

# Resource Guide for South Carolina Caregivers

This brief guide may be only a start for you. Often you'll have to look for the best answers locally. You should partner with your worker in finding out what basic help you and your foster child are entitled to and the best way to access this help. The South Carolina Foster Parent Association, through its local chapters and member caregivers, can also be a great source of information and assistance.

## **ABC Child Care Program**

A statewide system designed by South Carolina to deliver child care services under a federally-funded grant program. The ABC Child Care Voucher program makes payments to providers to care for low-income children so their parents can work. The program also has a number of activities and projects that help to improve child care programs throughout the state and make them more available and affordable to the families that need them. For information on applying for ABC help, talk with your worker or call ABC.

(803) 898-2570

## **BabyNet**

South Carolina's interagency early-intervention system for infants and toddlers (under three years old) with developmental delays or conditions associated with such delays. BabyNet matches needs with community resources. Your child may already be registered with BabyNet when he or she comes to you. If not, and you see a possible need, get with your worker and other involved professionals to request a BabyNet assessment.

(877) 621-0865

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

[babynet@firststeps.org](mailto:babynet@firststeps.org)

## **Community Long Term Care (CLTC)**

A program of the SC Department of Health and Human Services offering help for a variety of needs to clients and age groups who are financially eligible for Medicaid. Among other services, there are some for children who need nursing care and those with spinal cord injuries.

SC Department of Health and Human Services

PO Box 8205

Columbia, SC 29202

(888) 549-0820

Deputy Director of Eligibility and Beneficiary Services (803) 898-2502

<https://www.scdhhs.gov/historic/insideDHHS/Bureaus/BureauofLongTermCareServices/CLTCOverview.html>

## **Continuum of Care for Emotionally Disturbed Children**

Advocates to ensure continuing development and delivery of appropriate services to South Carolina children with severe emotional disturbances and their families whose needs are not being adequately met by existing services and programs.

1205 Pendleton Street, Suite 372

Columbia, SC 29201

(803) 734-4500

[www.continuum.sc.gov](http://www.continuum.sc.gov)

### **Family Connection of South Carolina**

A statewide nonprofit organization linking families with a child or family member who has special healthcare needs with resources, support, and education. It provides support to parents, including resource and adoptive parents, with a child or family member with any special health care need. Services include information, referral, and intensive one-on-one support for early intervention (birth to three years old), asthma, children through age 18, and a volunteer Parent Match program that can match on any diagnosis, age, or concern. All services are free. The Family Connection Website provides links to many other services and additional information.

2712 Middleburg Dr. Suite 103

Columbia, SC 29204

Main Office: (803) 252-0914; Statewide: (800) 578-8750

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

### **Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health of South Carolina (FFSC)**

A nonprofit organization established to serve and advocate for the families of children with any degree of emotional, behavioral, or psychiatric disorder. Services and programs offered by the FFSC are designed to meet the individual and varying needs of families around the state. Through support networks, educational materials, publications, conferences, workshops, and other activities, the Federation provides many avenues of support for the families it serves.

P.O. Box 1266

Columbia, SC 29202

(803) 772-5210; (866) 779-0402

[info@fedfamsc.org](mailto:info@fedfamsc.org)

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

### **Foster Care Health Initiative**

A collaboration striving to promote foster children's best health outcomes through helping to create safe and healthy environments for them. First Choice by Select Health of South Carolina is the primary Medicaid managed-care organization working with this initiative to improve interaction with primary-care physicians, increase access to preventive care, and encourage early intervention and appropriate treatment. Diane Rowan, as the first point of contact, can explain the advantages offered by this program.

(843) 414-2681; toll-free (888) 559-1010

### **National Association of Mental Illness of SC (NAMI)**

A nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of people with serious mental illnesses and their families through support, education, and advocacy.

P.O. Box 1267

5000 Thurmond Mall Boulevard Suite 205

Columbia, SC 29202

(800) 733-9591

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

### **PRO-Parents (Parents Reaching Out to Parents of South Carolina, Inc.)**

A private, non-profit organization providing information and training about education to families of children with all types of disabilities. PRO-Parents believes parents can be the best advocates for their

children. Experienced advisors help parents become more aware of their rights and responsibilities through telephone counseling, workshops, and written material. With confidence and knowledge, parents can then participate as equal partners with professionals on behalf of their children. PRO-Parents also serves professionals in education and related fields throughout South Carolina.

652 Bush River Road Suite 203

Columbia, SC 29210

(800) 772-5688

[PROParents@proparents.org](mailto:PROParents@proparents.org)

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

### **Smart Summers, Strong Kids**

Helps resource families find and pay for extracurricular activities for their foster children, excluding day care but including summer camps and year-round recreational and learning opportunities such as Kindercare, other music and dance programs, karate, cooking classes, and horseback activities. More information and suggestions can be found on the South Carolina Foster Parent Association Website.

[www.scfpa.com/Programs.aspx](http://www.scfpa.com/Programs.aspx) and [http://www.scfpa.com/Summer\\_opportunities.aspx](http://www.scfpa.com/Summer_opportunities.aspx)

(803) 790-1194; (803) 727-7633

### **South Carolina Autism Society**

Provides information and referrals to professionals and to individuals with autism and their families.

806 12th Street

West Columbia, SC 29169

(800) 438-4790

(803) 750-8121

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

### **South Carolina First Steps**

Helps young children prepare for school through programs that strengthen families, improve children's health and well-being, increase the quality of child care and early education opportunities, and help transition rising kindergarteners into school. Every South Carolina county has a First Steps office that identifies local needs and collaborative opportunities to help South Carolina's youngest learners be better prepared for school. (See also BabyNet, above.)

1300 Sumter Street, Suite 100

Columbia, SC 29201

(803) 734-0479

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

### **South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation**

An employment agency that offers training in work skills to help qualifying people with disabilities. Vocational Rehab does a careful assessment and targets training accordingly to prepare clients for employment. It also helps them find jobs.

1410 Boston Avenue

P.O. Box 15

West Columbia, SC 29171-0015

(800) 832-7526

[info@scvrd.state.sc.us](mailto:info@scvrd.state.sc.us)

<http://scvrd.net/common/index.php>

Deputy Director of Eligibility and Beneficiary Services (803) 898-2502

**WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)**

A program of the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control that serves to safeguard the health of women, infants, and children up to age five who are at nutritional risk. WIC provides education and nutritious foods to supplement diets. The Website offers links to a great deal of information on benefits, qualifying, and applying for help. Ask your worker to help you determine eligibility and apply for services in your area.

<http://search.scdhec.gov/search?utf8=%E2%9C%93&affiliate=scdhec&query=WIC&input.x=0&input.y=0>

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**Additional Benefits for Foster Children:**

For benefits you aren't already getting for your children including clothing allowance, free school lunches (also at [www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=3559](http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=3559)), possible free summer lunches (also at <https://dss.sc.gov/content/customers/food/sfsp/index.aspx>), and medical and dental screening, talk to your worker, who may be able to help you secure them.

See also the resources listed at the end of the *Heartfelt Calling* resource book that you were given as part of your pre-certification training to become resource parents.