

From: Institute for Child Success <jlongshore@instituteforchildsuccess.org>
To: Soura, ChristianChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov
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Subject: News & Tools from the Institute for Child Success

Monthly digest of tools for SC's Early Childhood Leaders

June/July 2013

South Carolina News

Shore up First Steps for the good of children
The Island Packet
July 13, 2013

A recent audit of South Carolina First Steps, the state's school-readiness program, shows that there are changes to be made in order to make a more effective program within the state. First Steps, a nonprofit entity, focuses on early childhood development and works to improve school readiness for at-risk children from birth to age five. Among some of the changes listed, were a clearer definition of First Step's goals and what qualifies a child as "at-risk".

Three recent stories have highlighted South Carolina's award of a grant to receive Social Impact Bond technical assistance from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government:

South Carolina tries experimental type of funding to help expectant mothers
[SC Radio Network](#)
June 14, 2013

Social Impact Bonds offer great opportunity for South Carolina
The Post and Courier
July 14, 2013

South Carolina looks to Wall Street to help reduce infant mortality
The Post and Courier
July 25, 2013

News & Tools from Around the Country

Markers that Matter: Success Indicators in Early Learning and Education
Foundation Strategy Group
July 13, 2013

National attention on the importance of early learning has never been

Upcoming Events

Inaugural
Help Me Grow
Community
Connections Event

August 15 at 9:30 am
Greenville, SC
[Click here for more information](#)

Using Pay for Success
Financing to Bring
Early Childhood
Programs to Scale: A
presentation of ICS'
Pay for Success
Feasibility Study

August 27 at 3:00 pm
Greenville, SC
[Click here to register](#)

August 28 at 3:00 pm
Columbia, SC
[Click here to register](#)

South Carolina
Early Childhood

greater. This report is the product of an effort to assess and synthesize the current state of indicators in the early learning field and to identify gaps in what currently exists. Highlighted in this report are two examples where indicators have helped to support collaboration on behalf of better outcomes for young children in Bremerton, Washington and Boston, Massachusetts.

'Crack baby' study ends with unexpected but clear results
The Inquirer
July 22, 2013

After 23 years, the University of Pennsylvania's 'crack baby' study concludes that "poverty is a more powerful influence on the outcome of inner city children than gestational exposure to cocaine."

New Research: Targeted Parent Training Can Help Students Focus-and Succeed
New America Foundation
July 8, 2013

New Research shows that targeted parent training led to sustained improvements in student focus, better performance on language and IQ assessments and reductions in parental stress.

In Defense of a Good Bedtime
Next Generation Blog
July 15, 2013

Research shows that a good night's sleep is vital to building the brain development and academic achievement of young children.

Top Tweets

New American Ed (@NewAmericaEd)
When it comes to teacher evaluation, it's an 'Ocean of Unknowns'...#infographic #TeacherEvals pic.twitter.com/sZ2hTKQWDi

First Five Years Fund (@firstfiveyears)
86% of voters say early childhood #education is a national priority. If you agree urge Congress to act now: bit.ly/ZiQlaG

Cecilia Muñoz (@Cecilia44)
Biz leaders are right: "Early childhood ed is not an entitlement...It's an investment in the future" goo.gl/5swbvY @USChamber @amprog

ReadyNation (@ready_nation)
#Preschool Math: Education's Secret Weapon ow.ly/nIFFd
Reminder, upcoming webinar on early STEM ed! ow.ly/nIFNX #ECE

Joe Waters (@JoeWaters_GVL)
My colleague @mgoldennyc's great piece in Crain's on performance management and the next mayor of New York. crainsnewyork.com/article/201307...

Research Symposium

October 10 & 11

Greenville, SC

For more information regarding this event please contact
Jessica Longshore .

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105 Edinburgh Court Greenville, SC 29607 - (864) 382-3329

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| 105 Edinburgh Court | Greenville | South Carolina | 29607