THE CRC NEWSLETTE Volume VIII Issue 8 August

Community Relations Councils

Promoting Harmony & Respect among a Diverse Citizenry of our State

South Carolina Human Affairs Commission www.schac.sc.gov

DJJ YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SITES (YES)

Youth Empowerment Sites (YES) offers great opportunities for youth in your community. YES is an employability training program of the Department of Juvenile Justice, designed for at-risk high school students. YES's are designed to improve the overall functioning of at-risk high school students at home, in school, and in the community. The program provides job skills training, career exposure and community internship/work experience for participants from 16 sites located throughout South Carolina.

YES programs are an extension to DJJ's Teen After-School Centers (TASC), which are also operated statewide. Annually, each YES site provides up to 60 high school students, ages 16-19, comprehensive job readiness skills training, career exposure, and paid community internships at local businesses for a "real life" work experience. The YES Program will:

- Increase the employability of at-risk high school students;
- Improve school attendance, academic performance, decrease school dropout rates, and increase the likelihood of high school completion and enrollment in secondary education, or the military;
- Reduce the recidivism rate for students served by the program that are are involved with DJJ by preventing further delinguency and/or violence.

For more information: https://djj.sc.gov/programs-and-services/youthempowerment-sites or call 803-896-2106.





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<u>SCHAC:</u> strives to alleviate problems of discrimination through the enforcement of the South Carolina Human Affairs Law, the South Carolina Fair Housing Law, and the South Carolina Equal Enjoyment, SC Lactation Act and Pregnancy Accommodation Act and Privileges to Public Accommodations Law. Additionally, the Commission is responsible for monitoring of South Carolina state government agency Affirmative Action Plans. The Commission also seeks to establish Community Relations Councils throughout the state to foster better effective community relations, goodwill and mutual understanding, and respect among all people of South Carolina.



SC Department of Health and Environmental Control reports they are working on guidance for returning to in-person learning in South Carolina. As it stands,, when South Carolina public schools open their doors to students and teachers in a matter of weeks there will be no mask or vaccination requirements. Please check the DHEC website for updates.

DHEC's website, COVID-19 vaccines are available and recommended for kids 12 and older. Children who have COVID-19, whether they become ill with symptoms or not, can easily spread the virus to other people in their home, at school, and in their community. COVID-19 vaccines help protect children ages 12 and older, and getting them vaccinated helps bring our entire state, and country, one step closer to returning to the way things were before the pandemic. Learn more at COVID-19 Vaccine for Kids 12 and Older. Or https://scdhec.gov/covid19/resources-community-covid-19/schools-childcare-centers-covid-19



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Current CRCs:

Columbia, Allendale, Anderson, Beaufort, Greenville, Greenwood, Lancaster, Lee, McCormick, Myrtle Beach, Rock Hill, Orangeburg



Columbia:

Come One, Come All to the 43rd Annual Jubilee: Festival of Black History & Culture from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18.

Jubilee is a celebration everyone can enjoy and features live music and entertainment, artist demonstrations, historic storytelling, reenactors and marketplace vendors selling a variety of wares, products and art. A children's area will be available with educational and family-friendly activities. In addition, there will be many vendors food aligned cultural selling with the representations found at the festival. For more information: https://www.historiccolumbia.org/events/2021/2021 -09/jubilee-festival-black-history-culture

Annual Event Calendar for <u>COMMUNITY RELATIONS</u> <u>COUNCILS</u>

January MLK Day/ Day of Service

February African American History

March Women's History/End Racism Day

> April Fair Housing

May Law Enforcement/ Community Relations

June Disaster Preparedness/ Emanuel 9 Remembrance Day, Peace & Reconciliation

July Employment Discrimination/ Economic Opportunity

> August Youth Project/ Back to School

September Hispanic Heritage/ Cultural Diversity

October Disability Employment Awareness

November American Indian Heritage/ Veterans' Appreciation

December Aging & Poverty Issues