





Head Start Basics: Starting with the Family First



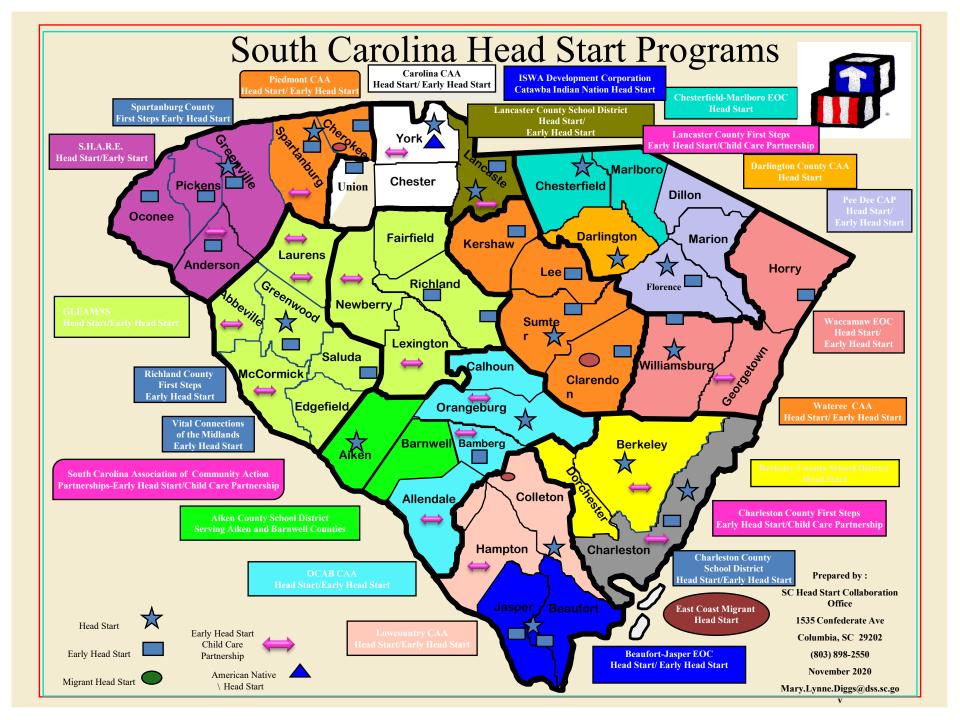
Presenters

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History of Head Start

- 1964—War on Poverty
- 1965—Launch of Project Head Start
- 1965—American Indian and Alaskan Native Head Start programs begin
- 1966—Economic Opportunity Act
- 1967—Parent Child Centers
- 1969—Head Start moved from OEO to Dept. Health Education and Welfare
- 1972—OEO Act amended
- 1972—Head Start begins Child Development Associate (CDA) program
- 1972—Home Start initiated to provide services in the home
- 1973—Child and Family Resource Centers begin
- 1975—Head Start Performance Standards issues
- 1977—Establishment of Bilingual/Bicultural Migrant Head Start
- 1995—First Early Head Start Grants awarded
- 1996—First major revision of Head Start Performance Standards
- 1998—Head Start Reauthorization; to include full day and full year for children
- 2003—Good Start-Grow Smart launched
- 2007—State Early Childhood Advisory Council established



SOME SOUTH CAROLINA HEAD START BASICS

There is a Head Start presence in 45 of the 46 South Carolina counties.

- Head Start programs are federal to local, comprehensive, income eligible, school readiness programs. Local public or private non-profits and now, for-profits are eligible. Parent involvement in a hallmark.
- Sixteen (16) Head Start programs in South Carolina provide services to children ages 3-5. Twelve of these programs are under the sponsorship of Community Action Agencies (CAAPS). Four are with school districts. Funding comes from the Region IV Office of Head Start (Atlanta).
- There are 4 South Carolina Migrant Head Start sites. The East Coast Migrant Program, based in North Carolina, serves as grantee. Services are provided to children ages 0-5. Funding is awarded by way of the Office of Head Start.
- There are 17 Early Head Start programs providing services to children 0-3. Funding is processed through the Region IV Office of Head Start (Atlanta). Sponsorship includes: CAAPS, school districts, local First Steps School Readiness Partnerships, and a United Way affiliated agency.

- □ There is **1** American Indian Head Start program. Funding is made possible through the American Indian Program Branch of the Office of Head Start (Washington). Children ages 0-5 are served.
- Early Head Start/Childcare Partnership grants have been awarded to 3 local First Steps Partnerships, a CAAP Head Start/Early Head Start grantee and the South Carolina Association of Community Action Partnerships. These grantees, as a group, are expected to serve 660 children, ages 0-3 in private settings.
- □ As of December 1, 2019, 12,153 South Carolina children received Head Start services in 225 centers. Of the total served, 80 children were served in American Indian Head Start and 385 children were served in home-based settings. Of the total served, 4,228 were age four. In addition, four grantees served as state funded 4K providers, serving a total of 110 children. As of December 1, 2020, 7,157 South Carolina children received Head Start services in 236 centers. Of the total served, 109 children were served in American Indian Head Start/Early Head Start and 266 children were served in home-based settings. Of the total served, 2,881 were age four. In addition, two grantees served as state funded 4K providers, serving a total of 20 children. Services were in person, virtual or hybrid.

