

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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The SC Human Affairs Commission is a state agency dedicated to providing and promoting diversity, equal and fair rights for all citizens in regards to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, or disability across the state of South Carolina in employment, housing, and public accommodation. The legendary, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a phenomenal leader during the civil rights movement who will be remembered for a lifetime. Dr. King's powerful speeches touched lives of millions during such a time where segregation and inequality were part of the daily life. Dr. King's birthday was January 15, 1929. "Representative John Conyers introduced the first motion to make Dr. King's birthday a federal holiday in 1968, just four days after his assassination in Memphis. Officially, Dr. King's birthday was approved as a federal holiday in 1983" (National Constitution Center, 2015).



The holiday is normally recognized every third Monday of January annually. This year, the observance of Dr. King's birthday coincidentally fell on the actual day. Many community groups and organizations, including a few of SCHAC's Community Relations Councils host events in honor of Dr. King. SCHAC would like to share a few events which some of our active CRCs hosted.

***Anderson County Human Relations Council** sponsored a county event hosted by The Ministers Organization for UNCF in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

***Berkeley County CRC** participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr., Parade held in Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

***City of Rock Hill CRC** hosted the 15th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Interfaith Prayer Breakfast on Monday, January 15, 2018 from 7:30am-9:00am at First Baptist Church. The council invited guest speaker, Dr. Derrick Aldridge, a native of Rock Hill and professor in the Curry School at the University of Virginia.

***McCormick County CRC** participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr., two mile march from the Little Mill Baptist Church to the Mims Center in Willington.

***The Greater Columbia Community Relations Council** held its monthly "Hot Topics" session at its January luncheon club meeting. The topic was entitled "The Effectiveness of Boycotts". The Greater Columbia CRC welcomes interested individuals who would like to discuss community related issues.

The SC Human Affairs Commission would like to thank all of our active Community Relations Councils and each of their efforts in promoting a more diverse, positive community within their geographic area in the state of South Carolina. The agency wants to also remind citizens of South Carolina to report any concerns of unlawful discrimination to our office. Please visit our website at www.schac.sc.gov for more information.



Promoting harmony & respect among a diverse citizenry of our state Community Relations Councils

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Current CRCs:

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

Religious and Cultural Sensitivity Tips

Demonstrating appropriate sensitivity for cultures different from our own is arguably the topic which creates the most anxiety in those new to interfaith dialog. In the past, we have simply avoided discussions which might bring up uncomfortable differences, hoping to prevent possible misunderstandings. And yet, it is these very discussions which build our new friendships as well as community-wide networks of engagement.

*Always approach others with caring and respect. Even a misstep may be forgiven when you show a sincere respect for others.

*Take time to learn about the religion and culture of others. They will appreciate your effort.

*Don't be afraid to ask. Most of us love to share with others about the things most important in our lives and are pleased when someone else shows an interest.

*Be an active listener. This bears repeating – listen, listen, listen to those you wish to better understand.

from: <http://interfaithpartnersofsc.org>



Georgetown Community Relations Council Chair Rhonda Green and council member Thomas Alford in the MLK Parade January 2018.

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