

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



MAKING OUTCOMES BRIGHTER FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

i(cs)

INSTITUTE *for* CHILD SUCCESS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2 Dear Friends of ICS	10 Pay for Success: Continuing Momentum
3 Partner Perspectives on ICS	12 Speaking Engagements
4 Policy & Research	14 2020 & Beyond
6 Media Coverage	16 Financials & Support
7 Board & Staff Members: Honorable Mentions	17 Contributors
8 Convenings: Championing & Collaborating	18 ICS Board of Directors
	19 ICS Staff & Experts

Dear Friends of ICS

As ICS celebrates its eighth anniversary, we are very pleased to report on the many significant achievements of the Institute for Child Success (ICS) over the past year. When the founders of ICS originally came together, they were guided by their belief that sound policy research, coupled with a deep commitment to our youngest citizens, would foster innovation and leadership that would transform systems and positively impact the lives of children and families.



Today, we can point to many successes catalyzed by ICS, ranging from the proliferation of evidence-based programs such as Reach Out and Read and the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) to legislation broadening publicly funded kindergarten and ensuring the continuation of important home-visiting programs. However, we know that genuine success for our youngest children involves much more than just the expansion of programs or enactment of legislation. The full potential of our children and prosperity for our nation will only be realized when we fully engage with and positively transform the plethora of systems impacting families.

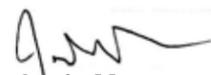


Whereas in 2018, ICS celebrated the importance of individual and systems “Resilience” in promoting positive outcomes for children and families, an underlying theme for our work in 2019 is one that increasingly focuses on Social Determinants. Although many associate “social determinants” with health outcomes, at ICS we see the phenomenon extending to promoting flourishing in all aspects of a child’s life – education, safety, access, environment, and health. As you will see in the pages that follow, this recognition is leading ICS to more intentionally address issues of equity and inclusion so that we propel ALL our children and ALL our communities toward a more hopeful and prosperous future.

The success of ICS is an accomplishment we share with YOU, our many collaborators, funders, and friends. Thank you for your partnership and we look forward to continuing our work together!

In gratitude,


Ann Robinson
Chair, Board of Directors


Jamie Moon
President

Partner Perspectives on ICS



Janis Dubno
 Sorenson Impact Center
Managing Director – Impact Analytics and Social Innovation

During the years that I’ve worked in early childhood, I’ve had the pleasure to work (on advocacy initiatives, early childhood pay for success, and recently, collaborating on Spartanburg’s Hello Family initiative) with a number of people on the ICS staff and I have to say it’s always a pleasure. You know they do good work, they work hard, and they’re in it for the right reason.

I can honestly say that we love working with ICS. A lot of it has to do with their leadership. They pursue work in the two-generation arena so not only are they moving the ball in terms of improving outcomes for underserved children, but also impacting the family and mothers. I look forward to our continued partnership to improve outcomes for low-income kids.



Keisha Gray
 Mary Black Foundation
Program Director – Early Childhood Development

ICS is systems-level, policy-level work and some of the most inspiring we have seen in this region. Their research briefs inform us to better understand the data behind some of the outcomes we’re seeing and it guides our investments in early childhood development. Their work is core to the way we think about investing in our community for longer term impact. Our investments are primarily upstream because we are trying to get ahead of not just mitigating the issues that we see, but stopping them from even happening. ICS’s work allows us to think about the root causes. They do the deep diving and are willing to work alongside us in operationalizing that information.



Bill Stanfield
 Metanoia Community Development Corporation
Chief Executive Officer

Metanoia does asset-based community development work with communities oftentimes viewed as distressed through a negative lens, and we look for positive things going on within those communities and then invest in those assets so that solutions come from within those neighborhoods. We were introduced to ICS when investigating the possibility of starting an early childhood education center in our neighborhood (a need expressed by the community).

ICS won the proposal and helped us build an economically sustainable business plan. Their expertise in early childhood education, budgets, and educational and curriculum models, combined with our knowledge of the neighborhood and capacity to get philanthropic funding and tax credits was a winning combination. Thanks to ICS, we are well on our way to providing a top-notch early childhood education program for our region in North Charleston serving low-income kids!

Policy & Research

ICS is committed to catalyzing and accelerating progress in the early childhood policy sphere, and the past year did not disappoint.

First, we've continued to engage in conversations in South Carolina about how to best manage **early childhood governance**. Currently, early childhood interventions and services are distributed between several state agencies in a structure that makes it difficult to collaborate and coordinate between them. Drawing on best practices from other states, ICS is advising policy makers as they consider creating a cabinet-level early childhood agency. That process has moved along pleasingly this year, and we hope to have much more to report in 2020.

