



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*

IAOHRA Conference 2022

The International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) held its 2022 Conference in Los Angeles, California, on August 14-18, and focused on "Human Rights: A Unified Vision for Equity and Justice". Several members of SCHAC's Management Team and Board had the opportunity to attend and participate in sessions such as Re-Imagining Equity: Human Centric Housing Markets, Updates from HUD: Advancing Equity & Strengthening Enforcement, Employment Discrimination Legal Update, The Legacy of George Floyd: Sharing Responsibility for Community Safety, and more!

The mission of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is to provide opportunities and forums for the exchange of ideas and information among member agencies and other human rights advocates.

IAOHRA provides assistance in the development of programs for eliminating illegal discrimination in employment, housing, education, public accommodations, public services, and commercial transactions, including banking and lending practices.

IAOHRA works to develop educational programs on human rights and civil rights issues and serves as a clearinghouse for information exchange between human rights agencies around the world.



From Left to Right: Deputy Commissioner Marvin Caldwell, Commissioner Mary Amonitti, Commissioner Stephen Hall, General Counsel Caroline Scramton, and EEO Enforcement Director, LaTanya Whitmire

Unity in the Community

On Saturday, August 13, 2022, Community Relations Consultant, Ms. Ayana Crawford, participated in the City of Florence's Unity with the Community event from 11 am to 2 pm at Northwest Park.

"Unity with the Community is an initiative designed to engage the community and strengthen the relationship between the community and law enforcement." This event was hosted by the City of Florence's Police Department in partnership with Florence's Emergency Management Services and other local organizations. There was free food, tons of giveaways, and plenty of resources for parents and children.



National Night Out

National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. For more information, please visit: <https://natw.org/>

The Community Relations Division participated in National Nights Out events across the state including Richland County, Lancaster County, and Chesterfield County.

On August 2nd, SCHAC's Danielle Lindley and Robert Snipes participated in the National Night Out event at the New Jerusalem Interdenominational Church. The church is across the street from Gable Oaks Apartments in Columbia. The event was a huge success in support of our mission! SCHAC had multiple inquiries regarding housing discrimination and how to start the process of filing a complaint.

Community Relations Consultant, Ayana Crawford, attended the National Night Out event with Lancaster County's Community Relations Council. Ms. Crawford also had the pleasure of attending Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office's National Night Out on Tuesday, August 30th, at McBee Recreation Complex. There was free food, emergency vehicles, law enforcement personnel, music, and awesome giveaways. Ms. Crawford connected with other local organizations such as Care-South Carolina, the Alpha Center, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Pee Dee Coalition, and many more!



SCHAC CRD, Danielle Lindley, speaks with community members at New Jerusalem Interdenominational Church.



SCHAC CRD, Ayana Crawford, with Lancaster County's Community Relations Council.

Aiken County: Voices and Votes!

On August 18th, 2022, CRD Consultant Danielle Lindley attended the Aiken County *Voices and Votes: Civil Rights Symposium: Voting Matters*, held at the UofSC – Aiken's Etheridge Center. This event featured a panel of advocates and leaders that discussed the history, and present enforcement of voter suppression and disenfranchisement tactics and policies in South Carolina and in Aiken County.

Panelists included: Leon Russell, National Board Chairman of NAACP, Eugene White, President, Aiken County Branch of NAACP, Lynn Shuler Teague, Vice President for Issues and Action, League of Women Voters – South Carolina. The moderator was Stephanie Franklin, chairperson of the USC Aiken's Inclusion Advisory Council and MLK Jr. Community Committee.



From Left to Right: Moderator Stephanie Franklin, panelists Leon Russell, Lynn Shuler Teague, and Eugene White

***Justice for All* Opening Reception**

On August 27th, CRD Consultant, Danielle Lindley, attended the *Justice for All* opening reception at the Orangeburg County Library in Orangeburg, SC. Speakers included the Director of the Orangeburg County Library, Anna T. Zacherl, Dr. Bobby Donaldson with the Center for Civil Rights History and Research, and former Orangeburg County Council Chairman, John Rickenbacker.

