

RICHLAND COUNTY



Getting children ready for school.



Parents as Teachers

Child Care Quality  
Enhancement

Child Care Training

Early Head Start

# Annual Report

2014-15



## OUR MISSION:

Through family, child care providers and community involvement, RCFS will assist children to reach school, healthy and ready to learn.

*First Steps WORKS for the children of Richland County.*

### Who We Serve

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

Number of Richland County children under 5:  
**23,842**

Number of Richland County children under 5 living in poverty:  
**5,722**

Babies born each year in Richland County to a mother without a high school diploma:  
**12.1%**

### Our Programs

Parents as Teachers (PAT)

Child Care Quality Enhancement (ExCEL)

Child Care Training (ExCEL)

Early Head Start (EHS)

### Our Results

- ✓ 2,121 home visits to at-risk families.
- ✓ 1,476 hours of Technical Assistance provided to participating child care centers.
- ✓ 47.5 hours of certified training hours delivered to child care center staff.
- ✓ 7,600 + books were distributed to our families and child care centers as part of our ongoing literacy efforts.

### After the Flag; Building a New Legacy

Rick Noble, CEO

157 children will be born in South Carolina today. For the first time in more than a half-century, those children will be born into a state that doesn't fly the Confederate flag at its seat of government. A state whose leaders listened to their constituents, their hearts, and the teachings of their faith, then took action in the name of grace.

Heritage is a word heard used in the flag debate almost as much as grace. It means what has been given to us by those that came before. What will the 157 new citizens of our state born today inherit? South Carolina is a place so lovely that people travel from all over the world to visit, yet it is a state that lags behind the rest of the nation in the health care and education of its own people. These new South Carolinians, will they grow up strong and healthy, secure and loved? Will they receive the educational opportunities that allow them to become successful here at home or anywhere else in the world they may go?

A baby's brain is an organ of nearly infinite potential. Each day, her brain is building new connections. As each of those neural pathways fires, the young child is building her abilities and understanding of the world. Adverse experiences build negative connections, while nurturing experiences create positive ones. According to the researchers at Child Trends, nearly one in eight children (12 percent) have had three or more negative life experiences associated with levels of stress that can harm their health and development. That percentage is even higher for children living in poverty.

Richland County First Steps (RCFS) and the other First Steps county partnerships around the state work to ensure that the 157 children born today will have as many nurturing experiences as possible by focusing on their relationships with the people most likely to care for them: parents and child care providers. RCFS starts early, working with pregnant mothers to give their children the best start possible, through evidence-based program models such as Parents as Teachers and Early Head Start that give parents the tools they need to be their children's first and best teacher.

It is estimated that 90% of brain development occurs before the age of five, yet 90% of all education spending occurs after five. This is an inequity that must change if we want our new citizens to inherit a state where they can build a legacy for their families. The Nobel Prize-winning economist James Heckman writes, "We can invest early to close disparities and close achievement gaps, or we can pay to remediate disparities when they are harder and more expensive to close."

*Continued on Advocacy in Early Childhood Page.*

Richland County  
 First Steps

Board Chair  
 Marsha Moseley

Chief Executive Officer  
 Rick Noble

2008 Marion Street, Ste. B  
 Columbia, SC 29201

(803)256-7237

rnnoble@rcfirststeps.org

[www.rcfirststeps.org](http://www.rcfirststeps.org)

