

# HEALTHY INSIGHTS

from HEALTHY LEARNERS



## Making a Difference

### CHILD IN FOSTER CARE GETS MUCH-NEEDED MEDICAL AND VISION HELP



**Christopher\*** was a normal 15-year-old teenage boy, except for the past that he was trying to escape. He had been physically and emotionally abused by his parents, so he was placed in a foster home in the Dillon, South Carolina area. He needed treatment for medical and vision issues, but had no medical history, only what he could share from memory with his foster mother and school nurse. His school contacted Healthy Learners Dillon to assist Christopher's foster mother, Nancy, in getting him the treatment he needed. He was diagnosed with

*\*His name has been changed.*

depression, anxiety, withdrawal and attention deficit disorder, as well as vision needs.

Healthy Learners connected Christopher with a primary care physician and an optometrist, helping coordinate his appointments and transporting him to those appointments. The physician prescribed him medication and he received a new pair of glasses from the optometrist. Because Christopher's foster mother worked at home as a beautician, she often could not leave to take him to appointments. Healthy Learners helped Christopher throughout the school year with transportation and medication.

Christopher expressed thanks for being able to properly see again and for feeling much better once he was back on his medicine. Nancy said Christopher liked going to his appointments and the people who picked him up.

"I had no other option to get Christopher the immediate help he needed. I'm not sure if there are other programs like Healthy Learners, all I know is they helped me and Christopher when help was most needed," said Nancy. "He felt better. He was happy and he was helped in school with his new glasses." ♦



### Support Children Like Christopher

Your financial support helps remove children's health barriers to learning to ensure healthy children, better students and thriving communities. Donate online at [healthylearners.com](http://healthylearners.com) or call 803.454.0350 to donate by phone. **Healthy Children. Better Students. Thriving Communities. THANK YOU!**

# By the Numbers Report Card 2015-2016

 **4,950**

The number of vision, dental, medication and other health-related services provided to

 **1,567** children.

**9,230** service hours provided by the five regional programs.

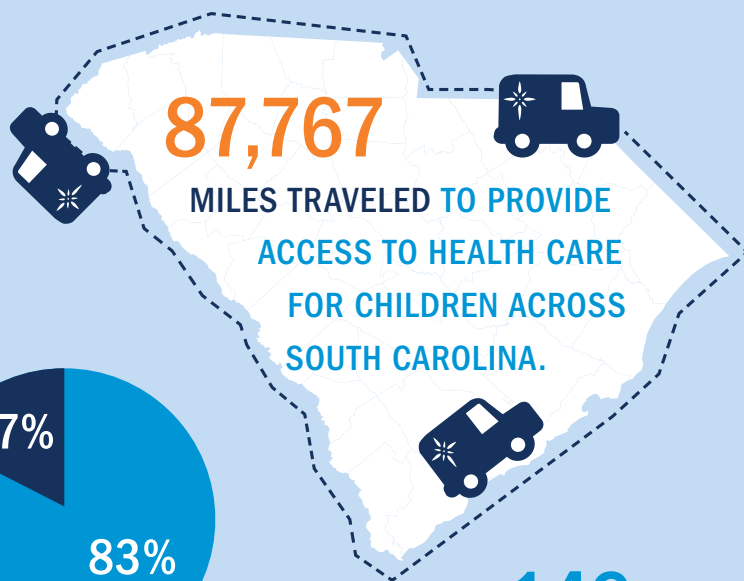
Healthy Learners **RETURNS**

**\$3.22** FOR EVERY **\$1**

**INVESTED** PER CHILD.

THAT EQUATES TO A TOTAL POTENTIAL SAVINGS OF MORE THAN **\$3.1** MILLION.

