



Charleston County First Steps Partnership *Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report*

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**Total children in county under
age 6 : 28,292**

**Total Children in county under 6
living in poverty: 27.6%**

Charleston County Highlights

- Nurse Family Partnership:
 - Successful program launch
 - 91 active clients enrolled at the end of the fiscal year
- Early Head Start Partnership with Charleston County School District

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

First Steps has been a part of South Carolina's early childhood fabric for a decade. During this time our commitment to the community has helped parents to be better equipped to prepare their children for first grade. Our interventions have been designed to enhance home and child care center environments through the utilization of high-quality parent education, healthy start initiatives, child care facility quality enhancement, center staff training and development, mentoring, technical assistance in child care centers, and child care scholarships for low-income families.

Parental involvement is a leading predictor of school and life success. One of our goals is to equip parents with tools essential to fostering a thriving learning environment for their child. This past year we provided 2,292 home visits to empower our parents to be their child's first teacher. Furthermore, throughout the year, parents attended group meetings facilitated by community experts addressing a broad range of topics focused on improving economic well-being and overall self-sufficiency.

Through new and strengthened collaborations with other child and family service organizations, we improved the quality of our strategies, particularly in the areas of targeting the most needy children and families and ensuring that identified needs outside of our service scope are duly addressed through a multi-focused referral system.

The insights we glean from our study of the year's outcomes will enable us to focus our work on center-level and home-based needs specific to the children and families we serve to the end of achieving our mission to help children get ready for first grade.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Ella Collins".

James Ella Collins, Executive Director
Charleston County First Steps

VISION 2013 Action Plan:

How Charleston First Steps connects high-risk children 0-5 to the services they need to improve their educational and developmental outcomes.

CHARLESTON COUNTY RISK FACTOR PROFILE			
Estimated # of Children Under 6:		Estimated # of Children Under 6 Living at or Under 100% of Poverty:	
28,292		6,196	
School Readiness Risk Factor	Percentage/Rate for County	Estimated # of Children 0-5 Impacted by This Risk Factor in Our County	# of FY10 First Steps Clients with this Risk Factor (<i>Risk Factors Report</i>)
Abused or neglected		357	0
In foster care		156	3
Eligible for SNAP/Free School Lunches (130% of poverty or below)	27.16%	7,685	120
Eligible for TANF (50% of poverty or below)	<i>To be provided</i>	<i>To be provided</i>	127
Eligibility for BabyNet (ages 0-3) or special education preschool (ages 3-5)	BabyNet Enrollment	263	6
	# Over/Under BabyNet Target	-148	
	Special Education Enrollment (ages 3-5)	465	
Births to teenage mothers (under 20)	Birth Rate Per 1,000 Teens: 44.1	538 Births Per Year	46
Births to mother with low maternal education (less than HS diploma)	21.90%	1,033 Births Per Year	43
Exposure to the substance abuse of a caregiver	<i>National average = 10% of households</i>	2,829	2
Exposure to parental/caregiver depression, mental illness and/or intellectual disability	<i>National average = 3% of adults have severe mental health disorders</i>	849	20
Exposure to domestic violence within the home	2,087 Incidents Per year	<i>N/A</i>	9
Low birth weight (under 5.5 lbs.)	10.40%	490 Births Per Year	15

PROFILE OF CHARLESTON CHILDREN 0-5

parents with transportation issues to programs, and we will continue to connect parents with

Affordable quality child care, transportation and parenting were the top 3 identified unmet needs of children 0-5 in our county, as determined by analyzing the capacity of available services in Charleston County and interviewing dozens of agencies and organizations that serve our county's young children and families.

Charleston County First Steps will address these needs by continuing to provide child care scholarships so children may attend a quality child care program. Additionally, parents of scholarship children will receive one-on-one home visits from a certified parent educator to help them become their child's first teacher, become involved in their children's education and be a strong advocate for them. We will facilitate issuance of bus passes to assist out a high school diploma to GED programs to improve their likelihood of successful employment and self-sufficiency.

Numbers Served by COUNTY Partnership in 2009-10							
Strategy Name	Children 0-5 Served	Parents/ Other Adult Family Members Served	Early Childhood Staff Served	Child Care/Early Education Providers Served	Number of Training Hours Provided	FTEs Supported Within First Steps*	FTE's Supported Within Partner Organizations*
Parents As Teachers	124	90			35	4	1
Parents As Teachers/Early Head Start	104	104			24		4
Quality Enhancement	401		103	6	22	.7	
Child Care Training and Professional Development	1539		126	34	8	.3	
Child Care Scholarships Initiative	41					1	
CDEPP 4K - Foster	12						
CDEPP 4K - Sunshine House	7						
CDEPP 4K - West Ashley Learning Hub	7						
Other First Steps Programming						3	
TOTAL	2235	194	229	40	89	9	5

**Please indicate the number of positions in your county that are supported by First Steps funding, either working for your county partnership or for a partner organization. Please include both salaried staff and contracted staff. FTE = Full Time Equivalent position. For example, a partnership Executive Director whose salary is allocated at 25% to a PAT strategy would count as a 0.25 FTE within First Steps for that strategy. Another example is 4 Home Visitors are employed in a school district PAT program. 50% of their salaries are paid by First Steps and 50% by the school district. The net result is 2.0 FTEs are supported by First Steps within a partner organization.*

First Steps to School Readiness Strategy Areas

The First Steps initiative approaches children's school readiness needs in five ways:

Family Strengthening: A parent is a child's first and best teacher. First Steps works to help parents become the best parents they can be. First Steps also helps parents further their own education.

Healthy Start: Children's development and ability to learn are profoundly impacted by their health in the earliest years. First Steps works to help families understand children's health needs through education and screenings while also working to help them access needed health services.

Quality Child Care: Quality child care provides immediate and long-term learning benefits for children. First Steps works to expand the availability of quality child-care to families and to enhance the level of quality in existing child-care environments.

Early Education: Research shows that children who participate in high-quality preschool classes are more likely to start school ready to learn, as well as be more successful later in life. First Steps works to expand high-quality 3-year-old and 4-year-old kindergarten opportunities in public and private settings.

School Transition: The transition into kindergarten is a critical time that sets the tone for children's perspectives about the school years, as well their parents' perspectives. Making a strong initial connection between school and home -- and supporting both parents and students during this transition time -- has been shown to impact students' later school success and parents' later involvement during the school years.

2009-10 County Partnership Programs by Strategy

FAMILY STRENGTHENING.

PARENTS AS TEACHERS

Program description: Parents As Teachers (PAT) is a home visitation program that helps parents understand what is expected at each stage of their child's development. It offers practical tips on ways to encourage learning, manage challenging behavior, and promote positive parent-child relationships, thereby improving parenting skills. It is an effective way to refer children to early intervention services: physical, developmental, social and emotional. Each parent educator visits their families a minimum of twice a month, and receives staff development by attending various trainings. All Charleston First Steps Parent Educators are nationally certified by the Parents As Teachers Program, and use the Born to Learn Curriculum (birth to age five). Parent educators also use the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, and the KIPS and ACIRI assessment tools. Developmental progress data is kept on all children in the program and group meeting attendance is also a required component of the program. Based on need, parents receive weekly and bi-weekly visits.

90 Families Served – 90 adults and 124 children

PROGRAM STANDARDS RESULTS for PARENTS AS TEACHERS

1. Fidelity to the Model

A) Home Visits:

- The program exceeded program standards for home visit frequency by averaging **1.86 visits per month for families served.**
- The minimum duration requirement for home visits is 45 minutes per visit. Our average duration per visit was **1.08** hours in FY10.

B) Group Meetings – One group meeting per month per parent educator.

C) Screenings & Referrals – Screenings included functional hearing, vision and dental checks. Ages and Stages is used to screen for development delays.

