

PROCUREMENT - AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

OCONEE COUNTY, SC

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 15, 2026

ITEM TITLE:

Title: Office 365 Enterprise

Department: Information Technology

Amount: \$69,183.00

Sales Tax: \$ 4,150.98

Total: \$73,333.98

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget process.

Budget: **\$95,000.00** Project Cost: **\$73,333.98** **Balance: \$ 21,666.02** Finance Approval: _____

*Funding from 010-711-30056-00000 (IT – Data Processing)

BACKGROUND DESCRIPTION:

The County's current Microsoft Office licensing is approaching expiration, creating a need to transition to a supported and secure Microsoft platform. Microsoft is also encouraging organizations to transition from perpetual Office licensing to its Microsoft 365 cloud-based platform, which provides ongoing software updates, security enhancements, and cloud-based productivity and collaboration tools.

This request is for Council approval to transition the County's current Microsoft Office environment to Microsoft 365. Several County departments have expressed interest in the collaboration and productivity tools included with Microsoft 365 to enhance communication, efficiency, and workflow.

Transitioning to Microsoft 365 will provide the County with a secure, supported, and sustainable Microsoft environment while providing employees with modern productivity and collaboration tools. Approval of this purchase will allow the County to migrate users to Microsoft 365, maintain current security and software updates, and support the County's ongoing technology and operational needs.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

SHI International Corp. is an awarded vendor under Sourcewell Contract No. 121923-SHI for Technology Products and Services, which includes Microsoft products. The Sourcewell contract permits County agencies to purchase products and services directly from awarded vendors.

The quote does not include sales tax. The vendor may add applicable sales tax to the invoice. If sales tax is not included on the invoice, the County will remit the applicable sales and use tax directly to the South Carolina Department of Revenue (SCDOR).

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. SHI International Corp. Quote
2. Sourcewell Contract 121923-SHI Information

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the total award in the amount of \$73,333.98 for the purchase of Microsoft Office 365 Enterprise. Of the total award, \$69,183.00 is being awarded to SHI International Corp. under Sourcewell Contract No. 121923-SHI. The quoted amount from SHI does not include sales tax; therefore, applicable sales and use tax may be added to the invoice or remitted directly by the County to the South Carolina Department of Revenue (SCDOR), as applicable.

Submitted or Prepared By: _____ Approved for Submittal to Council: _____
Tronda C. Popham, Procurement Director Stewart O. Jones, County Administrator

Council has directed that they receive their agenda packages a week prior to each Council meeting, therefore, Agenda Item Summaries must be submitted to the Administrator for his review/approval no later than 12 days prior to each Council meeting. It is the Department Head / Elected Officials responsibility to ensure that all approvals are obtained prior to submission to the Administrator for inclusion on an agenda.

A calendar with due dates marked may be obtained from the Clerk to Council.



Pricing Proposal
Quotation #: 27789704
Created On: 7/24/2026
Valid Until: 9/30/2026

SC-County of Oconee

John Cox

415 S Pine Street
Walhalla, South Carolina 29691
United States
Phone: (864) 718-1036
Email: jcox@oconeesc.com

Microsoft Inside Account Manager Public Sector

Erika Rogers

290 Davidson Avenue
Somerset, NJ 08873
Phone: 7328686183
Email: MSSouthAtlanticGov@shi.com

All Prices are in US Dollar (USD)

Product	Qty	Retail	Your Price	Total
1 Office 365 Enterprise E3 Per User from Exchange Online Plan 1 - 10 Months Microsoft - Part#: AAU-55936 Contract Name: Sourcewell- Technology Products & Solutions Contract #: 121923-SHI Coverage Term: 10/1/2026 - 7/31/2027 Note: MPSA 0005792844	300	\$283.00	\$230.61	\$69,183.00
			Total	\$69,183.00

Additional Comments

Thank you for choosing SHI International Corp! The pricing offered on this quote proposal is valid through the expiration date listed above. To ensure the best level of service, please provide End User Name, Phone Number, Email Address and applicable Contract Number when submitting a Purchase Order. For any additional information including Hardware, Software and Services Contracts, please contact an SHI Inside Sales Representative at (888) 744-4084. SHI International Corp. is 100% Minority Owned, Woman Owned Business. TAX ID# 22-3009648; DUNS# 61-1429481; CCR# 61-243957G; CAGE 1HTF0

The products offered under this proposal are resold in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract referenced under that applicable line item.



SHI International

Technology products and services

#121923-SHI

Maturity Date: 2/27/2028

Website: go.info.shi.com/sourcewell

Products & Services	Documents	Contact Information
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Products & Services

Sourcewell contract 121923-SHI gives access to the following types of goods and services:

- Woman/minority-owned (M/WBE)
- Hardware, software, and cloud
- Cybersecurity and security
- Datacenter
- Networking and storage
- Artificial intelligence (AI)
- Esports and library furniture
- STEM and STEAM technology
- Print solutions
- Peripherals
- Professional services
- IT staff augmentation and MSP

SHI Canada : SHI Canada Public Sector | [Canoe](#)

Need help getting a quote?

Our Sourcewell team can help you through the quoting process, answer contract questions, and clarify next steps.

Get help with a quote

Call 877-585-9706

Register for an account

Simply complete the online application, contact our dedicated team, or call 877-585-9706.

Search Suppliers & Contracts

General Contracts

SHI Advertised Price is a verifiable source, referenced 24/7/365 at shi.com. In many cases, SHI Advertised List Price already reflects a substantial discount off Manufacturer Published List prices, where a list price exists.

Given the breadth of manufacturers and products that SHI offers, opportunities for SHI to secure additional discounts for eligible contract users are plentiful. We work to provide your contract users with the most advantageous pricing available, and we go above and beyond the minimum discounts offered, whenever possible and as often as possible.

Types of Products	Discount From Advertised Price	Manufacturer Name
Cables (Network, Signal, Fiber Optic, Power)	15%	SHI Full Catalog
Cameras	15%	SHI Full Catalog
Surveillance Video	15%	SHI Full Catalog
Security Cameras	15%	SHI Full Catalog
Access Control Systems	15%	SHI Full Catalog
Videoconferencing Systems	15%	SHI Full Catalog
Unified Communications and Collaboration	0%	SHI Full Catalog
Computer Accessories (Keyboards, Mice, Docks, Flash Memory, Speakers)	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Telephone Sets	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Headsets	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Headphones	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Network Routers	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Channel Converters	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Phone Cases	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Information Technology/Educational Furniture	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Racks	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Racks Hardware	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Batteries	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Uninterruptable Power Systems	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Battery Chargers	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Memory Modules	5%	SHI Full Catalog
RAM, DRAM, SDRAM	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Flash Drives	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Hard Drives	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Disk Arrays and Array Controllers	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Power Adapters and Inverters	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Network Interface Cards and Network Switch Products	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Multimedia Storage Products	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Notebook Computers	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Tablets	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Servers	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Point of Sale	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Desktops	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Thin Clients	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Workstations	3%	SHI Full Catalog
All in One Desktops	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Office Supplies	18%	SHI Full Catalog
Labels	18%	SHI Full Catalog
Disc Media	18%	SHI Full Catalog
Paper Products	18%	SHI Full Catalog
Whiteboards	18%	SHI Full Catalog
Maintenance	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Warrantees	5%	SHI Full Catalog

Types of Products	Discount From Advertised Price	Manufacturer Name
Projectors and Interactive Products	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Printer Supplies	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Ink and Toner	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Ribbons	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Fusers	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Flat Panel Display Monitors	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Large Screen Monitors	3%	SHI Full Catalog
TVs	3%	SHI Full Catalog
Printers (Ink Jet, Laser, Matrix, Line Matrix, Label)	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Scanners	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Multifunction Machines	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Power Products	5%	SHI Full Catalog
PDU's	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Power Supplies	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Power Monitors	5%	SHI Full Catalog
Carry Cases	7%	SHI Full Catalog
Carry Bags	7%	SHI Full Catalog
Backpacks	7%	SHI Full Catalog
Software	4%	SHI Full Catalog
Cloud Software (excluding AWS)	4%	SHI Full Catalog
"X" as a Service (including SaaS, IaaS and PaaS)	0%	SHI Full Catalog
AWS	0%	SHI Full Catalog
All Other - future and unnamed categories	0%	SHI Full Catalog

Services	Standard Hourly Rate	Discount From Advertised Price	Comments
Hourly rates are for SHI and current approved partner-performed services for standard engagements. Highly skilled projects and new partners may carry higher rates.			
Project Manager	\$185.00	0%	Per SOW
Consultant - End User Solutions Group	\$225.00	0%	Per SOW
Consultant - Security Solutions Group	\$225.00	0%	Per SOW
Solutions Architect	\$275.00	0%	Per SOW
Cloud Developer	\$325.00	0%	Per SOW
Senior Cloud Developer	\$325.00	0%	Per SOW
Cloud Solutions Architect	\$275.00	0%	Per SOW
Program Engagement Manager	\$125.00	0%	Per SOW
Asset Management	\$300.00	0%	Per SOW
Staff Augmentation	\$50-\$500	0%	Per SOW
All other in scope services	\$300.00	0%	Per SOW

PROCUREMENT - AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

OCONEE COUNTY, SC

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 15, 2026

ITEM TITLE:

Title: Radox Evidence MultiSTAT Analyzer

Department(s): Oconee County Coroner's Office

Amount: \$81,605.90

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget process.

Budget: **\$81,610.00**

Project Cost: **\$81,605.90**

Balance: **\$4.10**

Finance Approval: _____

Funding for this purchase is from South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund (SCORF)

BACKGROUND DESCRIPTION:

The Oconee County Coroner's Office was awarded \$81,610.00 through the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund (SCORF) under the Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund Application. The funding is intended to support initiatives that address the impacts of the opioid epidemic and strengthen the County's response to opioid-related incidents and deaths.

On April 7, 2026, Oconee County approved the submission of the FY 2026–2027 Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund Grant Application to support the Coroner's Office's proposed use of SCORF funding. As part of the approved grant initiative, the Coroner's Office identified the need to acquire a Radox Evidence MultiSTAT Analyzer and associated supplies.

The Evidence MultiSTAT is an automated analytical system designed to provide rapid, on-site testing and simultaneous detection of multiple substances from a single sample. The acquisition will provide the Coroner's Office with an additional investigative and analytical resource to assist with the timely identification of substances that may be present during death investigations, particularly cases involving suspected drug-related deaths.

The requested procurement is being pursued as a sole source because the Evidence MultiSTAT utilizes Radox's proprietary Biochip Array Technology, associated with U.S. Patent No. 6,498,010, and requires proprietary testing kits and accessories manufactured and supplied by Radox. The Procurement Office's review of available manufacturer and publicly available information determined that the specified Evidence MultiSTAT system and its compatible proprietary testing products are specific to Radox Laboratories. As a result, another manufacturer or vendor cannot provide the specified system and required proprietary testing components, making competitive procurement for this specific requirement impracticable.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

This purchase will be funded through the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund grant award and is intended to further the objectives identified in the County's approved FY 2026–2027 grant application. The total purchase price of \$81,605.90 is within the \$81,610.00 SCORF funding awarded to the Coroner's Office.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Radox Toxicology Quote

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the sole-source purchase of the Radox Evidence MultiSTAT Analyzer and associated supplies from Radox Laboratories-US Limited of Kearneysville, WV, in the amount of \$81,605.90, to be funded through the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund.

Submitted or Prepared By: _____

Tronda C. Popham, Procurement Director

Approved for Submittal to Council: _____

Stewart O. Jones, County Administrator

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Oconee County Coroner's Office

RANDOX
TOXICOLOGY

Proposal for the Placement of
Randox Evidence MultiSTAT Analyzer

Randox Multistat Analyzer



Randox Laboratories-US Limited, 515 Industrial Boulevard, Bardane Industrial Park, Kearneysville, WV, 25430
T +1 304 728 2890 Toll Free: 866 4 RANDOX F +304 728 1890 Toll Free: 866 RANDOX I

Randox Toxicology Limited in a company registered within Northern Ireland. Company number: NI 608013 VAT Registered Number: GB 151682708



September 3rd 2025 – December 20, 2026

Karl Addis

Oconee County Coroner's Office

Our Reference: rdxtox/usa-TG1

Dear Karl,

Radox is pleased to offer this proposal for the purchase of a MultiSTAT analyzer for postmortem forensic drug testing at the **Oconee County Coroner's Office**

The Evidence Multistat analyzer and Biochip Array Technology will allow for reliable analysis of toxicology specimen with 29 common and relevant drugs.

Advantages of this fully automated bench top analyzer:

- Largest range of opioids detected.
- Results in 30 minutes
- No laboratory or water system required.
- Simple two-step process involving loading of sample and pressing the start tab.
- Easy to use large touch screen monitor on the analyzer
- Report available on the screen and in a printout with information on cut-offs
- 1,000 cases data storage capability
- LIMS compatible

We are excited at the possibility of the analyzer being considered for procurement in your office and we look forward to working with you.

