

Making a Difference: On the Right Track



Toronto King Jr. (middle)
pictured with his coach
Darlene Priest and Desmond
Phillips from the Georgetown
County Parks and Recreation
Department's Hershey's Track
and Field Program. Phillips
presented King with a plaque
for winning the national
standing long jump title.

Fourth grader Toronto King Jr. needed glasses, but his family did not have insurance at the time. Without glasses, he had difficulty focusing in school and on the track, where he was a budding track-and-field star. Pleasant Hill Elementary School referred Toronto and his brother DeAndre to Healthy Learners Georgetown. Healthy Learners helped his father, Toronto King Sr., apply for Medicaid for his sons and then arranged for them to receive a vision exam and glasses, and established them with a dentist.

Nearly four years later, Toronto King Sr. reports both boys are doing well in school and excelling outside of school. "I was a single parent back then and did not have the income to pay for their care. The resources Healthy Learners provided really were a big help," he said.

Toronto King Jr. continues to excel at track and field, where he won the national standing long jump title for the 13-14-year-old age group over the summer. *The Georgetown Times*

wrote about his national title in August. Below is an excerpt from the article.

A Jump of Faith

Desmond Phillips has seen hundreds of children come through the Georgetown County Parks and Recreation Department's Hershey's Track and Field Program. But he has never seen an athlete come through the program with as much heart and determination as Toronto King.

King, an eighth-grade student at Carver's Bay Middle School, represented South Carolina at the Hershey's Track and Field North American Finals on July 29 to Aug. 3 in Hershey, Pa. He brought home the national standing long jump title for his 13-14-year-old age group, after jumping more than 10 feet from a standing start.

"He was first in the nation," Phillips said proudly. "When I tell you this is a good, respectful young man, I mean it."On Aug. 23, Phillips honored King's accomplishment with a recognition and plaque ceremony

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Support Healthy Learners

Your financial support helps remove children's health barriers to learning to ensure healthy children, better students and thriving communities. **Send your gift today.**

Donate online at *healthylearners.com* or call 803.454.0350 to donate by phone. **THANK YOU!**



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at the Beck Recreation Center in Georgetown. "This young man never gave up," proclaimed Phillips. "He qualified three years in a row, and even gave up his solo spot, so that his team could compete one year. And then this year, he did it. He is the Hershey's national standing long jump champion."

King competed in the national finals three years in a row. He finished sixth in the nation in the standing long jump at the 2012 finals, and qualified to return to the event in 2013, but things took a little bit of a different turn for him. Just before the finals in 2013, Georgia pulled their 4x100 meter relay team from the competition, opening up an opportunity for South Carolina to send a team, rather an individual, to the finals.

Speaking to a crowd of family and friends gathered after the ceremony on Aug. 23, Phillips said, "This young man had a tough decision to make last year, but it took him about five seconds to make it. He told me without hesitation that he wanted to run with his team instead of jump by himself ... a selfless act for such a young man."

King returned to the finals this year, and on Aug. 3, he jumped 10-feet-1-inch, finishing first in the competition.

U.S. Olympic champion Carl Lewis placed the first-place national medal around his neck, a moment King will never forget. +

"It was pretty cool to have Carl Lewis put the medal on me. I was just happy I could represent South Carolina and do well for everyone here." - Toronto King Jr.

By the Numbers Report Card 2013-2014

4,330

The number of vision, dental, medication and other healthrelated services provided.

"EXCELLENT!" 97%

What Healthy Learners school nurses say when asked to rate the program's service quality; the other 3% rate it as good.

> (based on surveys of school nurses at program sites)

MORE THAN MILES TRAVELED TO PROVIDE

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR

,380 CHILDREN

IN FIVE PROGRAM

AREAS ACROSS THE STATE.

During this school year: HL increased the number of school districts served to and the number of schools served statewide to

Healthy Learners RETURNS \$4.38

FOR EVERY \$1 INVESTED

WHICH EQUATES TO A TOTAL POTENTIAL SAVINGS OF MORE THAN \$3.2 MILLION.

Healthy Learners Program Updates

Five Healthy Learners programs serve 148 schools in 10 school districts across South Carolina. Following are brief updates from these programs.

ALLENDALE In recognition of the school nurses who diligently support the Healthy Learners mission while remaining dedicated to the health and wellness of school children in South Carolina, Healthy Learners launched a social media campaign earlier this year where Facebook visitors voted for one school nurse superstar. Voters chose Chasity Boleman from Allendale Elementary School as the winner. Boleman received a weekend trip for two to Charleston. "Chasity is a kind and compassionate nurse who treats her students like they are her own children. The Allendale team can count on her to help us achieve our mission," said Shelley Thomas, program manager of Healthy Learners Allendale.



DILLON The Arthur W. Perdue Foundation continued its support of Healthy Learners Dillon with a \$5,000 grant. Since 2009,

the foundation has provided \$32,500 in funding to support the Dillon program.

