

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

Volume I, Issue 10 * November 2016

Building Better Relationships

The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing offers several recommendations for building better relationships between law enforcement officers and the community that they serve, including:

- ♦ initiating positive nonenforcement activities to engage communities
- ♦ embracing a guardian mindset
- ♦ working with community members to produce meaningful public safety results

The Columbia, South Carolina, Police Department's Beyond the Badge program is an excellent example of many of those recommendations at work. The Beyond the Badge program is an effort to help new Columbia police officers connect and create meaningful relationships with the community that they will serve. The program was developed and implemented earlier this year by Deputy Chief Melron Kelly. This program is an opportunity for recent training academy graduates to help those in need in the Columbia community. Before kicking off their law enforcement careers, the officers spend a week serving food, assisting at a food bank, reading to students, preparing food for the homeless, playing BINGO with the elderly, and mentoring children. The Department collaborates with several different service locations in the area to set up the opportunities.

The Beyond the Badge program gives each officer exposure to the hands-on service and outreach approach that the Department takes to community policing. Officers gain an appreciation and an understanding of the various community services and resources available. Through this opportunity, officers can better determine which program or service location can best assist citizens with their respective needs. Officers also learn that there is much more than law enforcement involved in the job, including public service, compassion, and goodwill.

The community, especially the community involved with the service locations, have had a very positive response to the program. Each of the individuals involved with the program come away with a different, positive outlook on community policing. The community members enjoy getting to know the officers in a nonenforcement setting.

Thirty-seven officers have gone through the community service week since it began, and the Department hopes to continue the program for every graduating officer from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy headed to the Columbia Police Department. Beyond the Badge has been well received by the officers, the community, and the media. The Department will continue its great community service work by expanding the service locations that are included in the program.

credit: © The International Association of Chiefs of Police and the IACP Blog, 2011, <https://theiacpblog.org/2016/09/16>



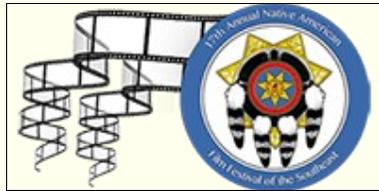
Promoting harmony & respect among a diverse citizenry of our state
Community Relations Councils

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Current CRCs:

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

19th Annual Native American Indian Film & Video Festival of the Southeast



Five days of films and video by and about Native Americans & international indigenous Peoples sponsored by the Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois & United Tribes of South Carolina, Inc. **Dates:**

This community-based event aims to present the richness and variety of indigenous cinematic expressions. Primarily the festival is a time to educate folks about contemporary Native American talent and issues, Native theme documentaries and to discuss film and the power it has to tell Native Stories by Native people and to entertain.

For more information contact:



Veterans Day Parade

November 11, 2016 at 11am
Main Street - Columbia, SC

Columbia's Veterans Day Parade honors all veterans with a procession of high school marching bands, floats, military vehicles and equipment, military marching installations and a fly-over. The parade begins at the intersection of Sumter and Laurel Streets. Visit the city of Columbia's website for more details at www.columbiasc.net



Sandra's Info Here

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