We work toward our vision that students will be engaged, lifelong leaders committed to positive change in the world.

The Leadership and Service Center is the premier space on campus offering a unique and collaborative environment for students to explore their own leadership development. Our mission is to equip students to positively impact their communities through involvement in student organizations, leadership development, service and civic engagement.
The Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic had an unprecedented global impact. Nonessential businesses closed, sporting events were cancelled, and many hospitals were overwhelmed with the rising number of COVID-19 patients. At the University of South Carolina (UofSC), President Caslen, in consultation with senior administrators and public health officials, cancelled classes the week after spring break and then instituted remote learning for students through the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester. This decision was made to protect the health, safety and welfare of the campus community. Virtual learning, physical distancing, and face coverings became key parts of an everchanging “new normal”.

Despite the societal changes presented by COVID-19, UofSC students continued to serve their communities and adhere to the Carolinian Creed by demonstrating concern for others, their feelings, and their need for the conditions which support their work and development. UofSC and Clemson University students participated in a friendly competition to see which institution could produce the highest number of videos thanking essential workers. UofSC faculty, staff, and alumni from across the country collectively mailed dozens of nonperishable items to campus to help students experiencing food insecurity. Pi Beta Phi Fraternity For Women delivered 4,232 books to underserved elementary schools in the Midlands. UofSC Class of 2020 graduate Lyric Swinton and incoming Student Government Vice President Hannah White raised $3,575.22 during a 24-hour fundraising event that benefited the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund for Students. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, UofSC students across the country maintained academic excellence while actively seeking opportunities to help others.

The 2019-2020 Community Service Annual Report is a testament to UofSC students’ ongoing commitment to addressing community priorities and leading through service. The Leadership and Service Center staff will continue to collaborate with students during these uncertain times to ensure meaningful community-engaged work continues.

Forever to Thee
The Leadership and Service Center Staff
The Community Service Annual Report not only represents community service initiatives from the LSC, it showcases community service from across campus. Self-reported data is collected from students, organizations, departments, colleges, and programs to represent UofSC’s commitment to service. During 2019-2020, UofSC volunteers were involved in hands-on community service, philanthropic fundraising, community-based research, service-learning and advocacy initiatives.

Education is a very important social issue that I’ve been able to address through my involvement with CECEY (Community Engaged Campus Experience for Youth). CECEY is a program through the Leadership and Service Center that is designed to introduce Title I elementary school students to college life and to increase their interest in pursuing higher education. Title I schools typically have many students of low-socioeconomic backgrounds. I am very passionate about this issue because I also come from a low-income family and have attended Title I schools. I was not provided the maximum level of education or opportunities as my peers from various other schools. It is my goal to not only educate students about college, but to inspire them to be successful despite the odds stacked against them.

Daishanna Pearson
Senior, Public Health
“My favorite memory of service from this past year is from the alternative break I led in the fall. Our theme was environmentalism and as such we participated in a river cleanup with a local non-profit. The first leg of our clean-up was on the Waccamaw River in kayaks, hauling things out of the water or dragging them behind the kayaks. During this, we saw several alligators and were able to have tons of fun while cleaning up and learning from the guides!”

McKenzee Chestnut
Senior, Environmental Sciences
My favorite part about working in the Gamecock Pantry is just seeing all the different people from the Gamecock Community coming in. Seeing the joy and amazement on their faces when they hear about how long the Pantry has been available and seeing all the great foods that we have warms my heart. Knowing that working in the Pantry is helping someone have a meal or grab a snack that they may not have gotten is truly my favorite part.

Marvin Mitchell
Junior, Marketing and Management
Through this partnership, the environmental programs at Forest Heights have been able to flourish. No task was too dirty or small. The planting plots were built, help was there to harvest sweet potatoes, smiles on faces were priceless as USC volunteers found those sweet potatoes under the vines in the ground. Help with the Habitat Garden maintenance, along with helping to establish a Hummingbird Habitat over the past three years. It has been my pleasure to meet the most talented and committed young folks. The USC Leadership and Service Center deserves applause and recognition for their community service.

“Central South Carolina Habitat for Humanity always looks forward to the Service Saturdays coordinated by the Leadership and Service Center. The USC students that join us in building homes are always incredibly excited to get involved and our organization loves being able to connect with students who are passionate about our mission of affordable housing.”

