



## STATE PROFILE 2013



### NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) is an evidence-based, community health program that helps transform the lives of vulnerable mothers pregnant with their first child. Each mother served by NFP is partnered with a registered nurse early in her pregnancy and receives ongoing nurse home visits that continue through her child's second birthday. Independent research proves that communities benefit from this relationship — every dollar invested in Nurse-Family Partnership can yield more than five dollars in return.

#### NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP GOALS

1. Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women engage in good preventive health practices, including thorough prenatal care from their healthcare providers, improving their diets, and reducing their use of cigarettes, alcohol and illegal substances;
2. Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care; and
3. Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education and find work.

#### Positive Outcomes for Clients Served by South Carolina's Nurse-Family Partnership

**90%** of babies were born full term

**89%** of babies were born at a healthy weight  
- at or above 2500 g (5.5 lbs)

**68%** of mothers initiated breastfeeding

**23%** reduction in smoking during pregnancy

#### CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

##### At intake

Median age: 19

93% Unmarried

75% Medicaid recipients

Cumulative data as of Sept. 30, 2012

##### Race

53% Black or African American

34% White

9% Declined to self-identify/No response

1% Multi-racial

1% American Indian/Alaska Native

1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

1% Asian

##### Ethnicity

88% Non-Hispanic/Latina

7% Hispanic/Latina

5% Declined to self-identify/  
No response

Data Oct. 1, 2010 - Sept. 30, 2012.

All data is client self-identified.



### IMPLEMENTING AGENCY CONTEXT

In South Carolina, Nurse-Family Partnership is currently serving clients in 19 counties: Abbeville, Anderson, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Edgefield, Georgetown, Greenville, Greenwood, Horry, Lexington, McCormick, Pickens, Richland, Saluda, Spartanburg, Union and Williamsburg.

### FUNDING AND POLITICAL CONTEXT

The Duke Endowment, South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness, and BlueCross Blue Shield South Carolina Foundation are the leading funding partners for establishing Nurse-Family Partnership in the state.

Other organizations lending leadership and additional financial support in this effort include the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC), the Children's Trust Fund of South Carolina, and other state and community partners.

### PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM WITH PROVEN AND MEASURABLE RESULTS

#### Societal Benefits

Nurse-Family Partnership is a rare community health program that has been documented to achieve lasting significant effects through multiple, well-designed randomized, controlled trials. More than 35 years of research proves that it works. This evidence shows our clients – first-time, low-income mothers – that if they follow the program and work with their nurse, they can transform their lives and the lives of their children. Moreover, independent policy research makes clear that every public health

dollar policymakers and communities invest in Nurse-Family Partnership could realize up to five dollars in return.

### National Recognition

- The Washington State Institute for Public Policy, The RAND Corporation and The Brookings Institution have concluded that investments in Nurse-Family Partnership lead to significant returns to society and government, giving taxpayers a \$2.88-5.70 return per dollar invested in the program.



- The Partnership for America's Economic Success finds investments in early childhood programs, such as Nurse-Family Partnership, to be stronger investments than state business subsidies when viewed from a long-term, national perspective.
- The non-profit, non-partisan Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy finds "strong evidence of effects on life outcomes of children and mothers" by Nurse-Family Partnership.
- The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence reviewed over 650 programs with published research in peer-reviewed literature. Nurse-Family Partnership was found to be one of 11, or 6% of the programs, that clearly work or even appear promising. The Center fully supports and endorses NFP as one of its "Blueprints" programs.

ESTABLISHED: 2009  
FAMILIES SERVED: 1,160



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