□ The approximate federal operational funding awarded to the state is \$150,000,000.

Sponsoring programs must acquire a **20% local** match.

- There are 60 NAEYC accredited Head Start centers in the state. Most South Carolina programs participate in the State QRIS.
- □ The State Head Start Collaboration Office grant is awarded to the Governor, designated to a state agency and is under the oversight of the agency and an advisory committee.

South Carolina Head Start Collaboration Office

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Head Start Planning Related Systems



Family and community services are a focal point for and about Head Start. Parent and family engagement in Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS) is about building relationships with families that support family wellbeing, strong relationships between parents and their children, and ongoing learning and development for both parents and children.



The Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework

The Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework is a road map for progress in achieving the kinds of outcomes that lead to positive and enduring change for children and families. The PFCE Framework was developed in partnership with programs, families, experts, and the National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement. It is a researchbased approach to program change that shows how an agency can work together as a whole—across systems and service areas— to promote parent and family engagement and children's learning and development.

The Head Start Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework

Positive & Goal-Oriented Relationships

Equity, Inclusiveness, Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness

PROGRAM FOUNDATIONS	PROGRAM IMPACT AREAS	FAMILY OUTCOMES	CHILD OUTCOMES
Program Leadership Professional Development Continuous Learning and Quality Improvement	Program Environment Family Partnerships Teaching and Learning Community Partnerships Access and Continuity	Family Well-being Positive Parent-Child Relationships Families as Lifelong Educators Families as Learners Family Engagement in Transitions Family Connections to Peers and Community Families as Advocates and Leaders	 Children are: Safe Healthy and well Learning and developing Engaged in positive relationships with family members, caregivers, and other children Ready for school Successful in school and life

Family Partnership Services

Family partnership process. A program must implement a family partnership process that includes a family partnership agreement and the activities which support family well-being, including family safety, health, and economic stability, to support child learning and development, to provide, if applicable, services and supports for children with disabilities, and to foster parental confidence and skills that promote the early learning and development of their children. The process must be initiated as early in the program year as possible and continue for as long as the family participates in the program, based on parent interest and need.



Identification of Family Strengths and Needs

A program must implement intake and family assessment procedures to identify family strengths and needs related to the family engagement outcomes as described in the Head Start Parent Family and Community Engagement Framework, including family well-being, parent-child relationships, families as lifelong educators, families as learners, family engagement in transitions, family connections to peers and the local community, and families as advocates and leaders.

Individualized Family Partnership Services.

A program must offer individualized family partnership services that:

(1) Collaborate with families to identify interests, needs, and aspirations related to the family engagement outcomes described in paragraph (b) of this section;
(2) Help families achieve identified individualized family engagement outcomes;

(3) Establish and implement a family partnership agreement process that is jointly developed and shared with parents in which staff and families to review individual progress, revise goals, evaluate and track whether identified needs and goals are met, and adjust strategies on an ongoing basis, as necessary.

Head Start Policy Council

The founders of Head Start have always viewed parents as critical partners in its work to educate young children. They also understood that this partnership meant parents should help decide which services would most benefit their families and those in the community. As a result, Head Start created a formal leadership and policy-making role for parents and community members called the Policy Council.



The policy council approves and submit to the governing body decisions about each of the following activities:

- Activities to support the active involvement of parents in supporting program operations, including policies to ensure that the Head Start agency is responsive to community and parent needs.
- □ Program recruitment, selection, and enrollment priorities.
- Applications for funding and amendments to applications for funding for programs, prior to submission of applications.
- Budget planning for program expenditures, including policies for reimbursement and participation in policy council activities.
- Bylaws for the operation of the policy council.
- Program personnel policies and decisions regarding the employment of program staff, including standards of conduct for program staff, contractors, and volunteers and criteria for the employment and dismissal of program staff.
- Developing procedures for how members of the policy council will be elected.
- Recommendations on the selection of delegate agencies and the service areas for such agencies.

Fatherhood Programs

Head Start programs partner with fathers to promote positive outcomes for children, families, and fathers themselves. Staff work with fathers to help them develop their skills and interests and achieve goals for themselves and their families. Programs support fathers as advocates, lifelong educators, and first teachers of their children.

Father engagement is not a stand-alone program initiative, but a vital and integrated aspect of parent, family, and community work. A systemwide integration of multiple activities builds a comprehensive father-engagement approach. Effective engagement of fathers requires staff to demonstrate genuine curiosity and respect for the unique strengths, talents, cultures, goals, and circumstances of fathers. A trusting relationship is the foundation for this partnership. Successful partnerships can lead to positive, long-lasting outcomes for fathers, children, and families.









FAQs

