a quarterly basis
c. Expenditures reflect disbursements from SC First Steps (state-level)
d. Does not include local-level actual expenses to staff and vendors

2)Private budgets based on Projected Fund Raising and income & prior year cash.

45,327,163	E.I.A.
6,770,328	General Funds
14,264,203	Federal Funds
1,790,084	Private Funds
68,151,778	

3)LP Support & Technical Assistance

a. Contracted accounting firm(Manley Garvin, LLC)
b. Accounting Software network support & Data Housing
c. Programmatic data housing & network support
d. Workers' compensation insurance coverage
e. External programmatic evaluation
f. Financial audits-annually each LP

Federal Funds:	
AmeriCorps:	326,703
SLDS:	173,017
PDG:	5,686,573
10% Quality	339,517
ESSER Funds	4,485,914
GEER Funds	3,252,479
	14,264,203

3) LP Support & Technical Assistance (cont.)

g. Does not include local-level actual expenses to staff and vendors
h. OFS program & finance staff (payroll, rent, contractual, supplies, travel, etc
i. Includes LP Countdown to Kindergarden program

4) State Appropriations Include EIA Funds and General Funds.

5) $3.2 mil. in GEER Funds are available for FY 2021-2(reimbursable)

Donations

FY 2022

As of July 31st, 2021

DATE RECEIVED	GENERAL	DONOR/PAYOR	FUNDS	PURPOSE / COMMENTS
Jul 19, 2021	$ 25	Cindy Kellet	Unrestricted	SC First Steps
Jul 19, 2021	$ 1,000	Brady Thomas	Restricted	Hampton County First Steps
	$ 1,025			

South Carolina First Steps

SFY 2021-22

Projected First Steps Annual Funding Sources & Expenditures

State Appropriated Funding:

Education Improvement Act Funding (EIA)		
SC First Steps	$	2,506,260
CERDEP (First Steps 4K)	$	25,488,775
County Partnerships	$	17,332,128
Total EIA Funding	$	45,327,163
State General Funding:		
CERDEP (First Steps 4K)	$	6,525,880
Other Funds		244,448
Total State Appropriated Funding	$	52,097,491

Other Funding:

Preschool Development Grant	$	3,729,725
Preschool Development Grant		1,956,847
GEER Funds	$	3,252,479
DSS 10% Quality	$	339,517
Blue Cross and Blue Shield	$	115,139
ESSER Funds	$	4,485,914
Duke Doris	$	500,000
Duke Endowment	$	800,000
Alliance for Early Childhood Success	$	50,000
SLDS	$	173,017
AmeriCorps	$	326,703
Private Funds	$	324,946
Total Other Funding	$	16,054,287
Total Projected Annual Sources	**$**	**68,151,778**

FY 22 Budgeted Expenditures by Program:

Policy & Accountability	3,233,190
4K	37,322,569
Local Partnerships	22,941,114
ECAC	2,855,185
AmeriCorps	326,703
Misc. Grants & Fundraising	1,473,017
Total Budgeted Expenditures	**68,151,778**

To: SC First Steps Board of Trustees

From: Jennifer McConnell

Date: August 5, 2021

RE: Local Partnerships Program and Grants Committee

The Local Partnerships Program and Grants Committee met on August 5, 2021. Minutes of the meeting are attached. The following motions were approved unanimously; One pertaining to unresolved corrective actions for FY19 and new corrective actions for FY21, and the other pertaining to the Early Childhood Innovation Grant awards.

Local Partnerships Corrective Action

MOTION
Motion to prohibit the following local partnerships from being awarded future competitive and targeted grants from South Carolina First Steps until all of the partnerships' issues contained in their Corrective Action Plans and until any pending investigations are resolved; Unresolved Fiscal Year 19 corrective action and unresolved OIG investigation- Abbeville County FS and Greenwood County FS; New unresolved Fiscal year 21 Corrective Action- Barnwell County FS, Horry County First Steps, Jasper County FS, and Kershaw County FS.

Moved by Jennifer McConnell, seconded by Shelley Canright. Motion passed unanimously.

Early Childhood Innovation Grant Award

MOTION
Motion to accept the Early Childhood Innovation Grant Awards to 5 applications representing the following 7 Local Partnerships as recommended by the SC First Steps grant review committee- Chesterfield, Anderson, Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Cherokee, and Colleton County Local Partnerships.