# South Carolina First Steps 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.

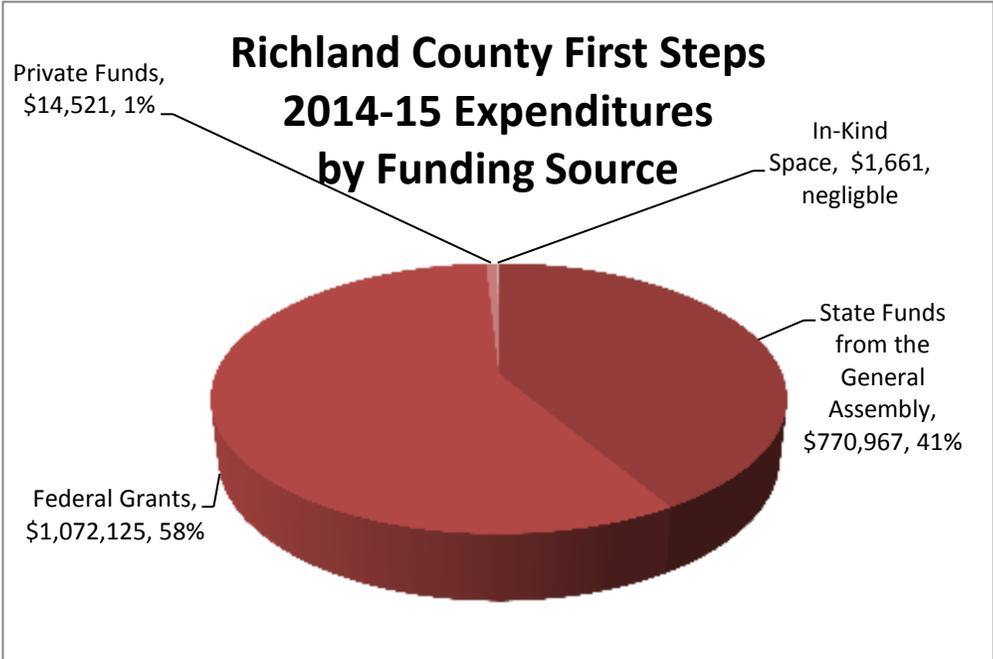


## School Transition

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 of our community, **Richland County First Steps programs (EHS, ExCEL, PAT)** target resources and investments to specifically address: **Family Strengthening, Healthy Start, Quality Child Care and Early Interventions.**

# Financial Impact



**Total 2014-15 Expenditures: \$1,859,273**

**State Funds Leveraged in 2014-15\*: 141%**

*\*Percentage of state dollars matched by additional federal, private, and/or in-kind funds*

## 2014-15 Expenditures by Strategy

	State \$	Federal \$	Private \$	In-Kind \$	Total \$	% of 2014-15 Expenditures
Parents as Teachers	\$221,075	\$0	\$1,465		\$222,539	12%
Child Care Quality Enhancement	\$249,514	\$0	\$1,485	\$1,661	\$252,660	14%
Child Care Training	\$32,873	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	\$35,373	2%
Health Start	\$0	\$0	\$4,354	\$0	\$4,354	0%
Early Head Start	\$37,273	\$1,072,125	\$773	*	\$1,110,171	60%
Programmatic Support	\$166,590	\$0	\$3,944	\$0	\$170,534	9%
Administrative Support	\$63,643	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$63,643	3%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$770,967</b>	<b>\$1,072,125</b>	<b>\$14,521</b>	<b>\$1,661</b>	<b>\$1,859,274</b>	

**EHS required non-federal match (\$282,000) is reported separately**

*Unaudited numbers for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015*

**Since inception, Richland County First Steps has leveraged \$12.9m from sources outside (private, federal, in-kind) of state government. That's 94 cents for every state dollar!**

## A New Beginning

Michelle, a 27 year old mom with a 4 year old son, has been in an extremely verbally and sometimes physically abusive relationship. After attending a Group Connection meeting and listening to a representative from Sister Care speak on Domestic Violence and talking to her Parent Educator, Michelle finally moved out of the home she shared with her boyfriend and moved in with her grandmother. In addition to moving out she has a new job. Michelle is now in the process of looking for a place to rent for herself and her son. She is looking forward to a new beginning.

