

Waccamaw EOC, Inc. Celebrates National Community Action Month

On three consecutive Fridays in May 2021 Waccamaw Economic Opportunity Council (EOC), Inc. held its Community Action Awareness Day Celebrations in the counties of Georgetown, Horry and Williamsburg as a part of the Community Action Partnership's designation of May as National Community Action Month. Waccamaw EOC, Inc.'s Community Services staff, along with the Head Start / Early Head Start and Weatherization Assistance departments participated in these celebrations with the public. Information about Waccamaw EOC, Inc.'s various programs were shared along with materials from partnering agencies.

One very popular piece of the celebration was a take-home food distribution to the public that was available at the three locations. Lowcountry Food Bank sponsored the food distributions in Horry and Williamsburg Counties, while Baskervill Food Pantry and Life Is Good Ministries sponsored the giveaway at Georgetown's event. The total number of families served was approximately 500 across all three counties with the highest number occurring at Williamsburg County's event in Kingstree, which served 240. The line of cars waiting prior to the opening of our event in Kingstree was particularly impressive!

Covid-19 vaccines were available at the Georgetown Community Action Awareness Day event through South Carolina DHEC and a handful of individuals took advantage and received their shots of the Moderna vaccine. Radio Baha'i, 90.9 FM, broadcasted remotely at both of the Georgetown and Horry County celebrations. In addition, Waccamaw EOC, Inc. Executive Director / CEO James Pasley was interviewed by Radio Baha'i prior to the Georgetown event.

Both of the Horry County and Kingstree celebrations were drive-thru only, while Georgetown was a combination of drive-thru plus walking. Staff were available to answer questions regarding our community service programs, including assistance for electricity, rent, health and wellness, and education and job training, among others. Head Start / Early Head Start and Weatherization Assistance personnel educated individuals regarding these programs as well. Also, community assessment questionnaires were given to individuals to complete.

A special thanks goes out to the Jason Collins Community Center in Georgetown and the Kingstree Parks and Recreation Department, as both served as venues, along with Waccamaw EOC, Inc.'s Conway location. In addition, it was very much appreciated the contributions Lowcountry Food Bank, Baskervill Food Pantry, Life is Good Ministries, South Carolina DHEC and Radio Baha'i made to ensuring the success of these community events. Finally, Waccamaw EOC Inc.'s staff greatly kept the spirit alive during the three weeks as employees participated in various Spirit Week activities!