Moved by Shelley Canright, seconded by Roger Pryor. Motion passed unanimously.

Local Partnership Visits and Check Presentations

New Chief Partnership Officer Derek Cromwell gave an update on the Local Partnership Visitations and Check presentations. Derek is working on relationship building and accountability with the partnerships so we can be one cohesive team. Derek also gave a brief description of the check presentation events he has been holding with Local Partnerships. Derek explained these events are an opportunity for Local Partnerships to celebrate the resources being brought into their communities. Local Partnerships are encouraged to invite local VIP's including their legislative delegation and other local elected officials, local board members, local media, etc. First Steps Board member Shelley Canright has participated in these events along with other, select First Steps staff.

Designated/Legislative Appointed Board Vacancies

Derek Cromwell provided the committee information regarding the current vacancies on Local Partnership Boards in regard to legislatively designated and legislative appointed local partnership board members.

Local Partnerships Program and Grants Committee Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2021, 11:30am- 1:00pm by Zoom

Board Presence: Chair Jennifer McConnell, Shelley Canright, Roger Pryor
State Staff Presence: Derek Cromwell, Mark Barnes, Betty Gardiner, Kathy Fitzgerald
Absentees: Board Member John Hayes

Meeting was called to order at 11:56 am by Jennifer McConnell

Derek Cromwell gave an update on the Local Partnership Visitations and Check presentations. Derek is working on relationship building and accountability with the partnerships so we can be one cohesive team. He explained his priorities of relationship building, support, and accountability. One recurring issue brought up by the local partnerships is on the retention of staff members. Derek also gave a brief description of the check presentation events he has also been holding with Local Partnerships. He explained these events are an opportunity for Local Partnerships to celebrate the resources being brought into their communities.

The floor was then handed over to Mark Barnes. Mark updated the committee on the unresolved FY19 corrective action plans for Greenwood County First Steps and Abbeville County First Steps. As of the date of this meeting, we have not received a signed corrective action plan from Greenwood or Abbeville local partnerships. Signed corrective action plans were due by August 2, 2021. The IG investigation of Greenwood County First Steps is still ongoing. A motion was brought before the board to prohibit any partnership who are in any corrective action plan situation from receiving any targeted or competitive grants.

Derek brought up four new corrective action plans for FY21. They are as follows:

- Barnwell County First Steps- Local partnership board did not maintain a minimum membership of 12 members.
- Jasper County First Steps- Excessive Carry forward money.
- Horry County First Steps- Failed to meet 15% match requirement
- Kershaw County First Steps- Local partnership board did not maintain a minimum membership of 12 members.

There was further discussion brought up by committee member Rodger Pryor about perhaps having two separate motions for the unresolved FY19 corrective actions and the new FY21 corrective actions. The committee agreed that with minor adjustments to the language, one motion would be appropriate.

The motion stands as:

> **Motion to prohibit the following local partnerships from being awarded future competitive and targeted grants from South Carolina First Steps until all of the partnerships' issues contained in their Corrective Action Plans and until any pending investigations are resolved; Unresolved Fiscal Year 19 corrective action and unresolved OIG investigation- Abbeville County FS and Greenwood County FS; New unresolved Fiscal year 21 Corrective Action- Barnwell County FS, Horry County First Steps, Jasper County FS, and Kershaw County FS.**

Motioned: Jennifer McConnell
Second: Shelley Canright
All voted Yes

The next agenda item was for the approval of the Early Childhood Innovation Grant Awards. Derek Cromwell led the discussion as follows:

- $250,000 was available- up from $100,000 in 2018.
- 9 applications were submitted, representing 21 Local Partnerships across the state.
- 3 professional external reviewers

Committee member Shelley Canright had questions concerning the process of selecting the awardees and the next steps. Betty Gardiner explained the process FS staff used and next steps.

The Motion stands as:

> **Motion to accept the Early Childhood Innovation Grant Awards to 5 applications representing the following 7 Local Partnerships as recommended by the SC First Steps grant review committee- Chesterfield, Anderson, Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Cherokee, and Colleton Local First Steps.**

Motioned: Shelly Canright
Seconded: Roger Pryor
All voted Yes

Meeting was Adjourned by Chairperson Jennifer McConnell at 12:48pm.