*\*Savings is estimated from changes in emergency room utilization*



**149** schools served statewide at **11** school districts in **5** program areas.



**Low Administrative Costs**

**83% Program** 17% Administrative

**Actual Program Costs**

**\$953,963\***

*\*2015-2016 school year (less in-kind services)*



## Partner Profile BARNWELL FAMILY MEDICINE

**Abe Moskow, M.D.**, and his partners at Low Country Health Care System – Barnwell Family Medicine, have treated thousands of Healthy Learners students over the years, seeing an average of 10 children each week through their partnership with Healthy Learners Allendale.

They provide a full spectrum of health care, with Dr. Moskow focusing on the developmental, behavioral and mental health needs of children. Dr. Moskow and his partners became involved with Healthy Learners because they believe that health and mental wellness play a significant role in children's studies, lives and their futures.

*"When I think about Healthy Learners, I don't tend to think of the service in terms of individuals but in the overall impact it has on a generation of children. If we positively benefit one or more children, we not only help the individual, but potentially affect future generations." – Dr. Moskow*

Dr. Moskow said he is proud to partner with Healthy Learners because he likes working with the children and connecting them to care that they may otherwise not receive.

"A lot of parents and caretakers work out of town or have transportation issues that impede access to care," said Dr. Moskow. "I often receive positive feedback and appreciation from parents who participate in the program." ♦

*"Without Healthy Learners, many children would not get the care they need." – School Nurse*



### Allendale Employee Honored as a Woman of Valor

**Gwen Walker**, Healthy Learners Allendale student services coordinator, was

the inaugural recipient of the My Sister's Keeper Ministry of Restoration's Phoebe Award. The Phoebe Award honored Walker as being the essence of a 21st Century woman who demonstrates professional and community leadership. Walker also received the President's Lifetime Achievement Award, the highest volunteer service award given by the president of the United States. The award is given to individuals in recognition of their lifelong commitment to building a stronger nation through volunteer services.



## Collaborative Partnerships

Collaboration is one of the Core Values of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine and Healthy Learners. National, statewide, regional and local collaborative partnerships with individuals, organizations and groups support the common goal of providing access to quality health care for children who are in need and without resources in South Carolina.

To see a complete list of health care, community and business partners, visit [healthylearners.com](http://healthylearners.com) and click on "Collaborative Partnerships" at the top of the website.

*"Thank you for all your help. I don't know what I would do without you (HL). You are truly a lifesaver." – Parent*

# Healthy Learners Program Updates

Five Healthy Learners programs serve 149 schools in 11 school districts across South Carolina. Following are brief updates from these programs.

**ALLENDALE** Program Manager Shelley Thomas and Student Services Coordinator Gwen Walker began the new school year with excitement, anticipating the program's 11th year of helping to make a difference in the lives of the students they serve. Last school year, the primary referring need was for vision care with episodic and medication needs following. To meet these needs, Healthy Learners Allendale continues to seek new providers and partnerships.

**DILLON** Healthy Learners Dillon partnered with Dillon Family Medicine and the BlueChoice HealthPlan to take students for well check visits. Because many of the practice's patients are not meeting Medicaid requirements for annual well check visits, Medicaid (including BlueChoice) has been penalizing the practice, which has eight providers. By getting students to well check visits, Dillon Family Medicine can meet its goals with BlueChoice while also working to increase the number of students served by Healthy Learners Dillon.

**GEORGETOWN** Healthy Learners Georgetown participated in two back-to-school events in August, sharing information about the program and increasing awareness in the community about the services it offers. One event was a health and wellness fair with the St. James-Santee Family Health Center in Georgetown and the other was with Georgetown County and the Sadie Grice Funny Scholarship Foundation, who offered free backpacks and school supplies, as well as health screenings for local families. Pictured are the free backpacks and school supplies being distributed. In other news, Georgetown Student Services Coordinator Merlethia Greene is expanding her leadership skills through a five-month leadership development program at The Carolina Academy, which is part of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina.