D) Staff Qualifications & Training – All parent educators are required to have at least a two-year degree in early childhood education or a closely related field and be currently certified in the Born to Learn Curriculum (0-3).

E) Ongoing Program Quality Assessment – Parents as Teachers (PAT) program evaluation, PAT Parent Evaluation, and Parent Educator Performance Evaluations are conducted annually.

2. Targeted Services

At least 90% of enrolled families shall include an age-eligible child meeting one or more of the school readiness risk factors (at the time of enrollment). **94.87%** of our families enrolled met the criterion.

3. Assessment and Data Collection

At minimum, a baseline and post assessments of the *primary adult client* identified within each enrolled case using the Keys to Interactive Parenting Scale (KIPS) will be conducted. A baseline KIPS assessment shall be completed within 45 days of each client’s initial enrollment, with a post assessment conducted 6-9 months later (and at each 12 month interval thereafter). The percentage cases that met requirement, (excluding unborn and cases enrolled < 2 months) was **53.66%**

Additionally, each family in which children aged 2 ½ - 5 shall have their interactive literacy behaviors assessed (pre- and post-, following the same timeline described for the KIPS above) by a trained evaluator administering the Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI). Note that both instruments are designed as assessments of adult behaviors and thus need not be completed with each adult-child pairing in the household. The percentage cases that met requirement, **57.41%**

4. Family Service Plans

All parent educators (home visitors) develop a well-documented Individual Family Service and Goals Plan collectively completed by the parent educator and family within 3 months of enrollment in the program, and subsequently updated these plans at least semi-annually to gauge progress and goal attainment.

PARENT AS TEACHERS – PROGRAM RESULTS

Objective #1	Outcome(s)	Output(s)
To improve parent child interaction by better understanding the developmental stages of a child	2.99 was the average Pre score for KIPS (scale 1-5) 3.34 was the average Post score for KIPS .35 was the average gain difference	90 families (cases) served 124 children served 74 family cases w/Pre-KIPS assessments 47 family cases w/ Pre/Post KIPS match
Objective #2	Outcome(s)	Output(s)
To improve the literacy behaviors such as enhancing attention to text, promoting interactive reading and supporting comprehension, and using literacy strategies.	1.29 was the average Child Pre score for ACIRI (scale 0-3) 1.44 was the average Child Post score for ACIRI .15 was the average Child gain difference 1.43 was the average Adult Pre score for ACIRI (scale 0-3) 1.56 was the average Adult Post score for ACRI .13 was the average Adult gain difference	55 family cases w/Pre-ACIRI assessments 36 family cases w/Pre/Post ACIRI match

Objective #3	Outcome	Output(s)
To maintain an adequate success rate for attempted home visits	96.09% of attempted home visits were successful	1105 successful visits conducted (of 1150 attempted visits)
Objective #4	Outcome(s)	Output(s)
To meet the Parenting Program Standard requirements	<p>77.91% of families met the minimum frequency requirement for home visits (2 visits per month)</p> <p>98.84% of families met the minimum duration requirement for home visits (45 minutes minimum)</p>	<p>1.86 average visits per family, per month, exceeding program standard of 1.5 visits per month</p> <p>1.08 hr, average home visit, exceeding program standard of 45-minutes per visit</p>
Objective #5	Outcome(s)	Output(s)
To identify developmental delays and connect children to services	<p>50% of children who moved from being delayed in at least 1 area at the initial assessment to having no delays in follow up assessments.</p> <p>50% of children enrolled with delays, have no delays after 6 months in the program.</p> <p>88% of children enrolled with delays have no delays after 12 months in the program.</p> <p>50% of children with identified delays were referred for specific delays.</p>	<p>18 identified delays at initial assessment.</p> <p>9 children identified delayed in at least 1 area at the initial assessment to no delays in follow up assessments.</p> <p>9 children who have no delays after 6 months</p> <p>2 children who had delays after 12 months (2- preemies twins)</p> <p>9 children were referred for specific delays</p>

Early Head Start Home Visitation

Charleston County First Steps partnered with Charleston County School District to provide home-based services in their Early Head Start grant, starting in March 2010. The home visitors received extensive performance standards training and were certified with the National Office of Parents As Teachers. The program curriculum is implemented by 2 home visitors providing weekly home visits for 24 children, with families receiving two socializations a month. The grant ends in September 30, 2011.

HEALTHY START.

NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

In April 2009, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of SC Foundation awarded funding to implement Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) to first-time mothers in Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester Counties. NFP is a nationally recognized, evidence-based public health program. It is one of the oldest and most rigorously evaluated home-visiting programs in the nation. Registered nurses work with low-income, first-time mothers to improve maternal health, promote healthy child development, and achieve economic self-sufficiency. The program is completely voluntary for the mother. NFP also encourages participation by the father and other members of the family.

Charleston County First Steps serves as the fiscal agent for the Charleston/Berkeley/Dorchester NFP initiative (nearly \$500,000 annually), which is implemented by South Carolina DHEC – Region 7. The program employs four NFP nurse home visitors and a nurse supervisor. Each nurse home visitor is assigned 25 clients.

On August 10, 2010 more than 75 community leaders along with NFP clients and their families gathered at Mount Moriah Baptist Church on August 10, 2010 to celebrate one year of making a difference in the lives of first-time mothers in Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester Counties. NFP leaders discussed the program's progress since it enrolled its first mother last August. The group also discussed the importance of NFP, the benefits it is bringing to the community and several clients currently enrolled in the program shared their experiences with the program.

In addition to the Charleston/Berkeley/Dorchester site, there are five other NFP sites in South Carolina – Anderson, Greenville, Horry, Lexington/Richland and Spartanburg.

A strong public-private partnership was created to bring NFP to South Carolina. The Duke Endowment, South Carolina DHEC, The BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation, South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness, The Children's Trust of South Carolina and the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office are providing long-term support of the program in the state.

Among the three counties, Charleston County has supported 66 healthy births through the NFP program (50% girls and 50% boys), 90% full term births, and 99% greater than 2500 grams at birth.

QUALITY CHILD CARE.

Facility Quality Enhancement

Program description: *The CCFS Quality Enhancement Initiative is designed to increase the knowledge and skill sets of child care providers. We've implemented a Center of Excellence model that provides a one-stop shop of wrap-around services. These services include parenting (Parents as Teachers), child care scholarships, technical assistance, and center staff training and development. The integration of services strengthen and increases the intensity of the dosage of service offered in our regular child development environment. Parents are provided one-on-one services with a national certified parent educator to assist in providing the parent with every tool that can be used at home to increase their child's learning opportunities. Parent-child interactions are also observed and discussed during this time. Technical assistance in the child care centers are offered by First Steps Staff twice a month for two hours each visit. Several different child development screenings and assessments are done by the center staff and First Steps. Neither screenings nor assessments are not required, or hardly ever done in private child care settings. Some child care scholarships are offered to low income families who can't afford child care. All of these services enhance one another to provide quality child care that may not be offered anywhere else. Quarterly child care trainings are offered to the center staff, and quarterly director forums are offered.*

401 Children Served – in 6 child care centers

PROGRAM STANDARDS RESULTS

- 1) **Technical Assistance Visits** – Each center received 2 technical assistance visits per month for 2 hours each visit.
 - a. Total Site Visits - 129
 - b. Average Site Visits per month – 2.05
 - c. Total Visit Hours – 265.5
 - d. Average Visit Duration (in minutes) – 123.65 mins.
- 2) **Assessments** – Two classrooms at each Center of Excellence received an Environmental Rating Scale (ERS) assessment. Each Center of Excellence is expected to assess each student with a pre-test, mid-year and post-test of the Early Learning Accomplishment Profile (birth to 36 months) or Learning Accomplishment Profile Third Edition (36 - 72 months).
- 3) **Classroom Grants** - Once the ERS assessments are completed and improvement plans developed, materials and supplies are ordered based upon assessment results.
- 4) **Integration with Child Care Training** –Facility Quality Enhancement has always been integrated with Center Staff Training & Development as part of our child care strategy. We are in partnership with Head Start and Burke High School to collaboratively provide public early childhood educational training to the community. This training was free for the centers currently or previously enrolled and offered for a nominal fee to non- FQE centers in Charleston First Steps Facility Quality Enhancement (FQE) program in the

past. Our current 6 Centers of Excellence receive training monthly. All center staff are required to attend.