GEORGETOWN Healthy Learners Georgetown was the recipient of \$9,000 from the "Tee Off for TW" golf tournament held in the spring at Caledonia Golf Club in Pawleys Island, South Carolina. More than 120 people honored the memory of Todd Welden with

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"We continue to expand when the opportunity is right because there are so many children who need access to care, but funding remains a hurdle to serving more."

-John Heydel



Board Profile

HEALTHY LEARNERS BOARD CHAIR

John Heydel has only been the chair of the Healthy Learners Board of Trustees since May, but he has been involved with Healthy Learners since it first began in 1992. At the time of its founding, Heydel was serving as the president and CEO of Providence Hospitals in Columbia.

Heydel worked with Sister Mary Jacob Yelco, CSA, attorney Al Pollard and others in the community to establish Health Reach (renamed Healthy Learners in 2000) to provide care for children who were falling through the cracks of the health care system in Richland County.

"With a 'Seeing is Achieving' grant from The Duke Endowment, the program first focused on providing eye care to children at a handful of schools before expanding the services provided and greatly expanding the number of schools served," said Heydel. "While the scope and number of lives impacted has expanded, the goal remains the same. If we can help children achieve in school, they can achieve in society."

Heydel left Providence Hospitals in 1998 to become the president and CEO of Self Regional Healthcare until retiring in 2008. Heydel continued to stay involved with Healthy Learners after leaving

Providence he said because of "my love for the program's important mission and the mission of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine."

As the board chair, he would like to see Healthy Learners expand to more communities in South Carolina while also reaching more children in the communities already served. "We continue to expand when the opportunity is right because there are so many children who need access to care, but funding remains a hurdle to serving more."

Heydel began his career as a medic in the U.S. Air Force, serving in the Vietnam War in the 1960s. He returned from Vietnam to study respiratory therapy in college. He went on to become the administrative director of respiratory therapy at Stanford University Medical Center in Stanford, California. He later served as senior assistant administrator at Schumpert Medical Center in Shreveport, Louisiana, before moving to South Carolina in 1991.

Heydel and his wife of more than 40 years, Drenda, live in Greenwood. Heydel likes to read and play golf, and enjoys giving back as much time as he can by volunteering with a number of other nonprofit organizations, including the Rotary Club and the board of directors of the Greenwood Regional Rehabilitation Hospital. •

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a day of golf, food and live music, with proceeds benefiting the Georgetown program. Welden was the head golf professional at Caledonia until his death in October 2013.



The Georgetown
County
Chamber of
Commerce
awarded
Healthy
Learners

Georgetown with its Business Excellence Award for Outstanding Nonprofit at the chamber's 97th annual meeting and gala earlier this year. Pictured with the award are Merlethia Green, student services coordinator, Rebecca Lammonds, program manager, and Lawly Ford, fund development coordinator.



GREENWOOD Healthy
Learners hired Becky
McIntosh as part-time fund
development coordinator.
The Greenwood program
welcomed McIntosh

earlier this year. She previously worked at Piedmont Technical College for 30 years, where she retired as the vice president for student development and marketing. The program also congratulates Greenwood School District #50 school nurses Rene Shiflet, RN, of Pinecrest Elementary School and Tonya Hodges, RN, of Merrywood Elementary School, for becoming nationally certified school nurses. They are two of only 46 school nurses in South Carolina to receive national certification. In August 2014, Healthy Learners Greenwood expanded service delivery into Greenwood

School District 51 (Ware Shoals), where there are nearly 1,100 students.

MIDLANDS The Rotary Club of Five
Points in Columbia, South Carolina,
presented Healthy Learners Midlands with
a check for \$5,000 at its August meeting.
Founded in the 1950s, the Rotary Club
of Five Points provides business leaders
with opportunities to learn about their
community and the world.





Matt Northam, Sharon McCray, Brooks Whiteside and Barry Williams from Colonial Life



Michael Younginer, 2014 Healthy Learners Champion for Children, Executive Director Jo Pauling-Jones and Board Chair John Heydel

NEWS BRIEFS AND NOTES



Healthy Learners students

Champions for Children Golf Tournament a Major Success

The 15th annual Healthy Learners Champions for Children Golf Tournament in Memory of George Younginer teed off October 15 at the Fort Jackson Golf Club in Columbia. Despite the threat of inclement weather, more than 150 golfers came out for what turned out to be a sunny day of golf, food, entertainment, contests and prizes. Numerous volunteers and sponsors helped make this year's tournament a major success, raising more than \$100,000. Colonial Life was the tournament's exclusive premier sponsor for the second year in a row. Dawn Staley, head women's basketball coach at the University of South Carolina, and Michael A. Younginer, Younginer LLC Engineered Products, served as honorary co-chairs of the event. Michael Younginer, son of golf tournament founder George Younginer, was also recognized as the 2014 Healthy Learners Champion for Children.

