

2016 Impact Report



SOUTH CAROLINA CENTER
FOR FATHERS AND FAMILIES

Reconnecting Fathers and Families



Children who grow up without the presence of a supportive father are four times more likely to live in poverty. In 2002, the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families was created to reduce child poverty through father engagement. Today, the Center has grown to become the hub of a statewide network of program centers serving thousands of fathers and families each year. We help dads understand the responsibilities of fatherhood and set them on a path to be the provider and parent their children need.

Accomplishments

Statewide Expansion Expansion tops the list of accomplishments. Through a partnership with SC Department of Social Services, new program offices opened in Anderson, Florence, Rock Hill, Sumter, and Berkeley counties. New satellite offices in eight counties and outreach into six more have given us a presence in 33 counties.

SC Visitation.com Many unwed fathers find themselves without visitation rights, and hiring an attorney to secure court-ordered visitation is costly. We developed and launched this website to guide non-custodial parents through the procedures and paperwork required to request visitation rights via the court system when the cost of hiring an attorney is prohibitive. The project is the result of a partnership effort by the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families, SC Department of Social Services, South Carolina Legal Services, South Carolina Bar Foundation, South Carolina Supreme Court and Access to Justice Commission.

Father 365 Campaign A comprehensive statewide marketing campaign was launched to build awareness of local fatherhood programs and to increase outreach and recruitment of participants. All campaign materials drive traffic to father365.com. The project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

Young Fathers Program Through a partnership with Children's Trust of South Carolina and SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy,

we have increased attention on understanding and supporting the needs of men facing fatherhood at an early age. Our services help young fathers improve their education, gain employment and enhance parenting skills.

Jobs Not Jail Jobs Not Jail provides an alternative to incarceration for low-income fathers who are having difficulty keeping up with child support payments. It helps court-ordered participants gain or maintain employment to fulfill their financial responsibilities. In addition to assisting 1,182 fathers, the program saved taxpayers \$9.52 million in incarceration costs.

Men's Health Men often lack access to health care due to unemployment, employment with no benefits or the inability to pay for private insurance. Last year, more than 2,400 direct health services were provided to program participants in Bennettsville, Lancaster, Lexington, and Spartanburg counties, linking them to proper treatment through local healthcare providers.

Reading With Dads "Reading With Dads" encourages dads to read with their children and take an active role in their education. The project included the development of training sessions and support materials produced in partnership with children's literacy advocate and author Frances F. Jones, creator of Cricket Curls Adventures. More than 900 books were distributed to local programs along with support to create reading areas for fathers and their children.

Changing Lives

The true impact of our work is best evidenced by the changed lives and inspiring stories of the fathers we serve.



Branden and his son Neil

Branden came to Midlands Fatherhood Coalition with one focus—to find a way back into his two-year-old son’s life.



Branden **Midlands Fatherhood Coalition**

Branden and his child’s mother struggled to cope with the stresses of parenthood. Their relationship turned volatile and Branden was denied any access to his son. Hiring an attorney was out of the question. A low-wage job, no high school diploma and no permanent housing were obstacles he knew had to overcome if he was ever to be the dad his son needed.

At Midlands Fatherhood Coalition, Branden developed his “One Man Plan” to address education needs, economic stability and relationship skills. Through staff support and his own determination, Branden obtained his GED and began attending a local college. He became a certified flagger with a road construction crew and secured a second job with a local distribution company. The program’s parenting and co-parenting classes helped Branden reestablish a relationship with his son’s mother and he now sees his son regularly. His next goal is to secure housing that will provide a place he and his son can call home.



Doug **A Father’s Place**

An unsteady relationship with the mother of his children kept Doug at a distance. Unemployed and behind on child support payments, he faced the possibility of spending six months in jail. Fortunately, as an alternative to incarceration, Doug was offered the chance to enter the program at A Father’s Place.

Staff and peer support, program content and goal setting helped Doug find full-time employment. He learned to build a budget, make child support payments on time, and improve communications with his wife.



James **Lancaster Fatherhood Project**

A health screening, provided as part of our men’s health initiative at Lancaster Fatherhood Project, indicated James had extremely high triglyceride levels coupled with thyroid issues. As a truck driver, James spent long hours on the road leaving little time for family and even less time to address his own health. Through a partnership with a local clinic, James now receives the healthcare he needs. With health issues addressed, staff has been able to help James pursue a job with better pay and a schedule more conducive to being a good dad.



