

South Carolina First Steps e-Spotlight

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Georgetown County First Steps Partners with the Sadie Grice Funny Foundation to Host Back to School Jamboree

On August 12th, Georgetown County First Steps (GCFS) partnered with the Sadie Grice Funny Scholarship Foundation to hold the inaugural “Sadie Cares Health Fair and Back to School Jamboree” at the Beck Recreational Facility in Georgetown. This summer GCFS and the Sadie Grice Funny Scholarship Foundation connected over their shared commitment to providing support and resources for families and young children in the Georgetown community.

During the Jamboree, Georgetown County families were provided with free health screenings, information on making healthy meal choices, incorporating exercise into their lifestyles and seeking regular medical checkups to prevent or detect diseases early. GCFS recruited forty families to attend from their Early Head Start program and these children were provided with backpacks filled with age-appropriate learning, nutrition, and health materials. In order to receive the backpacks, families had to show that they had went to every table at the event, thereby learning more about the community resources available to them.



Two children pose with the backpacks and school supplies they received at the Jamboree.

A live D. J. provided music while children and parents participated in activities to get them moving towards incorporating exercise into their lifestyles. Families enjoyed food and drinks, with drawings for prizes are awarded to parents each hour. Georgetown City Fire Department was on hand to provide families information on fire safety, give tours of the fire engine and provide children with toy helmets. One of the local radio stations broadcasted from the event.

At the event GFSC set up an exhibit space to provide information and discuss GCFS' different program offerings with parents in attendance, including their Early Identification Resource and Referral program, Quality Enhancement, and Child Care Scholarships. The Jamboree provided a great recruitment venue, as GCFS was able to connect with several parents interested in enrolling their families in GCFS programs.

This first collaboration between the Sadie Grice Funny Scholarship Foundation and GCFS proved to be a tremendous success and has already paved the way for future events in Georgetown County hosted by the two organizations. The Foundation and GCFS have begun jointly planning for a holiday celebration for children and would like to make the Jamboree an annual event. In partnering together both the Sadie Grice Funny Scholarship Foundation and Georgetown County First Steps recognize their essential role educating and supporting families and young children in their community.



A young child and Early Head Start participant holds the hand of a volunteer at the “Sadie Cares Health Fair and Back to School Jamboree.”

For more information on Georgetown County First Steps' partnership with the Sadie Grice Funny Scholarship Foundation, please contact GCFS Executive Director Carol Daly at cdaly4581@yahoo.com.