

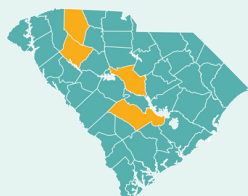
The Safe Babies Court program costs \$193k - \$343k per site.
SCIMHA requests funding for 3 Safe Babies Court sites (Orangeburg, Charleston, Lexington) be designated to the budget of the Department of Child Advocacy.



SOUTH CAROLINA
Infant Mental Health
ASSOCIATION

SCIMHA promotes nurturing relationships for infants, young children and their families through resources, policies and practices to foster healthy social-emotional development and well-being.

Emotionally strong infants are more ready for Kindergarten, and grow into emotionally strong, productive adults.



Current SC SBC Counties

Laurens, Spartanburg,
Richland, & Orangeburg

The Problem

**34% of maltreated children are
3 or younger**

**75% of child fatalities happen to children
3 or younger**

**32% of children entering foster care are
3 or younger**

Removing children from their families results in attachment trauma for the infant.

The child welfare system alone can't deliver the full array of services and partnerships needed for family permanency and family-centered support.

The Model

Safe Babies Court:

- Increases awareness about negative impact of abuse, neglect and trauma on infants and young children's development
- Centers families in decision making
- Expands supportive resources for court and child welfare professionals and caregivers
- Changes local systems to improve outcomes for families, preventing future court involvement for infants and young children

Safe Babies Court improves outcomes for very young children in the child welfare system. This family-centered program partners with local agencies to provide wraparound services including parenting classes, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and domestic violence intervention.

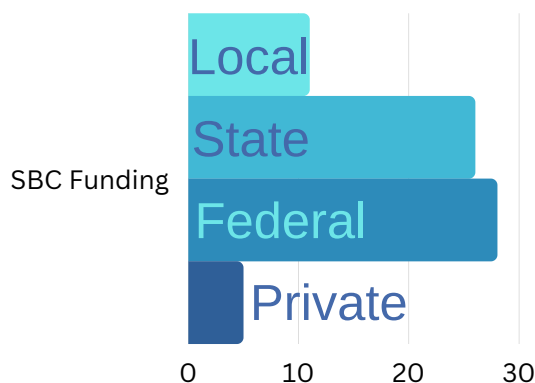
The Solution

- Children leave foster care **1 year earlier**
- 84% of Children land with **permanent caregivers within 1 year**, compared to the 40% national standard
- Limit no **more than 2 out-of-home placements**
- 99% of SBC children are **protected from further maltreatment**
- Outcomes are consistent across all demographics
- **Addresses opioid abuse** through securing an appointment in 1 week for 75% of impacted families
- **Minimizes impact of parental incarceration** through identifying alternative caregivers
- Over 90 percent of children identified in need of **services** received their first appointment within 30 days of referral

The Data

The Precedence

SBC sites across states use a mix of funding types. In 2020, 35 sites indicated the following funding sources:



Florida's SBC sites are entirely state funded, as well as sites in TN, AR, AZ, CT, MD, HI, IL

Proven Quality

A 2009 evaluation indicated that the SBC is a promising approach for **promoting greater collaboration** between the courts, child welfare, and the community to **meet the needs of very young children** in foster care and to promote positive safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes.

In 2014, the SBC approach was added to the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare with a scientific rating of 3, which signifies **promising research evidence, high child welfare system relevance, and a child welfare outcome of permanency.**

"We were so happy with SBC; they were a major help in getting our family's life back on track"

-SBC Family

"I wasn't ready to trust the system at first, but after getting to know SBC I feel that they're here to support our family through all of our ups and downs"

-SBC Kinship Caregiver

Return on Investment

Earlier exits from foster care experienced by SBC children average short term **savings of \$7,300/child.**

SBC's community-asset model leverages substantial in-kind resources. **For every grant dollar invested, SBCs generate another dollar of in-kind support**

ROI = 2 for 1



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