

RICHARD'S REPORT

A grantee spotlight of COASTAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

About RR

A periodic review of programs and organizations worthy of charitable support. Most groups listed have received grants from Coastal Community Foundation (CCF), and their performance has been evaluated by CCF program staff. Groups are profiled by suggestion from donors and staff, purely for informational purposes.

Numbers...

Donor-Advised Funds
FY-to-date.....144

Donor-Advised Grants
FY-to-date...\$2,428,064

Inside RR

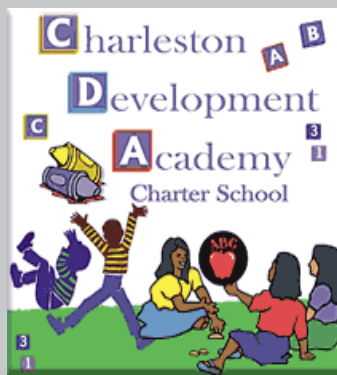
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Firework of the Arts

The only small thing about **Piccolo Spoleto** is the price of a ticket! “The festival within a festival,” Piccolo enhances the Spoleto experience through outdoor activities and free community events, involving the visual arts, music, and dance, giving locals of all income levels the chance to be part of this world-renowned event. You can sponsor *Community Outreach Programs, Reggae Block Party, Salsa on the Market, the Children’s Festival* and many more events. Both modest and major donations help the whole community to enjoy the inspiration and the thrill of excellent arts offerings.



Don't try this at home! But GO see the Charleston Ballet Theatre do it to perfection during their Piccolo "Brown Bag" midday dance series.



When a school is doing so many things right – especially for kids K-4th - it's easy to say "yes."

Diamonds in the rough

In the middle of hundreds of low-wealth homes located in Gadsden Green (between The Citadel and Spring Street’s fast food places) sits a jewel – **Charleston Development Academy**, a Charter School for children in grades K-4, begun in August 2003. Our staff has visited several times and were more impressed with each visit – by the polite children, the small classes, the caring capable adults, and the stimulation (artistic, intellectual and social) that infuses every aspect of the place. Money is needed “to expand our learning environment beyond the classroom for students who need, deserve and want that”. If you don’t already give money to support at least one school in the community, please consider this one. Call us and we’ll be happy to send you more information about it! www.charlestondevelopmentacademy.org.

E d u c a t i o n

Best-kept secret in elementary education?



With your help, the curtain will soon rise on Charleston Catholic Schools' renovation and new performance space.

Charleston Catholic School is a premier parochial school with a fully integrated, rigorous curriculum and strong foundation in the fine arts. But parts of the physical plant, built in 1940, are antiquated and a **Capital Campaign** has been kicked off with an anonymous gift of \$1 million to bring Charleston Catholic's buildings into the 21st century. To succeed, matching gifts are needed. Part of the plan is to build a drama classroom and stage to accommodate more visiting performers and an expanded Artist-in-Residence program. "We are committed to bring the arts to a diverse population with varying levels of cultural exposure and experience," said Principal **Yvonne Orr**. We're all for strengthening public schools, but CCS is an unbelievably attractive alternative to pricier private schools.

E n v i r o n m e n t



Photo: Grace Beahm/Post and Courier
A seventh-grader from the Charleston County School of the Arts explains the lighting and energy project she worked on with classmates at the Lowcountry Earth Force Youth Summit.

We must *become* the change we want to see in the world!
(M. Gandhi)

Lowcountry Earth Force follows this advice by *empowering* youth to be effective environmental problem-solvers in their communities. Students identify an environmental issue, address it through research with test kits and data entry available to them through the national organization, as well as guidance from educators, trained by Earth Force, and undertake a long-term solution.

Annually more than 750 young people in Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton and Dorchester Counties participate in Earth Force programs.

**Head start,
for parents**

There's a wonderful program in our community that has provided educational and emotional support to local parents for almost 13 years. It's called **PACT (Parents & Children Together)** and it's one of the best educational programs in the area addressing the needs of *both parents and children*. PACT gives both reassurance and parenting skills to people who are very serious about being their child's first and best teacher. At 14 different locations, PACT's programs are based on proven successes of a national model, and they serve 400 parents and children each year. Registration fees are kept low, and 25% of participating families receive full scholarship, which is what donations to PACT can help support.

A job well-done (with dogged determination)

It was a victorious day for residents and activists who succeeded in protecting giant oaks and historic plantations of national significance in the **Ashley River Plantation District**. An unusually diverse coalition of conservationists, developers, private landowners and various public and private funders are purchasing a \$10 million easement to protect about 3,000 acres of the controversial Poplar Grove development, reducing the number of homes to be built from 3,500 to 450. All the players – and there have been many, from all sectors – deserve a huge amount of credit for staying the course to victory.