Second, we have also continued supporting the efforts behind the federal **Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act (SIPPRA)**, which authorized federal investments in Pay for Success (PFS) projects that create value for the federal government. SIPPRA was passed in early 2018, and ICS is partnering with the Sorenson Institute to help jurisdictions apply for this federal support.

A related piece of legislation is moving through the legislature in South Carolina. Bill S. 318 would allow state agencies to more easily engage in **PFS contracts**. That bill has passed the Senate, and the House Ways and Means

Committee, and is now available for consideration by the full House of Representatives.

Finally, ICS conducted a landscape analysis on the current status, services and outcomes of **South Carolina Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs)** which recently experienced a loss of national funding for critical operational support. The report yielded valuable information on quality improvement, strategic planning, and advocacy efforts from the state network and the individual CACs.

In response to the funding gap that ICS identified, the General Assembly stepped up in both 2018 and 2019 with \$170,000 in state financial support. Support for this funding is strong in the General Assembly, and we are hopeful that it will become a part of the regular recurring budget in years to come.

This policy work would not be possible without fantastic partners. In South Carolina, we work very closely with the leading partners on the Early Childhood Common Agenda, including the Children's Trust, Save the Children Action Network, and the United Way Association of South Carolina. Nationally, we also work closely with both the America Forward Coalition and Results for America. Each are a joy to work with, and we are grateful for all their hard work on behalf of children.

PUBLICATIONS

Publications are a key piece of ICS's mission to develop smart public policy ideas rooted in research.

In "**Medical-Legal Partnership Interventions and Child Development: Cross-sector Partnerships to Address Social Determinants of Health**," a collaborative paper from staff at ICS, SC Legal Services and the Bradshaw Institute, we explore the growth and utilization of medical-legal partnerships (MLP) in South Carolina as a case study to inform other efforts. It underscores the impact of social determinants of health and child development, and identifies opportunities to strengthen MLP service delivery for improved public health. The paper was extolled in the field, including being featured by the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnerships.

ICS also released two issue briefs on suspension and expulsion in early education. In **Preschool Suspension and Expulsion: Defining the Issues**, ICS Senior Fellow and Clemson Professor Emerita, Dr. Dee Stegelin summarized the state of the field, including a discussion of what is next for targeting this need, and resources for practitioners. In **Exploring the Prevalence of Suspension and Expulsion Practices in Child Care Settings**

in South Carolina, Heather Smith Googe, PhD of the University of South Carolina and Herman Knopf, PhD of the University of Florida, examine the prevalence of suspension and expulsion among licensed and registered child care providers in South Carolina. This first-of-its-kind research in the state reports on differences between setting types as well as the age of the child.

In our white paper, **Childhood, Unplugged: Overcoming Barriers to Outdoor Learning and Hands-On Play**, ICS researchers discuss the case for outdoor and play-based learning for young children, as well

as "troubleshoot" common barriers to outdoor learning such as a family not having a back yard, there's not a park within walking distance, or a family believes there's not enough time, and offer opportunities for change for parents, child care providers, policymakers, and communities.

A centerpiece of our research agenda, the **2019 South Carolina Early Childhood Data Report** (referred to as *SC Data Book*), compiles information about the environmental factors impacting children, ages 8 and under, in South Carolina, compared to North Carolina, Georgia, and the United States as a whole. The report uses

80+ data indicators as well as a narrative exploring trends and structural factors impacting these data. It centers on four major domains of family and child well-being: family environment, physical health, emotional well-being, and cognitive development.

In addition to the published data report, ICS created a toolkit of resources so policymakers and practitioners can make the best use for their needs. This includes a downloadable data file; separate printable briefs on each domain; a recorded webinar illuminating key features of the resources; and an accompanying blog series.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION

ICS has been finetuning our messaging around a mission-based equity and inclusion portfolio. As we strive to achieve the success of all young children, we focus on the following four tenets:

1. Systemically marginalized populations often require different and consistently informed approaches in order to reach a place of equity.
2. Seeking out and including the voices of these populations are necessary steps in early childhood research and policy work.
3. When parents, grandparents, guardians, and other caretakers are doing well, the young children they support will be better equipped to thrive.
4. Committing to inclusive and equitable internal operations fosters an environment through

which ICS can serve authentically and with integrity, maximizing and sustaining our impact.