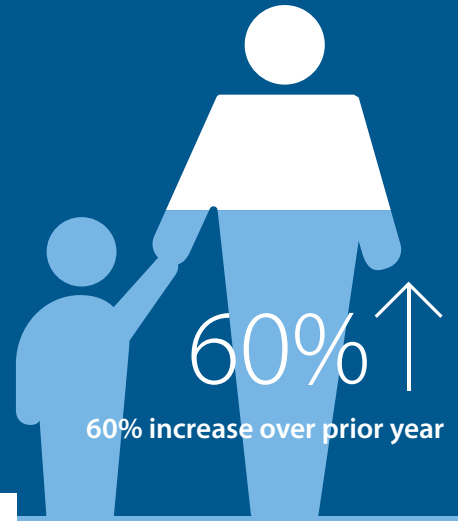
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IMPACT & OUTCOMES

2016

2534

Participants served

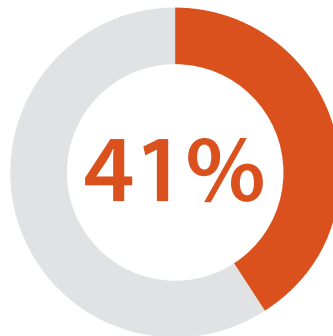


14,428

Fathers helped
since 2002

5970

Children positively impacted by
fatherhood programs



Reported an improved
relationship with their children



789

Received job readiness
training



1819

Gained or maintained
employment



2448

Number of direct health
service contacts

\$1.5 million

Child support paid by participants



\$9.52 million

Saved in taxpayer-funded incarceration costs
through Jobs Not Jail program

Statewide Expansion

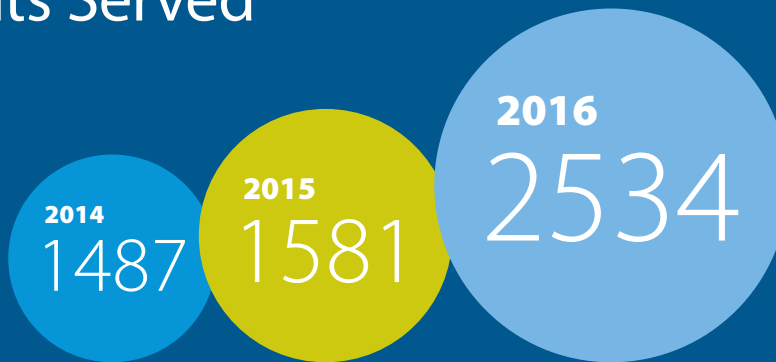


The Center has grown to become the hub of a comprehensive statewide network of program centers and satellite offices serving 33 counties in the state

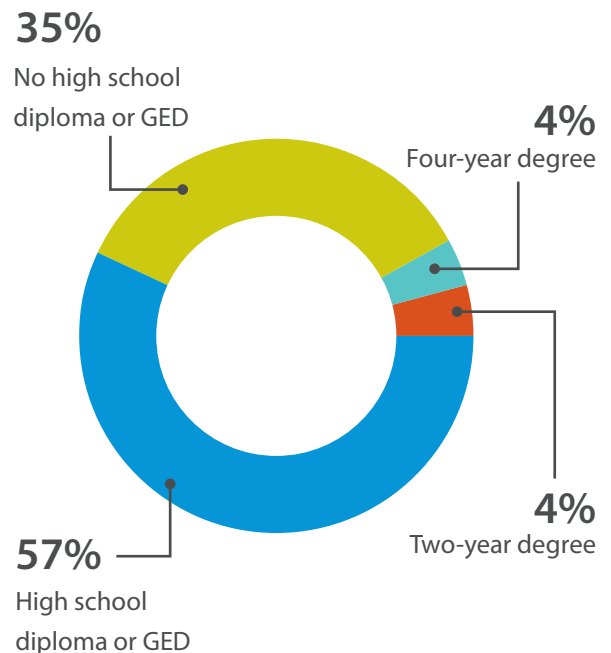
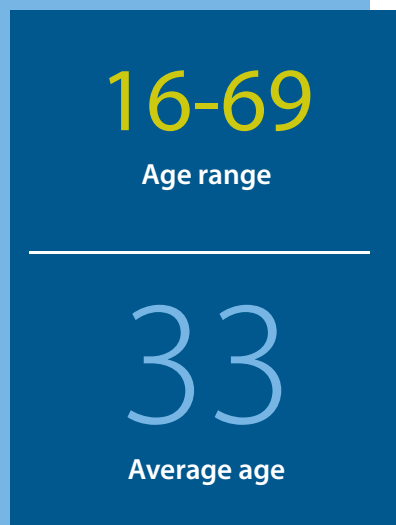
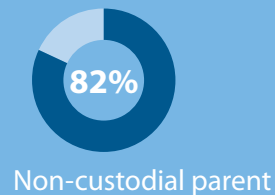
Counties Served



Participants Served



Participant Profile





Toward a Better Future Our fatherhood programs help men become the responsible, engaged and empowered fathers they want to be. With continued support, we can make a difference in the lives of fathers and families today and tomorrow. To learn more about our organization and the many ways you can support our mission, visit us online at scfathersandfamilies.com.



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[SCFATHERSANDFAMILIES.COM](https://scfathersandfamilies.com)

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System