

Second Annual End Child Hunger SC Week

End Child Hunger SC recently celebrated the second annual End Child Hunger SC week on October 22nd through October 29th. The week was proclaimed in six locations double the number from the previous year. The following areas celebrated the week: City of Columbia, City of Newberry, Town of Hilton Head, Town of Irmo, Lexington County, and Richland County. The purpose of this week is to raise awareness about the issue of child hunger and provide the community opportunities to actively fight child hunger.

Multiple events were held through the six locations that participated. Events included a We Can Do It storytime hosted by Richland County Public Library, a family literacy and healthy cooking class by Newberry County Literacy Council, grocery store tour and healthy cooking class hosted by Whole Foods Market, Foodshare produce box distribution by the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and a farm to school event at Windsor Elementary School. The two featured events during the week were the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Program tour and a photovoice exhibit organized by parents.

The CACFP Tour highlighted enrichment and meals served in various afterschool programs around the state. Sardis Baptist Church, W.A. Perry Middle School, Seven Oaks Elementary School, and Boys and Girls Club of Hilton Head Island. Featured guest along the tour included representatives from Select Health, City of Columbia Police Officers, Superintendent of Richland School District One, Superintendent of Lexington School District Four, and representatives from the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Services Southeast Regional Office out of Atlanta, Georgia.

Twenty three pictures were taken by parents in the Midlands to showcase the struggle they face securing food for their family and resources that support them in that endeavor. The photovoice exhibit was held at Richland County Library Main. End Child Hunger SC intends to continue to show these photos at other locations to share the visual stories of families that participated in the exhibit.