Next meeting: September 9, 2021

11:30 am to 1:00pm

Corrective Action Plans

FY21 Local Partnerships on Corrective Action Plan	
Local Partnership **Receiving Plan**	**Minimum Requirement Not Met**
Barnwell County	Local Partnership did not maintain a minimum of 12 Board members
Horry County	Failure to meet 15% match requirement
Jasper County	Excessive carry forward money
Kershaw County	Local Partnership did not maintain a minimum of 12 Board members

Designated Board Vacancies

Designated Board Vacancies by Agency	
Agency/Program	**Local Partnerships Missing Representative**
Head Start	Fairfield County FS **Lancaster County FS*** Orangeburg County FS
DSS	Barnwell County FS Dorchester County FS Fairfield County FS Kershaw County FS Orangeburg County FS
DHEC	**Lancaster County FS***
Library	**Lancaster County FS***
School District	Florence County FS **Lancaster County FS***

- Indicates that although the Local Partnership does not have designated position filled, they do have local board elected members from each agency represented on the board.

County	Program Officers	Legislative Appointed
Abbeville	Jon	2 legislative appointees
Aiken	**Dion**	4 out of 4 legislative appointees
Allendale	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
Anderson	Janice	No Legislative Appointees
Bamberg	Kate	2 legislative Appointees
Barnwell	Kate	1 legislative appointee
Beaufort	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
Berkeley	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
Calhoun	Jon	1 legislative appointee
Charleston	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
Cherokee	Janice	1 legislative appointee
Chester	**Janice**	No Legislative Appointees
Chesterfield	Carletta	No Legislative Appointees
Clarendon	Carletta	No Legislative Appointees
Colleton	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
Darlington	Jon	No Legislative Appointees
Dillon	Carletta	No Legislative Appointees
Dorchester	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
Edgefield	Dion	4 out of 4 legislative appointees
Fairfield	Kate	1 Legislative appointee

Florence	Carletta	3 out of 4 legislative appointees
Georgetown	Carletta	No Legislative Appointees
Greenville	Janice	2 legislative appointees by Greenville Delegation
Greenwood	Jon	1 legislative appointee
Hampton	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
Horry	Carletta	No Legislative Appointees
Jasper	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
Kershaw	**Kate**	1 legislative appointee
Lancaster	Lis	No Legislative Appointees
Laurens	Janice	2 legislative appointees (both appointed by Representative Mark Willis)
Lee	Carletta	4 out of 4 legislative appointees
Lexington	Jon	No Legislative Appointees
Marion	Carletta	1 out of 4 appointees
Marlboro	Carletta	No Legislative Appointees
McCormick	Dion	4 out of 4 legislative appointees
Newberry	Janice	1 legislative appointee by Senator (Ronnie Cromer?)
Oconee	Janice	3 legislative appointees (all by Senator Thomas Alexander)
Orangeburg	Kate	2 Legislative appointees

Pickens	Janice	3 legislatives (two by Representative Neal Collins/Former Representative Gary Clary, one by Senators Rex Rice &Tom Alexander)
Richland	Jon	No Legislative Appointees
Saluda	**Dion**	4 out of 4 legislative appointees
Spartanburg	Janice	1 legislative appointee by Representative J. Derham Cole, Jr.)
Sumter	Carletta	2 out of 4 legislative appointees
Union	Janice	No Legislative Appointees
Williamsburg	Kim	No Legislative Appointees
York	Janice	1 legislative appointee
TOTAL		

Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee

Chairwoman's Report

Chairwoman: Dr. Amy Williams

The meeting was held on Monday, July 12, 2021 from 1-2PM via Zoom. Janie Neeley and I were present from the committee. Others present are noted in the minutes. The meeting was opened with the results of the May 2021 First Steps 4K Parent Survey. Chelsea reminded us of the two prevalent program evaluations that are currently underway for Parents as Teachers and Child Care Technical Assistance. The bulk of the meeting was spent discussion potential metrics for South Carolina's Birth through Five Strategic Plan. Highlights of the discussion include how to measure child wellness, social-emotional development, developmental screening, and early intervention at the population-level.

Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2021, 1-2 PM via Zoom

Committee members present: Amy Williams; Janie Neeley
Staff present: Chelsea Richard; Karen Oliver; Kerry Cordan
Guest present: Bill Potapchuk

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 1:03PM. The meeting was opened with the results of the May 2021 First Steps 4K Parent Survey (attached). Chelsea reminded us of the two prevalent program evaluations that are currently underway:

- Parents as Teachers (due November 1, 2021): in progress with UofSC Institute for Families in Society
- Child care quality enhancement and training (due November 1, 2022): scope currently being drafted

Bill Potapchuk of the Community Building Institute, who is one of the consultants helping South Carolina write the Birth through Five plan joined the discussion about potential metrics for measuring the plan's progress. Chelsea opened the discussion with some criteria for data points that we may want to consider, including those that are available at the population-level, updated annually, and ability to be disaggregated into subgroups. Subgroups that were discussed were: race/ethnicity; disability status; poverty. Bill also reminded the group that the metrics we choose should be ones we can move the needle on in five years.

Each system goal was discussed with what important metrics come to mind. There was a lot of discussion about how to measure child wellness, social-emotional development, developmental screening, and early intervention at the population-level.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02PM.

To: SC First Steps Board of Trustees
From: Georgia Mjartan
Date: August 19, 2021

Re: Executive Director's Report

Legislative Session Update - $15,679,911 in new funding

$15,435,911 added to First Steps 4K to expanded statewide
- $10,215,935 in recurring EIA
- $5,219,976 in one-time, EIA

$142,448 for Data System
- Recurring, General Funds

$102,000 for Early Childhood Advisory Council
- Recurring, General Funds

16 FTE's

ESSER III Funding for Early Childhood (From SDE to SCFS)

- $14.7 million over 3 years
- Will impact 25,000 children
- School Transitions (Countdown to Kindergarten & Countdown to 4K)
- 4K Afterschool and Summer Language & Literacy Boost
- 4K Teacher Recruitment and Retention Stipends
- Evidence-Based Parenting Programs (Parents as Teachers & Other Models)
- Health and Development (Healthy Steps and PASOS)

Connected Families

- The Duke Endowment ($2.3 million)
- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation ($1.5 million)
- Progress on Project:
  - Hired Program Coordinator – Lis Guimaraes
  - Local Partnerships Recruiting Parent Educators
  - Working with PAT National to Customize and Target to Population
  - Developing implementation plans with DSS, DMH, SCIMHA
  - Research and Evaluation Agenda in Development

Revenue Projections for FY2022

- Historic increase in revenue
- Still in draft due to contracts not yet finalized

AmeriCorps

- AmeriCorps Highlights – Year 1
  - 31 Members Served, 21 Completed Terms
  - 12,227 families received information / education
  - 1,871 families were referred to First Steps programs
  - 1,893 books and materials to promote school readiness distributed
  - Plus 373 additional books were distributed to children at 25 4K centers participating in an MLK Day of Service Reading Event
  - 40 families participated in HIPPY Home Visiting Program, 34 completed
- AmeriCorps Year 2
  - Begins August 17th
  - Recruiting 39 Members
  - 12 Returning Members
  - Serving with:
    - 17 Local Partnerships
    - First Steps 4K
    - Early Childhood Advisory Council

First Steps 4K

Summer for Rising 4K and Rising K

- 2,272 children served
- 86% increase compared to Summer 2020
- 585 (26%) of the children were Rising 4K (new this year)

Enrollment and Capacity

2021 – 2022 School Year, As of 8/11/2021

- 2875 students approved to enroll
  - 76% increase compared to this time last year (1633 students)
  - Another point of comparison – 2588 students served in total through Day 180 last year
- More than half of approved students had siblings who will enroll in First Steps 4K + Siblings
- 255 approved centers with 295 approved classrooms
  - 53 additional centers
  - 58 additional classrooms
  - 26% increase in classrooms

First Steps 4K Academy

Leadership Academy

- 248 Directors in Total (2 Days)
- 105 New Directors (1 Day)

Teacher Academy

- 411 Teachers in Total (2 Days)
- 125 New Teachers (2 Days)

HR & Operations

- New Address: 636 Rosewood Drive, Columbia
- New Staff & Vacancies
- Continued COVID mitigation strategies