

Partners In Prevention

April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month



With Prevention, Everyone Wins.

When parents and families have the right tools and resources, they raise happy, healthy and safe children. And that is what everyone wants – a South Carolina where children thrive and grow into productive citizens. By working upstream through proven prevention programs and family strengthening services, the positive effects are immediate and long-lasting.

Parenting programs help families stay together and spare children from the long-term, devastating effects of maltreatment. Communities can focus on building the next generation rather than spending limited resources on costly expenses associated with medical and mental health, social services, law enforcement, foster care and the justice system.



Invest in proven prevention programs to help young children and their families.

14,711



children in substantiated investigations of abuse and neglect in South Carolina last year

50%
ages 0-6

28%
ages 7-12

50%
neglect

50%
physical abuse

Data Source: South Carolina Department of Social Services, state fiscal year 2022 - 2023.

Our Legislative Priorities



Voluntary Home Visiting Programs

Professionals work one-on-one with mothers to help them learn how to give their babies a strong start in life. Evidence shows that voluntary home visiting programs prevent child abuse and lower maternal and infant mortality and childhood obesity.

LESS THAN
10%

of eligible families receive voluntary home visiting services

SOLUTION - South Carolina can serve more families with home visiting through a state financial investment of \$250,000. This funding would be matched 3-to-1 by the federal Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting grant administered by Children's Trust.



Child Care

Child care in South Carolina remains one of the top 10 barriers to workforce entry. Workers without stable child care are also more prone to calling out, showing up late and leaving early.

MORE THAN
15%

of unemployed women can't work because of a lack of child care

SOLUTION - Update the existing business child care tax credit so that more will use it.



Hunger

No child in South Carolina should go hungry, yet many still do. Research shows that hungry children are more likely to be disruptive in class and have lasting health complications.

28%

of children in S.C. live in households where children are not eating enough because food is unaffordable

SOLUTION - Expand free breakfast and lunch programs in public schools to cover all children in South Carolina.



Behavioral and Mental Health

Children are struggling with record-high mental health concerns in South Carolina.

41%

of S.C. high school students stopped doing activities because of poor mental health

SOLUTION - Prioritize crisis stabilization units for children and youth throughout the state.