Three Team Members Honored

The Sisters of Charity Health System, which is the parent organization of Healthy Learners, honored three members of the Healthy Learners team for their years of employment at a service awards celebration in October. Program Manager Rebecca Lammonds and Student Services Coordinator Merlethia Greene were honored for five years of service with the Healthy Learners Georgetown program, which opened in January 2009. Student Services Coordinator Kara Marsh was honored for 10 years of service with the Healthy Learners Midlands program.

Online Giving Event Raises \$15,000

Healthy Learners participated in the Central Carolina Community Foundation's 24-hour online giving challenge earlier this year, raising more than \$15,000 from 130 donors—including 33 new donors. That level of participation placed Healthy Learners fifth out of 150 nonprofits for the total number of individual donations. The Central Carolina Community Foundation created Midlands Gives as a way to raise money and awareness for nonprofits in the South Carolina Midlands region. The online challenge happens again May 5, 2015.

FIND US ONLINE

Visit healthylearners.com to get the latest news and updates, see videos about us, learn more about our services and make secure online donations. You can also connect to our Facebook page to discover more about our unique ministry.

COMING EVENTS Please visit healthylearners.com for more information.

"Thank you so much for helping me and my children - my daughter's medicine and her glasses costs more than I could pay and I couldn't afford to take her to the doctor. Your help with the Medicaid process was a real blessing and now they can get what they need."

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.

HEALTHY LEARNERS 2749 LAUREL STREET COLUMBIA, SC 29204

healthylearners.com



HEALTHY LEARNERS

Meet Our Board The Healthy Learners Board of Trustees plays an important role in providing fiscal and legal oversight, making policy decisions, providing strategic planning and more. of Trustees and legal oversigni, morning pointing of community health chosen for their professional expertise and understanding of community health issues, each board member can serve a maximum of three, three-year terms.

Sister Rosemarie Carfagna, OSU Senior Vice President of Mission and Ministry Sisters of Charity Health System



Dr. Sharon Reynolds Earle*



Debbie Locklair Administrator McLeod Medical Center Dillon

Owner, SIR Consultant Group Owner & Senior National Sales Director Partner, Primerica Financial Services



Edward G. Menzie Member Nexsen Pruet, LLC





Dr. Lite Nartey* Assistant Professor Darla Moore School of Business University of South Carolina





Cleo Richardson, Ed.D Retired School Superintendent





Community Advocate





Matthew B. Roberts Member Nexsen Pruet, LLC





Matthew Shaffer Senior Vice President Major Group Division BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina



Jenny Sarvis Isgett*

Assistant Vice President, Agency Representative

Old Republic National Title Insurance Company



Teri Stomski Senior Underwriting Counsel



First American Title Insurance Company





Margaret Bennett Stover* Retired Teacher and Dedicated Community Volunteer



Welcome New Board Members

Healthy Learners is pleased to welcome seven new members to the board of trustees:

Dr. Sharon Reynolds Earle has more than 22 years of experience in education, with 16 years of district level administration in early childhood education, and parent and family services. Dr. Earle is the owner of SIR Consultant Group, and the owner and senior national sales director partner with Primerica Financial Services. She has a doctorate in education from South Carolina State University.

Taranda M. Frost is a certified human resources professional, serving as supervisor of benefits administration & compliance for the SCANA Corporation. She has extensive experience with health and welfare plans, and defined contribution (401k) and defined benefit (retirement/pension) plans.

James L. Gallieshaw had a 25-year human resources career, with professional experience that includes working as a human resources director at Babcock Center, Inc., a director of employee relations & recruitment at Palmetto Health (Richland Campus) and an investigator at the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission.

Jack Godbold is an insurance broker at Keenan & Suggs, Inc. Godbold is junior warden at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and serves on the Richland County Public Library Board of Trustees. He has served as a board member of Columbia Sertoma Club and Crayton Middle School PTSO, and is a former president of the AC Flora High School PTSO.

Jenny Sarvis Isgett is an assistant vice president and agency representative at Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. Isgett has also served as an adjunct professor in the paralegal program at Midlands Technical College. She is a Top 20 Under 40 recipient from The State and is president-elect and a member of the board of directors for the Palmetto Land Title Association.

Dr. Lite Nartey is an assistant professor in the Sonoco International Business Department at the Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. In her current work, she draws from network theory to outline innovative strategies firms can use to improve relations with stakeholders and thus build stakeholder support. Dr. Nartey's work has been recognized for several national and international awards.

Margaret Bennett Stover is a retired teacher and dedicated community volunteer. She has served on the Trinity Cathedral Vestry and taught Sunday school, as well as served on a number of nonprofit boards.

Healthy Children. Better Students. Thriving Communities.

HEALTHY LEARNERS

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System

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