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## Register now for the inaugural SC Early Childhood Research Symposium

Presented by ICS, and sponsored by The Children's Hospital of the Greenville Health System, this event will feature twenty speakers and panelists who will participate in a day of presentations across three tracks: Health and Development, Education and Care, and Evaluation and Advocacy. [CLICK HERE](#) or see detailed invitation below for more details.

The symposium program has now been released! [Click here to view.](#)

## Help Me Grow Community Connections Event

On August 15th, ICS joined The Children's Hospital of the Greenville Health System in announcing the official launch of Help Me Grow (HMG) South Carolina. The initiative was developed during early ICS sessions, and the first project was SC's strategy and involved in promoting an early childhood systemic solution to the challenge of making

Desmond Kelly presents at the launch of Help Me Grow SC.

sure families of children with developmental delays and disabilities are linked to the resources they need as early as possible. For more information on HMG SC please visit their website [helpmegrowsc.org](http://helpmegrowsc.org).

## ICS Releases Feasibility Study

In September, ICS publicly released *Using Pay for Success Financing to Improve Outcomes for South Carolina's Children: Results of a Feasibility Study*. This is the culmination of 8 months of work exploring Pay for Success Financing as a means to scale proven interventions that improve outcomes for young children and their families. ICS thanks the funders of this study - The Duke Endowment and South Carolina's Department of Health and Human Services- and Megan Golden, primary author of the study, whose work and expertise made the project possible. To view the full feasibility study, please visit [www.instituteforchildsuccess.org](http://www.instituteforchildsuccess.org).

## PFS Findings and Recommendations Discussed in Series of Forums

Rhett Mabry of The Duke Endowment speaking at the PFS event in Columbia, SC

On August 27 and 28, ICS hosted a series of events in Columbia and Greenville releasing the results of its completed Pay for Success (PFS) feasibility study. The main author, Megan Golden of the New York Wagner School presented her findings. Cristina Shih of Goldman Sachs, Jeff Schoenberg of the Pritzker Foundation, Rhett Mabry of The Duke Endowment, and Thomas Jenkins of the Nurse-Family Partnership also participated during these sessions providing perspective from the sectors that will be involved in the implementation of the PFS pilot initiative.

On September 17th, the State of South Carolina released a Request for Information on using Pay for Success Financing to improve outcomes and control healthcare costs related to newborn and maternal health of participants in South Carolina's Medicaid program. This RFI included ICS' feasibility study and can be viewed [here](#).

*The State* newspaper recently released an article featuring these events: Early-childhood advocates mull private investment for intervention. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

## The United Way Spirit Award for Community Leadership was presented to Dr. Susan Thomson Shi.

ICS Board Chair, Dr. Susan Thomson Shi, was recently the 2013 United Way Community Leadership Spirit Award recipient from the United Way of Greenville County. In addition to her work with ICS, Dr. Shi has served as a key community and state leader for more than 20 years. Dr. Shi is credited in leading the United Way of Greenville County during its transition to a Co-IMPACT model. Dr. Shi's special interest and leadership in early childhood health and education also resulted in the creation of ICS as well as the strengthening of dozens of early childhood organizations across South Carolina. ICS congratulates Dr. Shi on this well-deserved recognition.

## ICS welcomes Katy Sides as new Director of Research and Grants

The Institute is pleased to welcome new staff member Katy Sides as the ICS Director of Research and Grants. Katy received her M.P.A from the University of Georgia and her B.A. from Furman University. Most recently, she directed Community Relations with the Greenville County Soil & Water Conservation District. Katy has also worked with the Georgia Municipal Association and the City of Toccoa, Georgia. In each of her positions Katy honed expertise in the areas of grant writing, research, policy, and communications - skills that will greatly assist ICS and its mission. Katy will work out of our Greenville office and can be reached at 864-331-3859 or via e-mail at [ksides@instituteforchildsuccess.org](mailto:ksides@instituteforchildsuccess.org). Please join us in welcoming Katy!

## *Ensuring the Success of Young Children in Rural South Carolina:* a symposium for stake holders from South Carolina rural communities

On October 22, 2013, The Institute for Child Success and Francis Marion University will host, *Ensuring the Success of Young Children in Rural South Carolina*, a symposium on the unique challenges and opportunities enjoyed by rural communities in our state.

## Start SMART - The Path to School Readiness by The School Foundation

Over the years The School Foundation has prided itself on supporting and contributing to FSD's K-12 teachers and students. With the creation of the Start SMART program, they have added a brand new goal-- assisting parents in preparing their children for kindergarten. For more information on the Start SMART program, [click here](#).

# Stay Connected

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