Thanks,

Ty Grooms

Account Executive – Radox Toxicology

phone: 843-779-2414

ty.grooms@radox.com

Quote

Name	Dee Robinson
Organization	Oconee County Coroner's Office
Address	302 Memorial Dr, Seneca, SC 29672

Ref. No. rdxtox/usa-TG1	Randox Contact Ty Grooms	Date 09-07-2025
Contract Type Purchase	Contract Period N/A	Minimum Purchase N/A

QUOTE

<u>Catalog Number</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total</u>
EV4115	Multistat Analyzer with printer (includes two day onsite training)	\$60,000	1	\$60,000
Drug test kits				
EV4516	Toxplex Blood Kit	\$900	7	\$6300
EV4195	Blood regular kit	\$360	7	\$2520
EV4452	Tip box(provided with each kit)		14	0
VWR Item #	Item Description	Qty	2025 Pricing	
75838-336	CENTRIFUGE MICRO 16100 X G 15000 RPM	1	\$2,790	
76462-034	ROLLER-MIXER VACUUM TUBE 36RPM 120V 60HZ	1	\$180	
20170-170	TUBE PP CAP NAT 2ML PK500	1/500ct	\$570	
76337-380	RACK 96 PLACE ASSORTED W/O LID PK5	1/5ct	\$210	
76627-798	UHP 1 CHANNEL 20-200 µL	1	\$495	
76627-770	UHP 1 CHANNEL 100-1000 µL	1	\$150	
76322-144	PIPET TIP UNIV CLR LR 200UL PK960	1/960ct	\$660	
76322-526	PIPET TIP RKD CLR 1250UL PK960	1/960ct	\$495	
TOTAL			\$5,550	

Acknowledgement Statement Acknowledgment: Items listed as part of "accessories" are sourced from a third-party supplier by Randox on behalf of the customer. Randox facilitates both the placement of the order and payment for the accessories as confirmed by the customer through a Purchase Order (PO) with Randox. The third-party supplier shall be solely responsible for fulfilling the order, including but not limited to delivery, technical support, and warranty claims. Randox assumes no liability for the performance, delivery, or transit issues arising from the purchased accessories. Furthermore, all calibration, maintenance, and ongoing care of the accessories are the sole responsibility of the customer. By placing a Purchase Order (PO) with Randox to include the accessories detailed within this quote, the customer expressly acknowledges and agrees to these terms

Total				\$74,370.00
Tax		@7%		\$5,205.90
	Admin fee		1	\$30
	Analyzer shipping		1	\$1800
	Test kits shipping		1	\$200
Grand Total				\$81,605.90

TEST KIT DESCRIPTION

Evidence MultiSTAT Toxplex Quant kit **\$900/kit**
Cat. No. EV4516(Blood) *Cost per sample - \$37.50*

Consisting of: **24 Biochips** x 29 tests per Biochip = 696 tests (two samples per cartridge)
 Multi-analyte reagents and consumables. Discrete test regions for the tests:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Acetaminophen | 16. Meprobamate |
| 2. Amphetamines | 17. Methamphetamine |
| 3. Barbiturates | 18. Methadone |
| 4. Benzodiazepines I (Oxazepam) | 19. Methaqualone |
| 5. Benzodiazepines II(Clonazepam) | 20. Opiate |
| 6. Cocaine (Benzococgonine) | 21. Oxycodone |
| 7. Buprenorphine | 22. Phencyclidine(PCP) |
| 8. Cannabinoids (THC) | 23. Pregablin |
| 9. Xylazine | 24. Propoxyphene |
| 10. Dextromorphan | 25. Salicylate |
| 11. Ethy Glugoronide (ETG) | 26. Tramadol |
| 12. Fentanyl | 27. Tricyclic Antodepressants |
| 13. Haloperidol | 28. Zolpidem |
| 14. Ketamine | 29. 6-MAM(Heroin) |
| 15. MDMA | |

Evidence MultiSTAT – Whole Blood kit **\$360/kit**
Cat. No. EV4195 *Cost per sample - \$30.00*

Consisting of: **12 Biochips** x 20 tests per Biochip = 240 tests
 Multi-analyte reagents and consumables. Discrete test regions for the tests:

1. α-PVP(Flakka)
2. Amphetamine
3. Barbiturates
4. Benzodiazepines
5. BZG/Cocaine
6. Buprenorphine
7. Cannabinoids (THC)
8. Ethylglucoronide (EtG)
9. Fentanyl
10. Methadone
11. Methamphetamine
12. Opiate
13. Oxycodone
14. Phencyclidine (PCP)
15. Pregablin
16. Propoxyphene
17. Synthetic Cannabinoids (AB-Chiminica)
18. Synthetic Cannabinoids(AB-Pinaca)
19. Tramadol
20. Tricyclic Antidepressants (TCA)
21. 6-MAM

QUOTATION TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Delivery

The analyzer and other products will be supplied within six weeks of the purchase order.

Installation and Training

Installation will take place after delivery of the analyzer. A technical specialist shall conduct the training course, which will take the form of a three-day course for three operators.

Payment and Credit Terms

Credit terms of 30 days from product delivery.

Warranty Period

The analyzer will be covered by a comprehensive warranty for the period of 12 months from date of installation. This warranty covers all costs of parts, travel and labor.

Customer and Technical Support

Immediate technical support will be provided by telephone, with 24-hour response by technical support.

The quotation is valid till 20 December 2026

Dated: September 3rd 2025

This is to certify that Randox is the sole and only company that manufactures and supplies the Biochip Array Technology based ***Evidence Multistat*** used for postmortem drug testing in Medical Examiner and Coroner offices. This Biochip Array Technology was developed and invented by a team of research scientists in the early part of the last decade. Over 180 scientists have worked on this technology and its applications in toxicology including the advanced antibodies to detect drugs at low levels.

Over \$150 million dollars was spent in the ten year research process using cutting edge technology and patented methods involving nanotechnology, unique surface chemistry, salination , high resolution imaging and advanced engineering. This unique technology is patented by Randox in United States of America and other countries. The US Patent number is US 6498010. The system uses 9mm x 9mm Biochips with multiple Antibody/Antigen reaction sites, which allows simultaneous analysis and & reporting of multiple Drugs of Abuse parameters in an undivided specimen. This is unique and provides a high-level advantage for assessing forensic toxicology human matrices.

The *Evidence Multistat* analyzer is only available from Randox. All associated biochip test kits are also only exclusively manufactured by Randox and are also only available by this company. Randox does not have any distributors in the US for the analyzer. All service contracts are also administered and managed solely by Randox.

- MultiSTAT Whole Blood Kits – EV4195
- MultiSTAT DOA Quantitative ToxPLEX Blood Kits – EV4516
- Multistat Urine Kits – EV4193
- MultiSTAT Accessory Kit – EV4452

Pankaj Sinha
Vice President

Randox Toxicology

toll free: +1 (866) 4-RANDOX
fax: +1 (866) RANDOX 1
cell: +1 (760) 805-6025

pankaj.sinha@randox.com
www.randoxtoxicology.com

PROCUREMENT - AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

OCONEE COUNTY, SC

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 15, 2026

ITEM TITLE:

Procurement #: ITB 25-06 **Title:** Oconee County Sheriff's Office / Law Enforcement Center Roof Replacement **Department:** Sheriff

Amount: \$ 667,000.00

Contingency (15%): \$ 100,050.00

Total: \$767,050.00

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget process.

Budget: \$900,000 Project Cost: \$767,050 Balance: \$132,950 Finance Approval: _____

*Account code: 013-101-50855-93602

BACKGROUND DESCRIPTION:

The front entrance to the Oconee County Law Enforcement Center (Sheriff's Office) was constructed in 2005. Since that time, Oconee County has performed various repairs to the roofing system, including shingle replacements and temporary repairs to the TPO roofing membrane to address recurring leaks. The original installation dates of the TPO membrane and other shingle roof sections are unknown.

A portion of the existing facility utilizes an internal gutter system. As part of this project, the internal gutters will be removed and disposed of, all associated openings will be properly closed and sealed, and a new exterior gutter system will be installed.

The facility has experienced numerous roof leaks over the years, requiring repeated patching as a temporary measure. Several areas of the roof exhibit soft or "spongy" underlayment, indicating likely moisture intrusion and deterioration of underlying roof components. Replacement of the existing roofing systems is necessary to eliminate ongoing leaks, prevent further damage to the facility, and reduce future repair and maintenance costs.

On July 23, 2026, formal sealed bids were opened for the Oconee County Sheriff's Office / Law Enforcement Center Roof Replacement. The original bid opening date of July 14, 2026, was extended to July 23, 2026, by Addendum No. 2. Twelve (12) contractors were notified of the bidding opportunity, four (4) bids were received, and one (1) contractor submitted a "No Bid" response. Eskola Roofing & Waterproofing of Greer, South Carolina, submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$667,000.00.

Due to the potential for unforeseen conditions, including concealed damage beneath the existing shingle and TPO roofing systems that cannot be identified until construction begins, staff recommends establishing an owner's contingency in the amount of fifteen percent (15%) of the contract value. This contingency will provide funding for any unforeseen work that may be required during construction and help prevent delays in the project.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

Funding for this project comes from \$900,000.00 received by the County from the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. LS3P & Associates Recommendation Letter & Bid Tab

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is the staff's recommendation that Council:

1. Approve the award of ITB 25-06, Oconee County Sheriff's Office / Law Enforcement Center Roof Replacement, to Eskola Roofing & Waterproofing of Greer, South Carolina, in the amount of \$667,000.00, plus a 15% contingency in the amount of \$100,050.00, for a total project authorization of \$767,050.00.
2. Authorize the County Administrator to execute documents for this project and sign any change orders within the approved contingency amount.
3. Authorize the County Administrator to transfer funds to the appropriate line items.

Submitted or Prepared By: _____ Approved for Submittal to Council: _____
Tronda C. Popham, Procurement Director Stewart O. Jones, County Administrator

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A calendar with due dates marked may be obtained from the Clerk to Council.



ENGAGE DESIGN TRANSFORM

August 24, 2026

Tronda C. Popham
Procurement Director
Oconee County Procurement Department
451 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

ARCHITECTURE

INTERIORS

PLANNING

RE: Bids for Oconee County Law Enforcement Center Roof Replacement
Bid Opening on July 23, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

The County received four (4) bids on July 23, 2026, for the project:

- Benton Roofing: \$742,646.00
- Eskola Roofing: \$667,000.00
- IES Roofing: \$729,400.00
- Stone Commercial Group: \$720,000.00

CHARLESTON

COLUMBIA

GREENVILLE

MYRTLE BEACH

CHARLOTTE

RALEIGH

WILMINGTON

SAVANNAH

Following a thorough review of the bids and verification of all required submission materials, LS3P has determined that Eskola Roofing is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. All required information was included in the bid package, and Eskola Roofing has met the necessary qualifications and submission requirements.

Based on our evaluation, LS3P recommends that the County award the project to Eskola Roofing in the amount of \$667,000.00.

Sincerely,

Dean Oang, Assoc. AIA, Green Globes Professional
Associate Principal | Project Manager
LS3P

Bidders	Benton Roofing	Eskola Roofing / Water Proofing	IES Roofing	J. Davis Construction	Stone Commercial Group
Address	Flat Rock, NC	Greer, SC	Greenville, SC	Anderson, SC	Greenville, SC
Attended 6-23-2026 Mandatory Pre-Bid	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Grand Total (Lump Sum Bid)	\$742,646.00	\$667,000.00	\$729,400.00	NO BID	\$720,000.00
3/4" Pressure Treated Plywood (Trenching)					
4'x8' Sheet - Per Sheet	\$90.00	\$50.00	\$135.00		\$75.00
New Concrete Sidewalk Per cubic feet of new concrete sidewalk (all work, turnkey)- Per Cubic Foot	\$55.00	\$25.00	\$10.50		\$27.00

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE
ORDINANCE 2026-26**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING AN ARTICLE ENTITLED “PROTECTION FROM MASS SURVEILLANCE”; TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF COUNTY FUNDS, PROPERTY, PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT, CONTRACTS, INFORMATION-TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS, AND OTHER COUNTY RESOURCES FOR PROHIBITED MASS SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS; TO PROHIBIT THE PLACEMENT OR OPERATION OF SUCH SYSTEMS ON COUNTY PROPERTY AND WITHIN COUNTY-CONTROLLED ROAD RIGHTS-OF-WAY; TO ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCRETIONARY COUNTY APPROPRIATIONS, RECREATION FUNDS, ACCOMMODATIONS-TAX AWARDS, GRANTS, SPONSORSHIPS, AND OTHER COUNTY-CONTROLLED DISTRIBUTIONS; TO INCLUDE MUNICIPALLY SPONSORED EVENTS AND MATERIAL IN-KIND MUNICIPAL SUPPORT WITHIN SUCH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS; TO PREVENT CIRCUMVENTION THROUGH AFFILIATED OR SEPARATELY INCORPORATED ENTITIES; TO AMEND CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE III, BY ADDING PERMANENT ACCOMMODATIONS-TAX ELIGIBILITY, DISCLOSURE, AND ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS; TO AMEND CHAPTER 26 BY PROHIBITING MASS SURVEILLANCE ENCROACHMENTS WITHIN COUNTY-CONTROLLED RIGHTS-OF-WAY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, Oconee County, South Carolina, the “County,” is a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, acting by and through the Oconee County Council, the “County Council”; and