2024 Prevention Partners In South Carolina

Children's Trust is the state chapter for Prevent Child Abuse America and leads Child Abuse Prevention Month in the state. Recognizing that we all must work together, the following partners have made a commitment to stand together during Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Afterbirth LLC <i>Abbeville</i>	City of Clemson Police Department, Victim Services <i>Pickens</i>	Greenville County Schools/Lakeview Middle <i>Greenville</i>	Newberry First Steps <i>Newberry</i>	S.C. Department of Environmental Health and Control <i>Anderson and Pickens</i>
Axis I Center of Barnwell <i>Barnwell</i>	Clarendon County School District <i>Clarendon</i>	Greenville First Steps <i>Greenville</i>	Nightlight Christian Adoptions <i>Greenville</i>	S.C. Department of Health and Human Services, BabyNet <i>Richland</i>
Barnwell County First Steps <i>Barnwell</i>	Clarendon County School District/First Steps <i>Clarendon</i>	Greer Relief <i>Greenville</i>	NorthStar Center of Hope <i>Richland</i>	S.C. Department of Social Services <i>All county offices</i>
Barnwell County Healthy Families <i>Barnwell</i>	Clemson University <i>Pickens</i>	HALOS <i>Charleston</i>	Now Hear This <i>Berkeley</i>	S.C. First Steps <i>Richland</i>
Beaufort County First Steps <i>Beaufort</i>	Clover School District <i>York</i>	Hampton First Steps <i>Hampton</i>	Optimism Preventive Services, Inc. <i>Georgetown</i>	S.C. Lutheran Synod Youth <i>Spartanburg</i>
Beaufort Jasper Hampton Comprehensive Health Services, Inc <i>Beaufort</i>	Crestwood Forest Apartments <i>Greenville</i>	Hopeful Horizons <i>Beaufort</i>	Orangeburg County First Steps <i>Orangeburg</i>	S.C. Office of Rural Health, Family Solutions <i>Orangeburg</i>
Beaufort-Jasper Economic Opportunity Commission Head Start <i>Beaufort</i>	CSD Bright Beginnings <i>York</i>	HopeHealth <i>Florence</i>	Our Kulture Club <i>Greenville</i>	Sea Haven Youth Services <i>Horry</i>
Berkeley County Guardian and Litem Program <i>Berkeley</i>	Daniel Island Exchange Club <i>Berkeley</i>	Jasper County First Steps <i>Jasper</i>	Parent and Child Enrichment (PACE) Program <i>Lexington</i>	SoulFULLy Momming Ulanda James Coaching and Consulting, LLC <i>Kershaw</i>
Berkeley-Dorchester Head Start <i>Berkeley</i>	Darlington County First Steps <i>Darlington</i>	Just Say Something <i>Greenville</i>	Parkway Village Apartments <i>Berkeley</i>	The Parenting Place <i>Pickens</i>
Beulah Christian Fellowship Church <i>Greenville</i>	Dee Norton Child Advocacy Center <i>Charleston</i>	Kane Jallos <i>Richland</i>	Pendleton Place <i>Greenville</i>	Thornwell <i>Laurens</i>
Beyond Abuse <i>Greenwood</i>	Dickerson Children's Advocacy Center <i>Lexington</i>	Lancaster County First Steps <i>Lancaster</i>	Police Department Victims Advocate <i>Laurens</i>	Tidelands Health <i>Georgetown</i>
Bob Jones University <i>Greenville</i>	Disciples Fellowship Baptist Church <i>Greenville</i>	Laurens Police Department <i>Laurens</i>	Power In Changing - The Diaper Bank of the Midlands <i>Richland</i>	Trent Hill Center for Children and Families <i>Darlington</i>
Browns Ferry Community Outreach <i>Georgetown</i>	Dorchester Advocacy Center <i>Dorchester</i>	Lee County First Steps <i>Lee</i>	Prisma Health, Bradshaw Institute for Community Child Health and Advocacy <i>Greenville</i>	TriCounty Technical College <i>Anderson</i>
C4 Ministries <i>Union</i>	Early Steps	Lighthouse Ministries <i>Florence</i>	Prisma Health, Children's Hospital Outpatient Center <i>Richland</i>	Union County First Steps <i>Union</i>
Carolina Health Centers Inc. <i>Greenwood</i>	Save the Children <i>Barnwell</i>	The LifeLine Center <i>Florence</i>	Private Consultant <i>Charleston</i>	University of South Carolina, STARR Lab <i>Richland</i>
Charleston County Public Library <i>Charleston</i>	Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center <i>Richland</i>	Maternity Health and Resource Centers <i>Sumter</i>	Private Practice Counseling Office <i>Greenwood</i>	Upstate Family Resource Center <i>Spartanburg</i>
Cherokee County School District <i>Cherokee</i>	Ekklesia at Hidden Creek, Joyful Moms Club <i>Berkeley</i>	Middle Tyger Community Center <i>Spartanburg</i>	Richland County First Steps <i>Richland</i>	Vital Connections of the Midlands <i>Richland</i>
Child Abuse Prevention Association <i>Beaufort</i>	The Family Center of Lexington School District One <i>Lexington</i>	Mine Creek Missionary Baptist Church <i>Saluda</i>	Rural Life Resources <i>Orangeburg</i>	Windwood Family Services <i>Charleston</i>
A Childs Haven <i>Greenville</i>	Family Outreach <i>Horry</i>	Miss Ruby's Kids <i>Georgetown</i>	Safe Kids Sumter County <i>Sumter</i>	York County First Steps <i>York</i>
The Children's Council <i>Lancaster</i>	First Steps of Laurens County <i>Laurens</i>	M.S. Bailey Child Development Center <i>Laurens</i>	Save the Children <i>Orangeburg</i>	York School District 1, Parenting Partnerships and Family Resource Center <i>York</i>
Children's Place, Inc. <i>Aiken</i>	Fostering the Family <i>Anderson</i>	MUSC/Healthy Families America <i>Charleston</i>		
Children's Recovery Center <i>Horry</i>	Four Giving Hearts <i>Georgetown</i>	National Youth Advocate Program <i>Charleston</i>		
		Newberry County Department of Social Services <i>Newberry</i>		

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Sponsors

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