- 5) **Work Force Development-** Most of the center staff have taken the technical college course ECD 101 (Introduction to Child Development) and are encouraged to participate in the TEACH scholarship program, which helps child care staff afford additional post-secondary courses in early childhood education.

FACILITY QUALITY ENHANCEMENT— PROGRAM RESULTS

Objective #1	Outcome(s)	Output(s)
Enhance the quality of child care offered by child care providers	<p>100% of classrooms with a pre and post test who showed ANY improvement in the average subscale score.</p> <p>33% classrooms where the average subscales score change was greater than 1.0, which is considered significant.</p>	<p>12 classrooms were pre and post assessed.</p> <p>12 classrooms with a pre and post test showed some improvement in the average item score.</p> <p>3 classrooms where the average subscale score change was greater than 1.0, which is considered significant.</p>
Objective #2	Outcome(s)	Output(s)
To enhance the learning environment to promote developmental practices	<p>ITERS (the assessment for infant/toddler classrooms):</p> <p>3.96 Average ITERS Pre Score 5.06 Average ITERS Post Score On average, participants with both pre- and post-scores showed a 28% improvement</p> <p>ECERS (the assessment for 3- and 4-yr-old classrooms):</p> <p>5.54 Average ECERS Pre Score 6.00 Average ECERS Post Score On average, participants with both pre- and post-scores showed 8% improvement.</p> <p>OVERALL ERS:</p> <p>4.75 Average Pre ERS Score 5.53 Average Post ERS Score .78 ERS Change (Pre-to-Post)</p>	<p>8 ITERS Pre Assessments 8 ITERS Post Assessments</p> <p>4 ECERS Pre Assessments 4 ECERS Post Assessments</p>

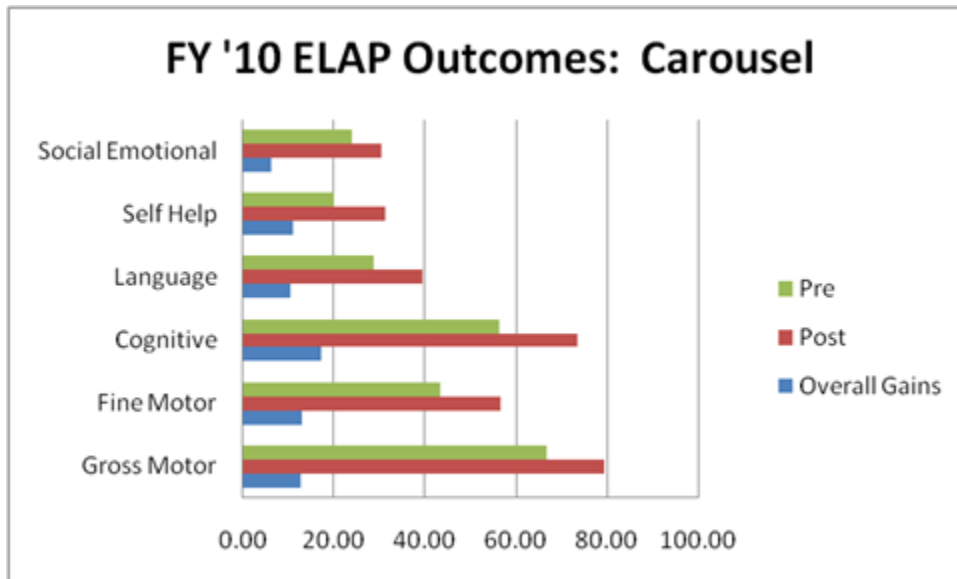
Objective #3	Outcome	Output(s)
To provide Technical Assistance to center staff		401 children enrolled 286 total TA visits provided 2.05 average TA visits per month 265.5 Total TA Hours provided for all centers 123.49 Average TA Duration per Visit (minutes)
Objective #4	Outcome	Output(s)
Children meet developmental milestones that ensure school readiness	98% of children who made progress in at least 1 of the areas identified where the child is not meeting a milestone on the ELAP or LAP3.	348 children assessed

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE CHILD ASSESSMENT RESULTS

ELAP (Early Learning Accomplishment Profile): assessment of child development for children up to 36 months of age

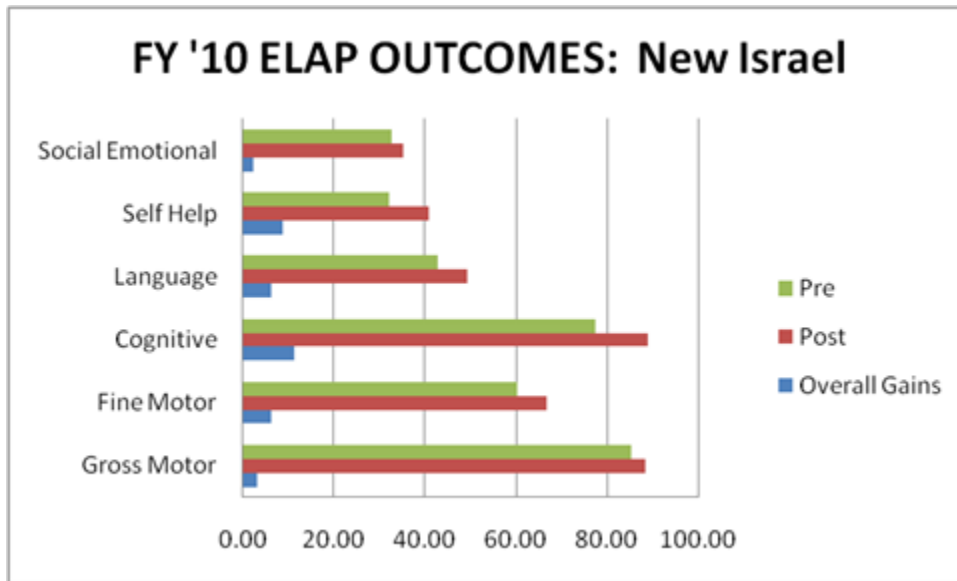
CAROUSEL

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Cognitive	Language	Self-Help	Social Emotional
# Assessments = 50	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>					
Overall Gains	12.75	13.17	17.31	10.49	11.16	6.41
Post	79.47	56.51	73.53	39.35	31.26	30.51
Pre	66.72	43.34	56.22	28.86	20.1	24.1