WHEREAS, S.C. Code § 4-9-25 authorizes counties to enact regulations, resolutions, and ordinances, not inconsistent with the Constitution and general law of South Carolina, respecting subjects that counties determine to be necessary and proper for their security, general welfare, convenience, health, peace, order, and good government, and directs that County powers be liberally construed in favor of counties; and

WHEREAS, S.C. Code § 4-9-30 authorizes County Council, among other powers, to acquire and control real and personal property, make and execute contracts, make appropriations for County functions and operations, provide for accounting and disbursement of funds, regulate County roads and public works, and enact and enforce ordinances implementing those powers; and

WHEREAS, County Council recognizes a fundamental distinction between the observation of a particular person, vehicle, device, activity, or event at a specific place and time and the systematic collection, aggregation, identification, retention, analysis, and sharing of large numbers of observations in a manner capable of reconstructing the movements, activities, behaviors, relationships, and associations of persons who are not suspected of criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, Modern surveillance systems may automatically identify, distinguish, classify, follow, track, or associate persons, vehicles, electronic devices, activities, movements, and locations through automated license plate recognition, vehicle-feature recognition, facial recognition, biometric identification, artificial intelligence, machine learning, computer vision, wireless-device

identification, geolocation analysis, persistent aerial surveillance, and other existing or future technologies; and

WHEREAS, County Council does not intend to prohibit automated license plate recognition merely because a system reads alphanumeric plate characters or performs a basic exact-match comparison against a specifically identified, lawfully maintained hot list, but does intend to prohibit systems that add historical tracking, external network sharing, warrantless external access, artificial intelligence, biometric recognition, persistent monitoring, or other capabilities that constitute mass surveillance; and

WHEREAS, County Council recognizes that a system whose retained information is inaccessible unless prior individualized judicial authorization is technically verified, and that neither contributes information to nor is searchable through an external surveillance database or network, does not present the same mass-surveillance risks as an open, shared, or warrantless system; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that the indiscriminate collection of identifying or reasonably linkable information concerning persons who are not suspected of criminal activity, when combined with artificial intelligence, machine learning, algorithmic analysis, interstate information sharing, external databases, or access by agencies outside the collecting jurisdiction without prior individualized judicial authorization, creates substantial risks to personal privacy, freedom of movement, freedom of association, freedom of religion, political participation, property rights, and other liberties protected by the United States Constitution, the South Carolina Constitution, and the traditions of a free society; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that a person's movements and activities may reveal visits to a home, church, medical provider, attorney, political meeting, campaign event, civic organization, place of employment, school, charitable organization, or other location from which sensitive personal activities, beliefs, and associations may be inferred; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that the governmental collection of information from a place open to public view does not eliminate the heightened privacy and liberty concerns created when large numbers of individual observations are aggregated into a comprehensive, searchable, analyzable, and shareable history of a person's movements, activities, behaviors, and associations; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that artificial intelligence and algorithmic analysis can transform ordinary images, sounds, observations, or electronic signals into detailed profiles, behavioral patterns, associations, predictions, classifications, alerts, and investigative leads concerning persons who are not suspected of criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that requiring individualized judicial authorization before accessing a detailed history of a person's movements, activities, or associations provides an important safeguard against indiscriminate, improper, politically motivated, or otherwise abusive surveillance; and

WHEREAS, County Council does not intend through this Ordinance to direct the conduct of any specific criminal investigation, interfere with a lawful emergency response, regulate ordinary cameras located entirely on private property outside County property or County-controlled rights-of-way, alter any duty expressly assigned to an elected official by the general law of South Carolina, or regulate the operational decision of a constitutional officer or municipal law-enforcement officer to request, receive, or use lawfully available information from a system that the officer's jurisdiction

does not own, fund, contract for, operate, host, maintain, or supply with locally collected surveillance information; and

WHEREAS, County Council does intend to exercise its lawful authority over County appropriations, County property, County contracts, County equipment, County personnel resources, County information-technology systems, County-administered grants, County-controlled road rights-of-way, and other County-controlled resources; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that County taxpayers should not be required to purchase, fund, operate, maintain, host, power, connect, or otherwise support a mass surveillance system that systematically records, identifies, analyzes, or shares information concerning County residents and visitors who are not suspected of criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, County Council further finds that a municipality or other governmental entity has no entitlement to receive a discretionary County appropriation, grant, sponsorship, recreation allocation, capital contribution, or other discretionary distribution of County-controlled funds; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that it is contrary to County policy and inconsistent with the County's stewardship of limited public resources to provide discretionary financial assistance to a governmental entity that chooses to participate in a prohibited mass surveillance system; and

WHEREAS, County accommodations-tax revenues are intended to promote tourism, attract visitors, support tourism-related facilities and events, and enhance the experience of persons visiting Oconee County, subject to the requirements of S.C. Code §§ 6-4-10, 6-4-25, 6-1-520, and 6-1-530; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that it is inconsistent with those purposes to use County-administered discretionary tourism funds to subsidize a municipality that systematically identifies, records, catalogs, analyzes, tracks, or shares information concerning the residents and visitors whom those funds are intended to serve or attract; and

WHEREAS, County Council recognizes that municipalities frequently sponsor festivals and events through nonprofit corporations, festival boards, committees, chambers of commerce, civic organizations, fiscal agents, or other separately organized entities; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that municipal sponsorship may consist of appropriated money or material in-kind assistance, including law-enforcement details, traffic control, road closures, barricades, municipal park or street space, public works labor, sanitation, equipment, insurance, administrative assistance, promotion, utility service, fee waivers, or other governmental support having material value; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that the substance and economic reality of a municipality's relationship with an event should control over the legal name, tax status, or nominal independence of the event organizer and that the eligibility requirements established by this Ordinance should not be circumvented by routing an application or payment through a separate committee, nonprofit corporation, contractor, chamber of commerce, fiscal agent, or affiliated organization; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 26 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances and the County's adopted encroachment policies regulate activities and installations within County-maintained roads, easements, and rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that County-owned property and County-controlled road rights-of-way should not be used as platforms for prohibited mass surveillance systems, regardless of whether a camera, sensor, scanner, device, supporting pole, communications equipment, software

platform, or associated infrastructure is owned by a governmental entity, private vendor, utility company, contractor, or other person; and

WHEREAS, County Council has determined that the following provisions are necessary and proper for the protection of the general welfare, preservation of liberty, responsible administration of County resources, and good government of Oconee County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Oconee County Council, in meeting duly assembled, that:

SECTION 1. CREATION OF CHAPTER 2 ARTICLE

Chapter 2 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances is amended by adding a new Article VII, entitled “Protection from Mass Surveillance,” consisting of Sections 2-500 through 2-516, to read as follows.

ARTICLE VII. PROTECTION FROM MASS SURVEILLANCE

Sec. 2-500. Title.

This article shall be known and may be cited as the “Oconee County Protection from Mass Surveillance Ordinance.”

Sec. 2-501. Purpose and construction.

(a) The purposes of this article are to:

1. Prevent County-controlled funds and resources from being used to acquire, own, fund, operate, maintain, host, or otherwise support prohibited mass surveillance systems;
2. Prevent County-owned or County-controlled property and road rights-of-way from being used for the installation, hosting, support, or operation of prohibited mass surveillance systems;
3. Establish uniform eligibility requirements for discretionary County appropriations, grants, accommodations-tax awards, recreation funds, sponsorships, and other County-controlled distributions;
4. Prevent circumvention of those eligibility requirements through separate corporations, nonprofit organizations, festival committees, affiliated entities, fiscal agents, contractors, or other intermediaries;
5. Protect the privacy, liberty, freedom of movement, freedom of religion, freedom of association, political participation, property rights, and other rights of Oconee County residents and visitors; and
6. Ensure that County-controlled funds and resources are administered consistently with the policies adopted by County Council.

(b) This article shall be construed broadly to accomplish its remedial and protective purposes, but not in a manner inconsistent with the Constitution or general law of South Carolina.

(c) The capability, configuration, operation, integration, and practical effect of a system shall control over its brand name, marketing description, nominal purpose, ownership, or characterization by its vendor or operator.

(d) A system composed of several separately owned or operated components shall be evaluated according to the collective capabilities and practical effect of the integrated system.

(e) As applied to an independently elected County officer whose office is created by the Constitution or general law of South Carolina, this article governs only: (1) the appropriation or expenditure of County-controlled funds; (2) contracts or procurements entered into by or on behalf of the County using County-controlled funds; and (3) the installation, ownership, operation, hosting, or maintenance of a prohibited mass surveillance system on County property or within a County-controlled right-of-way over which County Council possesses lawful proprietary or regulatory authority.

(f) Nothing in this article regulates or prohibits the operational decision of such a constitutional officer or the officer's employees to search, query, request, receive, analyze, or use lawfully available information from a system owned and operated by another entity. Ordinary use of County-provided office space, personnel, computers, networks, utilities, or communications in the lawful performance of the officer's duties does not, standing alone, constitute County acquisition, ownership, operation, hosting, maintenance, or support of a prohibited mass surveillance system.

Sec. 2-502. Definitions.

For purposes of this article, the following definitions apply:

Artificial intelligence or algorithmic analysis

“Artificial intelligence or algorithmic analysis” means artificial intelligence, machine learning, neural-network processing, computer vision, predictive analytics, pattern recognition, automated classification, automated decision-making, or another computational process used to identify, distinguish, verify, classify, compare, rank, associate, follow, track, predict, infer, profile, or generate an alert concerning a person, vehicle, electronic device, object, location, route, activity, behavior, characteristic, or association.

The term does not include basic motion detection, image stabilization, cybersecurity filtering, nonidentifying traffic counting, optical character recognition used solely to read alphanumeric license plate characters, or a basic one-to-one exact-match comparison of those characters against a specifically identified, lawfully maintained hot list, unless used as part of a prohibited mass surveillance system.

Automated biometric recognition

“Automated biometric recognition” means the automated or algorithmic identification, attempted identification, verification, categorization, reidentification, or tracking of a person based upon a biological, physiological, physical, or behavioral characteristic.

The term includes recognition or analysis based upon:

1. Face or facial geometry;
2. Iris or retina;
3. Voice or voiceprint;
4. Gait or manner of movement;
5. Fingerprint;
6. Hand, palm, or vein geometry;
7. Body shape or body geometry;
8. Ear shape;
9. Tattoos, scars, birthmarks, or other distinguishing physical features;
10. Clothing or combinations of physical appearance;

11. Behavioral characteristics; or

12. A mathematical, digital, or algorithmic template derived from any such characteristic.

The term does not include automated face or license plate detection used solely to blur, mask, or redact identities in a recording or image before disclosure or release, provided the technology is not used to identify, reidentify, classify, or track a person.

County

“County” means Oconee County, South Carolina, including its departments, agencies, boards, commissions, offices, facilities, employees, officials, and other organizational units, only to the extent County Council possesses lawful appropriations, property, contracting, administrative, or policy authority over them. With respect to an independently elected constitutional officer, the term does not extend County Council’s authority to the officer’s operational law-enforcement or other statutory decisions.

County-controlled funds

“County-controlled funds” means any money, revenue, account, appropriation, allocation, grant, reimbursement, fee, tax revenue, bond proceeds, special-revenue funds, capital funds, County-administered state or federal funds, accommodations-tax revenue, recreation funds, council-district funds, or other financial resources over which County Council possesses legal appropriation, allocation, contracting, grant-making, or expenditure authority.

The term includes County money transferred to or administered by another governmental entity, elected office, nonprofit organization, contractor, fiscal agent, committee, or other recipient.

The term does not include money that the County is expressly and unconditionally required by state or federal law, final court order, binding bond covenant, or preexisting enforceable contract to distribute to a specifically identified recipient.

Whether forfeiture proceeds, restricted grants, donations, or other funds received or administered by an independently elected constitutional officer constitute County-controlled funds shall be determined under controlling law and the terms governing the particular funds. Such funds are not deemed County-controlled solely because they are received or held by the officer’s office.

County-controlled right-of-way

“County-controlled right-of-way” means a County-owned, County-maintained, or County-controlled road, street, bridge, shoulder, median, sidewalk, drainage area, easement, right-of-way, or other transportation corridor, including the space above or below it, within which the County possesses legal authority to regulate encroachments or uses.

The term does not include an SCDOT-maintained right-of-way or a municipal right-of-way unless the County possesses a separate ownership interest, easement, maintenance responsibility, or other legal authority over the particular location.

