

THE CRC NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCILS

Promoting harmony & respect among a diverse citizenry of our state



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

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New Community Relations Initiative Ready for Rollout

A new initiative is taking place within the Community Relations component at SCHAC. Over the last few months, we have worked with Professor Graeme Coetzer and other consultants at the College of Charleston to explore the process of conducting a review, revision and update of the CRC system. Dr. Coetzer is an award winning expert in the areas of Human Resources, Organizational and Community Development. The reason for this exploration is that we recognized the concepts, practices and resources used within the community development field have rapidly evolved over the last few decades and there are a variety of best practices and resources that may help further develop the Community Relations enhancement system in SC.

We decided to focus on the following 6 stages of the project:

- ◆ Review, revise and update the goals and general operating model for the community enhancement system;
- ◆ Review, revise and update the key components of the system and associated support resources; including how we enter a county, how we establish a Council and the Council operating process;
- ◆ Rewrite and update the old manual with new content, procedures and produce versions in print and web-based;
- ◆ Develop face-to-face and online training that helps the various participants and stakeholders understand the process and provide a training system that helps managers, facilitators and participants develop skills in the areas of events management, issues management, grievance management and group relations management;
- ◆ Pilot the implementation of an updated system within a targeted county;
- ◆ Support the process of introducing the updated community enhancement system to other counties.

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Current CRCs:

Columbia, Lexington, Allendale, Hampton, Beaufort, Jasper, Berkeley, Myrtle Beach, Georgetown, Lancaster, Rock Hill, Greenwood, Greenville, Anderson, Laurens, McCormick

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This process has already allowed us to have an event in June at the Riley Stadium in Charleston with Dennys, the Riverdogs baseball team and others as partners. We are also working to re-establish SCHACRA (SC Human and Community Relations Association) and have an annual conference each year in the Myrtle Beach area. We are pleased and excited to welcome Aiken County as our newest Council with training to begin in August. We will be announcing new stakeholders and emerging partnerships shortly which will help us identify and bring current best practices and new ideas to this process. For further information on Community Relations events and updates, please contact Sandra Ligon at sandra@schac.sc.gov.



RACE: Are We So Different?

Location: South Carolina State Museum
301 Gervais Street, Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: 803-898-4921
Website: <http://scmuseum.org/race/>

The exhibition is intended to inform and shape the local, regional and national dialogue about race. This powerful exhibit will help visitors of all ages examine the biology, history and life experience of race in the United States. For more information visit the South Carolina State Museum website. Explore a cultural and scientific look at race throughout history and the reasons we should celebrate our differences.

Join us! August 7th at 3:00pm for a panel discussion that we hope will spur positive dialogue.
\$1 admission

Annual Event Calendar for COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCILS

January

MLK/Interfaith Awareness

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, 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