By Nikiyah Spearman-Fresner, PAT Parent Educator

## Moving in a better direction

Syntrell, a mother of a 4 year old stated: "I am a single parent and before entering this program I had no goals and no sense of direction on future endeavors". As a Parent Educator, I sat down with her and helped her set goals. Syntrell is currently working on her GED and is working fulltime in order to secure her independence by securing a home of her own. She stated how very helpful her Parent Educator and the RCFS PAT program was in getting her in contact with the right resources to help her transition into her new way of life.

Three years later her child is enrolled in a four-year program and his teachers have only good comments about his Pre-K experience. She received an approval letter from Columbia Housing Authority on September 17, 2015 to secure a new home. She stated, "My life has taken a turn for the better. I would recommend the First Steps program to any parent in the community in need of such services".

By: Deloris Flemming, PAT Parent Educator



*We're building school readiness skills.*

*One, two, three, four....calculus is next!*

*It's as tall as I am! The beginning of math learning*

***Thank you to our partners!***

### Funding Support

State of South Carolina: \$768,342  
*(through South Carolina First Steps)*

Head Start, Administration for Children and  
 Families: \$1,112,852

### In-Kind Support

Eau Claire Community Health Center

Reformation Lutheran Church

Richland County School District One at  
 Horrell Hill Elementary School

Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church

### Community Support

My First Books

Richland Library

***Support Richland County First Steps today through a tax-deductible donation, or volunteer!***

## Breaking the Cycle through Family Strengthening

Karen\*, a shy, attractive 21-year-old mother of 15-month-old Derrick\*, enrolled in RCFS PAT program in May at the urging of her friend, Jocelyn\*. Jocelyn felt Karen needed support that would enable her to recognize and respond to the verbal as well as physical abuse of her current boyfriend. He was not the father of Derrick, so it was problematic why Karen remained in such an abusive relationship with a man to whom she had no family ties.

Jocelyn shared with Karen the diverse benefits of RCFS, particularly the Foundational Curriculum parent handouts on Domestic Violence, which she herself found beneficial: "When Control Becomes a Pattern" and "Are You in a Cycle of Abuse?". Jocelyn was afraid for her friend because she too had been in an abusive relationship. Karen and Jocelyn spent the better part of Mother's Day in Palmetto Richland's ER. Jocelyn took pictures of the gash in Karen's head while they waited to be seen. Despite Jocelyn's pleadings to dissolve the relationship, Karen continued to see her abuser, even inviting him to move in with her and her family.

During the monthly parent connection meeting two months later, Karen began to flash more of the beautiful smile she was previously reluctant to display. During one home visit, she even laughed when Derrick began tossing the bean-filled socks at everyone, rather than placing them on his head, as the activity page directed. As Karen's self-esteem began to flourish, her need to be in the company of her boyfriend lessened. In an attempt to regain control over Karen, he threatened to hit her with a chair in the presence of her mother, brother, and Derrick. The boyfriend was removed from the home.

This time, Jocelyn did not have to plead with Karen to press charges. Karen called her PE to ask if their Friday appointment could be rescheduled, because she was going to Victim Services to file a formal complaint.

**By Cheryl Osborne, PAT Parent Educator (PE)**

*\* Fictitious Names*



First Time at the Zoo

## Thank You

One morning, as soon as I started my first home visit of the day, I heard from the Mom: "I want to give you special thanks today. I actually don't think I have thanked you enough for all you have done since we started the Home Visits."

Our Mom, in this story, has gone through a difficult time since the delivery of her baby with Down Syndrome. This Mom is from Ecuador, her husband serves in the US army, and she spends most of her days in therapy sessions for her child and attending medical appointments. When I first met her, Mom cried a lot and was very homesick. Although she is still struggling, Mom is now more relaxed and looks forward to participating in Home Visits and EHS socializations. Her baby, now a 16 month-old toddler, is doing wonderful in all her developmental dimensions.

On that particular morning, she mentioned many things she appreciated about the program and I found out that she loves to receive my text messages to wish her a good day especially when she has to attend medical appointments for the child.

