



Darlington County First Steps Partnership Board of Directors Meeting
Date: February 24, 2026 | Time: 12:30 pm | Location: Virtual

MINUTES

This meeting was held within FOIA and ADA Compliance. Board Meetings are open to the public and meeting minutes are kept on file in the office of Darlington County First Steps and are available to the public for review.

Board Directors Present: Howard Nettles, Chairman; Lucretia Bellamy, Vice Chair; Linda George, Secretary; Dr. Lilkenya Jenkins; Rudell Dubose, Barbara Carraway

Staff: Britney Dargan, Parent Educator; Whitney Davis, Community Health Manager; Darnell Byrd McPherson, Executive Director; Patricia Sullivan-Steward, Operations Director; Ritha Ponds, Community Health Worker; Shannon O’Berry, Finance Director; Jacqueline Bowman, Parent Educator

	Discussion	Outcome/Action	Responsible Person(s)
1. Welcome & Roll Call		Quorum established.	Chairman Nettles
2. Action Items	Approval of FY27-29 Strategic Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve- Linda George • Seconded by – Lilkenya Jenkins • Motion carries. 	Motions passed unanimously.	Board of Directors

	<p>Budget Carryforward of \$19,531.48. Funds will sure up dollars for parenting sessions, timing of grant deposits for Fact Forward & Morehouse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve- L. George • Seconded by- Lucretia Bellamy • Motion carries. 		
3. Finance Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed Budget Report • Awarded an additional \$10,000 Grant for Sustainability & Capacity-Building Project from Morehouse School of Medicine Center for Maternal Health Equity • Will be upgrading to a new accounting and HR management system called SAGE. Start date of the program is TBA. 		Finance Director – Shannon O’Berry
4. Announcements & Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morehouse School of Medicine Project IMPACT Study- Started year 3 implementation • Community Health Alignment (CHAI) – Participants are showing progress across all major social determinants of health and 		Staff

	<p>provide positive feedback about assistance from Ritha Ponds. Ponds received certification as a Community Health Worker December 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety Café – Feb. 24th, 5-7 pm, at Hartsville Housing Authority, 1301 South 5th Street, Hartsville, SC. Food provided. Must register. • Ongoing recruitment of teens ages 13-19 for Fact Forward, adolescent health program. Contact person(s): Whitney Davis – 843-858-6981, Patricia Sullivan-Steward- 843-339-0819. 		
5. Adjournment		Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.	