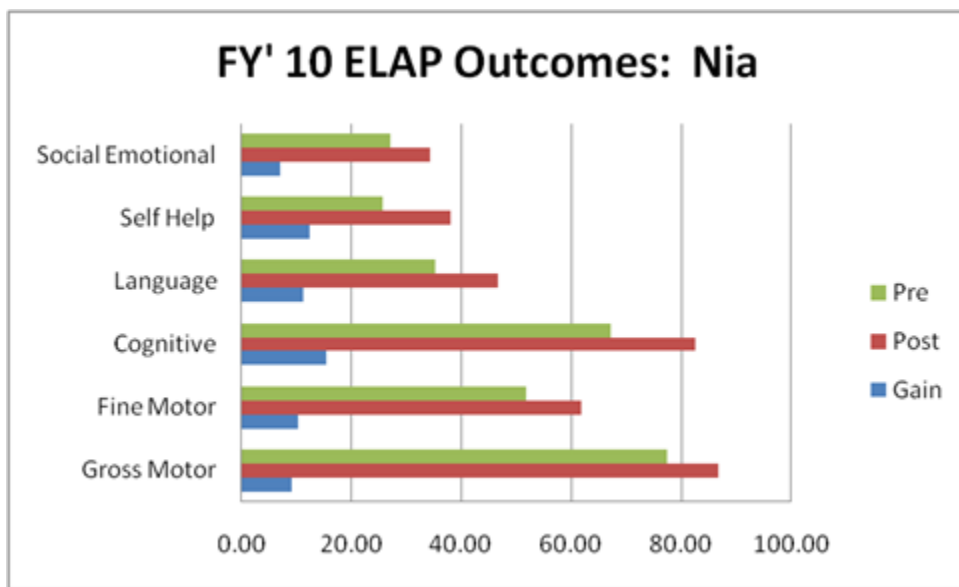
NEW ISRAEL

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Cognitive	Language	Self-Help	Social Emotional
# Assessments = 25	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>					
Overall Gains	3.28	6.44	11.48	6.28	8.72	2.44
Post	88.48	66.76	88.96	49.24	40.96	35.16
Pre	85.2	60.32	77.48	42.96	32.24	32.72



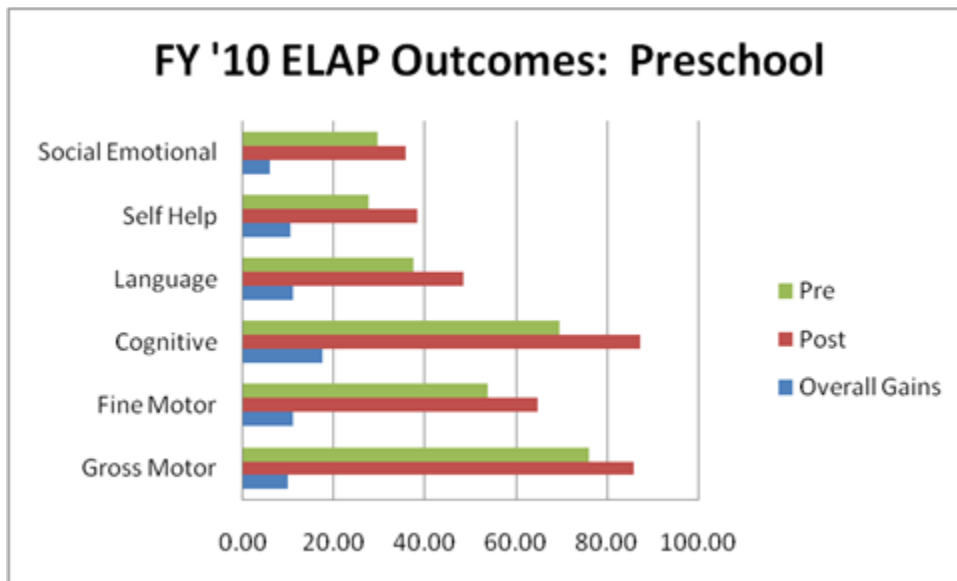
NIA

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Cognitive	Language	Self-Help	Social Emotional
# Assessments = 14	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>					
Overall Gains	9.21	10.21	15.43	11.29	12.36	7.14
Post	86.64	61.93	82.64	46.57	38.14	34.36
Pre	77.43	51.71	67.21	35.29	25.79	27.21



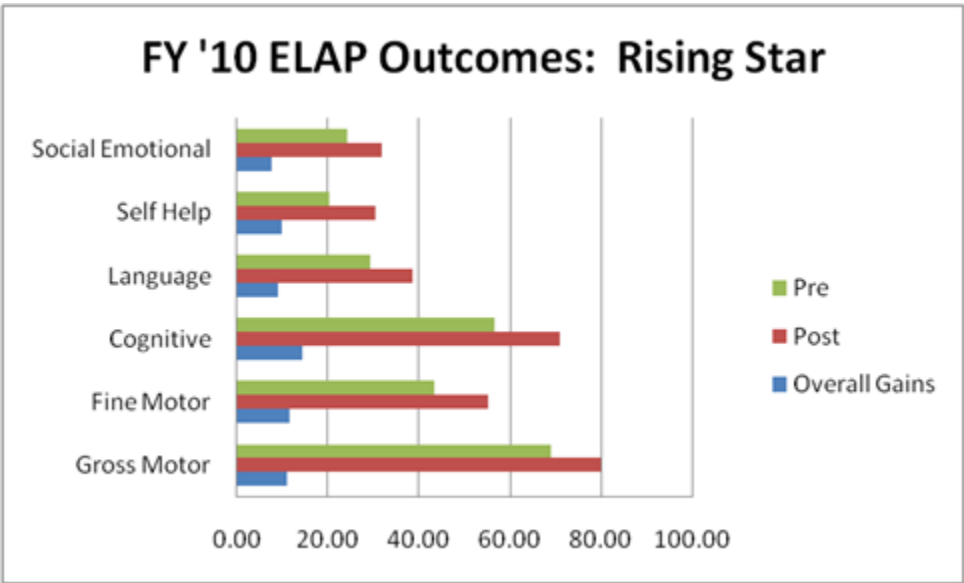
PRESCHOOL

OMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Cognitive	Language	Self-Help	Social Emotional
# Assessments = 36	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>					
Overall Gains	9.91	11.13	17.59	10.99	10.54	6.11
Post	85.89	64.86	87.26	48.57	38.29	35.83
Pre	75.97	53.72	69.67	37.58	27.75	29.72



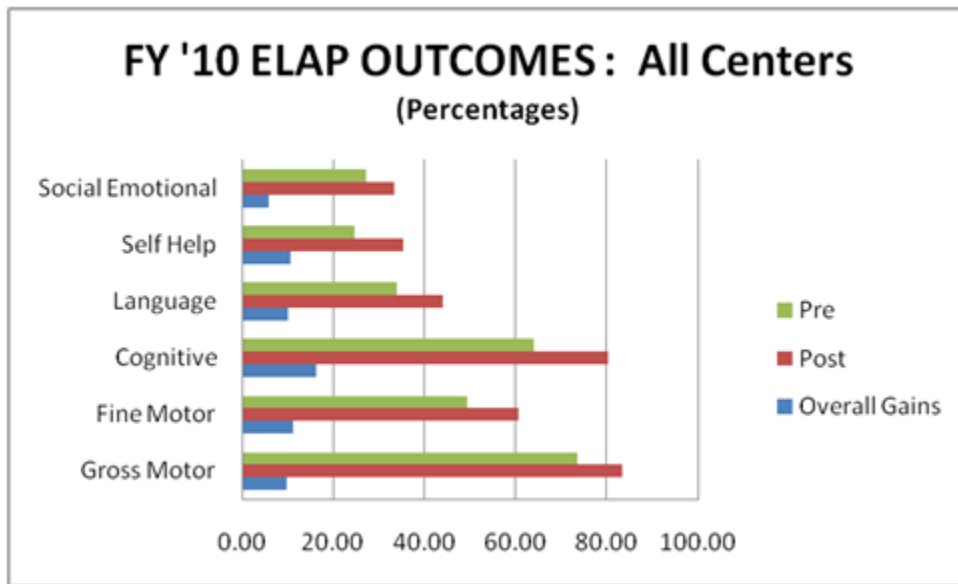
RISING STAR

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Cognitive	Language	Self-Help	Social Emotional
# Assessments = 33	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>					
Overall Gains	11.06	11.78	14.38	9.17	9.92	7.59
Post	80.00	55.20	70.90	38.53	30.40	31.83
Pre	68.94	43.42	56.52	29.36	20.48	24.24