That was a special morning for me. I am grateful for having this unique opportunity to support families. This Mom made my day!

**By Ivette Villarreal, Family Service Coordinator/Hispanic Liaison**



Parents play an irreplaceable role in their child's development.

## Program Description

Serving the Lower Richland area (Eastover, Gadsden and Hopkins), we have 3 Parent Educators (Home Visitors) who are certified through Parents As Teachers. Parents As Teachers is an early childhood parent education and family support program which serves all 50 states and 6 countries outside of the United States.

The Richland County First Steps "PAT" program serves prenatal moms and children from birth – 5 years old.

**Personal Visits:** If a family has two or more risk factors, the Parent Educators are required to meet with the families weekly for 60 minutes and for the families with one risk factor, they meet 60 minutes, twice a month.

**Group Connections:** The families meet once a month for parent meetings. The meetings are designed so families and their children can get together to interact with other families and children. Some of the past meeting topics were: Planting, Making Ice Cream, Abuse and Neglect, Domestic Violence, Community Garden, Musical Instruments, Book Sharing, Finger Painting, Color Me Healthy, Vision and Hearing Screening.

**Screening:** The Parent Educators have assessment tools that are administered to the children: KIPS (Keys to Interactive Parenting), Ages and Stages-3(ASQ-3), Ages & Stages -SE, (ASQ-SE), ACIRI (Adult/Child Interactive Reading Inventory) and Life Skill Progression model. The Parent Educators are all certified to administer all the above assessments.

**Resource and Referral Network** connects families to needed resources, strengthening protective factors and fostering positive change. The resources and referrals that our families have been connected to are BabyNet, Richland County School District One (Gadsden, Horrell Hill & Webber Elementary), WIC, Harvest Hope, Eau Claire Community Health, Shelter for Battered Women, Magic Johnson's Center, Epiphany Family Services and local churches.

*"When you know better,  
you do better!"*

Rosa, mother of 4 year old daughter

## PAT by the Numbers 2014-15

<b>Families Served</b>	46	
<b>Children Served</b>	56	
<b>Total Home Visits</b>	1016	
<b>Hours Spent Serving Families</b>	1140.0	
<b>Average gain (pre-to-post):</b>	<b>KIPS</b>	<b>ACIRI</b>
<b>Keys to Interactive Parenting Scale (KIPS)</b>	Pre: 3.07 Post: 3.45	<b>Adult</b> Pre: 1.75 Post: 2.39
<b>Adult Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI)</b>		<b>Child</b> Pre: 1.76 Post: 2.26

## This year, our Parents as Teachers program:

- ✓ Averaged 20 home visits per family (2.56 Home Visits per Month, Successful Home Visits =1016)
- ✓ Improved parenting practices: KIPS (pre to post) – Parents are more involved with the child(ren): playing and following their lead, encouraging the child more, using appropriate discipline, and increasing language skills.
- ✓ Improved literacy skills: Parents allow children to 'read' to them, turn pages of books, ask open-ended questions, create books from PAT curriculum (zip-bag books, lunch bags, using family photos). Families received books monthly through RCFS and My First Books Literacy programs.
- ✓ Made 48 connections for families to services such as WIC, Wateree Community Actions, Cooperative Ministries and local churches.

## Thank you to our partners!

BabyNet, WIC

Richland County School District One (Gadsden, Horrell Hill & Webber Elementary schools)

Harvest Hope, Eau Claire Community Health Center, Shelter for Battered Women, Magic Johnson's Center

## Richland County First Steps

2008 Marion Street, Ste. B, Columbia, SC 29201  
803-256-7237

[noble@rcfirststeps.org](mailto:noble@rcfirststeps.org) [www.rcfirststeps.org](http://www.rcfirststeps.org)



# Child Care Quality Enhancement

In order to thrive, children need nurturing, responsive relationships and a supportive learning environment, both within and outside the home.