Since the 2018 Nurturing Developing Minds (NDM) session on Fostering Equity in Early Childhood, and more of an equity and inclusion focus at our 2018 PFS Convening, ICS has had several requests to present on similar topics. We are thrilled to be an organization recognized for our expertise in and commitment to principles of equity and inclusion.

Media Coverage

ICS has a strong commitment to applied policy research, and this means ensuring our resources are accessible to professionals across sectors as well as families seeking to improve child outcomes. Traditional media exposure is a key pathway to ensuring our work is known and used in the “real world.” Our work was featured in several news outlets in the last year:

- In the 2019 *Greenville Journal* article, “An enduring legacy of care for Upstate children and the Greenville Humane Society,” ICS is identified as one of several nonprofit agencies in Greenville fortunate to be chosen as a beneficiary of the Margaret Linder Southern Endowment Fund, which is operated by the Community Foundation of Greenville.
- A 2019 *Greenville Journal* article, “From integration to outreach: Greenville County Care Coordination Collaborative prepares for next phase,” discusses the creation and initiatives of the GCCCC.
- Guest blog, “New Data Report Informs Early Childhood Interventions,” appeared in the March newsletter of **National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)**. The blog highlights how the *SC Data Book* can also be a valuable resource for researchers, advocates, and early childhood professionals both within and outside of the Palmetto State.
- The Early Childhood Common Agenda document was embraced by state policymakers and local news outlets – the **Office of Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette and North Public Relations** posted extensively to social media regarding their support. Additionally, three television stations captured the press conference with one providing advanced coverage of the event.
- In a **Reader’s Digest** story on Margaret Linder Southern’s life as a “secret millionaire,” Board Chair Emerita Susan Shi recalls her pleasant surprise learning of the unexpected gift from the special-needs teacher in Greenville, SC who died in 2012 at the age of 94. Ms. Southern directed her funds be dispersed to organizations that support early childhood education and special ed.
- Greenville’s Medical-Legal Partnership – a collaborative effort among South Carolina Legal Services, Prisma Health Upstate and Furman University, was profiled in a November 2018 *Greenville News* article, “Greenville Medical Legal Partnership Helps Family Son Pallister-Killian Syndrome,” by health reporter Liv Osby. Jamie Moon is quoted discussing the power and potential of MLPs from a cross-sector perspective.
- Jamie Moon was quoted at length in a November 2018 *Greenville News* article, “Greenville’s growth makes it South Carolina’s top ‘child care desert’” (the city’s designation in a recent ranking from Care.com). The piece explored the interplay of parent employment, child care access, and affordability in Greenville.
- Several unexpected outlets also covered our findings, delivering a systems-level view of early education to people across sectors. A member of our team was quoted on interior design website *Apartment Therapy* discussing the benefits of “granny pods” and extended family housing for families and children; and a piece in *Pro Bono Australia* emphasized the value of ICS’s annual convening on impact investing to shaping their approach Down Under.

Board & Staff Members: Honorable Mentions

Merl Code

Honored with the Visionary Leadership Award for his commitment to Greenville and for his dedication to equity for all. His longstanding commitments to the community were detailed in *TOWN* magazine.

Named one of *Greenville Business Magazine’s* 50 Most Influential People of 2018 and inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Ted Hendry

Honored with the Spirit Award for Nonprofit Leadership by United Way of Greenville County at the January 2018 Annual Meeting and Awards Celebration.

Hon. Darnell McPherson

Selected as a 2019 Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of Eastern South Carolina (service area comprises 21 counties).

Natalma “Tami” McKnew

Since 2012, consistently listed as a Top Rated Franchise & Dealership Attorney in Greenville, SC by *Super Lawyers* magazine.

Dr. William Schmidt, III

Awarded the Order of the Palmetto (the state’s highest civilian honor) by South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster. The pediatric cancer specialist earned the lifetime achievement award for his work in creating Prisma Health Children’s Hospital – Upstate (formerly Greenville Health System’s Children’s Hospital) and for his role in developing the South Carolina Children’s Hospital Collaborative.

STAFF & EXPERTS

Director of Innovation and Inclusion **Mary Garvey** participated in the Riley Institute at Furman University’s 27th class of Diversity Leaders Initiative (DLI), becoming a Riley Fellow in spring 2019.

Research Associate **Amanda McDougald Scott** graduated from the Women’s Leadership Institute of Furman University in 2019.

Senior Fellow **Dr. Dolores “Dee” Stegelin** began her ICS fellowship in 2018. Dr. Stegelin is Professor Emerita of early childhood education in the College of Education at Clemson University where she has provided program development and leadership for 17 years. She is also an active member of the ICS Research Committee.