Barbara Dire
Science Lab Instructor
Forest Heights Elementary School

April Epting
Volunteer Coordinator
Central South Carolina Habitat for Humanity
For at least 3 years now, the USC students have visited with the residents here at Pruitt Health of Blythewood. They have provided bingo games, carnivals, and craft projects primarily. The interaction with our seniors is priceless and they look forward when they see the groups from USC listed on the calendar because they know it’s going to be fun. The organizational [LSC] staff who head up the community service opportunities have been prompt and helpful through emails and even thank you/holiday cards which you rarely receive anymore. I look forward to resuming services as soon as the restrictions are lifted related to COVID-19.

Friends of Harbison State Forest benefits greatly from the work efforts of student volunteers in the Service Saturday Program. With the help of students, we have maintained miles of trail, repaired damaged trails, and constructed new trails for the enjoyment of the many visitors of the forest. The work is always performed with enthusiasm and exuberance.

...Without question the single most productive force in shaping the arboretum has been the thousands of civic-minded student and faculty volunteers who have taken precious time out of their schedules to complete critical tasks, from laying mulch and weeding to testing groundwater and helping to establish new natural areas. Given the arboretum’s limited staff and resources, these unheralded individuals have functioned as the lifeblood of the preserve, bringing not only their time and energy, but, crucially, a spirit of cooperation and wonder at the natural beauty contained within this pocket of urban wildness. The Covid-19 crisis has deprived the arboretum and its staff of the revivifying presence of the wider university community, but we are anxiously anticipating the time when we can again safely collaborate with the student body and the university’s service organizations.
Excellence in Service-Learning Student Award

Recognizes students who have demonstrated significant academic growth and made meaningful contributions to their community partner agency.

DANICA LEAPHART

SOPHIA “SOPHIE” BERTRAND
Excellence in Service-Learning Community Partner Award

Recognizes community agencies that have worked to support the University of South Carolina’s service-learning and community engagement efforts.

SALVATION ARMY OF THE MIDLANDS

PRUITT HEALTH BLYTHEWOOD
Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow

Recognizes a student who has demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country.

REYLAN COOK

Willie L. Harriford Outstanding Service Award

Recognizes a student who actively seeks opportunities to address and serve the needs of the African American community as well as the Columbia community in its entirety like Willie L. Harriford did for the Richland County community.

URIAH CHAPMAN
Strom Thurmond/Steve Cannon Carolina Cares Award

Recognizes a student who has made significant contributions to the Carolina and surrounding area through community service.

ALEXIS VETACK

BROOKE KOVACH
Outstanding Student Volunteer Award

Recognizes a student who has made an outstanding contribution to the community and university through service.

BRANDI EVANS

Rosemary Broadway Memorial Scholarship

Recognizes a student who lives off-campus and is actively involved in community service.

SARAH EUSTIS
Outstanding Undergraduate Community Service Award

Recognizes a College of Nursing student who has displayed evidence of sustained community service either within a group or individually.

KHAILA MARIE BURCHELL

Martin Luther King Social Justice Award

Recognizes individuals who have exemplified the philosophies of Dr. King through random or ongoing acts of community service, social justice or racial reconciliation.

KYANNA SAMUEL
Excellence in Community Engagement Award

Recognizes fraternities and sororities that display an ongoing commitment to service, philanthropy and campus/community partnerships.
Southeastern Conference Community Service Team

Recognizes student-athletes from each school who give back to their community through superior service efforts.

CAM TRINGALI
BASEBALL

ANNA VEST
SOFTBALL

DARRELL SINGLETON JR.
MEN’S TRACK & FIELD

BRIANA RECKLING
WOMEN’S TRACK & FIELD

WILL RIGGS
MEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING

MEGAN JONES
WOMEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING

SPENCER EASON-RIDDLE
FOOTBALL

BEAU PELLETIER
MEN’S TENNIS
Southeastern Conference Community Service Team

Recognizes student-athletes from each school who give back to their community through superior service efforts.

SILVIA CHINELLATO
WOMEN’S TENNIS

NATHAN NELSON
MEN’S BASKETBALL

LAETICIA AMIHHERE
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

MADELYNNE HERLOCKER
EQUESTRIAN

JACK PARROT
MEN’S GOLF

COURTNEY KOEHLER
VOLLEYBALL

RYAN GAREIS
WOMEN’S SOCCER
Educational Foundation
Outstanding Service Award

Recognizes a faculty member who has an exemplary record of public service outside the university, and/or service within the university on the campus-wide level.

