

GCCRC: Community Dialogue on the Racial Equity Index



Richland and Lexington Counties and City of Columbia HOW ARE WE DOING ON RACE EQUITY? Race and place largely determine whether people have the opportunity to thrive (\$) Income / Wealth / Poverty Employment Per capita, household, and family Greater proportions of Blacks are in Whites have higher Whites are more likely to vote income is significantly higher for White residents proportions of Whites are working Homeless persons are headed by a married couple Children and adults in poverty are Wages are higher for Whites and disproportionately Black disproportionately Black Single parent families are more Richland County is the fourth most Richland and Lexington Counties racially segregated and Lexington are among the worst in the nation County is the 14th most segregated for helping poor children up the SC county ভূঁ্ৰ + **Criminal Justice** Health disciplinary action across school health insurance primarily low-income and minority math and reading outcomes areas White students have greater Blacks are more likely to be jailed lower life expectancy Both counties are vulnerable to and to serve longer sentences natural and man-made disasters, access to computers and the Blacks have higher cancer especially for low-income and Internet Black residents have lower are strong predictors of interaction Black and Hispanic children bear with the criminal justice system as high for Black babies

> By 2050, half of Columbia area residents will be People of Color Findings from Racial Equity Index published June 2021

Event: On Wednesday, January 18th, SCHAC attended a presentation and discussion on the findings of the Racial Equity Index. Richland Library, in partnership with the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council (GCCRC), City of Columbia, Richland County, and Lexington County hosted an open forum to allow panelists and audience members an opportunity to explore the analysis of well-being, through a race equity lens, for residents of Richland and Lexington Counties and the City of Columbia. Panelists for the event were the Honorable Gretchen Barron and Dr. Kathleen Brady.

The resulting Racial Equity Index, released in June 2021, reports findings that promote greater awareness and understanding of the depth and breadth of the differences between the White and Black experience in these areas of South Carolina.

More Information:

Race Equity Index Summary: <u>https://www.greatercolacrc.org/wp-</u> content/uploads/2023/01/REI-summary-.pdf

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