County property

“County property” means real or personal property owned, leased, occupied, managed, maintained, or legally controlled by the County, including:

1. Administrative and governmental buildings;
2. Courthouse property;
3. Law-enforcement and detention facilities;
4. Fire, rescue, and emergency medical facilities;

5. Libraries;
6. Parks and recreation facilities;
7. Solid-waste facilities;
8. Public works and road facilities;
9. County airport property;
10. County quarry property;
11. Communications towers and sites;
12. Parking lots;
13. County vehicles, trailers, drones, poles, signs, bridges, fixtures, utility structures, traffic-control devices, computer systems, software, accounts, databases, and communications equipment; and
14. Property controlled by a County board, commission, department, agency, district, or authority to the extent County Council possesses lawful control over the use of such property.

Discretionary County distribution

“Discretionary County distribution” means any appropriation, allocation, grant, award, sponsorship, contribution, reimbursement, capital assistance, recreation allocation, council-district allocation, in-kind assistance, preferential use of County property, or other transfer of County-controlled funds or resources for which the recipient has no absolute statutory or contractual right to receive a specifically determined amount.

External agency

“External agency” means a law-enforcement agency, governmental entity, fusion center, task force, private contractor, vendor, commercial entity, nonprofit organization, or other person or organization outside the agency or jurisdiction that originally collected the surveillance information.

External surveillance database or network

“External surveillance database or network” means a multijurisdictional, regional, statewide, interstate, national, international, vendor-controlled, third-party, federated, reciprocal-access, cloud-based, shared, or otherwise interconnected system through which surveillance information may be uploaded, stored, indexed, searched, transmitted, analyzed, compared, retrieved, requested, or made accessible outside the jurisdiction that originally collected it.

The term applies regardless of whether the information is physically combined in one database or remains in separate databases that are accessible through a shared portal, federated search, reciprocal agreement, request process, vendor-assisted search, or other coordinated process.

Individualized judicial authorization

“Individualized judicial authorization” means a warrant, court order, or other prior authorization issued by a neutral judicial officer and particularized to a specifically identified person, vehicle, electronic device, place, offense, or criminal investigation.

The following do not constitute individualized judicial authorization:

1. A user entering an internal reason code;
2. Supervisory approval within the requesting agency;
3. A documented law-enforcement purpose;
4. A vendor’s terms of service;
5. An agency policy permitting access;

6. A generalized memorandum of understanding;
7. Participation in a shared database or reciprocal-access network;
8. A case number entered by the user; or
9. An audit conducted after access or use has occurred.

In-kind municipal support

“In-kind municipal support” means material assistance, services, property, labor, equipment, insurance, promotion, fee relief, utilities, or other support provided by or through a municipality without the event organizer paying the full actual cost of the assistance, or provided on preferential terms not generally available to similarly situated private applicants.

In-kind municipal support includes, but is not limited to:

1. Dedicated police details, security, traffic control, or law-enforcement personnel;
2. Dedicated fire protection, emergency medical services, rescue, or emergency-management support;
3. Road or street closures;
4. Barricades, cones, signs, detours, or traffic-control equipment;
5. Sanitation, waste collection, portable restroom service, or cleanup;
6. Public works personnel, vehicles, equipment, setup, teardown, or logistical assistance;
7. Free, donated, discounted, or preferential use of municipal parks, streets, sidewalks, buildings, parking lots, stages, facilities, or other property;
8. Municipal insurance, indemnification, purchasing, contracting, or fiscal-agent services;
9. Administrative personnel or planning assistance;
10. Electricity, water, communications service, or other utilities;
11. Printing, signs, advertising, website placement, social-media promotion, or other promotional assistance;
12. Waiver, reduction, reimbursement, or absorption of permit fees, rental charges, personnel expenses, utility charges, or other costs;
13. Appointment of members to an organizing board, committee, or governing body; or
14. Any other assistance having material financial, operational, organizational, or promotional value.

Mass surveillance

“Mass surveillance” means the systematic or routine observation, acquisition, collection, recording, identification, retention, indexing, aggregation, analysis, tracking, or sharing of information concerning persons, vehicles, electronic devices, activities, movements, locations, behaviors, or associations when:

1. The activity is not limited to a specifically identified target selected on the basis of individualized reasonable suspicion, probable cause, or individualized judicial authorization; and
2. The activity collects, processes, retains, or makes searchable information concerning persons who are not suspected of criminal activity.

Mass surveillance includes systematic collection from persons, vehicles, or electronic devices generally passing through, present within, or observable from a geographic area.

Mass surveillance may occur even when:

1. Each individual observation occurs in a public or publicly accessible place;
2. The information is initially retained for a limited period;
3. The information is collected, processed, or stored by a private contractor;
4. The collecting agency states that the information may be used only for law-enforcement or public-safety purposes;
5. Access is subject to an internal policy, internal approval, case-number requirement, or later audit;
6. Data is stored in separate databases rather than one centralized database; or
7. The system is described as a crime-prevention, public-safety, investigative, traffic-management, intelligence, or community-safety tool.

Material municipal support

“Material municipal support” means financial, operational, promotional, administrative, organizational, or in-kind municipal assistance that contributes to the planning, organization, funding, promotion, location, operation, security, traffic control, setup, cleanup, or other meaningful function of an event.

The forms of assistance specifically listed in the definition of “in-kind municipal support” are deemed material when provided for the planned operation of an event.

Municipally sponsored event

“Municipally sponsored event” means an event, festival, program, activity, performance, celebration, competition, parade, fair, concert, market, exhibition, promotion, or other gathering that is:

1. Organized, administered, controlled, funded, co-sponsored, materially supported, or officially promoted by a municipality;
2. Conducted by a nonprofit corporation, festival committee, chamber of commerce, civic organization, contractor, fiscal agent, affiliated organization, or other entity acting in partnership with or receiving material municipal support from a municipality;
3. Presented or marketed as an official municipal event;
4. Governed in whole or in part by persons appointed by a municipal governing body or municipal official; or
5. Conducted with material financial or in-kind municipal support.

The substance and economic reality of the relationship shall control over the event organizer’s corporate form, tax status, legal name, or nominal independence.

The issuance of an ordinary permit, performance of a routine governmental inspection, or provision of an unplanned emergency response available to the general public does not, standing alone, constitute municipal sponsorship.

Planned dedicated personnel, donated or discounted services, preferential use of municipal property, road closures, barricades, public works support, or other event-specific operational assistance constitute municipal sponsorship.

Participating governmental entity

“Participating governmental entity” means a municipality or other governmental entity that directly or indirectly:

1. Owns, leases, purchases, subscribes to, operates, administers, funds, or contracts for a prohibited mass surveillance system;
2. Installs, hosts, operates, maintains, or permits such a system on property or a right-of-way under its control;
3. Provides electricity, communications, infrastructure, maintenance, equipment, or other material operational support for such a system;
4. Contributes surveillance information collected by or on behalf of the entity to an external surveillance database or network; or
5. Knowingly permits a contractor, vendor, task force, other governmental entity, or affiliated organization to own, operate, administer, host, maintain, or contribute locally collected surveillance information to such a system on the entity's behalf.

A governmental entity does not become a participating governmental entity solely because one of its law-enforcement officers or employees searches, queries, requests, receives, analyzes, or uses information collected by a system owned and operated by another entity, provided the governmental entity does not otherwise engage in conduct described in items 1 through 5 of this definition.

Period of participation

“Period of participation” means the period beginning when an entity first engages in conduct described in the definition of “participating governmental entity” and ending upon written restoration of eligibility under Section 2-512.

Personally identifying or reasonably linkable information

“Personally identifying or reasonably linkable information” means information that directly identifies a person or may reasonably be used, alone or together with other information, to distinguish, locate, identify, reidentify, follow, track, profile, or associate a person, household, vehicle, or electronic device.

The term includes:

1. Facial or biometric information;
2. Images or recordings of identifiable persons;
3. License plate information;
4. Vehicle characteristics or vehicle signatures;
5. Geographic location;
6. Dates and times of presence or travel;
7. Cellular, wireless, Bluetooth, network, advertising, or other electronic device identifiers;
8. Voice, audio, or acoustic signatures;
9. Travel routes or location histories;
10. Associations between persons, vehicles, devices, organizations, or locations; and
11. Profiles, classifications, predictions, or inferences derived from such information.

Prohibited mass surveillance system

“Prohibited mass surveillance system” means any fixed, mobile, portable, temporary, vehicle-mounted, body-mounted, pole-mounted, airborne, or otherwise deployed camera, microphone, sensor, scanner, drone, aircraft, communications device, software platform, database, network, service, artificial-intelligence system, or combination thereof that:

First, systematically or routinely captures, collects, receives, derives, processes, identifies, indexes, stores, searches, analyzes, transmits, or shares personally identifying or reasonably linkable information concerning persons, vehicles, electronic devices, activities, movements, locations, behaviors, characteristics, or associations in public or publicly accessible places; and

Automated license plate recognition consisting solely of optical character recognition of alphanumeric plate characters, together with a basic one-to-one exact-match comparison against a specifically identified, lawfully maintained hot list, does not, standing alone, constitute a prohibited capability. A system using those functions is prohibited only if it otherwise satisfies this definition and also possesses, performs, enables, contributes to, or participates in at least one capability listed below.

Second, possesses, performs, enables, contributes to, or participates in one or more of the following capabilities:

1. Automated biometric recognition, including facial recognition, when used in or directed toward a public or publicly accessible place;
2. Identification, location, or tracking of electronic devices through cellular, wireless, Bluetooth, radio-frequency, advertising, network, or other electronic identifiers or signals;
3. Automated identification, reidentification, or tracking of a person, vehicle, object, or electronic device across multiple observations, cameras, sensors, locations, or times;
4. Creation of a searchable historical record of a person's, vehicle's, or device's locations, movements, routes, activities, behaviors, or associations;
5. Upload, transmission, contribution, or availability of surveillance information to an external surveillance database or network;
6. Searchability by, or access for, an external agency without prior individualized judicial authorization;
7. Artificial intelligence or algorithmic analysis used to identify patterns, behaviors, characteristics, associations, travel histories, routes, common locations, groups, relationships, risks, anomalies, predictions, classifications, investigative leads, or other inferences;
8. Automated generation of alerts, flags, rankings, classifications, watch-list matches, or risk assessments based upon behavior, association, route, location pattern, biometric characteristic, vehicle feature other than exact alphanumeric plate characters, or an algorithmically generated criterion; provided that a basic one-to-one exact-match comparison of plate characters against a specifically identified, lawfully maintained hot list does not, standing alone, satisfy this item;
9. Combination of surveillance information with commercial data, communications information, mobile-device information, social-media information, property records, public records, biometric information, or another database for identification, tracking, profiling, classification, or inference;
10. Persistent aerial, drone-based, camera-based, sensor-based, audio-based, or electronic monitoring of public or publicly accessible places;
11. Identification or tracking based upon facial appearance, gait, voice, clothing, body shape, tattoos, distinguishing features, vehicle appearance, device signals, or another physical, behavioral, or electronic characteristic; or
12. A capability substantially equivalent to one or more of items 1 through 11 that permits the system to perform "mass surveillance" as defined in this article.

A system may constitute a prohibited mass surveillance system regardless of:

1. Its brand name or vendor;
2. Whether its equipment, software, or database is publicly or privately owned;
3. Whether information is physically stored inside or outside South Carolina;
4. Whether separate databases are searched through a common portal rather than physically combined;
5. Whether information is retained for a limited number of hours or days;
6. Whether agency policy requires a user to enter a reason, case number, or documented purpose;
7. Whether access is labeled direct, indirect, reciprocal, shared, federated, assisted, or request-based;
8. Whether the system is provided without charge, through a trial program, by donation, through a grant, or through another entity;
9. Whether the vendor or operator describes the technology as artificial intelligence; or
10. Whether a system performs prohibited processing remotely after ordinary cameras, microphones, or sensors collect the original information.

Surveillance information

“Surveillance information” means any image, video, audio, signal, record, identifier, metadata, time, date, location, search history, query, alert, analytical output, profile, classification, association, prediction, or inference captured, collected, received, produced, or derived by a surveillance system.

Sec. 2-503. Limited exclusions.