Convenings: Championing & Collaborating



NURTURING DEVELOPING MINDS CONFERENCE & RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

ICS's flagship event was held February 28 - March 1, 2019 in Greenville, SC, convened in collaboration with Prisma Health Children's Hospital - Upstate and the Bradshaw Institute for Community Child Health & Advocacy. The theme, *Creating Environments in which Children and Families Can Flourish*, addressed a range of critically important issues to a broad interprofessional workforce relating to the health and well-being of young children as well as the systems and environments in which they live. Well over 200 participants from across the US attended plenary sessions featuring national experts, Drs. Christina Bethell, PhD, MBA, MPH, Elizabeth Gershoff, PhD and Paul Dworkin, MD, as well as numerous breakout sessions offering practical applications for daily life.



PEDIATRIC RESIDENTS DAY

ICS partnered with Prisma Health Children's Hospital - Upstate and the Bradshaw Institute for Community Child Health & Advocacy to deliver a powerful South Carolina American Academy of Pediatrics Legislative Advocacy Day, referred to as Pediatric Residents Day. The organizations convened in Columbia, SC on March 7, 2019 to inform residents about their power to promote positive change for children with the General Assembly. The focus issues included vaping/e-cigarettes, gun safety, child torture, fictive kin/kinship care, teen skin cancer prevention (prohibiting use of tanning beds for teens), Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) and Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS), a Safe Haven bill, and a child marriage bill. After residents and hospital advocates returned from lively conversations with the General Assembly, they were enlightened with a keynote address by Jim Kaufman, PhD of the Children's Hospital Association.



"RESILIENCE" SCREENINGS

"Resilience: Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope" is a documentary that reveals the dangers of toxic stress caused by abuse and neglect during childhood and delves into the science of Adverse Childhood Experiences. ICS, in partnership with South Carolina First Steps, the SC Department of Education and Women's Rights and Empowerment Network (WREN) SC, co-hosted a screening of the film in Columbia, SC in January 2019.



LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION DINNER

ICS brought together state representatives and senators on April 23, 2019 in Columbia, SC. The legislators serve on the House Education and Public Works Committee and Senate Education Committee respectively. The annual dinner fosters relationships with legislative members who represent the five million citizens of South Carolina. The evening was engaging with discussions of moving children forward in early childhood education.



CREATIVITY CONNECTS – ARTS IN EARLY LEARNING

This series of one-day symposia brought together community leaders (in arts, education, business, social services, and philanthropy) in five diverse cities (Seattle, Milwaukee, Charleston, Denver and Los Angeles) to spark a dialogue about early learning through the arts using cutting-edge research and interactive performances. Topics included Social & Emotional Development, STEM, Inclusive Learning Through the Arts, and Supporting Early Literacy and Language Development Through the Arts. The project was funded through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, and implemented in partnership with the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, a national leader in early childhood arts integration, and Openfields. A primary goal was to foster the creation of actionable plans to incorporate the arts into early childhood classrooms.



READ TO SUCCEED

ICS and Public Education Partners (PEP) Greenville County convened community members for a conversation on early literacy and third-grade reading in December 2018 at "Moving the Literacy Needle in South Carolina: A Community Conversation about Read to Succeed." The event focused on South Carolina's Read to Succeed law, which aims to improve early literacy by focusing on third-grade reading scores. The Children's Museum of the Upstate hosted the event which was supported by Greenville County First Steps. Panelists included Melanie Barton, Executive Director, South Carolina Education Oversight Committee; Ron Fairchild, Senior Consultant, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading; and Jeff McCoy, Associate Superintendent for Academics, Greenville County Public Schools.



CHILDHOOD, UNPLUGGED AND BRINGING THE OUTDOORS TO EARLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

In partnership with Great Outdoors Colorado and the Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus, ICS welcomed over 100 attendees to Childhood, Unplugged in Denver in September 2018. Keynote speaker Dr. Yuko Munakata of the University of Colorado, Boulder spoke about the power of free play for children. A panel discussion followed on program, community, and policy opportunities for incorporating play and outdoor learning with Sarah Konradi (National Wildlife Federation), Justin Svingen (Public Health Madison and Dane County, Wisconsin) and ICS Senior Fellow Mary Mackenzie. ICS staff members Jamie Moon and Mary Garvey also spoke. A white paper based on the recommended resource list we shared was authored by Mary Mackenzie and other panelists and was released in December 2018. In addition, Mary Mackenzie hosted a professional development session for educators focused on bringing outdoor learning to classrooms.