ALL CENTERS

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Cognitive	Language	Self-Help	Social Emotional
# Assessments = 158	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>					
Overall Gains	9.81	11.21	16.17	10.11	10.64	6.00
Post	83.43	60.70	80.19	44.01	35.37	33.30
Pre	73.62	49.49	64.01	33.90	24.73	27.30

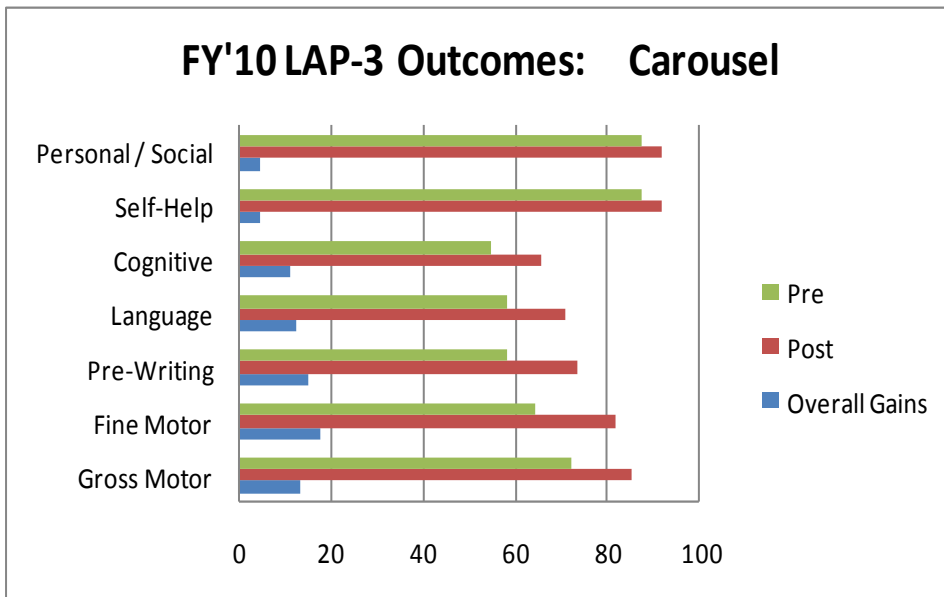


- Cognitive & Fine Motor - Students on an average gains were higher
- Social Emotional & Gross Motor - Students on an average gains were lower
- Cognitive - showed the greatest gain

LAP-3 (Learning Accomplishment Profile Third Edition): assessment of child development for children 36 to 72 months of age

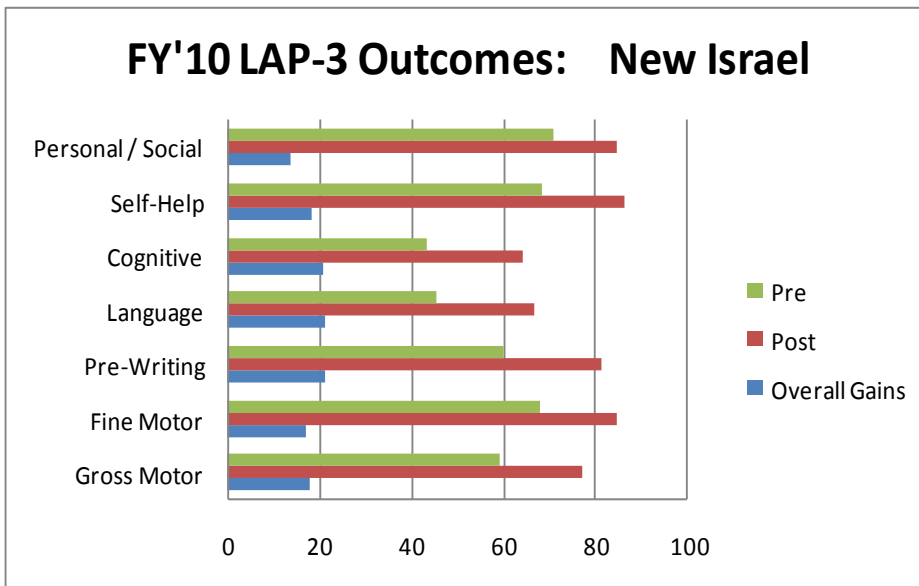
CAROUSEL

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Pre-Writing	Language	Cognitive	Self-Help	Personal / Social
# Assessments = 24	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>						
Overall Gains	13.22	17.49	15.28	12.37	11.13	4.52	4.58
Post	85.44	81.81	73.41	70.81	65.68	91.79	91.95
Pre	72.22	64.32	58.13	58.44	54.55	87.27	87.37

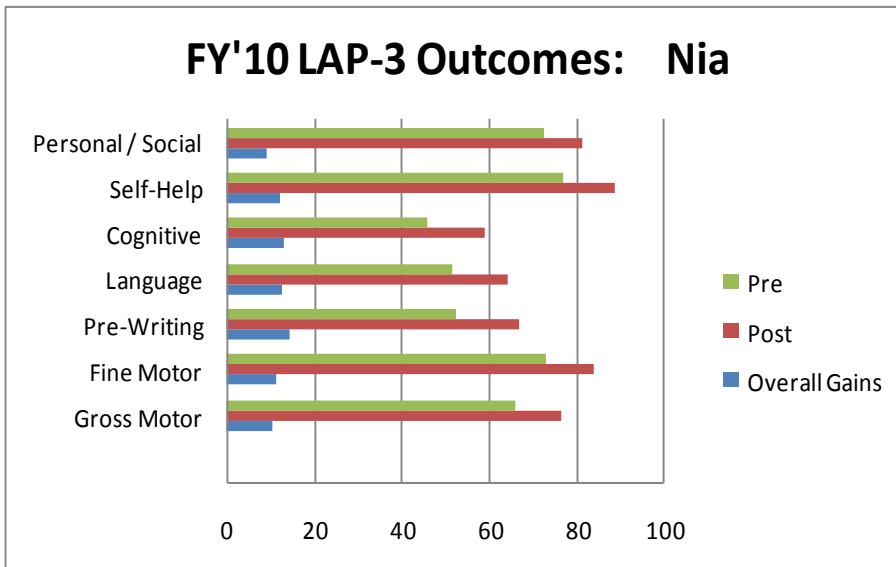


NEW ISRAEL

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Pre-Writing	Language	Cognitive	Self-Help	Personal / Social
# Assessments = 41	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>						
Overall Gains	17.98	16.81	20.99	21.09	20.74	18.28	13.83
Post	77.03	84.53	81.17	66.53	64.01	86.5	84.79
Pre	59.05	67.72	60.18	45.44	43.27	68.22	70.96

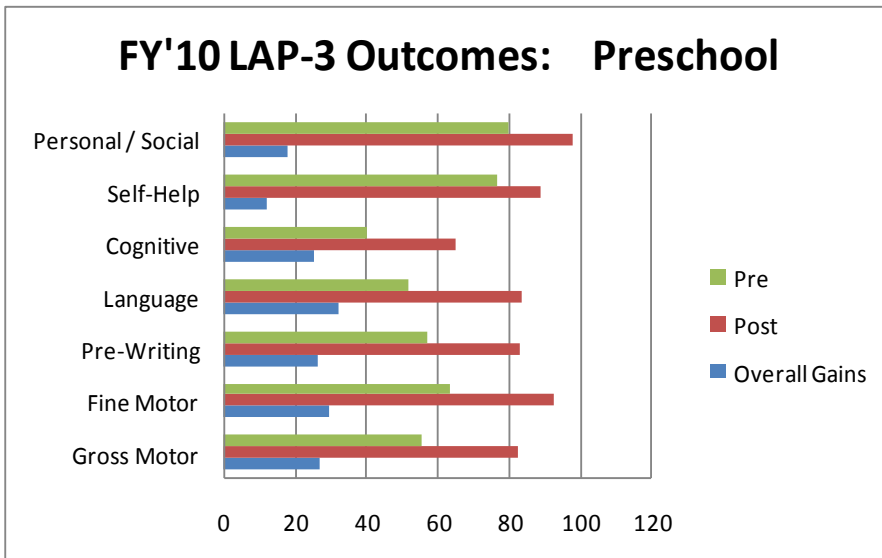


DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Pre-Writing	Language	Cognitive	Self-Help	Personal / Social
# Assessments = 8	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>						
Overall Gains	10.39	11.23	14.49	12.48	12.92	12.04	9.03
Post	76.26	84.09	66.75	64.03	58.73	88.91	81.41
Pre	65.87	72.86	52.26	51.55	45.81	76.87	72.38