## ExCEL's Program Description

The quality of care received by young children is crucial to their healthy development and school readiness. Child care providers strive to provide high quality care, but may lack the resources that are commonly available to publicly-funded early childhood programs, such as educational materials, on-site professional development, and other support.

**First Steps' Child Care Quality Enhancement (QE) is intended to produce measurable improvements in the quality of care provided to young children.** Participating child care providers must serve a high percentage of at-risk children, and are selected through a competitive process that requires a strong level of commitment to the QE process.

### Program Components

- \* On-site Technical Assistance (TA) once a week or twice a month
- \* Equipment and materials funding
- \* Pre/post assessments of the classroom environment and teacher-child interaction, using nationally-recognized observational tools for infant/toddler and preschool settings (ITERS, ECERS)

## QE by the Numbers, 2014-15

Child Care Providers Served	14
Number of TA Visits Provided	530
Number of Children 0-5 Enrolled in Provider Classrooms	968

### Congratulations to our top QE participants for 2014-15!

Child Care Provider	Pre/Post Improvement
Good Shepherd Lutheran, Toddler room	From 3.97 to 5.73
Good Shepherd Lutheran, 2 yr old room	From 3.11 to 5.23
Belvedere Learning Ct, Infant room	From 2.24 to 4.2
HOPE Academy, Toddler Room	From 3.37 to 5.38
Unique Kids II, 3s/4 yr old room	From 2.11 to 4.17

**RCFS Excellence in Care and Early Learning (ExCEL) Quality Enhancement Teams:**  
*Enhancement Team (14 centers) – Two classes each receive weekly technical assistance, materials and free trainings*  
*Alumni Team (5 centers) – Centers who have worked with RCFS previously receive child care trainings for a fee*  
*Breakfast Club (14 centers) – Included some NAEYC center directors & others who receive leadership training and can attend trainings for a fee*

## This year, ExCEL:

- ✓ Continued our Mentoring Initiative on a smaller scale that allowed Enhancement Team teachers to “see” high quality in action at a NAEYC accredited center during visits. We paid for centers to get substitute teachers.
- ✓ Improved quality, on average, by 1.2 based on pre/post Environment Rating Scale assessments
- ✓ Provided 530 TA visits with 1,476 hours of technical assistance to our Enhancement Team child care providers.
- ✓ Provided \$14,000 in materials grants to participating child care providers.
- ✓ Went to a semester system with Enhancement Team TA, focusing on one classroom with weekly 3 hour TA for 6 months then giving TA to the second classroom in the center the second 6 months of the year.

**Thank you to our partner!**

Susanna Watson, Certified Child Care Nurse Consultant

**Richland County First Steps**  
 2008 Marion Street, Ste. B, Columbia, SC 29201  
 803-256-7237  
[rnoble@rcfirststeps.org](mailto:rnoble@rcfirststeps.org) [www.rcfirststeps.org](http://www.rcfirststeps.org)

# Child Care Training

Those who care for young children need high-quality, accessible, affordable professional development.

## ExCEL's Program Description

High-quality child care hinges on high-quality professional development that meets the needs of the local child care workforce.

First Steps-sponsored training is certified through the SC Center for Child Care Career Development and includes topics in the areas of nutrition, health and safety, curriculum, child guidance, professional development and program administration. Best practices in training include not only the training itself, but follow-up in the classroom.



*The keynote at the ExCEL Conference focused on Conscious Discipline, the emphasis of the First Steps 4K program.*

### Child Care Training Sponsored by Richland County First Steps, 2014-15

**BREAKFAST CLUB LEADERSHIP TRAININGS....**Directors from NAEYC accredited and high-quality centers met once a month for breakfast and a one-hour training on the book The Visionary Director by Carter and Curtis.

**DIRECTORS' TRAININGS....**Directors from all of our teams were invited to 5 one hour training sessions on the book 5 Levels of Leadership by John Maxwell.

