

## HEALTHY LEARNERS

Summer 2023



Inspiring
HOPE,
Transforming
FUTURES

At Healthy Learners, our conversations often revolve around the "what" and "how" of our work, driven by our unwavering commitment to helping as many children in our communities as we can thrive. However, recently, our team embarked on a reflective journey, delving into the profound "why" that fuels us every morning. The response reverberated through the room, with each team member's heart echoing the others:

### Healthy Learners exists to inspire hope in order to transform futures.

For the families we serve, life often presents an exhausting and uphill battle. They toil tirelessly, working long hours for meager wages, devoting every free moment to meet their children's needs, and navigating complex relational, educational, health,

Yet, despite their relentless efforts, the burdens they carry can become overwhelming, leaving them with a disheartening realization that help may not be available when they need it most. They face the daunting prospect of enduring their struggles alone, both for themselves and their children.

We are so grateful for you playing a part in inspiring hope in our children and families. Your involvement not only breathes hope into their lives but also empowers them to chart a new course. By being a catalyst for change, you contribute to the remarkable transformations we witness every day. Thank you for being an integral part of our mission to inspire hope and shape brighter futures for our children and families.

- Amy Splittgerber

Executive Director

## **Inspiring Hope:**



Marcus didn't smile much. He was a 10th grade student in Greenwood School District 50 in a family with six children living with their mother. He was struggling with absence from school because he had no clean clothes, and his mother didn't have the money needed to clean them at the laundromat. Marcus was also struggling because he had 22 cavities – every tooth but his bottom center four were in pain.

With every appointment, Healthy Learners staff noticed positive change in Marcus, "You could see his self esteem growing with every visit." Said Dena Campbell Student Service Coordinator, "He used to only smile covering his teeth with his lips, but now he freely gives me a toothy grin."

On Marcus' last dental appointment, he shared with a smile that he had gotten a job at a local fast-food restaurant, and that once he turned 17 they were already planning to promote him. Dena told him to watch out for sugary drinks, which was the majority of what Marcus consumed before Healthy Learners, which could easily turn around all the work that had been done to his teeth. With a smile, Marcus said "Don't worry Miss Dena, now all I drink is water" beaming with pride as he held up his new water bottle.

(Name and image have been changed for the student's safety)

## Helping Marcus Smile



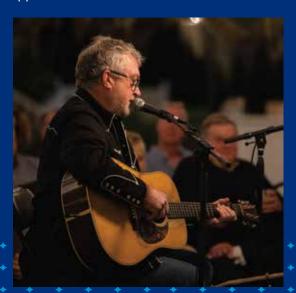
## Healthy Learners = Higher Grades

Healthy Learners was proud to partner with the University of South Carolina Business Analytics Program at the Darla Moore School of Business to evaluate the academic impact of Healthy Learners services on the children we serve. Our study included 314 Georgetown County students that were served during the 2020-2022 school years. During a time of nationwide academic decreases in K-12 education due to the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic, children served by Healthy Learners saw a 4-7% increase in academic success. The jury's in: Healthy Learners helps students get higher grades!

## Calling All Music Lovers!

Save the date: October 20th and 21st for Healthy Learners' flagship fundraiser - Nashville Songwriters in the Round! With music hosted by Phillip Lammonds in both Pawleys Island and Columbia, these events showcase four acclaimed Nashville singer-songwriters known for their chart-topping hits and industry success. Experience an intimate and inspiring performance, with seating designed for an up-close encounter, reminiscent of the Blue Bird Café, all to support children in need!

To learn more about sponsoring or attending this unforgettable evening, contact Christian Markle at cmarkle@healthylearners.com or visit Healthylearners.com/songwritersintheround.





### It's Summer Time!

Healthy Learners staff are buzzing like bees throughout the school break engaging in our communities over the summer. Here are a few things we have planned:



#### **Proactive Health Screenings**

This summer, we have vision, dental, & hearing screenings scheduled for summer schools, boys and girls clubs, targeted mobile home communities, and at a variety of community events and festivals.



#### Flexible Care Coordination

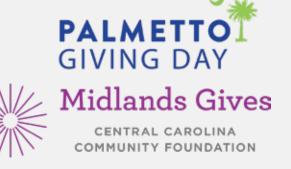
With changing routines, our staff are actively serving children where they are over the summer, coordinating appointment transportation to and from their homes, summer camps, summer schools, or relative's houses.



Our team is dedicated to serving every child we screen. Throughout the summer we continue connecting with families of children who did not passed their health screenings, obtaining consent forms, helping parents register their children for Medicaid, or providing financial and language assistance for children and families overcome by barriers to getting their children's health needs met.

## 126 Futures Transformed

We are so grateful for our friends in the Midlands and Georgetown County who supported Healthy Learners during Midlands Gives and Palmetto Giving Day! Through this support, we are able to sponsor an entire year's healthy journey for over 126 children in Georgetown and the Midlands. We could not have done this without our amazing match sponsors: Humana Healthy Horizons in SC, Modern Woodmen Fraternal Finacial, the Tamsberg Family, Sullivan Family, Sands Family, Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation, and other silent generous friends.











## Palmetto GBA Living Out Their Values

We are so grateful to our friends at Palmetto GBA for choosing Healthy Learners to be one of their 2023 company-wide community impact initiatives! Over the month of May, we had over 85 Palmetto GBA employees volunteer, donate items, or give a gift to support Healthy Learners mission to transform futures! From car washes, to ride alongs, to donating coloring books and hot wheels cars, the Palmetto GBA family stepped up to live out their values of impacting their community for good!

"At Palmetto GBA, giving back is who we are." explains Joe Roof, Vice President of Support Operations and campaign organizer. "Our associates are dedicated to supporting the needs of our neighbors. This was evident in our 2023

Community Impact partnership with Healthy Learners."

Contact Christian Markle at Cmarkle@healthylearners.com to see how easy, impactful and fun hosting a community impact campaign can be with Healthy Learners!

# Three Ways You Can Partner With HEALTHY LEARNERS This Summer!

Give a gift:

Help support the 100+ children we will serve in on summer break! Giving typically goes down during the summer months, which is why we need your help now more than ever!

#### Join us on our journey:

Subscribe to our email list, and follow us on Youtube, Facebook and Instagram! We are constantly sharing about all the wonderful people we meet and places we get to serve.

#### Volunteer with us:

Whether its a car wash, help at a health screening, or administrative help in our offices, we would love your help in furthering our mission to serve more children in every community!