The *Justice for All: South Carolina and the American Civil Rights Movement* is a traveling exhibit created by the UofSC's Center for Civil Rights History & Research and sponsored by the South Carolina Humanities and the Williams Company. The exhibit tells the story of South Carolina's fundamental role in the national Civil Rights Movement.

This exhibit will be on display from Saturday, August 27, 2022, until November 29th, 2022. The exhibit will be accessible to all during Orangeburg County Main Library hours.



SPOTLIGHT: Echo Project

From 1996 to 2012, the historic Echo Theater in downtown Laurens, South Carolina was the site of "The Redneck Shop", a KKK and neo-Nazi storefront and museum that also served as a hub for other extremist groups. Now, after decades of effort and community activism, the Echo Theater is no longer a place of "destruction" but "construction". Founded in late 2019, The Echo Project was created to envision and realize the long-held dream by members of the community to transform the Echo Theater into a place open to ALL.

Over the last year, The Echo Project has assembled a multi-disciplined team of world-class educators, civil rights leaders, historians, and architects who, after many months of work, have created a design true to the goal of the organization: to create an experience that connects the narrative of the Echo Theater to the struggle for social justice and civil rights in American history. This phase of the process is now complete. Now under development, the new "Visitor Journey" for the Echo Theater, which will emphasize an 'interactive and transformative experience' for guests that not only teaches and confronts the past, but also instills the importance of standing for positive change. As guests enter, the exhibits inside The Echo Theater will guide them along a transformative path, filled with colorful expressions of courage, moving from dark to light — illuminating the power of standing against hatred with tales of courage in the face of discrimination. At the culmination of the exhibition, visitors will be encouraged to not only see themselves in the stories but to contribute as they reflect on their path of resistance and growth.

Jubilee: Festival of Black History and Culture

Join Historic Columbia at **Jubilee: Festival of Black History & Culture** from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17. Now in its 44th year, this **free** outdoor festival brings musicians, artisans, dancers, and storytellers together to celebrate South Carolina's Black history and culture on the grounds of the *Mann-Simons Site*.

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 ware, products, and art. A children's area will be available with educational and family-friendly activities.



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/>

Summer 2022S Mediation Training – September 10, 17, 24, and October 01 – In-person -

<https://2022itmss.eventbrite.com>

Fall 2022 Mediation Training – October 10-13, 2022 - <https://2022itmf.eventbrite.com>

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://2023itmws.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>



Training Active Bystanders
creating safe, inclusive communities

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>

Training Active Bystanders, September 17 @ 9:30 am to 12 pm

Register: <https://www.trainingactivebystanders.org/event/training-active-bystanders-5/>

Hispanic Heritage Month and Cultural Diversity!

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, with the approval of Public Law 100-402.

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30-day period.



Hispanic Heritage Month: Greenville Library

Each year, the Greenville County Library System celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with special offerings including art exhibits, virtual activities, coloring sheets for children, and more.

For more information: <https://www.greenvillelibrary.org/hispanic-heritage-month>

The South Carolina Human Affairs Commission



WE'RE HIRING

AGENCY HEAD

- Responsible for an efficient and effective agency capable of enforcing the SC Human Affairs Law; the SC Fair Housing Law; Equal Enjoyment and Privileges to Public Accommodations Act; the Pregnancy Discrimination Act; and the Lactation Support Act.
- Directs leadership team responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations and programs.
- Represents the agency and State before legislative and congressional hearings, panels, and other organizations.

For full description of responsibilities, visit the site listed below!

Salary Dependent on Qualifications & includes State Benefits Package!

For more information, and to apply, please visit:
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sc>
 Search: State Human Affairs Commission

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!



Our mailing address is:

info@schac.sc.gov

South Carolina Human Affairs Commission, 1026 Sumter Street, Suite 101, Columbia, SC 29201

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Send free email today