(a) A prohibited mass surveillance system does not include:

1. A camera or system used solely to control entry into a secured building, gated facility, restricted parking area, utility site, detention facility, computer system, or other restricted property, provided that:
 - a. Its use is limited to verifying the identity or authority of persons seeking access;
 - b. It is not primarily directed toward persons or traffic in a public or publicly accessible area;
 - c. Its information is not used to track a person outside the secured location; and
 - d. Its information is not contributed to or searchable through an external surveillance database or network;
2. An ordinary premises-security camera that is not configured or used to conduct automated biometric recognition, automated reidentification, cross-camera tracking, historical movement analysis, or external database sharing;
3. A camera or sensor used solely for real-time traffic-flow management, nonidentifying traffic counting, road-condition monitoring, weather observation, traffic-signal operation, infrastructure monitoring, or emergency detection, provided that it does not create person-specific, vehicle-specific, or device-specific records, permit retrospective identification or tracking, or transmit identifying information to another database;
4. Periodic aerial or satellite imagery acquired for mapping, tax assessment, planning, engineering, environmental monitoring, infrastructure management, or damage assessment, provided the imagery is not used to identify or track particular persons, vehicles, or electronic devices and is not incorporated into a prohibited mass surveillance system;

5. A body-worn camera, manually operated camera, or vehicle dashboard camera used to record an officer's direct interaction, traffic stop, emergency response, or specifically identified incident, provided its recordings are not routinely subjected to automated biometric recognition, mass identification, cross-camera tracking, or incorporation into an external mass surveillance network;
6. A manually operated camera, sensor, or investigative device used during a particularized investigation pursuant to the judicial authorization required by law;
7. A temporary system narrowly deployed to locate a specifically identified abducted, missing, endangered, or fleeing person during an objectively reasonable emergency, provided that:
 - a. Deployment is limited in geographic scope and duration;
 - b. Access and use are limited to the emergency;
 - c. Information concerning uninvolved persons is not retained or used for an unrelated purpose; and
 - d. Information is not contributed to a general-purpose external surveillance database or network;
8. Incident-specific aerial or drone operations conducted for search and rescue, disaster response, fire suppression, accident reconstruction, scene documentation, fugitive apprehension, or response to a specific reported incident, provided the operation is limited in geographic scope and duration, is not a routine or persistent aerial patrol of the general public, and its information is not contributed to a general-purpose external surveillance database or network;
9. A parking, payment, toll, or access-control system that collects only the information reasonably necessary to complete a transaction or control entry and does not contribute information to a law-enforcement or mass surveillance database;
10. A cybersecurity system used to protect County computer networks, information systems, or accounts, provided it is not used to monitor the physical movements or activities of persons in public places;
11. A system used solely for emergency dispatch, emergency communications, or response to a specific reported incident, provided it is not used for continuous mass identification or tracking;
12. A system whose use is expressly required by controlling state or federal law, but only to the minimum extent expressly required; or
13. A system otherwise described in the definition of "prohibited mass surveillance system," if:
 - a. Every search, query, retrieval, or analytical use of retained information is technically conditioned upon prior individualized judicial authorization;
 - b. The technical controls prevent such access unless information identifying the judicial authorization is entered or verified and create an auditable record of the access;
 - c. The system does not contribute information to, and is not searchable through, an external surveillance database or network; and
 - d. The system does not perform real-time identification, tracking, alerting, or analytical use before the required individualized judicial authorization.

For purposes of item 13, an agency policy, user attestation, supervisor approval, case-number requirement, or after-the-fact audit, standing alone, is not a technical condition upon access.

(b) A system otherwise falling within an exclusion loses the exclusion if its information is routinely uploaded to, made accessible through, searched through, analyzed by, combined with, or used as an input for a prohibited mass surveillance system.

(c) In any eligibility determination under this article or application for a County permit, license, lease, easement, encroachment authorization, use agreement, or other County approval, the person or entity claiming an exclusion bears the burden of demonstrating that the system qualifies for an exclusion under this section. This subsection does not alter any burden of proof applicable in an enforcement action, judicial proceeding, or constitutional challenge.

Sec. 2-504. Prohibition on County expenditures and resources.

(a) No County-controlled funds may be appropriated, transferred, allocated, expended, encumbered, obligated, reimbursed, or otherwise made available, directly or indirectly, for a prohibited mass surveillance system.

(b) The prohibition includes, but is not limited to:

1. Purchase, lease, rental, financing, or acquisition;
2. Subscription, license, software, database-access, network-access, or service fees;
3. Installation, construction, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, removal, or renewal;
4. Electricity, communications, internet service, networking, cloud services, data storage, computing, or technical support;
5. Cameras, microphones, sensors, scanners, drones, poles, cabinets, foundations, signs, batteries, solar panels, wiring, communications equipment, servers, or related infrastructure;
6. Training, travel, consulting, legal, administrative, or personnel expenses;
7. Real-time alerts, retrospective searches, biometric searches, watch-list participation, hot-list participation, shared-network access, vendor-assisted searches, or analytical services;
8. Reimbursement to another governmental entity, vendor, contractor, nonprofit organization, or private person;
9. A matching contribution associated with a state, federal, private, or nonprofit grant;
10. Renewal or extension of a contract, subscription, trial, memorandum of understanding, information-sharing agreement, or other arrangement;
11. Any expenditure having the purpose or practical effect of supporting or facilitating a prohibited system.

(c) Except as provided in Section 2-501(e) and (f), no County property, County equipment, County vehicle, County drone, County communications system, County information-technology network, County software, County database, County account, County credential, County purchasing card, County employee time, or other County resource may be used to install, own, operate, host, maintain, connect, promote, or otherwise support a prohibited mass surveillance system.

(d) No County department, office, board, commission, agency, employee, official, contractor, or person acting on behalf of the County may:

1. Enter into or renew a contract, memorandum of understanding, data-contribution agreement, reciprocal hosting agreement, trial agreement, or other arrangement to acquire, own, fund, operate, administer, host, maintain, or supply locally collected surveillance information to a prohibited system;
2. Accept a donation, free trial, private grant, loaned equipment, software service, or other thing of value for the acquisition, installation, operation, hosting, maintenance, or support of a prohibited system using County property or resources;

3. Contribute County-collected surveillance information to a prohibited system or external surveillance database or network; or
 4. Do indirectly through another person or entity what this article prohibits the County from doing directly.
- (e) Each annual budget ordinance, supplemental appropriation, procurement, grant agreement, intergovernmental agreement, and departmental expenditure is subject to this section.

Sec. 2-505. Prohibition on County property.

- (a) No prohibited mass surveillance system may be installed, placed, attached, owned, operated, maintained, hosted, powered, connected, or allowed to remain on, within, above, beneath, or attached to County property.
- (b) The prohibition applies regardless of whether the system or supporting equipment is owned by:
1. The County;
 2. A County elected office;
 3. A municipality;
 4. Another county;
 5. A state or federal agency;
 6. A private vendor;
 7. A utility company;
 8. A contractor;
 9. A nonprofit organization; or
 10. Any other person or entity.
- (c) No County officer, employee, department, board, commission, agency, contractor, or other person acting on behalf of the County may issue, approve, execute, or recommend a lease, license, easement, right-of-entry agreement, attachment agreement, utility authorization, use agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other permission authorizing a prohibited system on County property.
- (d) The prohibition includes equipment that collects surveillance information for processing, identification, analysis, storage, or sharing through software or infrastructure located elsewhere.

Sec. 2-506. County road rights-of-way and encroachments.

- (a) No prohibited mass surveillance system may be installed, placed, attached, owned, operated, maintained, hosted, powered, connected, or allowed to remain within, upon, above, or beneath a County-controlled right-of-way.
- (b) The prohibition applies to a device or system attached to or supported by:
1. A County-owned pole or structure;
 2. A utility-owned pole or structure;
 3. A privately owned pole or structure;
 4. A vendor-installed pole or structure;
 5. A traffic-control device;
 6. A bridge, sign, cabinet, fixture, communications facility, or utility facility; or

7. Any other publicly or privately owned supporting infrastructure located within a County-controlled right-of-way.

(c) Ownership of a camera, microphone, sensor, scanner, device, pole, structure, communications equipment, electrical connection, or supporting infrastructure does not determine whether this section applies. Physical occupation or use of a County-controlled right-of-way is sufficient.

(d) No encroachment permit, utility authorization, attachment authorization, construction permit, right-of-entry agreement, license, lease, easement, or other permission may be issued for a prohibited system within a County-controlled right-of-way.

(e) An application involving a prohibited system shall be denied as a prohibited use and shall not be eligible for a variance, administrative exception, or staff waiver.

(f) A prohibited system installed without lawful County permission constitutes an unauthorized encroachment.

(g) This section does not assert County permitting authority over an SCDOT-maintained right-of-way or a municipal right-of-way where the County possesses no ownership, easement, maintenance responsibility, or other legal authority.

Sec. 2-507. Existing systems and removal.

(a) Within thirty days after the effective date of this article, the County Administrator, County Engineer, information-technology personnel, facilities personnel, and other appropriate County staff shall identify, to the extent reasonably ascertainable, any prohibited system:

1. Located on County property;
2. Located within a County-controlled right-of-way;
3. Supported by County-controlled funds or resources;
4. Operated, hosted, maintained, connected, or materially supported through County-owned equipment, software, networks, accounts, databases, or credentials; or
5. Operated under a County contract, permit, agreement, subscription, or authorization.

(b) The County Administrator shall consult with the County Attorney concerning any existing permit, contract, easement, property right, grant condition, or other legal obligation affecting removal or termination.

(c) Except where a different procedure is legally required, the County shall provide written notice to the owner, operator, vendor, contractor, governmental entity, utility, or other responsible person directing that:

1. County-funded or County-hosted collection, processing, analysis, transmission, and contribution to an external surveillance database or network be discontinued within ten business days after receipt of notice;
2. County-funded subscriptions, accounts, software services, and data-contribution connections be terminated within ten business days after receipt of notice; and
3. Physical devices and associated equipment be removed from County property or the County-controlled right-of-way within thirty days after receipt of notice.

(d) A revocable permit, license, authorization, or permission for a prohibited system is revoked as of the effective date of this article, subject to any notice or procedural requirement imposed by law or the applicable instrument.

(e) If a responsible person fails to remove an unauthorized device within the required period, the County may:

1. Disconnect, cover, disable, or remove the device;
2. Terminate power, communications, network, or other County-provided service;
3. Disable or terminate County-funded subscriptions, accounts, software services, or data-contribution connections;
4. Store the device for a reasonable period;
5. Recover the County's removal, storage, restoration, administrative, and legal costs;
6. Pursue injunctive or other relief; and
7. Exercise any other lawful remedy.

(f) The County shall not destroy equipment belonging to another person without legal authority and appropriate notice.

(g) Nothing in this section authorizes the unconstitutional impairment of an enforceable contract or vested property right. Where such a claim is asserted, the County Attorney shall determine the appropriate lawful procedure.

Sec. 2-508. Eligibility for discretionary County distributions.

(a) A participating governmental entity is ineligible to receive a discretionary County distribution during the period of its participation in a prohibited mass surveillance system.

(b) The ineligibility established by this section applies to:

1. General-fund appropriations;
2. Recreation funds;
3. Council-district appropriations or recommendations;
4. Capital-project assistance;
5. Economic-development grants;
6. Beautification grants;
7. Community grants;
8. Sponsorships;
9. Contributions;
10. Reimbursements;
11. County-provided in-kind assistance;
12. Use of County personnel, equipment, facilities, or property;
13. County-administered grant programs; and
14. Any other discretionary transfer of County-controlled funds or resources.

(c) No participating governmental entity may avoid ineligibility by requesting that funds be awarded to:

1. A nonprofit organization;
2. A committee;
3. A chamber of commerce;

4. A festival board;
5. A contractor;
6. A fiscal agent;
7. An affiliated entity;
8. A separate authority or commission; or
9. Another intermediary acting for, benefiting, reimbursing, or supporting the participating governmental entity.

(d) A recipient may not use County-controlled funds to pay an expense that would otherwise be paid by a participating governmental entity, thereby freeing the entity's own money for a prohibited system.

(e) This section establishes eligibility for discretionary County assistance. It does not impose a fine or require a participating governmental entity to terminate its system.

Sec. 2-509. Accommodations-tax eligibility.

(a) To the fullest extent permitted by state law, no participating governmental entity shall be eligible to receive a discretionary award, grant, allocation, sponsorship, contract, reimbursement, or distribution administered by the County from:

1. State accommodations-tax revenue allocated for tourism promotion or tourism-related expenditures under S.C. Code § 6-4-10;
2. Local accommodations-tax revenue imposed and administered under S.C. Code §§ 6-1-510 through 6-1-570;
3. Accommodations-tax revenue lawfully allocated to the County general fund and subsequently offered through a discretionary grant, contribution, sponsorship, or funding program; or
4. Any other County-administered tourism fund.

(b) No County-administered accommodations-tax award may be made for a municipally sponsored event associated with a participating municipality.

(c) Subsection (b) applies regardless of whether the named applicant or event organizer is:

1. Separately incorporated;
2. Tax exempt;
3. Governed by an independent or nominally independent board;
4. A chamber of commerce;
5. A festival committee;
6. A civic organization;
7. A contractor;
8. A fiscal agent; or
9. Otherwise legally distinct from the municipality.

(d) An event is associated with a participating municipality when that municipality provides material municipal support, including material in-kind municipal support.

(e) Police details, road closures, barricades, donated or preferential use of municipal parks or streets, public works assistance, sanitation, dedicated fire or emergency services, municipal insurance, administrative support, municipal promotion, fee waivers, utilities, equipment, and other planned

event-specific assistance shall be counted as municipal sponsorship when provided as defined in this article.

(f) The County accommodations-tax advisory committee or other advisory body shall incorporate the eligibility requirements of this article and Chapter 30, Article III, Division 2 into its application guidelines and review process.

(g) Every application must continue to be reviewed, and every expenditure must continue to satisfy the procedural and substantive tourism requirements of applicable state law.

