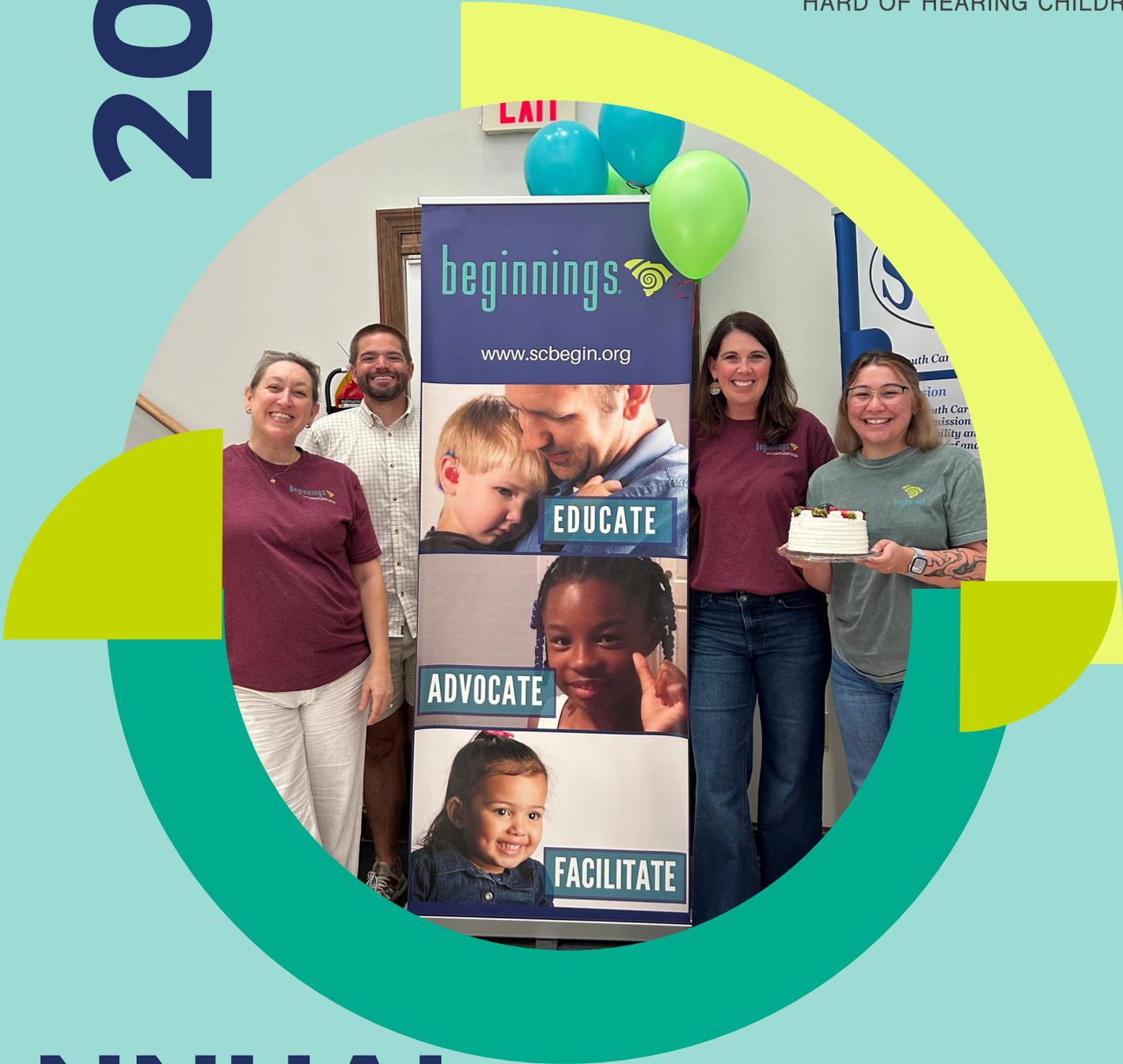


2025

beginnings® 

WHERE BELONGING BEGINS FOR DEAF & HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN



# ANNUAL REPORT



[info@beginningssc.org](mailto:info@beginningssc.org)



[www.beginningssc.org](http://www.beginningssc.org)

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect on 2025, I am proud of the steady progress Beginnings SC has made through strong relationships, dedicated volunteers, and meaningful collaboration.

Throughout the year, we supported families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing across South Carolina by focusing on timely access to information, parent education, and early hearing screening support. We were also able to expand learning opportunities for families by offering ASL classes and successfully restarting our Clemson tutoring program—both important resources that strengthen communication, confidence, and long-term outcomes for children.