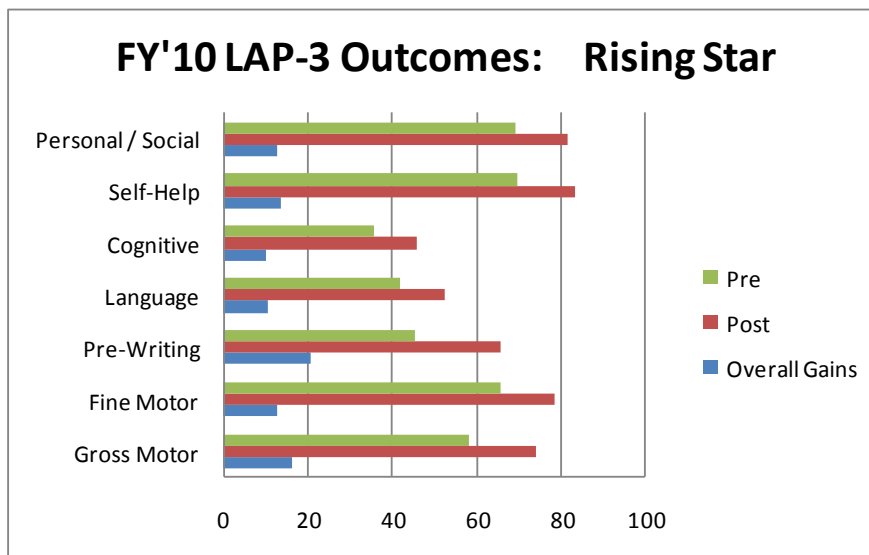
PRESCHOOL

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Pre-Writing	Language	Cognitive	Self-Help	Personal / Social
# Assessments = 44	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>						
Overall Gains	27.08	29.25	26.13	31.95	25.14	12.04	17.84
Post	82.64	92.5	83.08	83.64	65.19	88.91	97.78
Pre	55.56	63.25	56.95	51.69	40.05	76.87	79.94



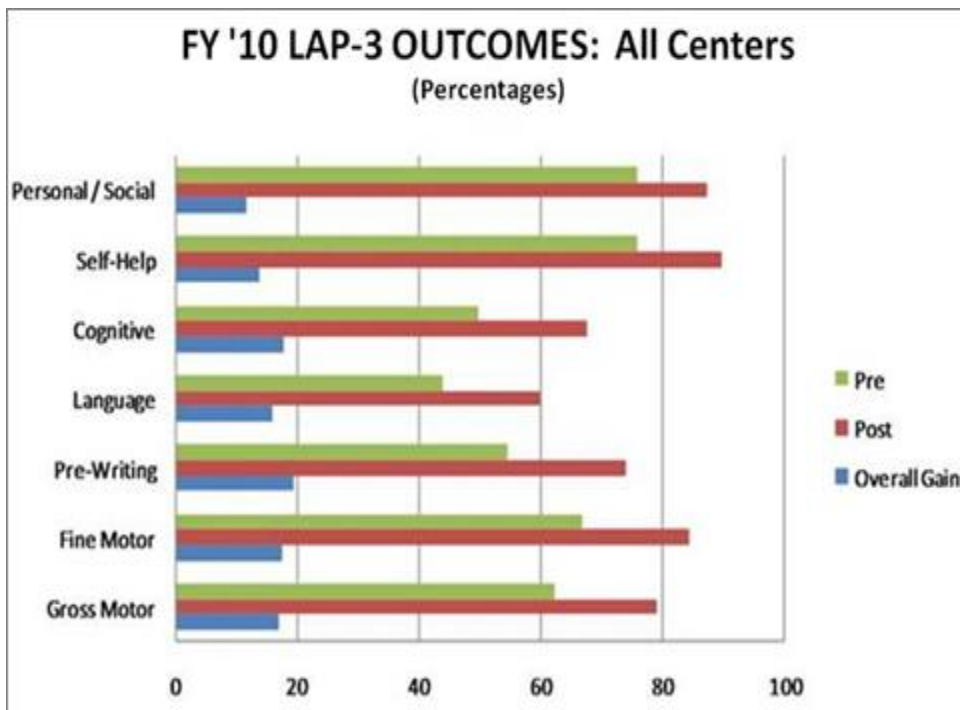
RISING STAR

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Pre-Writing	Language	Cognitive	Self-Help	Personal / Social
# Assessments = 31	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>						
Overall Gains	16.05	12.65	20.39	10.48	9.87	13.65	12.64
Post	74.07	78.31	65.54	52.44	45.56	83.45	81.63
Pre	58.02	65.66	45.15	41.96	35.69	69.8	68.99