(h) Nothing in this article:

1. Authorizes accommodations-tax money to be used for a purpose not otherwise authorized by state law;
2. Eliminates advisory-committee review required by state law;
3. Requires County Council to approve an advisory-committee recommendation;
4. Requires the County to fund every applicant or every otherwise qualifying tourism activity;
5. Affects a distribution that state law expressly and unconditionally requires the County to make to a specifically designated recipient; or
6. Authorizes the County to divert restricted accommodations-tax revenue to an unauthorized use.

(i) When an advisory committee recommends an award to an ineligible applicant, County Council may reject the recommendation and select another lawful tourism-related expenditure in accordance with state law.

(j) The independently codified provisions of Chapter 30, Article III, Division 2 shall also apply to accommodations-tax awards and shall be read consistently with this section.

Sec. 2-510. Municipally sponsored events.

(a) A municipally sponsored event associated with a participating municipality is ineligible for a discretionary County distribution.

(b) In determining whether an event is municipally sponsored, the County shall consider the totality of the financial, operational, promotional, administrative, organizational, and property relationship between the event and municipality.

(c) The following constitute municipal sponsorship when provided for the planned operation of an event:

1. Dedicated municipal police personnel or traffic control;
2. Municipal road or street closures;
3. Municipal barricades, cones, signs, or traffic-control devices;
4. Dedicated municipal fire, rescue, or emergency medical support;
5. Free, discounted, donated, or preferential use of municipal parks, streets, sidewalks, buildings, stages, parking areas, or facilities;
6. Municipal public works personnel or equipment;
7. Municipal sanitation, setup, teardown, or cleanup;
8. Municipal insurance or indemnification;
9. Municipal advertising or official promotion;
10. Municipal administrative or fiscal-agent services;

11. Waiver or absorption of fees or expenses;

12. Municipal utility service;

13. Direct municipal appropriations; or

14. Appointment or control of members of the event's board or organizing committee.

(d) An event organizer may not divide municipal support among several organizations or characterize municipal services as unrelated expenditures for the purpose or practical effect of avoiding this article.

(e) The County shall consider the fair value and operational importance of municipal support rather than merely whether the municipality issued a check to the organizer.

(f) A private event does not become municipally sponsored solely because:

1. The municipality issues an ordinary permit on the same terms applicable to similarly situated applicants;

2. The organizer pays the full published and actual cost of all municipal services and receives no preferential treatment; or

3. Municipal police, fire, rescue, or emergency medical personnel respond to an unplanned emergency.

Sec. 2-511. Applications, disclosure, and certification.

(a) Every applicant for a discretionary County distribution shall disclose:

1. Each municipality or governmental entity sponsoring or supporting the applicant, program, project, or event;

2. All municipal financial contributions;

3. All municipal in-kind support;

4. Use of municipal property;

5. Municipal personnel or equipment provided;

6. Municipal fee waivers or discounted services;

7. Municipal appointment or control of board or committee members;

8. Whether the applicant is acting as a fiscal agent, intermediary, contractor, or affiliate of a municipality;

9. Whether any participating governmental entity will directly or indirectly benefit from the requested funds; and

10. Any other information reasonably necessary to determine eligibility under this article.

(b) An applicant shall certify that:

1. The application contains a complete and accurate disclosure;

2. The requested funds will not directly or indirectly support a prohibited mass surveillance system;

3. The applicant is not being used to circumvent this article;

4. No portion of the award will be transferred, reimbursed, credited, or otherwise provided to an ineligible entity except for an arm's-length payment for lawful goods or services unrelated to a prohibited system; and

5. The applicant will notify the County of any material change in eligibility before final payment or expenditure.
- (c) The certification shall be incorporated into the grant agreement, contract, award letter, reimbursement agreement, or other instrument governing the distribution.
- (d) The County may require documentation establishing the actual cost or fair value of municipal in-kind support.
- (e) A materially false, incomplete, or misleading certification constitutes grounds for:
 1. Denial of the application;
 2. Suspension or termination of the award;
 3. Withholding of unpaid funds;
 4. Repayment of funds already disbursed;
 5. Recovery of collection and legal costs where authorized by law;
 6. Ineligibility for future discretionary County distributions for up to three years; and
 7. Any other remedy available under the grant agreement or applicable law.
- (f) Before imposing a period of future ineligibility, the County shall provide written notice of the alleged violation and a reasonable opportunity for the applicant to respond.

Sec. 2-512. Eligibility determinations and cure.

- (a) The County Administrator shall maintain a list of governmental entities determined to be participating governmental entities.
- (b) Before placing an entity on the list, the County Administrator shall provide written notice stating the factual basis for the proposed determination and allow the entity at least fifteen business days to submit responsive information.
- (c) The County Administrator shall issue a written determination following consideration of the available information.
- (d) An affected entity may appeal the determination to County Council by filing written notice with the Clerk to Council within fifteen business days.
- (e) County Council may affirm, reverse, or modify the determination following consideration at a public meeting.
- (f) An entity's ineligibility ends when the County determines that the entity has satisfied either of the following:
 1. Terminated the conduct that caused it to be a participating governmental entity, including termination of applicable contracts or subscriptions, removal of applicable devices from property under its control, withdrawal from external surveillance databases and networks, cessation of locally collected data contributions and material operational support, and submission of a certification and supporting documentation reasonably satisfactory to the County; or
 2. Reconfigured the system so that it qualifies for an exclusion under Section 2-503 or otherwise no longer constitutes a prohibited mass surveillance system, as verified by documentation reasonably satisfactory to the County.
- (g) Eligibility may be restored prospectively. Restoration does not require the County to reconsider an application or award previously denied, nor does it create an entitlement to future funding.

Sec. 2-513. Anti-circumvention.

(a) No person or entity may knowingly structure, divide, route, relabel, reimburse, transfer, or administer a transaction for the purpose or practical effect of avoiding this article.

(b) The County shall evaluate the substance and economic reality of a transaction, relationship, sponsorship, or arrangement rather than its nominal form.

(c) Prohibited circumvention includes:

1. Routing an application through a separate nonprofit organization or committee;
2. Naming a fiscal agent as the recipient while an ineligible entity controls or materially benefits from the funds;
3. Using County funds for event expenses ordinarily paid by a participating municipality;
4. Transferring County-funded equipment, services, or reimbursements to an ineligible entity;
5. Dividing one project into separate applications;
6. Characterizing material municipal support as routine permitting when it provides event-specific operational assistance;
7. Omitting or materially undervaluing municipal in-kind support;
8. Using a vendor, utility, contractor, or other governmental entity to install or operate a prohibited system on County property or in a County-controlled right-of-way.

Sec. 2-514. Administration and annual reporting.

(a) The County Administrator, County Attorney, Finance Director, Procurement Director, County Engineer, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director, information-technology personnel, and other appropriate staff shall implement this article within their respective areas of responsibility.

(b) County procurement documents, grant guidelines, applications, contracts, sponsorship agreements, accommodations-tax materials, information-technology policies, and encroachment-permit procedures shall be revised as necessary to implement this article.

(c) At least annually, the County Administrator shall provide County Council with a report identifying:

1. Known prohibited systems on County property or County-controlled rights-of-way;
2. County-funded contracts, subscriptions, hosting arrangements, and data-contribution arrangements reviewed under this article;
3. Participating governmental entities;
4. Applications denied under this article;
5. Certifications and disclosures received;
6. Removal or enforcement activity;
7. Eligibility restorations; and
8. Recommended administrative or legislative changes.

(d) No report required by this section shall disclose information that is confidential under state or federal law.

Sec. 2-515. Enforcement and remedies.

(a) The County may enforce this article through any lawful remedy, including:

1. Denial or revocation of a permit or authorization;
 2. Termination or nonrenewal of a contract, subscription, account, or agreement;
 3. Suspension or denial of a County payment;
 4. Removal of an unauthorized encroachment;
 5. Recovery of removal, restoration, storage, and administrative costs;
 6. Repayment or contractual recovery of grant funds;
 7. Injunctive or declaratory relief;
 8. Disqualification from discretionary County funding; and
 9. Any other civil, contractual, administrative, or equitable remedy authorized by law.
- (b) The County Attorney is authorized to seek injunctive relief and other civil, contractual, administrative, or equitable remedies in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (c) Grant ineligibility under this article is an eligibility condition and not a criminal penalty.

Sec. 2-516. Savings and limitations.

- (a) Nothing in this article shall be construed to:
1. Direct the handling or outcome of a particular criminal investigation;
 2. Prevent an officer or other person from directly observing a person, vehicle, object, or activity in public;
 3. Prevent a law-enforcement officer from searching, querying, requesting, receiving, analyzing, or using lawfully available information during a lawful traffic stop, emergency, search-and-rescue operation, or particularized investigation, including pursuant to individualized judicial authorization, solely because the information was collected by a prohibited mass surveillance system, provided the officer's jurisdiction does not own, fund, contract for, operate, host, maintain, or contribute locally collected surveillance information to that system in violation of this article;
 4. Regulate an ordinary private camera located entirely on private property outside County property and County-controlled rights-of-way;
 5. Assert County control over an SCDOT or municipal right-of-way where the County has no legal authority;
 6. Require withholding of money that the County is expressly and unconditionally required by state or federal law, final court order, binding bond covenant, or preexisting enforceable contract to distribute;
 7. Authorize the expenditure of restricted funds for an unauthorized purpose;
 8. Prohibit compliance with a valid court order directed to the County;
 9. Alter a duty expressly imposed upon an elected official by general state law; or
 10. Prevent the County from taking actions necessary to protect its legal interests or comply with controlling law.
- (b) Nothing in this article creates a private cause of action against the County, County Council, a County employee, or a County official.
- (c) No person or entity possesses a vested right to receive a future discretionary County distribution.

- (d) Where application of a particular provision would be preempted by controlling state or federal law, that provision shall be limited only to the minimum extent necessary to avoid preemption.
- (e) This article shall be construed consistently with any subsequently enacted state statutory framework governing the technologies addressed herein and shall yield to the extent, and only to the extent, of any direct conflict.

SECTION 2. CHAPTER 30 ACCOMMODATIONS-TAX CODIFICATION

Chapter 30, Article III, of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances is amended by adding a new Division 2, beginning with Section 30-111, to read as follows:

DIVISION 2. MASS SURVEILLANCE ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS FOR COUNTY-ADMINISTERED ACCOMMODATIONS-TAX FUNDS

Sec. 30-111. Purpose and applicability.

(a) The purposes of this division are to:

1. Prevent County-administered accommodations-tax funds from being used directly or indirectly to acquire, own, fund, operate, maintain, host, support, or subsidize prohibited mass surveillance systems;
2. Establish prospective and uniform eligibility requirements for discretionary County-administered accommodations-tax awards;
3. Protect the privacy, liberty, freedom of movement, freedom of association, and other rights of Oconee County residents and visitors;
4. Prevent municipalities from circumventing County funding restrictions through separate committees, nonprofit organizations, festival boards, chambers of commerce, fiscal agents, contractors, or affiliated entities; and
5. Ensure that County-administered tourism funds are expended consistently with County policy and applicable state law.

(b) This division applies to discretionary accommodations-tax funds administered, allocated, awarded, or expended by the County, including:

1. The County of Oconee Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund;
2. State accommodations-tax funds administered by the County for tourism promotion or tourism-related expenditures;
3. Accommodations-tax revenue lawfully allocated to the County general fund and subsequently offered through a discretionary grant, sponsorship, contribution, or award program; and
4. Any other discretionary County-administered tourism fund derived in whole or in part from accommodations-tax revenue.

(c) This division does not authorize an expenditure for a purpose not otherwise authorized by state law.

(d) This division does not require the County to withhold a distribution that state law expressly and unconditionally requires the County to make to a specifically designated recipient.

(e) This division applies prospectively to applications, awards, contracts, renewals, and authorizations submitted, made, or arising on or after the effective date of the ordinance enacting this

division. No accommodations-tax award approved before the effective date shall be rescinded solely on the basis of this division.

Sec. 30-112. Definitions.

(a) The definitions contained in Chapter 2, Article VII, Protection from Mass Surveillance, are incorporated into this division and shall have the same meanings when used herein.

(b) For purposes of this division, “County-administered accommodations-tax funds” means accommodations-tax revenue over which County Council possesses lawful discretion to select a recipient, event, program, project, expenditure, contract, grant, sponsorship, reimbursement, or other use.

(c) Where a term contained in this division conflicts with a definition contained in Division 1 of this article, the more specific definition applicable to mass surveillance eligibility shall govern solely for purposes of this division.

Sec. 30-113. Prohibited expenditures.

(a) No County-administered accommodations-tax funds may be appropriated, awarded, transferred, allocated, expended, encumbered, reimbursed, or otherwise made available, directly or indirectly, for a prohibited mass surveillance system.