Pay for Success: Continuing Momentum

Over the last several years, ICS partnered with dozens of jurisdictions to explore the use of Pay for Success (PFS) financing. PFS is a tool that allows private investors to scale up effective services, followed by governments repaying those investors only if the services deliver the desired results.

Some early projects were used to expand quality Nurse Home Visiting in South Carolina and to eliminate preschool waiting lists in Salt Lake County and the City of Chicago. The momentum in the field continues to grow, as the first batch of projects near completion, and as a new source of federal investment in the field announced its first round of funding this spring. It is an exciting time for the field, and we are thrilled to be a part of it.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

ICS completed the third cohort of Social Innovation Fund (SIF)-supported PFS feasibility studies in June of 2018. We partnered with Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) to explore the possibility of expanding Family Drug Treatment Court (FDTC) and supporting two-generational services through PFS. The Office of the Mayor of Tallahassee—under Andrew Gillum—and the Office of Representative Lorraine Ausley served as our second jurisdiction from this cohort. Tallahassee

explored the feasibility of expanding high-quality early learning, and maternal and infant health programs to the City’s designated Promise Zone. While neither jurisdiction fulfilled all six indicators of feasibility, we concluded that future PFS projects were possible with more time. Since the conclusion of cohort 3 Pay for Success feasibility studies, both Oklahoma and Tallahassee have made additional progress and pursued outcome payor funding for their projects under the Social Impact Pay for Results Partnership Act (SIPPRA).

NEW FEDERAL OPPORTUNITY

In December 2018, ICS completed a PFS feasibility study with Legacy Early College charter school in Greenville, SC that was funded through a grant from the US Department of Education. This was the first feasibility study for pre-K expansion focused specifically on a charter school in the PFS world, and it revealed challenges charters face across the country to accessing the PFS model. Legacy was one of only a handful of locations chosen for this competitive federal funding.

SIPPRA OUTREACH

In the fall of 2018, ICS forged a partnership with the Sorenson Impact Center to develop offerings and a strategy for outreach to

jurisdictions that may be best suited for SIPPRA funding. SIPPRA appropriates \$100 million over the next decade for Pay for Success projects. It allocates \$10 million to study the feasibility of PFS projects, \$10 million to pay for evaluating program performance after implementation, and \$66 million to pay for outcomes. At least half of the money earmarked for outcomes payments must benefit children. ICS and Sorenson are helping jurisdictions pursue this resource to benefit families of young children.

IMPACT INVESTING CONVENING

ICS had the privilege of hosting a Pay for Success Convening in Charlotte, NC, June 19th - 20th, 2018. The 100+ Convening participants included government agencies, service provider organizations, legislators, universities, and foundations. They traveled from 13 states, the District of Columbia, the United Kingdom & Australia. Colleagues from current and past technical assistance recipient jurisdictions also attended, representing the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), the City of Tallahassee, FL, Office of the Mayor and Representative Lorraine Ausley’s Office, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY), the City of Spartanburg, SC and the City of Tempe, AZ.

Our opening plenary focused on the challenges and opportunities in building data infrastructure that maximizes evaluation impact and outcomes. Other session highlights included an overview of the expansion of Nurse Family Partnerships in South Carolina, key legislative updates, a look at social determinants of health, and a look at PFS from an international perspective.

Our 2019 Convening on Investing for Impact: *’Til All the Children Are Well*, will take place on Thursday, September 19th, 2019 in the Washington, DC metro area. Attendees will learn where the greatest potential is for Opportunity Zones to be used as a catalyst for lasting change, how incorporating the principles of equity and inclusion maximize impact and bolster credibility in the field, and what important lessons were learned from ICS’s participation in the first round of applications for SIPPRA funding.



Top: engaged audience at PFS Convening in Charlotte, NC in June 2018

Bottom: Jamie Moon, Mary Garvey & Bryan Borroughs at Sorenson Impact 2019 Winter Innovation Summit

Speaking Engagements

IN THE PALMETTO STATE

- **ICS President Jamie Moon** presented at the August 2018 meeting of the Carolinas Collaborative, a consortium of Children's Hospitals across the Carolinas. Jamie provided an overview of Impact Financing/PFS mechanisms and discussed how these can expand evidence-based interventions aimed at improving child health and well-being.
- **Senior Fellow Janice Gruendel** participated in a panel discussion in August 2018 with Reach Out and Read Carolinas, alongside practitioners and stakeholders on families facing trauma and toxic stress.

