



THE CRC NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCILS

*...to prevent and eliminate unlawful discrimination thereby promoting harmony and the betterment of human affairs for all people,
S.C. Code Ann. § 1-13-20*

SCHAC in the Community

On Thursday, September 8, 2022, Community Relations Consultant, Ayana Crawford, attended the City of Rock Hill's Community Relations Council's "Bridging the Gap: Community Solutions" event. This event was the CRC's first Community Town Hall where citizens could come and let their voices be heard. Additionally, the responses and feedback shared would determine what the CRC could do to help promote racial equity and justice in Rock Hill, SC. This was the first event of the CRC's Race Equality Month!

On Friday, September 9, 2022, the SCHAC Community Relations Division attended the Opening Reception for "Voices & Votes" traveling exhibit in Allendale, SC on the campus of USC Salkehatchie. *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America* is a traveling exhibit of the Smithsonian Institution to be on display at the Atrium on UofSC Salkehatchie's campus from September 8th through October 22nd, 2022.

Community Relations Consultant, Ayana Crawford, attended a Fairfax Community Forum at the Smartbox on Saturday, September 10, 2022. The purpose of this meeting was to learn the "Seven Habits of Success" and to create a vision statement. The group came up with the following mission statement: "A new, thriving town with an effective government that works with all its citizens who are unified with a new mindset to better the town of Fairfax." There were at least 30 people who attended including two town council members and the Chief of Fairfax Police. The group plans on meeting on the first Saturday of every month.



Top left: attendees at the Rock Hill CRC "Bridging the Gap" event. Top right: the exhibit for Allendale's "Voices and Votes". Bottom center: attendees gather at the Fairfax Community Forum

Barnwell County Law Enforcement Expo 2022

On Saturday, 9/10, 2022 CRD Consultants, Danielle Lindley and Ayana Crawford, attended Barnwell County's Second Annual Law Enforcement Expo in Barnwell, SC. Leading the expo were Barnwell County's Sheriff Griffith and Community Relations Officer, Lt. Kirkland.

The Law Enforcement Expo brings together Law Enforcement Agencies churches, school districts, civic groups, and other organizations from across the state to provide resources and support to the community. The SC Sheriff's Association, SLED, and Police

Departments not only from SC but neighboring states including Greenville, Richland, Aiken, Allendale, Fairfield, Barnwell, and Burke Counties were in attendance. SCHAC had the opportunity to interact with the various law enforcement agencies and began creating new connections while strengthening existing ones!



SCHAC Consultant, Danielle Lindley, speaking with community members at the Barnwell County Law Enforcement Expo

Marion County NAACP Banquet

On Saturday, September 17, 2022, Community Relations Consultant, Ayana Crawford, attended Marion County NAACP's, "33rd Freedom Fund - Woman of the Year", a banquet in Marion, SC at the ACR Resource Center. The theme of this event was "From Slavery to Leadership" with Keynote Speaker, Senator Kent Williams.

Over 200 people were in attendance, including Senator Kent, Representative Lucas Atkinson, Mayor Pro Tem of Mullins, Patricia Phillips, the former Mayor, and City Council member, M Christian Phillips, and Mistress of Ceremony & News Personality, Annette Peagler.



Attendees at the Marion County NAACP Banquet



From left to right: SCHAC Consultant, Ayana Crawford, and Tempestt Hough

Meltdown in Dixie: Newberry and Greenville

On Tuesday, September 20th, SCHAC CRD Consultant Danielle Lindley and Deputy Commissioner Dan Koon, went to Newberry, SC as the next stop in the *Meltdown in Dixie* series. The screening was held at the Newberry Opera House and Councilmember Carlton Kinard and Councilmember Jackie Holmes were on the panel. City of Newberry Mayor, Foster Senn, was in attendance as were members of the Newberry Opera House Board.

In Greenville, on Saturday, September 25th, SCHAC attended the *Meltdown in Dixie* screening and panel discussion at the Upcountry History Museum. The panel was moderated by Efia Nwangaza, a human rights attorney and the director of the Afrikan-American Institute for Policy Studies in Greenville, SC. The panel featured the filmmaker, Emily Harrold, and Dr. Sherry Kostman, a licensed clinical psychologist.

Panelists and audience members voiced their reactions to the film before exploring the ways that southern identity, pride, and confederate symbolism intertwine.

Meltdown in Dixie is directed by filmmaker Emily Harrold. The film explores the broader role of Confederate symbolism in the 21st century and the lingering racial oppression which symbols such as this help maintain.

Join us for the next screening!

The Center for Creative Partnerships is bringing *Meltdown in Dixie* to 15 counties in South Carolina. Thanks to SC Humanities and the Joanna Foundation, these screenings are free and open to the public!

October Screenings:

Oct 12th at 4 pm at Clemson University Humanities Hub
 Oct 15th at 1 pm at Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage
 Oct 18th at Jennie J. McMahan Library in Dorchester
 Oct 27th at 5:30 pm at The Avery Research Center at College of Charleston



From Left to Right: Filmmaker Emily Harrold, Dr. Sherry Kostman, and Efia Nwangaza

LISC: Local Initiatives Support Corporation

With residents and partners, LISC forges resilient and inclusive communities of opportunity across America – great places to live, work, visit, do business and raise families.