(b) The prohibition includes:

1. Purchase, lease, rental, subscription, financing, or acquisition;
2. Installation, construction, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, or renewal;
3. Software, artificial-intelligence, database, cloud, network, storage, communications, or access fees;
4. Cameras, microphones, sensors, scanners, drones, poles, equipment, electricity, communications, networking, or related infrastructure;
5. Training, personnel, consulting, legal, administrative, or operational expenses;
6. A matching contribution associated with an outside grant;
7. Reimbursement to a municipality, governmental entity, vendor, contractor, nonprofit organization, or other person; and
8. Any expenditure having the purpose or practical effect of supporting, facilitating, subsidizing, or freeing other funds for a prohibited mass surveillance system.

(c) No applicant or recipient may use County-administered accommodations-tax funds to pay an expense ordinarily paid by a participating governmental entity when doing so would enable or free the participating entity to direct its own funds toward a prohibited mass surveillance system.

Sec. 30-114. Ineligible applicants, recipients, and events.

(a) A participating governmental entity is ineligible to receive a discretionary award of County-administered accommodations-tax funds during the period of participation.

(b) A municipally sponsored event associated with a participating municipality is ineligible to receive a discretionary award of County-administered accommodations-tax funds during the period of participation.

(c) Subsection (b) applies regardless of whether the named applicant or organizer is:

1. Separately incorporated;

2. Tax exempt;
3. Governed by an independent or nominally independent board;
4. A nonprofit organization;
5. A chamber of commerce;
6. A festival committee;
7. A civic organization;
8. A contractor;
9. A fiscal agent; or
10. Otherwise legally distinct from the participating municipality.

(d) A participating municipality may not avoid ineligibility by requesting that funds be paid to an intermediary, affiliated organization, contractor, committee, nonprofit organization, festival board, chamber of commerce, or fiscal agent.

(e) The substance and economic reality of the relationship between the municipality, applicant, recipient, and event shall control over legal form or nominal independence.

Sec. 30-115. Municipal sponsorship and in-kind support.

(a) For purposes of this division, material in-kind municipal support constitutes municipal sponsorship.

(b) Municipal sponsorship includes:

1. Dedicated police details, security, or traffic control;
2. Road or street closures;
3. Barricades, cones, signs, detours, or traffic-control devices;
4. Dedicated fire, rescue, emergency medical, or emergency-management support;
5. Free, donated, discounted, or preferential use of municipal parks, streets, sidewalks, buildings, stages, parking areas, or facilities;
6. Public works labor, vehicles, equipment, setup, teardown, or logistical assistance;
7. Sanitation, waste collection, portable restroom service, or cleanup;
8. Municipal insurance, indemnification, contracting, purchasing, or fiscal-agent services;
9. Municipal advertising, promotion, printing, signage, website placement, or social-media support;
10. Municipal administrative or planning assistance;
11. Waiver, reduction, reimbursement, or absorption of fees or expenses;
12. Municipal electricity, water, communications, or utility service;
13. Direct municipal appropriations; or
14. Municipal appointment or control of members of an event board or organizing committee.

(c) The County shall consider the fair value and operational importance of municipal support rather than merely whether the municipality issued a monetary payment.

(d) An otherwise private event shall not become municipally sponsored solely because:

1. The municipality issues an ordinary permit on the same terms applicable to similarly situated applicants;

2. The organizer pays the full published and actual cost of all municipal services and receives no preferential treatment; or
 3. Municipal police, fire, rescue, or emergency medical personnel respond to an unplanned emergency.
- (e) Planned, dedicated, donated, discounted, preferential, or event-specific municipal assistance constitutes municipal sponsorship.

Sec. 30-116. Applications, disclosure, and certification.

- (a) Every applicant for County-administered accommodations-tax funds shall disclose:
1. Each municipality or governmental entity sponsoring, supporting, funding, organizing, or promoting the applicant, project, program, or event;
 2. All direct municipal financial contributions;
 3. All anticipated or received municipal in-kind support;
 4. Use of municipal streets, parks, sidewalks, buildings, stages, parking areas, or other property;
 5. Municipal personnel, equipment, security, traffic control, public works, sanitation, emergency services, utilities, insurance, administrative support, advertising, or promotion;
 6. Municipal fee waivers, discounts, reimbursements, or absorbed expenses;
 7. Municipal appointment or control of board or committee members;
 8. Whether the applicant is acting as a fiscal agent, intermediary, contractor, or affiliate of a municipality;
 9. Whether a participating governmental entity will directly or indirectly benefit from the requested award; and
 10. Any other information reasonably necessary to determine eligibility.
- (b) Every applicant shall certify that:
1. Its disclosures are complete and accurate;
 2. The requested funds will not directly or indirectly support a prohibited mass surveillance system;
 3. The applicant is not being used to circumvent this division or Chapter 2;
 4. No portion of an award will be transferred, reimbursed, credited, or otherwise provided to an ineligible recipient, except through an arm's-length payment for lawful goods or services unrelated to a prohibited system; and
 5. The applicant will report any material change affecting eligibility before final payment or expenditure.
- (c) The County may require an applicant to calculate and disclose the estimated fair value of municipal in-kind support.
- (d) The certifications required by this section shall be incorporated into every applicable grant agreement, contract, award letter, reimbursement agreement, or other funding instrument.
- (e) A materially false, incomplete, or misleading application, disclosure, or certification constitutes grounds for:
1. Denial;
 2. Suspension or termination of an award;
 3. Withholding of unpaid funds;

4. Repayment of funds already disbursed;
5. Recovery of collection and legal expenses where permitted;
6. Ineligibility for future discretionary County awards for up to three years; and
7. Any other remedy authorized by the funding agreement or applicable law.

(f) Before imposing a period of future ineligibility, the County shall provide written notice and a reasonable opportunity to respond.

Sec. 30-117. Advisory review and County Council action.

(a) The County accommodations-tax advisory committee or other advisory body shall incorporate the eligibility requirements of this division and Chapter 2 into its application guidelines and review process.

(b) Every application required by state law to receive advisory review shall continue to receive such review.

(c) The advisory body shall not recommend an award to an applicant determined to be ineligible under this division.

(d) County Council shall consider advisory recommendations in accordance with state law and shall take final action upon proposed expenditures.

(e) When an advisory body recommends an award to an ineligible applicant, County Council may reject the recommendation and select another lawful tourism-related expenditure.

(f) Nothing in this division requires County Council to fund every applicant, project, program, event, or activity that may otherwise satisfy a statutory tourism category.

(g) All expenditures from the County of Oconee Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund remain subject to approval by County Council under § 30-85.

Sec. 30-118. Determinations, cure, anti-circumvention, and enforcement.

(a) The eligibility determination, notice, appeal, cure, anti-circumvention, administration, and enforcement provisions of Chapter 2, Article VII, apply to this division.

(b) An entity's ineligibility ends when the County determines that the entity has satisfied either of the following:

1. Terminated the conduct that caused it to be a participating governmental entity, including termination of applicable contracts or subscriptions, removal of applicable devices from property under its control, withdrawal from external surveillance databases and networks, cessation of locally collected data contributions and material operational support, and submission of a certification and supporting documentation reasonably satisfactory to the County; or
2. Reconfigured the system so that it qualifies for an exclusion under Section 2-503 or otherwise no longer constitutes a prohibited mass surveillance system, as verified by documentation reasonably satisfactory to the County.

(c) Eligibility shall be restored prospectively following written County approval.

(d) Restoration does not create an entitlement to an award, require reconsideration of a previously denied application, or require displacement of another approved recipient.

(e) No applicant, recipient, municipality, or other person may structure, route, divide, relabel, transfer, reimburse, or administer a transaction for the purpose or practical effect of avoiding this division.

(f) The County shall evaluate the substance and economic reality of a transaction and relationship rather than its nominal form.

(g) Nothing in this division:

1. Authorizes accommodations-tax revenue to be expended for a purpose not permitted by state law;
2. Eliminates advisory review, reporting, accounting, segregation, expenditure deadlines, or other requirements imposed by state law;
3. Requires withholding of a payment that state law expressly and unconditionally requires the County to distribute to a specifically designated recipient; or
4. Prevents application of the remaining provisions to other discretionary accommodations-tax funds if application to a particular category is found to conflict with controlling law.

(h) This division shall be construed consistently with any subsequently enacted state statutory framework governing the technologies addressed herein and shall yield to the extent, and only to the extent, of any direct conflict.

SECTION 3. CHAPTER 26 CONFORMING AMENDMENT

Chapter 26 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances is amended by adding a new Article IV, entitled “Mass Surveillance Encroachments,” consisting of Section 26-201, to read as follows:

ARTICLE IV. MASS SURVEILLANCE ENCROACHMENTS

Sec. 26-201. Prohibited mass surveillance encroachments.

(a) The definitions contained in Chapter 2, Article VII, Protection from Mass Surveillance, are incorporated into this section.

(b) No prohibited mass surveillance system may be installed, placed, attached, owned, operated, maintained, hosted, powered, connected, or allowed to remain within, upon, above, or beneath a County-owned, County-maintained, or County-controlled road, street, bridge, shoulder, median, drainage area, sidewalk, easement, or right-of-way.

(c) The prohibition applies to systems attached to or supported by:

1. County-owned poles or structures;
2. Utility-owned poles or structures;
3. Privately owned poles or structures;
4. Vendor-installed poles or structures;
5. Traffic-control devices;
6. Bridges, signs, cabinets, fixtures, utility facilities, or communications facilities; or
7. Other publicly or privately owned infrastructure located within the County-controlled right-of-way.

(d) Ownership of the camera, microphone, sensor, scanner, device, pole, structure, communications equipment, electrical connection, or supporting infrastructure does not determine whether this section applies.

(e) No encroachment permit, attachment authorization, utility authorization, construction permit, license, lease, easement, right-of-entry agreement, or other County permission may be issued for a prohibited mass surveillance system.

(f) An application involving a prohibited mass surveillance system shall be denied as a prohibited use and shall not be eligible for an administrative waiver, exception, or variance.

(g) A prohibited system installed without authorization or remaining after revocation, termination, or expiration of authorization constitutes an unauthorized encroachment and is subject to removal and enforcement under Chapters 2 and 26.

(h) This section does not assert County authority over an SCDOT or municipal right-of-way where the County possesses no ownership interest, easement, maintenance responsibility, or other legal authority.

SECTION 4. IMPLEMENTATION

(a) Within thirty days after the effective date of this Ordinance, the County Administrator shall direct all County departments and offices subject to County Council's lawful administrative authority to identify:

1. Existing County-funded or County-administered contracts, subscriptions, permits, memoranda of understanding, data-contribution agreements, hosting arrangements, and other arrangements involving mass surveillance technology;
2. Cameras, microphones, sensors, scanners, drones, equipment, or other devices located on County property or within County-controlled rights-of-way that may participate in a prohibited mass surveillance system;
3. County expenditures supporting such systems;
4. County-owned equipment, software, networks, databases, accounts, or credentials used to operate, host, maintain, connect, or contribute locally collected information to such systems; and
5. Pending applications for discretionary County distributions involving participating governmental entities or municipally sponsored events.

(b) Within sixty days after the effective date, the County Administrator shall present County Council with an implementation report.

(c) County staff shall revise County grant, recreation-fund, accommodations-tax, sponsorship, procurement, contracting, information-technology, property-use, and encroachment-permit documents before the next applicable application, procurement, renewal, or award cycle.

(d) The County Administrator shall cause the permanent substantive provisions of Sections 1, 2, and 3 to be submitted for codification in Chapters 2, 30, and 26, respectively.

SECTION 5. EXISTING OBLIGATIONS

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be interpreted to impair a binding contract, bond covenant, vested property right, final court order, or mandatory distribution in violation of controlling law.

The County Attorney shall review any claimed existing obligation and advise County Council and County staff concerning the lawful method of termination, nonrenewal, disconnection, removal, or compliance.

No County-funded contract, permit, subscription, data-contribution agreement, hosting agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other arrangement may be renewed, extended, expanded, or materially modified in a manner inconsistent with this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

Should any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, definition, application, or provision of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional, preempted, invalid, or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

County Council declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, definition, application, and provision independently of any portion subsequently declared invalid or unenforceable.

If application of the accommodations-tax provisions to a particular category of revenue or recipient is declared invalid, the remaining restrictions concerning other accommodations-tax revenues, County general funds, recreation funds, grants, County property, County-controlled rights-of-way, County contracts, County personnel, information-technology systems, and other County resources shall remain in effect.

SECTION 7. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS

All ordinances, resolutions, policies, practices, contracts, approvals, permits, or actions of the County inconsistent with this Ordinance are repealed, revoked, rescinded, or superseded only to the extent of the inconsistency and only to the extent permitted by law.

SECTION 8. CODIFICATION

The Clerk to Council and the County's codifier are authorized to:

1. Make any technical adjustments to article, division, and section numbering that are necessary to conform to the Code, without changing the substantive codification placements specified herein;
2. Correct typographical and grammatical errors;
3. Update cross-references;
4. Format the provisions consistently with the Oconee County Code of Ordinances; and
5. Make other nonsubstantive changes necessary for codification.

No codification change may alter the meaning or substantive effect of this Ordinance.