**ExCEL CONFERENCE...** 373 child care providers participated in a Saturday training to receive 5.5 certified hours. Keynote by Jessica Flowers focused on Conscious Discipline - then participants chose from 3 two-hour classes that were repeated.

**MAKE IT, TAKE IT CLASSES....** ExCEL offered lunch time trainings that taught teachers and directors how to make classroom materials from recycled products like bottle tops, lids and tubs.

### Training by the Numbers, 2014-15

Total Training Attendance	725
Child Care Teachers and Directors Served	229
Number of Training Sessions Offered	33

### This year, our ExCEL Training program provided:

- ✓ Certified trainings for FREE for our Enhancement Team centers, and for our other teams for a small fee.
- ✓ 47.5 hours of certified training and 5.5 hours of registered training (our ExCEL conference) for staff to meet annual re-certification requirements
- ✓ Specialized trainings at Enhancement Team centers by our Certified Child Care Nurse Consultant, Susanna Watson.

*Thank you to our partners!*

Shandon Presbyterian Church

**Richland County First Steps**  
 2008 Marion Street, Ste. B, Columbia, SC 29201  
 803-256-7237  
[noble@rcfirststeps.org](mailto:noble@rcfirststeps.org) [www.rcfirststeps.org](http://www.rcfirststeps.org)

# EARLY HEAD START

Children learn best in the context of relationships and through family engagement.

## Program Description

Early Head Start is a federally funded community-based program for low-income pregnant women and families with infants and toddlers. Its mission is simple: to promote healthy prenatal outcomes for pregnant women; to enhance the development of very young children; and to promote healthy family functioning.

The Richland County First Steps Early Head Start program serves families in the Richland County zip codes of 29203, 29204, 29206, 29210, 29212, 29016, 29036, 29045, 29063, 29223, and 29229.

RCFS EHS has a total of 96 funded slots and three program options:

Center-Based	40
Home-Based	56
Combination *	Up to 12
Expectant Families (as needed)	As needed

\* Number included in home and center slots above.

In the past program year, EHS served 156 participants generally evenly distributed by infants, one-year old toddlers and two-year old toddlers. In addition, 8 pregnant women and 16 three-year olds were served.

Of the 156 families served during the last program year:

8%	Homeless
2%	Foster Care
12%	Diagnosed Disability (of child)
72%	Single Parent Households
71%	Of Parents have high school diploma or less
22 %	English not a first language
95%	Of children had a medical home
Parents report their top priorities as being:	
85%	Employment
79%	GED, ESL, High School
79%	Child Health
66%	My Health (Parent)

Early Head Start provided training and support for enrolled children and their families:

- ✓ Parent Training: Family Literacy, Mental Health, Developmental Milestones, Nutrition and Cooking, Toy Safety, Budgeting, Immunization Awareness
- ✓ Parent Support: Housing, Utilities, Domestic Violence, Job Search, Job Training, Education (for parents), Health, Food Security

Early Head Start provided training for all staff:

- ✓ School Readiness for Infants and Toddlers, Curriculum, Dual Language Learners, Disabilities, Health & Safety, Nutrition, Mandated Reporting, CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid

School Readiness Assessment – Spring 2014-2015

Social - Emotional				
	Program	Home	Center 1	Center 2
<b>Below</b>	10%	3%	21%	7%
<b>Meet/Exceed</b>	90%	97%	79%	93%
Physical - Gross Motor				
	Program	Home	Center 1	Center 2
<b>Below</b>	14%	2%	38%	13%
<b>Meet/Exceed</b>	86%	98%	62%	87%
Physical - Fine Motor				
	Program	Home	Center 1	Center 2
<b>Below</b>	5%	2%	4%	13%
<b>Meet/Exceed</b>	95%	98%	96%	87%
Language				
	Program	Home	Center 1	Center 2
<b>Below</b>	26%	17%	42%	27%
<b>Meet/Exceed</b>	74%	83%	58%	73%
Cognition				
	Program	Home	Center 1	Center 2
<b>Below</b>	4%	2%	4%	7%
<b>Meet/Exceed</b>	96%	98%	96%	93%
Literacy				
	Program	Home	Center 1	Center 2
<b>Below</b>	16%	23%	8%	7%
<b>Meet/Exceed</b>	84%	77%	92%	93%
Mathematics				
	Program	Home	Center 1	Center 2
<b>Below</b>	30%	35%	4%	53%
<b>Meet/Exceed</b>	70%	65%	96%	47%