LISC's strategies include:

- Strengthening existing alliances while building new collaborations to increase their impact on the progress of people and places
- Developing leadership and the capacity of partners to advance their work together
- Equipping talent in underinvested communities with the skills and credentials to compete successfully for quality income and wealth opportunities
- Investing in businesses, housing, and other community infrastructure to catalyze economic, health, safety, and educational mobility for individuals and communities
- Driving local, regional, and national policy and system changes that foster broadly shared prosperity and well-being

LISC is a nationwide initiative with a local office right here in South Carolina! LISC Upstate SC is located in Spartanburg, SC under the leadership of Executive Director, Dawn Deck.

To learn more about LISC, please visit: <https://www.lisc.org/>

For the Upstate SC office, please visit: <https://www.lisc.org/upstate-south-carolina/our-mission/>



Fifth Annual Equity and Inclusion Summit

The 2022 Equity and Inclusion Summit is an extended discussion of diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion within The College of Arts and Sciences and the broader community. The EI Summit creates a space for those actively engaged in race equity and inclusion efforts across the Southeast to lean on and learn from each other. This mini-conference brings together academics and activists to marry theory and action. It creates a network spanning the Southeast of people working toward race equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

This year, EI is focused on spatial dignity, the practice of consciously creating environments of respect and inclusion. It values the needs and well-being of each person in all spaces and interactions, regardless of ability or social position. Summit participants will gain concrete tools to incorporate spatial dignity into their communities and develop new practices for the benefit of all.

Registration is FREE! If you would like to attend, please register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fifth-annual-equity-and-inclusion-summit-tickets-429941395287>

Opportunity to be Trained Mediators

Below is the schedule for Midlands Mediation Center's Introduction to Mediation. Registration is \$1000 per session and \$495 for volunteers; MMC provides hardship **scholarships** for individuals who would like to learn mediation skills to support their local community. If you know someone who would like to participate, please let us know!

To learn more about the Midlands Mediation Center, visit: <https://midlandsmmediation.org/>

Fall 2022S Mediation Training – October 22, 29, November 5, 12, 2022

- <https://2022itmfs.eventbrite.com>

Winter 2023 Mediation Training – January 9-12, 2023 – In person

- <https://2023itmfw.eventbrite.com>

Winter 2023S Mediation Training – January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 2023 – In person

- <https://2023itmws.eventbrite.com>

Spring 2023 Mediation Training – April 24 -27, 2023 - <https://2023itms.eventbrite.com>

Spring 2023S Mediation Training – April 15, 29, May 6, 13, 2023

- <https://2023itmss.eventbrite.com>



SC Department of Natural Resources offers some great free educational resources to all people of South Carolina.

Please visit, their website: <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/education/tr.html>

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

From the U.S. Department of Labor, *Office of Disability Employment Policy*:

"In recognition of the important role people with disabilities play in a diverse and inclusive American workforce, the theme for National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) 2022 will be 'Disability: Part of the Equity Equation.' Observed annually in October, NDEAM celebrates the contributions of America's workers with disabilities past and present and showcases supportive, inclusive employment policies and practices."

In South Carolina, the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, forbids discrimination when it comes to any aspect of employment, including hiring, firing, pay, job assignments, promotions, layoff, training, fringe benefits, and any other term or condition of employment.

The law requires an employer to provide reasonable accommodation to an employee or job applicant with a disability, unless doing so would cause significant difficulty or expense for the employer ("undue hardship").

This law also protects people from discrimination based on their relationship with a person with a disability (even if they do not themselves have a disability). For example, it is illegal to discriminate against an employee because his/her spouse has a disability.

The South Carolina Human Affairs Law protects against discrimination in employment based on disability. To learn more about SCHAC and disability discrimination, please visit our website at www.schac.sc.gov



SCHAC Community Relations Staff

Ayana Crawford, 803-737-0483, acrawford@schac.sc.gov: Lancaster, York, Chester, Cherokee, Union, Spartanburg, Laurens, Chesterfield, Marlboro, Dillon, Marion, Horry, Florence, Darlington, Lee, Barnwell, Bamberg, Allendale, Hampton, Jasper

Danielle Lindley, 803-737-2446, dlindley@schac.sc.gov: Beaufort, Aiken, Colleton, Kershaw, Calhoun, Richland, Lexington, Saluda, Newberry, Fairfield, Greenville, Pickens, Oconee, Anderson, Abbeville, Greenwood, McCormick, Edgefield

Robert Snipes, 803-737-7838, rsnipes@schac.sc.gov: Sumter, Clarendon, Williamsburg, Georgetown, Berkeley, Orangeburg, Dorchester, Charleston

Annual Event Calendar for CRC's

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/Pacific-Asian Month

June

Emanuel 9 Remembrance Day, Peace & Reconciliation/Disaster Preparedness

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

Age & Poverty Issues

Interested in hosting a community meeting in your area?

Please contact the Community Relations Department at 803-737-7800

Connect with us! Follow our social media pages for events and resources throughout the State!



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Monthly Newsletter Volume XI Issue 10 October 2022

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