- Last August, **Janice Gruendel** served as keynote speaker at the South Carolina Children's Champions Convening, co-sponsored by ICS. She presented, "From Toxic Stress to Health, Hope and Resilience: What's in Your Backpack?" as well as a breakout session on "Healthy Relationships, Healthy Children: Building a Baby Bundle."
- **Director of Innovation & Inclusion Mary Garvey and ICS VP & General Counsel Bryan Boroughs** led a "Systems Leadership Through an Equity Lens" training session at an event hosted by the Mary Black Foundation in Spartanburg this past October.

- **ICS Research Associate Amanda McDougald Scott** spoke at the Women's Rights Empowerment Network (WREN) Upstate Summit 2018 in November about how access to affordable childcare and early childhood readiness programs affect economic outcomes for both women and children.

- **Bryan Boroughs** presented on the Birth to 8 Framework Project at the Tri-County Cradle to Career (TCCC) Kindergarten Readiness Network convening in Charleston.

- At the 2018 First Steps South Carolina Summit on Early Childhood in Columbia last December, **Senior Fellow Dee Stegelin and Mary Garvey** presented on preschool suspension and expulsion.

- **Jamie Moon** presented at the South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics annual Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Conference in Charleston in January 2019. He discussed ICS's efforts to redirect SC's rankings among states in annual surveys of child well-being, explaining how major policy wins and milestones in policy research have helped SC move up the ladder.

- **ICS Senior Fellows Dee Stegelin and Mary MacKenzie** presented the session, "Play and Education from a Global Perspective" at the US Play Coalition-hosted conference, Value of Play: Play for Life at Clemson University in March 2019. Dr. Tracey Hunter-Doniger and Dr. Heather Von Bank contributed with an emphasis on international approaches to play.

BEYOND SOUTH CAROLINA

- **Jamie Moon and Immediate Past Board Chair Linda Brees** highlighted the ICS-Bradshaw partnership and explored strategies to encourage children's hospitals to become child advocates and work to influence legislation impacting children at the Children's Hospital Association Annual Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX.

- At the Association for Community Health Improvement (ACHI) National Conference in Chicago, IL this March, **Jamie and Linda** presented on "Improving Community Health through Educational Collaboration, Investment & Public Policy."

- **Janice Gruendel presented alongside Connecticut Commissioner of Social Services, Rod Bremby** on "The Baby Bundle Meets Medicaid Reform" at the 2018 Health and Human Services Convening at Harvard University. The presentation focused on the Bridgeport Baby Bundle, in which ICS is a key research partner.

- **Bryan Boroughs** spoke on "The Promise of SIPPRA and Opportunities for Cross-Sector Initiatives" at the Sorenson Impact Winter Innovation 2019 Summit in Salt Lake City, Utah.

- **Megan Carolan** presented on "The Whole Tree: Extended Families in Education" at the National Center for Families Learning Conference in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

- **Mary Garvey** served on a panel, Building Social Equity into Policy and Practice, at the National Academy of Public Administration Annual Academy Fall Meeting on Grand Challenges in Public Administration in Arlington, VA.



2020 & Beyond

RESEARCH

ICS prioritizes working closely with communities to create positive change for children. Over the last few years, we have stayed engaged in Bridgeport, CT as they work to develop a continuum of community-based services and linkages for families through their Bridgeport Prospers network.

In South Carolina, ICS is working in Pickens County to help stakeholders consider opportunities to align programming and opportunities for families. A working group of organizations committed to the well-being of families held several public meetings in 2019 to think strategically about the babies in the county so that they can be born healthy and reach critical milestones by age 3. The conversation touched on neuroscience, the importance of relationships, Adverse Child Experiences (ACEs), and resilience. ICS Senior Fellow Janice Gruendel led these convenings. Pickens County First Steps with support from multiple birth to age 5 stakeholders involved in the Children's Services Council of Pickens County, and South Carolina Statehouse District 5 Representative Neal Collins are leading this work.

SC Data Book

The next edition of the South Carolina Early Childhood Data Report will be published in 2021. It will be designed as a go-to resource for systems-level leaders, policy researchers, direct service providers, advocates, and policymakers seeking relevant statistics that will inform their decision making and drive policy that positively impacts outcomes for South Carolina's young children.

ICS publishes several policy briefs and white papers each year focused on cross-sector issues impacting young children and their families, explaining both what the research tells us and how communities can implement policies to foster positive outcomes. We are pleased to preview several upcoming papers.