And the children shall lead them

Berkeley County Kids Who Care About Our Environment work with K-5th grade students to raise the environmental ethic and enhance the teaching of science by working with students when they are most receptive. Through programs like an environmental project competition and environmental field day at Old Santee Canal Park in Moncks Corner, young children in Berkeley County are imbued with a sense of environmental responsibility that they take back to their homes and communities. Approximately 3,500 students and teachers participate in the projects each year, on a shoestring budget. Small donations can make a big difference.

Human Needs

Habitat to “score a score” of homes



*Try on the smile that comes from laying a foundation with kids from **Habitat** and its soul-sister – **Vista's AmeriCore**.*

Charleston Habitat for Humanity is planning a modern-day barn-raising – a marathon one-week “Builders’ Blitz” in which 20 houses will be built in a week by 20 contractors and loads of volunteers during the week of June 6th 2006. All of the new homeowners will be hard-working, low-income families from Charleston or North Charleston. The City of North Charleston is giving the property, but \$100K has to be raised to lay the twenty foundations. “We must build the foundations of hope and home,” said Marika Kary, Executive Director. If you’re willing to help these families get into decent homes, Habitat still needs finish-line donations to help with the \$5,000 price tag to lay each of 20 foundations.

Wheels of Faith

This is such a good idea that we “lifted” it wholesale from the church bulletin of St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church. For many low-income individuals, finding transportation to and from medical appointments



*No matter what you drive, you can give a lift to **Wheels of Faith**.*

is difficult, because CARTA’s service has been so drastically curtailed. So, a coalition of community leaders, organizations and faith groups has formed a program called “**Wheels of FAITH**” (operating under the non-profit auspices of Palmetto Project) to provide volunteer-based transportation to appointments in the tri-county area. To volunteer as a driver, to help coordinate, or to get more information, contact Lynn Chiappone at 886-4635 or Sally Rosenlieb at 534-0036 or rosenlis@musc.edu. Donations will help provide insurance coverage and promotional literature; the rest is all volunteer-driven.

Neighborhood & Community Development

Sunrise, sunset

The elderly parents of special needs adults worry all the time about what will happen to their children when they're gone. To help, **Healing Farms Ministry** is trying to acquire a parcel of rural land as a permanent site for a "community" where mentally challenged people can live and enjoy compassionate care. Since Mary Tutterow first told us about it three years ago, an interested donor has appeared who may purchase a large, beautiful parcel of rural land – complete with house, guest cottages, and a pond. If all goes well, Healing Farms will need money for maintenance and operations. If not, this group still deserves financial support for the convenings and mutual support it provides for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Conservation and ecology "brought home"

In 1999, **The Sustainability Institute** started educating South Carolinians about how to better utilize and protect resources – both natural and man-made (i.e., the houses we live in) – through practical lessons to change how we live. Residents of 14 Charleston and Berkeley County neighborhoods participated in seven workshops to make healthier choices in their homes regarding energy conservation, sustainable renovations, and the use of organic gardens and landscapes. This year, the Institute hopes to reach six more low-to-moderate income neighborhoods with new workshops on improving indoor air quality, reducing moisture, creating a hazard-resistant structure, and safely reducing and eliminating use of hazardous materials. They need \$5,000 to accomplish this goal toward realizing a more sustainable South Carolina.

Widening the community embrace

If you are Jewish and live Downtown, West of the Ashley or on James Island, you are probably already well connected with the local Jewish community, and you know exactly where to go and whom to call when you need help. You probably also know that the **Jewish Community Center** has been the focal point of Jewish life for 60 years, providing all kinds of enriching and necessary programs such as the Special Needs Camp for children and Senior Transportation for 65-75 year-olds. But did you know that the Jewish population living east of the Cooper now constitutes 20% of the total Jewish population in the Charleston area? Many have limited Jewish affiliation. Won't you help JCC get their word out? Effective outreach costs a little but the results are great.

What to do now

If you want to learn more, contact program staff by phone, fax or e-mail, and you can:

- Receive more information about these charitable programs or others;
- Recommend a grant for one of these charitable programs or others (Donor Advisor Form for grant recommendations is available on our website);
- Visit one of these charitable groups or others with a CCF staff member.

CCF's professional program staff is led by **Richard Hendry** and **Jennie Stephens**. Please contact us with any questions:

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