

HEALTH STARTS AT HOME



Focusing on the West Side of Charleston

This is a two-year project aimed at improving the lives of children and families on the West Side of Charleston. The project will be implemented at FamilyCare Health Centers located at Patrick Street, Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary, Andrew Jackson Middle School, Capital High School, and Children's Medicine Center.



Prevention and Early Intervention Approach

The Health Starts at Home Project is aiming to change the trajectory of children's health outcomes by addressing the social needs of the parents. Sometimes called a two-generation approach or an upstream approach, we are aiming to improve the health of the family overall and prevent adverse experiences in young people's lives.



Social Determinants of Health

Conditions in the places we live, learn, work, and play affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes. We will be looking at housing instability, food insecurity, transportation difficulties, utility assistance needs, and interpersonal violence as base measures for our prenatal and pediatric populations.



Adverse Childhood Experiences

Childhood trauma such as abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction has been linked to chronic health issues, poor social outcomes, and early death in adults. We will be screening patients to determine their ACE score and offering universal education, information about resilience, and referrals to the Community Resource Specialist for additional intervention.



Strengthening and Developing Partnerships

In addition to improvements in patient health, this project will aim to increase community partnerships, strengthen existing partnerships, and eventually affect the conditions in neighborhoods to improve health of all community members. We hope to improve health equity and prevent trauma in the next generation.