



SOME SOUTH CAROLINA HEAD START BASICS

- There is a Head Start presence in each 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.
- Fifteen (16) Head Start programs in South Carolina provide services to children ages 3-5. Thirteen of these programs are under the sponsorship of Community Action Agencies (CAAPS). Three are with school districts. Funding comes from the Region IV Office of Head Start (Atlanta).
- There are 6 South Carolina Migrant Head Start sites. The East Coast Migrant Program out of North Carolina serves as grantee. Services are provided to children ages 0-5.
- There are 16 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 Native American 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.
- As of May 1, 2014, South Carolina served 12,951 children in 213 centers and or home based settings. Of these, 80 children were served in Native American Head Start. Of the total, 5,975 four year olds were being served. In addition, six grantees serve as state funded 4K providers, serving a total of 204 children.
- The approximate federal operational funding awarded to the state is \$100,000,000.
- Sponsoring programs must acquire a 20% local match quite often achieved by way of a facility.
- As of October 2013 there are 64 NAEYC accredited Head Start centers in the state.
- Of the 653 Head Start teachers in South Carolina, 84.89% have achieved an Associate Degree or better.
- 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 of CAAP and Head Start representatives.

