

**For Immediate Release**  
**January 14, 2010**

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## **CCSD Awarded \$2.5 Million Early Head Start Expansion Grant**

*Federal Grant Strengthens Programs for Infants, Toddlers, Families*

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CHARLESTON, S.C. — The Charleston County School District (CCSD) has won \$2.5 million in Early Head Start expansion funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The award will support efforts to greatly expand the numbers of young children who enter CCSD schools ready to read, learn, and succeed in school.

"We are thrilled to be awarded this competitive grant, which will significantly help us promote school readiness and healthy development in infants and toddlers," said CCSD Superintendent Dr. Nancy McGinley. "We know that by supporting children with literacy-rich programs very early in their lives, we set them on a course for long-term success."

Head Start is a national program that promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. Early Head Start enhances the development of infants and toddlers and promotes healthy family functioning.

CCSD is currently partnering with multiple agencies to build a pipeline of supports for children from birth to graduation. The district will be accepting applications for the Early Head Start Program within the next two months.

For more information, please call the Office of Early Childhood at 843-937-6563.

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