Early Childhood Workforce

Nearly 13 percent of South Carolina families with young children report that child care challenges significantly impact their employment choices (as reported in the 2019 SC Data Book). Nearly 25,000 South Carolina residents are employed in early care and education, a sector which annually generates \$1.3 billion in economic activity for the state. The workforce caring for South Carolina's children are themselves citizens, taxpayers, and often, parents. And yet the economic needs of parents in securing child care and the pressures on the workforce are often discussed as two separate issues. A brief will extensively explore the challenges and opportunities for the early childhood workforce, ranging from child care providers to home-visitors to pediatric care providers. By ensuring that individuals in these fields are well-compensated, well-trained, and are supported through challenges, we can develop a high-quality workforce which can deliver on the promise of early childhood development for all children.

Housing

ICS will produce a white paper summarizing our work on the Greenville County Care Coordination Collaborative's Childhood Homelessness Project. We are setting out to map potential early indicators of instability per local communities and identify solutions focused on families. In addition to utilization data, our report will also share findings from community listening tours of residents and service providers with the hope of helping other communities with a child-focused assessment of community housing needs.

POLICY

The **Early Childhood Common Agenda (ECCA)** is a policy guideline produced annually by a coalition of childhood advocates and experts and offers specific recommendations to build a smart, comprehensive early childhood system for children 0-5 years old. This document serves as an essential roadmap for successful changemaking at the state level. We are pleased to join forces with Children's Trust of South Carolina, Save the Children Action Network, and the United Way Association of South Carolina to develop a list of data-informed priorities for children and families in South Carolina and form a legislative agenda to collectively work towards improvements. We are hopeful to garner the support of even more organizations that work to improve the lives of families in South Carolina.

K-12 Reform in South Carolina – South Carolina's legislature prioritized an effort to reform the state's K-12 Education system this year. A reform bill passed through the state's House of Representatives this spring, proposing changes to teacher salaries, third grade reading initiatives, and district consolidation guidelines, among other topics. The Senate's committees were still considering the legislation when the first half of this two-year session adjourned in May, and we expect them to continue work on this initiative when they return for the second half of session in January.

LEADERSHIP

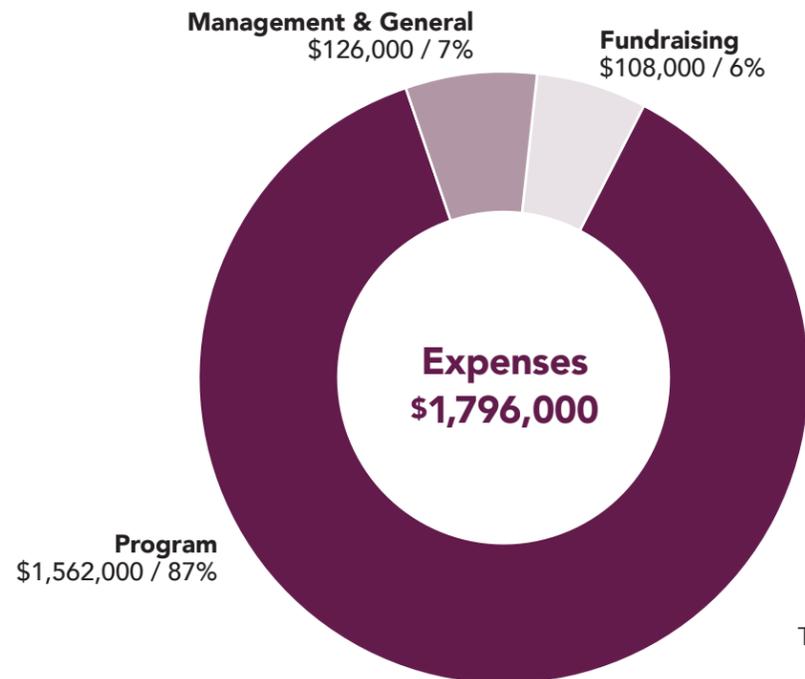
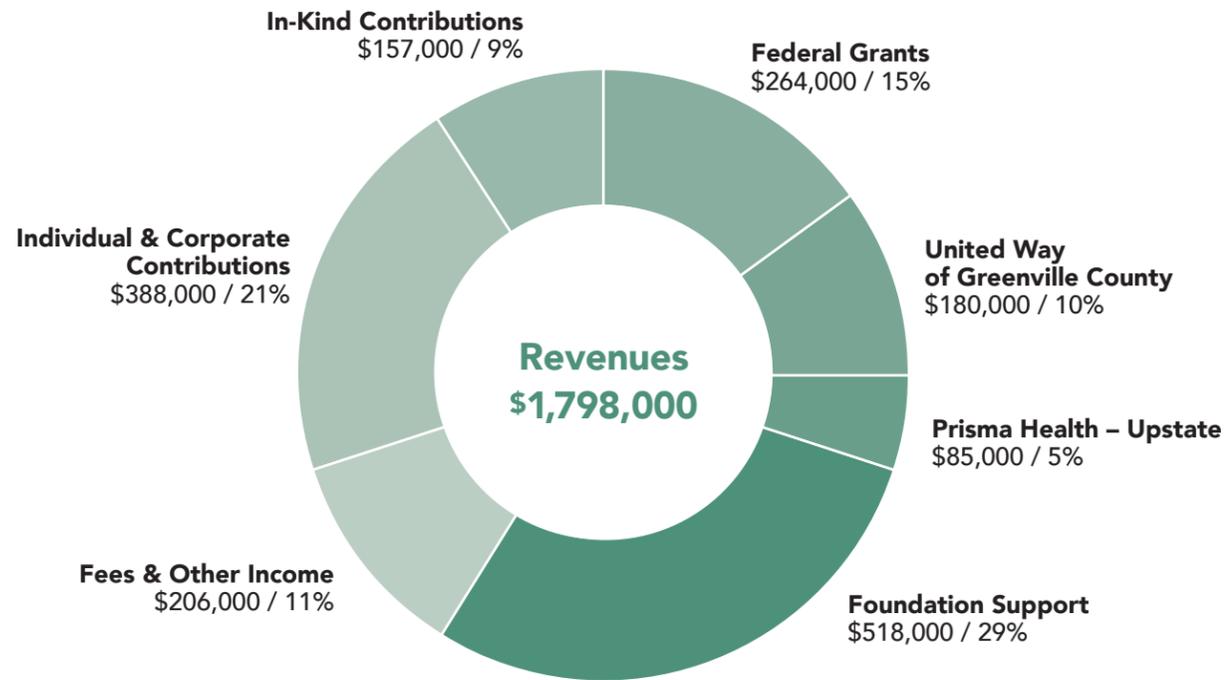
Greenville County Care Coordination