DR. MINUETTE FLOYD
The Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning provides students with the opportunity to pursue Graduation with Leadership Distinction in five pathways: Community Service, Diversity and Social Advocacy, Global Learning, Professional and Civic Engagement and Research. The Community Service pathway emphasizes the transformative experience that occurs when students gain real-world experience by working directly with others in service leadership. This year, the following students earned Graduation with Leadership Distinction in Community Service:

Alexis Bambach  
Madison Bessonny  
Jillian Catalano  
Ella (Reid) Davis  
Mariam Dawoud  
Julia Derrick  
Abigail Donato  
Brandi Evans  
Madison Gillespie  
Kirsten Hartz  
Allison Heefner  
Kathleen Hill  
Amanda Leslie  
Nicholas Magro  
Dorian Modly  
Molly Morgan  
Ajay Patel  
Ansley Santos  
Marinna Smith  
Troi’ (Alexis) Williams  
Rachael Wolfram  
Jackson Yow
THANK YOU

Thank you to the participating offices, programs, and organizations whose service is included in this year’s Annual Report:

Alpha Chi Omega  
Alpha Delta Pi  
Alpha Gamma Delta  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated  
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.  
Alpha Phi Omega  
Alpha Sigma Rho Sorority, Inc.  
Alpha Xi Delta  
Alternative Breaks  
Association of Transfer Students  
Best Buddies  
Beta Beta Beta  
Black Medical Student Association  
Brothers of Nubian Descent  
Capstone Scholars  
Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning  
Central South Carolina Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter  
Chi Omega Fraternity  
Chi Psi Fraternity  
Circle K International  
College of Nursing  
Communities in Harmony  
Community Engaged Campus Experience for Youth (CECEY)  
Community Service Ambassadors  
Dance Marathon  
Delta Delta Delta Sorority  
Delta Phi Omega Sorority Inc.  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Delta Zeta Sorority  
Epsilon Sigma Alpha  
Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children  
Fraternity and Sorority Life  
Gamecock Pantry  
Gamma Phi Beta Sorority  
Give a Dog a Bone  
Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter  
Impact Weekly  
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.  
Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc.  
Kappa Delta Sorority  
Kappa Kappa Gamma Fraternity  
Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity  
National Association of Black Journalists  
National Society of Collegiate Scholars  
Neuroscience Club  
Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority  
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
Phi Delta Theta Fraternity
Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI)
Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Phi Kappa Tau
Phi Mu
Pi Beta Phi
Pi Kappa Alpha
Pillars Serves
Project VIDA
Public Health Society
Rotaract Club
SAVVY
Service Saturday
Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
Sigma Nu
Sigma Phi Epsilon
Sustainable Carolina
Tau Sigma
Teaching Fellows Association
Theta Chi
Theta Delta Chi
Theta Tau
Together We Rise
Waverly Afterschool Program
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
Zeta Tau Alpha
Thank you to the participating nonprofit organizations who hosted UofSC student volunteers throughout the year:

153 Project Columbia
AC Moore Elementary School
Agape Hospice
Atria Forest Lake
Babcock Center
Birthright of Columbia
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands and Kershaw County
Bright Horizons at USC
C.M. Tucker Jr. Nursing Care Center
Carolina Wildlife Center
Central South Carolina Habitat for Humanity
City Year Inc
Columbia Bethlehem Community Center
Communities In Schools of the Midlands
Crescent Hospice
Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (Merritt Island, FL)
EZE Farms
Ezekiel Ministries
Food Recovery Network
Forest Heights Elementary School
Habersham House (Savannah, GA)
Hannah House
Harvest Hope Food Bank
Herbert A. Wood Elementary School
Homeless No More
Hyatt Park Elementary School
Keep the Midlands Beautiful
Krispy Kreme
Leeza’s Care Connection
Logan Elementary School
Love for the Elderly
Meals on Wheels
Midlands Reading Consortium
National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation
Oliver Gospel Mission
Palmetto Animal Assisted Life Services (PAALS)
Palmetto Conservation Corps
Panera Bread
Pawmetto Lifeline
Peace Corps
PETSinc
Prisma Health
PruittHealth Blythewood
Randolph Cemetery
Reading Partners South Carolina
Richland School District One - Volunteer Services
Riverbanks Zoo and Garden
Ronald McDonald House Charities
Salvation Army (Savannah, GA)

For more information on how to contribute to future reports, contact the Leadership and Service Center at (803) 777-7130 or lsc@sc.edu.
Salvation Army of the Midlands
Sams House at Pine Island (Merritt Island, FL)
Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands
South Carolina Autism Society
Special Olympics South Carolina
Sustainable Carolina
Sustainable Midlands
The Cooperative Ministry
The People's Pantry
Transitions Homeless Center
W. Gordon Belser Arboretum
Washington St. United Methodist Church
Webber Elementary School
Whole Foods
UNIVERSITY OF South Carolina

Leadership and Service Center
Department of Student Life
Division of Student Affairs and Academic Support