Our work this year was strengthened by the incredible people who give their time and talents to Beginnings SC. We welcomed new volunteers, including a Deaf mentor who brings lived experience and connection to families, and a volunteer who signs stories shared on our social media platforms to help ensure our content is accessible. We also benefited from an exceptional summer intern whose initiative, professionalism, and commitment added meaningful value to our programs and outreach.

Looking ahead, we are excited about continuing to grow our parent workshops, increasing the number of childcare centers participating in hearing screenings, and expanding our remote microphone systems program. We also look forward to staying engaged in legislative efforts that impact children who are deaf or hard of hearing across South Carolina, ensuring family voices remain part of the conversation.

Thank you to the families, partners, volunteers, and supporters who make this work possible. Your trust and collaboration continue to shape and strengthen Beginnings SC.

## OUR MISSION

Beginnings SC provides expert knowledge and individualized planning strategies for parents, professionals, & communities to promote successful outcomes for children who are deaf or hard of hearing in South Carolina. We believe every SC child who is deaf or hard of hearing will reach his or her fullest potential.



Preston Trippe  
Executive Director

*Preston Trippe*

# FROM ONE OF OUR FAMILIES

My journey with Beginnings SC started very differently than how other family might typically encounter Beginnings SC. My family was referred to Beginnings SC by our lovely audiologist at MUSC when we established care for my 4-year-old daughter, at the time. To be honest the details of that time are a bit fuzzy, we had just moved to South Carolina, transferred two children to new schools, new jobs, needless to say our entire support network was gone and I was a mess. I believe Kelli reached out in the middle of what felt like constant chaos during those first few months living in South Carolina. Kelli helped me navigate the IEP process in our new school. She was so welcoming, patient, so easy to talk to. I remember the first time I reached out to her with my IEP how upset I was. The document was confusing and I knew enough that it didn't include what I wanted/needed for my daughter. She provided recommendations and points of discussion to bring to the IEP meeting. I felt empowered to advocate for the needs and accommodations necessary to ensure my daughter receives equal access in an educational setting. The guidance we have received has been a valuable lifeline and we are forever thankful to Kelli and Beginnings SC for empowering families with the tools and resource to help our children thrive.

## SNAPSHOTS OF OUR YEAR!

- Expanded early identification by increasing hearing screenings in childcare centers across South Carolina, prioritizing centers serving children with the greatest needs.
- Increased family access to communication through ASL classes for families, supporting language development at home.
- Re-launched the Clemson tutoring program, providing targeted academic support for deaf and hard of hearing students.
- Expanded access to inclusive learning environments by providing remote microphone systems to childcare centers.
- Hosted Parent Workshops focused on school-year reflection, planning ahead, addressing lack of progress, and including children in holiday traditions.



# BSC CORE VALUES IN ACTION

## EDUCATE

We educate the families about the challenges that deaf and hard of hearing children face.

- Served **109** families through Parent Education and Connected with **359** families through our newsletter.
- Hosted four educational workshops, led by Kelli, for families and professionals.
- Provided ASL classes for five families, supporting accessible communication at home.

## ADVOCATE

Together with the family, we assemble and support both short and long term game plans that increase the opportunities for both the child and family.

- Received **48** new family referrals.
- Advocated with parents at **8 IEP meetings and pre-IEP preparation meetings.**
- Provided **420** minutes of **consultation to professionals and partner organizations**, helping ensure families received personalized, expert support.
- Facilitated **3 Preschool Transition Meetings**

## FACILITATE

We connect and facilitate the professional resources required to maximize the successful belonging of both the child and the family.

- **2,871** of South Carolina's children received hearing screenings in 67 child care programs across the state totaling **14,627** children having been screened since the program's inception.
- Referred **78** families to partner organizations for additional support and services.
- Grew our online community through increased engagement and number of followers on our social media.
- **2,685** minutes participating in Task Forces, Coalitions, Trainings, and Committee Meetings to improve outcomes for children across the state.



**16**  
Home Visits



**48**  
Family Referrals



**2,871**  
Children screened

## WITH YOUR HELP

**109** families served through Parent Ed

**48** new family referrals received

**18** home visits

**8** IEP meetings & prep meetings

**3** Preschool Transition Meetings

Beginnings SC cannot wait to see what 2026 holds in store and is dedicated to providing the best quality of service to the families we serve.



# ONWARD

&

# UPWARD



@BeginningsSC



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info@beginningssc.org



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