**GREENWOOD** The program continues to expand with the addition of Greenwood School District 52 and its more than 1,600 students in four schools, which range from elementary through high school. A principal in the school district contacted Healthy Learners earlier this year to ask about the availability of its services for her school district. That led to discussions between the district and Healthy Learners, with the Healthy Learners Board of Trustees approving the expansion. Prior to the school year start, nurses received orientation to the program model and services. Healthy Learners Greenwood now serves all three school districts in Greenwood.

**MIDLANDS** Cindy Poole, director of programs and assistant executive director of Healthy Learners, retired in June after 19 years. She was with the program when it was known as Health Reach. At her retirement,



Poole & Chewning

Dee Dee Chewning (former Healthy Learners executive director) presented Poole with the Dee Dee Chewning Healing Award for exemplifying the mission and ministry of

the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine and Healthy Learners. The board and staff of Healthy Learners collectively say it has been a privilege to work with Cindy and she has been an invaluable asset to the mission and ministry of the program.



Georgetown County families and students received free backpacks, school supplies and health screenings.



# NEWS BRIEFS AND NOTES

## Nashville Comes to Georgetown with Annual Songwriters in the Round Benefit

The 2016 Nashville Songwriters in the Round fundraiser benefiting Healthy Learners Georgetown grossed more than \$51,000 with a record 28 sponsorships and more than 200 people attending. The annual event, held each spring, featured award-winning Nashville songwriters who shared their songs and the stories behind them, in the spirit of Nashville and the famous Bluebird Café. A special thank you to Rebecca and Phillip Lammonds, who donated all proceeds from the event to the Georgetown program.

HEALTHY LEARNERS

## Champions for Children Golf Tournament

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE YOUNGINER

**Champions for Children Golf Tournament Tees off October 19**

The 17th Annual Healthy Learners Champions for Children Golf Tournament in Memory of George Younginer is October 19 at the Fort Jackson Golf Club in Columbia, South Carolina. Come out for a day of golf, food, entertainment, contests and prizes while raising much-needed funds to support the mission of Healthy Learners. Thank you to Colonial Life for being the event's premier exclusive sponsor for the fourth

consecutive year, and to event co-chairs, Monte Lee, Clemson University Baseball head coach, and Matt Younginer, national account manager, Husqvarna and member of the Healthy Learners Board of Trustees Fund Development Committee.

## Greenwood Adults Spell for Charity

Adults from Greenwood displayed their spelling skills, or lack thereof, at the second annual Greenwood Friends of Healthy Learners Spelling Bee September 27 at Emerald High School. The event raised more than \$25,000 for the Healthy Learners Greenwood program. Forty-nine teams competed, with Ware Shoals School District 51 taking home first place. This year's event was named in memoriam of George Nolan, a former Friend of Healthy Learners and co-chair of the event who passed away in March. The "prodigious" event was emceed by state Sen. Floyd Nicholson.

## Online Lowcountry Giving Day Raises \$21,670

Healthy Learners Georgetown raised \$21,670 by participating in the Coastal Community Foundation of South Carolina's Lowcountry Giving Day in May. The day is a 24-hour crowd funding event designed to encourage the use of online technology for nonprofits to stimulate donor engagement and increase donor reach. By meeting certain milestones during the event, Healthy Learners received matching gift challenges from the Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation for \$7,500 and the Tamsburg Family Foundation for \$3,000. "These funds will be used to support the programs and access to health care we provide in Georgetown County," said Jo Pauling-Jones, executive director, Healthy Learners. "All the money raised in Georgetown stays in Georgetown."

**MISSION ::** In the spirit of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, Healthy Learners is devoted to removing children's health barriers to learning with love and compassion.

**SERVICES ::** Healthy Learners services include assistance with the Medicaid application process, assistance with referrals for clinical counseling, coordination of health care, dental care, hearing evaluations and care, medications, transportation to appointments, treatment for medical needs, and vision care.

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"Thanks to Healthy Learners I don't have to sit through class with a toothache."

— A.J., a student



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*A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System*

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