Collaborative (GCCCC), established by Help Me Grow SC, is a cooperative of 80+ agencies, organizations, and care providers with expertise in childhood health and developmental issues. An assessment of the community's needs revealed gaps in services and an urgency to address housing instability. ICS is leading the Childhood Homelessness Project which will provide outreach to homeless families, build community capacity, and support families who are at-risk for homelessness.

Hello Family is an initiative based in Spartanburg, South Carolina. It would establish a suite of services for new families, aimed at improving early childhood health, education, and parenting outcomes for every child born in Spartanburg. Four of those services – BirthMatters, Family Connects, Triple P (Positive Parenting Program), and Quality Counts – have the evidence base required to finance expansions through a Pay for Success contract.

Over the last year, ICS partnered with the Mary Black Foundation, the City of Spartanburg, and numerous other community partners to build a Pay for Success contract that would do just that. The project would then rigorously evaluate the impact they collectively have on Kindergarten Readiness when deployed at scale. The work continues to progress, and we hope to share great news about kids receiving these supports in the coming months. We have also received a great deal of interest in this model from other communities, and are in the early stages of replicating Spartanburg's process elsewhere in the upstate. Stay tuned!

2018 Financials and Support



The 2018 financials are preliminary and unaudited. For 2012-2017 audited financials and Form 9905, visit instituteforchildsuccess.org.

Contributors

- | | | |
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| Karen & Jim Akerheilm | Jasmine Hedge | SC Office of State Treasurer |
| Anna Baker | Donna & Ted Hendry | Jean & William Schmidt |
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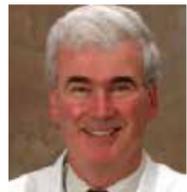
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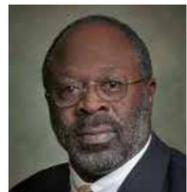
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The Institute for Child Success is fueled by the BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation, the Mary Black Foundation, and BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, an independent licensee of the BlueCross and BlueShield Association.

Headquartered in Greenville, South Carolina, the Institute for Child Success (ICS) is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit research and policy organization dedicated to the success of all young children. ICS pursues its mission by:

- Proposing smart public policies, grounded in research
- Sharing knowledge, convening stakeholders, embracing solutions, and accelerating impact
- Advising governments, nonprofits, foundations, and other stakeholders on strategies to improve outcomes
- Modeling, encouraging and cultivating catalytic, innovative leadership in early childhood