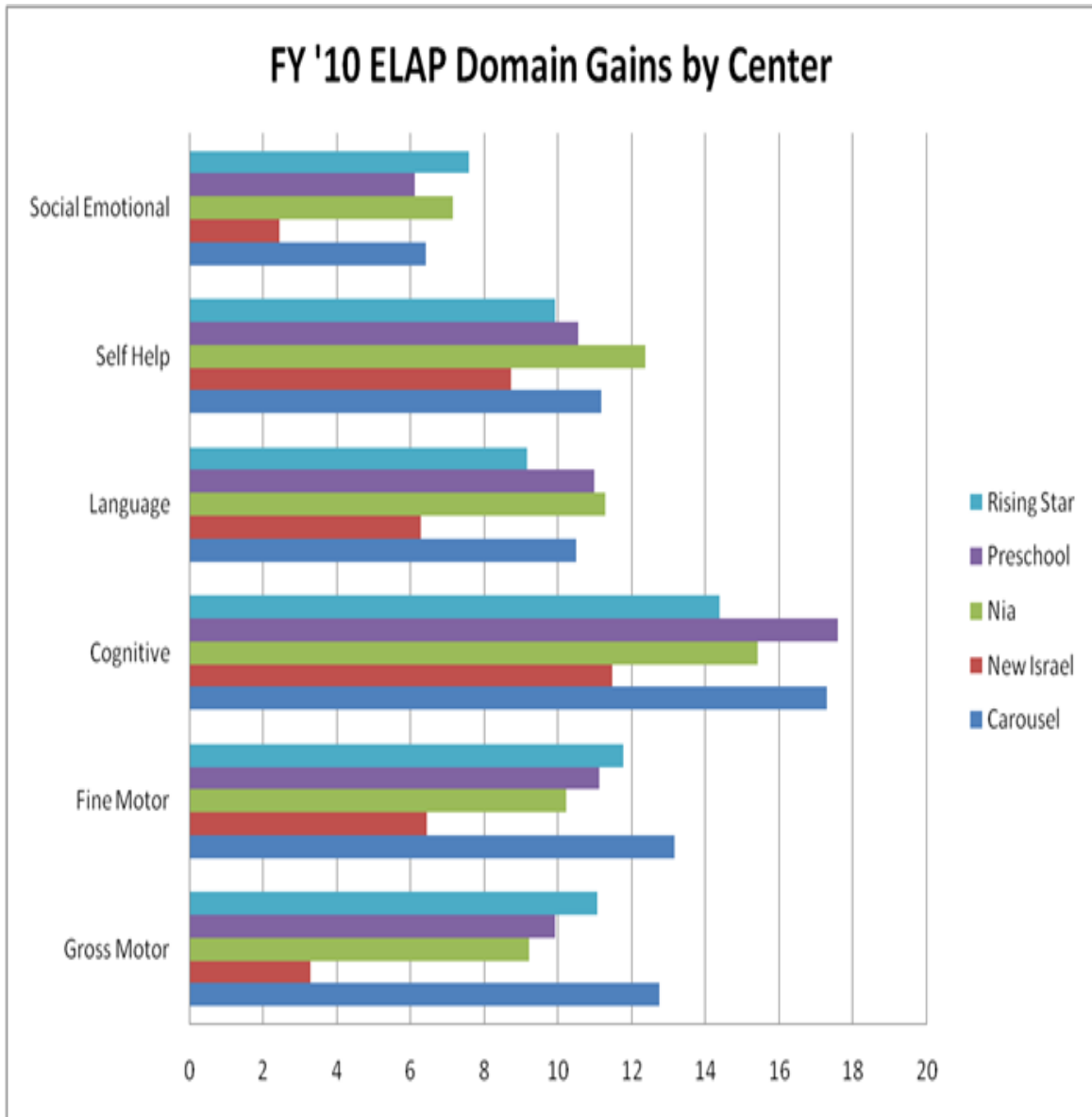
ALL CENTERS

DOMAIN:	Gross Motor	Fine Motor	Pre-Writing	Language	Cognitive	Self-Help	Personal / Social
# Assessments = 148	<i>Average Scores All Centers (Percentages)</i>						
Overall Gains	16.94	17.49	19.46	15.96	17.68	13.87	11.58
Post	79.09	84.25	73.99	59.83	67.49	89.62	87.29
Pre	62.14	66.76	54.53	43.87	49.81	75.75	75.93



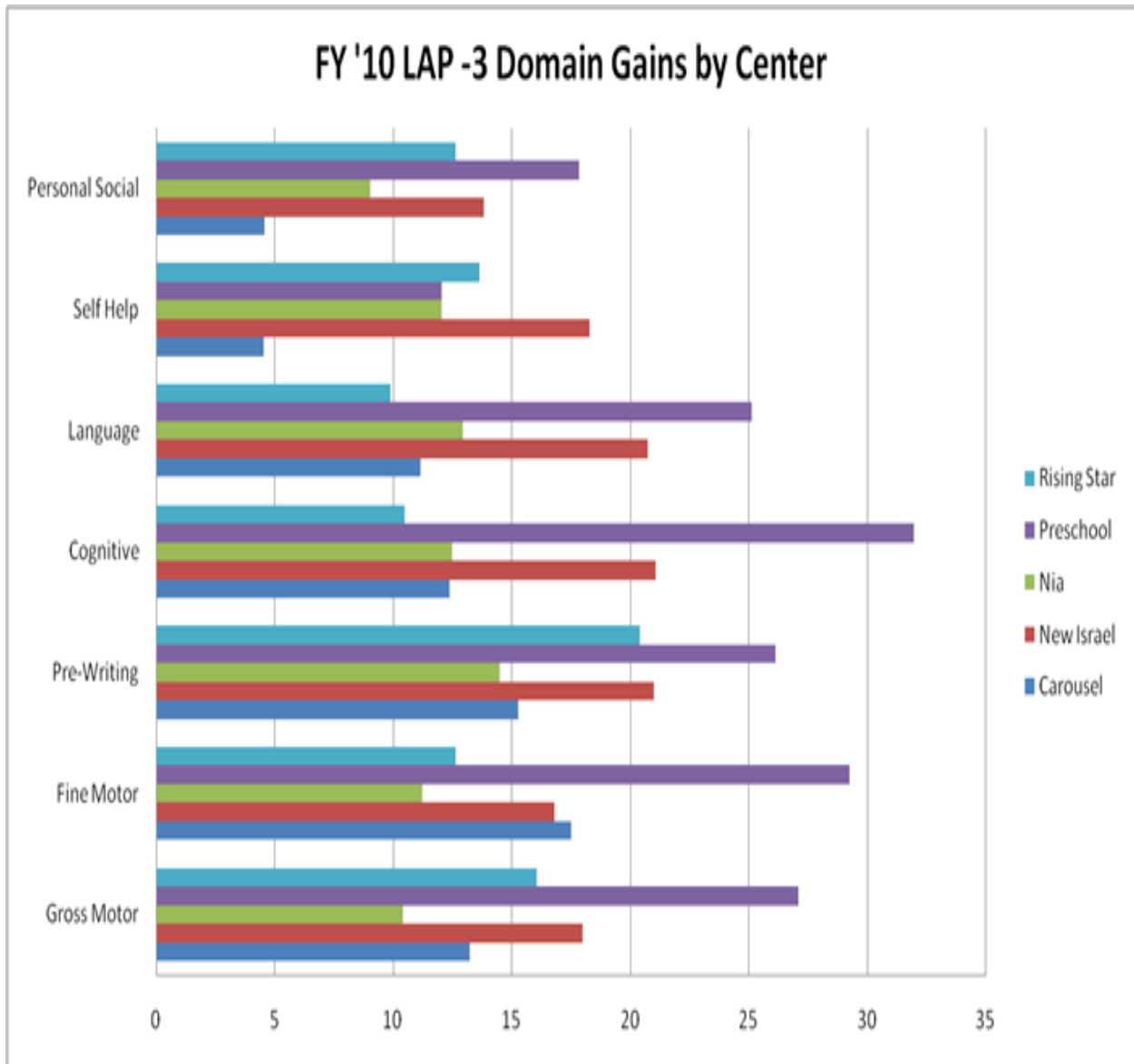
- Pre-writing & Cognitive - Students on an average gains were higher
- Self-Help & Personal Social - Students on an average gains were lower
- Pre-writing showed the highest gain

ELAP & LAP-3 ASSESSMENT COMPARISON OF GAINS BY CENTER...



Highest gains by Domains

- Social Emotional - Rising Star & Nia
- Self Help - Nia & Carousel
- Language - Nia & Preschool
- Cognitive - Preschool & Carousel
- Fine Motor - Rising Star & Carousel
- Gross Motor - Rising Star & Carousel



Highest gains by Domains

- Personal Social - Preschool & New Israel
- Self Help - New Israel & Rising Star
- Language - Preschool & New Israel
- Cognitive - Preschool School & New Israel
- Pre-Writing - Preschool & New Israel
- Fine Motor - Preschool & Carousel
- Gross Motor - Preschool & New Israel

CENTER STAFF TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAM STANDARDS RESULTS

1. Integration with the Partnership’s funded Quality Enhancement Strategy (as applicable)

Charleston County First Steps has always integrated Quality Enhancement with Center Staff Training and Development in order to maximize service intensity and effect demonstrable quality improvements. We have provided at least eight (8) hours of high quality, certified training (stemming from the provider’s Quality Improvement Plan) to each child care staff member.

2. Registration with the SC Center for Child Care Career Development (CCCCD)

All trainings are be registered with the Center for Child Care Career Development (CCCCD). The Office of First Steps strongly encourages partnerships to make use of CCCCCD certified trainers to the degree possible. All of our trainings are conducted by certified staff. Staff are certified to conduct trainings and provide technical assistance.

3. Coordination with Other Training Providers

We are currently collaborating with Head Start and the School District (Burke High School).

