



University of South Carolina
College of Education Research Institute
Wardlaw Building, Ste. 001
820 Main St., Columbia, SC 29208
800.868.2232

Funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education

Equity, Opportunity & Excellence in Education

FAST FACTS:

Grant Program: Statewide Family Engagement Center Program

Title IV, Part E., Sections 4501-4506 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
<https://innovation.ed.gov/what-we-do/parental-options/statewide-family-engagement-centers-program/>

- **Grant Purpose:** To promote high-impact cradle-to-career family, school, and community engagement by funding Centers that build the capacity of all stakeholders - including families, state agencies, districts, school-level staff and personnel, and community-based organizations - to engage in effective partnerships that support student achievement and school improvement and increase the number of high-quality educational options available to families. (83 FR 30430-31 (June 26, 2018))
- **Focus of Services:** Families with low incomes, parents of English learners, minorities, students with disabilities, homeless children and youth, children and youth in foster care, and migrant students throughout South Carolina
- **Grant Period:** October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2023
- **Grant Amount:** Approximately \$1 million per year for five years
- **Grantor:** U.S. Department of Education (award # U310A180058)
- **Lead Grantee:** University of South Carolina's SC School Improvement Council, housed in the Center for Educational Partnerships in the College of Education
- **State Agency Partner:** SC Department of Education, Office of Family and Community Engagement

Core Leadership Team		
Karen Utter, J.D.	Project Director	Associate Director, SC-SIC, UofSC College of Education
Tom F. Hudson	Co-Project Director	Executive Director, SC-SIC, UofSC College of Education
Gina M. Kunz, Ph.D.	Co-Project Director	Director, Research Institute, UofSC College of Education
Abraham Wandersman, Ph.D.	Co-Project Director	President & CEO, Wandersman Center, Emeritus Professor, Dept. of Psychology, UofSC College of Education
Evaluation Team Leaders		
Ashlee Lewis, Ph.D.	Lead Evaluator	Research Assistant Professor, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center, UofSC College of Education
Tammiee Dickenson, Ph.D.	Co-Evaluator	Director, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center, UofSC College of Education
CFEC Specialists and Consultants		
Michelle Bryan, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, UofSC College of Education	Diversity and Equity	
Michele Myers, Ph.D., UofSC College of Education	Engaging African American Families	
Heather Googe, Ph.D., Director, SC Child Care Inclusion Collaborative, UofSC Child Development Research Center	Early Childhood	
Julia Lopez-Robertson, Ph.D., UofSC College of Education	Engaging Latino Families	
Yasha Becton, Ph.D., UofSC College of Education	Advocacy and Minority Families	
Catherine Compton-Lilly, Ph.D., UofSC College of Education	Literacy	
Ellen Still, Independent Consultant	Education Policy and Family Engagement	
CFEC Partner Organizations		
SC School Improvement Council	Parent Advocacy Group, UofSC College of Education	
SC Department of Education, Office of Family & Community Engagement	PASOs	
Children’s Trust of South Carolina	SC Center for Fathers and Families	
Consortium for Latino Immigration Studies	SC Educational Policy Center	
Family Connection of South Carolina	SC First Steps to School Readiness	
Francis Marion University Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty		
CFEC Advisory Council		
Under Development		