*Thank you to our partners!*

Early Head Start Policy Council Members

Reformation Lutheran Church

Richland Library

Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church

**Richland County First Steps**

2008 Marion Street, Ste. B, Columbia, SC 29201

803-256-7237

[noble@rcfirststeps.org](mailto:noble@rcfirststeps.org) [www.rcfirststeps.org](http://www.rcfirststeps.org)

## After the Flag; Building a New Legacy – Cont'd

Rick Noble, CEO

During the flag debate, many legislators expressed that they had never received so many constituent calls as they did on this issue. What if all of us as South Carolinians felt the same passion and urgency for building our future as we do for representations of our past? We could make a commitment to health for these new children by convincing our leaders to expand Medicaid coverage. We could give today's babies the experiences they need to be successful by making sure more of them have the ability to receive high quality early care and education through programs like the ones offered by First Steps. We could start a community conversation about our legacy and our future. We can build a stronger state today.

The bipartisan effort to remove the flag in the name of grace inspires another virtue: hope. Hope for the 157 new South Carolinians born today and the other 56,998 who will be born this year, that they will have the opportunity to live in a state whose leaders remember that grace, and that ability to work together to improve our home. There's more work to do. Let's start at the beginning.

## Richland County First Steps Partnership Board, 2014-15

Name	Board Category	Employer
Patricia Armstrong	Richland County Public Health Department Appointee	SC DHEC Midlands Region
Helen Anderson	School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties Appointee	School District Five of Lexington/Richland Counties
Jamie Browder	Pre-K/Primary	Richland County School District One
Mahalie Davies	Legislative Appointee	Community Volunteer
Deborah DePaoli	Family Education	Richland School District Two
Richelynn Douglas	Family Education	Family Services/One Stop
Penny Dininny	Business/Finance/EHS	Richland County School District Two
Michael Harris	Family Education	School District Five of Lexington/Richland Counties
Laura Hart	Business/Legal/EHS	Duff, White & Turner, LLC
Sally Huguley	Early Childhood Education	Retired
Quantina Haggwood	Richland School District One Appointee	Richland County School District One
Marsha Moseley	Richland School District Two Appointee	Richland School District Two
Sabina Mosso-Taylor	Legislative Appointee	Center For Achievement, Richland School District Two
Reese Palmer	SC DSS Appointee	Richland County Department of Social Services
Chiquita Singletary	Faith	Richland County Sheriff's Department
Janet Tapp	Health Care Provider	SC Department of Health & Environmental Control
Leslie Tetreault	Richland Library Appointee	Richland Library
Missy Wall-Mitchell	Early Childhood Education	School District Five of Lexington/Richland Counties
Jane Wyatt	Legislative Appointee	Caughman Road Elementay School
Vacant	GLEAMNS Head Start	
Vacant	Legislative Appointee	

**Support Richland County First Steps today through a tax-deductible donation, or volunteer!**

## Getting children ready for school.

- (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; and
- (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, SC Code

Richland County First Steps **Collaborates** with South Carolina First Steps **to Support These Services in Richland County.**



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>



BabyNet in RichlandCounty:  
(803) 734-0111

<http://scfirststeps.org/babynet/>

Support Richland County First Steps today through a tax-deductible donation, or volunteer!