CENTER STAFF TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT – PROGRAM RESULTS

Objective #1	Outcome(s)	Output(s) (if applicable)
To provide best practices staff development and training to child care center staff		<p>11 Trainings Provided</p> <p>22 Average number of training hours received per center</p> <p>4 Directors Forums Conducted</p> <p>229 Total Attendance</p> <p>103 County Teachers from Quality Enhancement (QE) facilities</p> <p>126 County Teachers from non QE facilities</p>

CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS

Program description: *Charleston County First Steps provides subsidies for quality child care programs to eligible families and their children. The scholarships increased the availability of affordable childcare to parents who work or are in school full-time. The scholarships can only be used at our Centers of Excellence. These families are participants in our programs. Renewal for the scholarships are made available each year as long as the family remains in the program and continues to meet the qualifications.*

46 Children Served

CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS-PROGRAM RESULTS

Objective #1	Outcome(s)	Output(s) (if applicable)
To provide access to childcare scholarships in order to promote optimal child development.	<p>59% of the children remained in child care the entire year after enrollment.</p> <p>All 19 ELAP assessed scholarship children increased in Cognitive.</p> <p>All 17LAP-3 assessed scholarship children increased in Language</p>	<p>46 childcare scholarships were funded</p> <p>Cognitive was the ELAP (up to 36 mos.) domain with the highest gain among scholarship children.</p> <p>Language was the LAP-3 (36 mos. and up) domain with the highest gain among scholarship children.</p>

EARLY EDUCATION.

S.C. CHILD DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM (CDEPP)

Program description: *CDEPP offers state-paid tuition of 4-year-old kindergarten classes to eligible students living in the 37 trial and plaintiff school districts involved in the school funding equity lawsuit, Abbeville et al. vs. South Carolina. First Steps oversees CDEPP 4K classes offered in non-public school environments. To qualify for state-paid tuition, a student must qualify for TANF or free/reduced-price lunch, be 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2007, and live in an eligible school district. Three childcare centers in Charleston County participate in the CDEPP program as a geographically contiguous county, serving a number of children who reside in Berkeley County, one of the 37 trial and plaintiff school districts.*

CDEPP Providers in Charleston County were: **Foster Learning Center**
West Ashley Learning Hub
Sunshine House #29

CDEPP – PROGRAM RESULTS

Objective #1	Outcome	Output(s) (if applicable)
To expand childcare centers provided CDEPP 4K classes		<p>26 children served</p> <p>3 providers were approved to offer CDEPP 4K classes</p>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditures By Funding Source	
State Appropriation (<i>Fund 10</i>)	\$420,103
Education Improvement Act Appropriation (<i>Fund 55</i>)	\$38,730
SC Child Development Pilot Program Appropriation (<i>Fund 60</i>)	\$90,489
State Private (<i>Fund 15</i>)	\$16,256
Local Private (<i>Fund 20</i>)	\$495,883
Federal TANF Appropriation (<i>Fund 30</i>)	\$
Other Federal (<i>Fund 30</i>)	\$382,
In-Kind (<i>Fund 25</i>)	\$55,934
TOTAL: \$1,500,213	

Expenditures By Program / Strategy Name	
Nurse Family Partnership - ACF	\$12,831
Nurse Family Partnership	\$490,630
Centers of Excellence Scholarships	\$277,630
Center Staff Training	\$36,815
Child Care Quality Enhancements	\$90,683
CDEPP 4K	\$88,238
Parents As Teachers	\$282,013
Parents As Teachers - Early Head Start	\$56,765
Administrative Functions - Early Head Start	\$6,919
Indirect Programmatic Functions	\$76,113
Administrative Functions	\$81,610
TOTAL: \$1,500,213	

NOTABLE COLLABORATIONS

COLLABORATORS	Description of Collaboration
Charleston Housing Authority	Community event with agencies that benefits the City of Charleston Housing Authority residents.
Charleston County Public Library	Grand Family Resource Center Project. Our bilingual parent educator assists with story-time for Hispanic families.
Charleston County School District	Adult Education; partner in Early Head Start
Parent Information Resource Center	Parenting Classes
City of Charleston Police Dept.	Neighborhood Crime Watch
Trident Technical College Early Childhood Department	Wilmot J. Fraser Farewell Day - community event
Educational Opportunity Center	College registration services
Trident United Way	Child care referral service
Charleston County School District	Neighboring Elementary Schools - Early Head Start and Nurse Family Partnership - school nurses
St. James Santee Health Clinic	Health Care Services
South State Trooper Association	Highway Safety Information
The Hospice of Charleston	Health Care Services for the Family
MUSC Children's Day Treatment Impact Program	Referral Service
Berkeley County First Steps	Training
Dorchester County First Steps	Training
Child Care facilities in the Tri-County area	Training

City of Charleston Housing Authority

The City of Charleston Housing Authority coordinates a yearly community event for all the families that receive housing assistance from the City of Charleston Housing Authority. The yearly event helps the families network with resource agencies in the community that provide child care assistance, adult education classes, parenting classes, health care insurance and other service related assistance. Several of the single moms participating in our parenting program through the referral process have benefited from this collaboration.

Trident Technical College

The partnership between the Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) and Charleston County First Steps began with referrals of many of our adult clients to the EOC for services that include academic and career information, counseling, and technical assistance with applications for college admissions and Federal Financial Student Aid. EOC has also conducted a variety of workshops and group information sessions for First Steps and its adult participants.

MUSC Children's Day Treatment Impact Program

MUSC provides day treatment service that emphasizes on behavioral modification, self control and basic social skills. The program also provides parent manager training to assist the parent in coping with stressors in the home. Several referrals have been made that benefited both parents and children with controlled behavior modification.

NOTABLE GRANTS AND DONATIONS

CONTRIBUTION	Type of Contribution (grant, individual, corporation, foundation, church, etc.)	AMOUNT
Charleston County School District /Early Head Start	Grant	\$ 89,317
Nurse Family Partnership	Grant	\$490,630
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
TOTAL:		579,947

*Local Match Percentage for FY 2010: 76%
(at least 15% Legislative requirement)*

COUNTY PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

No	Last Name	First Name	Category Represented
1	Bell	Gloria	Legislative Appointment
2	Bowman	Timothy	Faith Community
3	Ciesar	Elizabeth	Nonprofit Organization
4	Coakley-Watkins	Claudette	Legislative Appointment
5	Davis	Dena	Family Education, Training and Support
6	Garry	Keyonda	Transportation Provider
7	Gibson	Jodi	Early Childhood Education
8	Hinson	Lib	DHEC Appointment
9	Hussey	Julie	Parent of Preschooler
10	Johnson	Mamie	DSS Appointment
11	Jowers	Glennett	Head Start
12	Lee	Lerah	Charleston County School District
13	Pinckney	Roberta	Family Education, Training and Support
14	Powers	Lorraine	Legislative Appointment
15	Rhodes	Monroe	Nonprofit Organization
16	Sheppard	Fouche	Business Community
17	Stevenson	Jana	Library Appointment
18	Vandross	Anthony	Transportation Provider

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

South Carolina First Steps Region VII BOARD RETREAT

On February 6, 2010, Charleston County hosted the South Carolina First Steps Region VII Board Retreat at the picturesque Camp Ho Non Wah in Wadmalaw, South Carolina. The event was



well attended by members of the South Carolina Office of First Steps and Executive Directors, staff, and Board members of Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Georgetown, Horry, and Williamsburg Partnerships. The 6-hour retreat included presentations by Susan DeVenny and State Office Technical Assistance staff. Presentations

provided a review of the newly developed SC First Steps Vision 2013 Toolkit and the Endowed Scholarship Fund for At-Risk children in South Carolina. The morning session segued into rich Partnership-level discussions about community assets and the SC First Steps Exemplary



Performance Recognition tool. The event was concluded with the issuance of a challenge to Partnership staff to give further thought and discussion to what it means to have exemplary



Board engagement, strategy performance and management, resource development and management, and community collaboration and engagement .

“The day's activities were so robust ---and so child-focused-- we all came away very encouraged and uplifted by your energy.” - Susan DeVenny

Another Board Highlight

This year our partnership board members made financial contributions and agreed to make financial contributions annually.