Sections 1, 2, and 3 are expressly intended to be permanent provisions of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances and shall be codified in Chapters 2, 30, and 26, respectively.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption following the required readings and public hearing, except that:

The funding-eligibility, grant, award, contract, renewal, and authorization provisions of this Ordinance apply prospectively to applications, awards, contracts, renewals, permits, and

authorizations submitted, made, or arising on or after the effective date. No discretionary award approved before the effective date shall be rescinded solely on the basis of this Ordinance. This prospective-application provision does not limit the existing-system, County-property, County-right-of-way, nonrenewal, or existing-obligations provisions of this Ordinance.

1. Existing-system identification shall occur within thirty days;
2. Required application and administrative forms shall be revised within sixty days or before the next applicable funding cycle, whichever occurs first; and
3. Removal, disconnection, termination, or disabling of existing systems shall proceed according to the notice, cure, contractual, property-right, and legal-review provisions contained herein.

ORDAINED in meeting, duly assembled, this ____ of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Oconee County Council

Matthew Durham
Chair, Oconee County Council

First Reading: August 18, 2026
Second Reading: September 01, 2026
Third Reading: September 15, 2026
Public Hearing: September 15, 2026

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE
ORDINANCE 2026-27**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, “ADMINISTRATION,” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, BY ADDING ARTICLE VIII, ENTITLED “POSITION AUTHORIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION CONTROL”; TO REQUIRE ALL COUNTY POSITIONS, REGARDLESS OF FUNDING SOURCE, TO BE INCLUDED IN A POSITION AUTHORIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE APPROVED BY COUNTY COUNCIL; TO PROVIDE THAT THE RECEIPT OR AVAILABILITY OF A GRANT, STATE APPROPRIATION, DONATION, RESTRICTED REVENUE, FEE, OR OTHER FUNDING DOES NOT INDEPENDENTLY AUTHORIZE THE CREATION OR CONTINUATION OF A COUNTY POSITION; TO ESTABLISH UNIFORM PROCEDURES FOR THE CREATION, RECLASSIFICATION, CONTINUATION, EXPIRATION, AND ABOLITION OF COUNTY POSITIONS; TO PRESERVE LAWFUL APPOINTMENT AND PERSONNEL AUTHORITY; TO PROHIBIT CIRCUMVENTION; AND TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Oconee County Council is the governing body and responsible fiscal authority of Oconee County;

WHEREAS, Section 4-9-25 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina authorizes counties to enact ordinances necessary and proper for the general welfare, convenience, and good government of the county and requires that county powers be liberally construed in favor of the county;

WHEREAS, Section 4-9-30 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina authorizes County Council to make appropriations for the functions and operations of the County and to establish, prescribe, modify, and abolish county offices, departments, boards, commissions, and agencies, subject to the Constitution and general law of the State;

WHEREAS, Section 4-9-140 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina requires County Council to adopt annual operating and capital budgets and authorizes Council to require reports, estimates, and statistics from county agencies and departments necessary for Council to perform its duties as the responsible fiscal body of the County;

WHEREAS, Section 4-9-630 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina provides that the County Administrator shall administer personnel policies, salary plans, and classification plans approved by County Council and shall exercise employment and discharge authority subject to the appropriation of funds by County Council;

WHEREAS, the creation of a position may create financial and operational obligations extending beyond the period during which a grant, state appropriation, donation, or other outside funding source remains available;

WHEREAS, County Council finds that transparency, fiscal accountability, consistency, and responsible management require all positions within county government to be expressly authorized by County Council, regardless of the proposed source of salary, benefits, equipment, facilities, administrative support, or other costs associated with the position;

WHEREAS, County Council intends to regulate the authorization, classification, funding, and continued existence of county positions without improperly exercising the hiring, supervision, disciplinary, or discharge authority lawfully assigned to the County Administrator, an elected official, an appointed board, a department head, or another appointing authority; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that the acceptance or availability of outside funds should not, by itself, permit a county entity to expand the size, scope, or recurring obligations of county government without legislative authorization.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the County Council of Oconee County, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled, that the Code of Ordinances of Oconee County is amended as follows:

SECTION 1. CHAPTER 2 AMENDED

Chapter 2, "Administration," of the Code of Ordinances of Oconee County, South Carolina, is amended by adding Article VIII, entitled "Position Authorization and Classification Control," Sections 2-550 through 2-565, to read as follows:

ARTICLE VIII. POSITION AUTHORIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION CONTROL

Sec. 2-550. Purpose and legislative intent.

(a) The purpose of this article is to establish a uniform and transparent system under which County Council determines the total number, classification, and organizational placement of positions authorized within county government.

(b) County Council retains legislative authority to determine whether a position is authorized to exist, subject to the Constitution and general law of the State of South Carolina.

(c) Nothing in this article authorizes County Council or an individual council member to select, appoint, hire, supervise, discipline, evaluate, or discharge a particular employee when such authority is assigned by law to the County Administrator, an elected official, an appointed board, a department head, or another lawful appointing authority.

(d) The authorization of a position is distinct from: (1) the selection or appointment of the individual who occupies the position; (2) the day-to-day supervision of an employee; (3) employee discipline or discharge; (4) the assignment of duties reasonably within an authorized classification; and (5) other administrative personnel decisions lawfully assigned to the County Administrator or another appointing authority.

Sec. 2-551. Definitions.

For purposes of this article, the following words and phrases have the meanings stated in this section:

Authorized Position

"Authorized position" means a full-time, part-time, temporary, seasonal, grant-funded, state-funded, restricted-fund, or other employment position that is expressly included in the position authorization and classification schedule approved by County Council or has otherwise been expressly authorized by ordinance. The term does not include a bona fide independent contractor who satisfies the requirements of this article.

County

"County" means Oconee County, South Carolina.

County Entity

"County entity" means a county department, division, office, agency, program, institution, board, commission, committee, authority, or other entity created by County Council or operating as a component or function of Oconee County government; the Oconee County Public Library System and its Board of Trustees; an office or operation administered by the County Administrator; an office of an elected or appointed county official to the extent the position at issue is funded, compensated, insured, classified, administered, or supported by Oconee County and is not exclusively controlled by the Constitution or general law of the State; and any other organizational unit whose employees are treated

as county employees for payroll, benefits, retirement, workers' compensation, liability coverage, human-resources administration, or other employment purposes. The term does not include a municipality, an independent special purpose district, or another separate political subdivision merely because the entity receives a county appropriation, grant, or distribution, unless the entity or position has been legally incorporated into county government.

Employee

"Employee" means an individual providing services in an employer-employee relationship, without regard to whether the individual is classified as full-time, part-time, temporary, seasonal, provisional, probationary, at-will, grant-funded, state-funded, or otherwise.

Outside Funds

"Outside funds" means money or financial support received or anticipated from a source other than unrestricted county general-fund revenue, including federal, state, or regional grants; state aid or state appropriations; donations, gifts, bequests, or contributions; restricted or designated revenues; special revenues; fees, charges, fines, or program income; reimbursements; proceeds received under an agreement with a public or private entity; foundation or nonprofit funding; funds held in trust or for a restricted purpose; and any other external or non-general-fund revenue.

Position authorization and Classification Schedule

"Position authorization and classification schedule" means the official schedule approved by County Council identifying the employment positions authorized within county government. The schedule may identify the county entity or organizational unit; the position title or classification; the number of authorized positions or full-time equivalents; whether the position is full-time, part-time, temporary, or seasonal; the assigned pay grade or compensation range; the principal funding source; whether the position is subject to a funding expiration date or other condition; and any other information County Council determines necessary for fiscal or organizational control.

Position

"Position" means an employment role or set of continuing employment duties intended to be performed by one or more employees. The term includes a full-time-equivalent position, a part-time position, a shared position, and a position divided among multiple employees.

Sec. 2-552. County Council authorization required.

- (a) Every position within a county entity, regardless of funding source, must be expressly included in the position authorization and classification schedule adopted by County Council or otherwise expressly authorized by ordinance.
- (b) No county entity may create, establish, advertise, recruit for, fill, appoint an individual to, employ an individual in, or continue a position unless the position has been authorized in accordance with this article.
- (c) The acceptance, receipt, award, availability, transfer, or expenditure of a grant, state appropriation, state aid, donation, gift, restricted revenue, fee, reimbursement, program income, or other funding does not independently authorize the creation, filling, or continuation of a county position.
- (d) An appropriation to a county entity, approval of a budget, authorization to apply for or accept outside funding, approval of a grant agreement, or approval of an expenditure does not authorize a position unless County Council's action expressly identifies the position or classification, the number of positions or full-time equivalents authorized, the county entity to which the position is assigned, and any expiration date, funding limitation, or other condition applicable to the position.
- (e) No position may be implied from historical practice, the availability of funding, an internal budget transfer, an organizational chart, a job description, a personnel requisition, a grant application, a grant award, an administrative approval, or the authority of a county entity to receive or expend funds.

Sec. 2-553. Outside funds do not independently authorize positions.

- (a) A county entity seeking to use outside funds for personnel costs must obtain express authorization for the position before advertising or recruiting for the position, making an offer of employment, appointing or assigning an individual to the position, entering into an employment commitment, charging salary or benefits to the outside funding source, or representing to the funding source that the County has committed to establish or continue the position.
- (b) Before requesting authorization for an outside-funded position, the requesting county entity shall disclose the proposed title and classification, duties and organizational placement, total projected salary and benefit cost, funding source and restrictions, beginning and ending dates of funding, matching-fund requirements, potential county costs and liabilities, any expectation of continuation after the funding expires, and the proposed disposition of the position when the funding ends.
- (c) Unless County Council expressly provides otherwise by ordinance, an outside-funded position terminates upon the earliest of the expiration or exhaustion of the funding, the expiration date specified in the position authorization, the loss of eligibility to use the funds for personnel expenses, or abolition of the position by County Council.
- (d) The expiration of outside funding does not create an entitlement to continued employment or require the County to continue the position using unrestricted or other county revenues.
- (e) No county entity may transfer, supplement, or substitute county funds to continue an outside-funded position beyond its authorized term without prior approval by ordinance of County Council.

Sec. 2-554. Annual position authorization and classification schedule.

- (a) The County Administrator shall submit a proposed position authorization and classification schedule to County Council with the proposed annual operating budget.
- (b) The proposed schedule must include every position within each county entity covered by this article, regardless of funding source.
- (c) The position authorization and classification schedule shall be adopted as part of the annual budget ordinance. Any amendment to the schedule during the fiscal year must be approved by a subsequent ordinance amending the annual budget ordinance.
- (d) The schedule must distinguish among regular full-time positions, regular part-time positions, temporary or seasonal positions, positions funded wholly or partially by outside funds, positions subject to a fixed expiration date, and vacant but authorized positions.
- (e) The schedule shall identify the total authorized full-time-equivalent positions for each county entity and for county government as a whole.
- (f) The County Administrator and Human Resources Director shall maintain the official administrative record of the schedule as approved and subsequently amended by County Council.
- (g) No administrative document, internal spreadsheet, personnel roster, or organizational chart may alter the number or classification of authorized positions established by County Council.

Sec. 2-555. Creation, continuation, reclassification, and abolition of positions.

- (a) A new position may be created only through express inclusion in the annual budget ordinance or by a subsequent ordinance amending the annual budget ordinance.
- (b) A request to create a position must include the proposed position title and classification, job description, assigned county entity and organizational unit, number of positions or full-time equivalents requested, compensation grade or range, complete annualized salary and benefit cost, funding source, operational justification, permanent or temporary status, expiration date if any, and anticipated future costs or obligations.

(c) County Council may authorize, deny, limit, condition, defer, or establish an expiration date for a proposed position.

(d) A material reclassification requires prior approval by County Council when the reclassification creates a substantially different function or occupation, moves the position into a higher compensation grade, materially expands the scope of a program or service, changes a temporary or outside-funded position into a regular or continuing position, extends a position beyond its authorized expiration date, results in increased annualized compensation or benefit costs not authorized in the adopted budget, or otherwise has the practical effect of creating a new position.

(e) Routine administrative adjustments that do not increase the number of authorized positions, change the essential function of a position, expand a program, or exceed compensation authority approved by County Council may be administered by the County Administrator in accordance with the County's personnel policies and classification plan.

(f) County Council may abolish, reduce, consolidate, condition, or establish an expiration date for an authorized position by ordinance, subject to applicable constitutional, statutory, contractual, and employee-grievance requirements.

(g) The abolition of a position is a legislative and organizational action and is not a directive concerning the discipline or discharge of a particular employee. Implementation shall be performed by the official or entity possessing lawful personnel authority.

Sec. 2-556. Vacancies and transfer of position authority.

(a) A vacancy does not abolish an authorized position unless County Council has established an expiration date, the position is abolished by ordinance, the annual schedule does not continue the position, or a funding or other condition upon which authorization depends has expired.

(b) An authorized but vacant position may not be transferred from one county entity, department, division, program, classification, or principal function to another without prior approval by County Council when the transfer would materially change duties or classification, increase compensation or benefits beyond existing authority, establish or expand a county service or program, continue a position after outside funding expires, or circumvent this article.

(c) Position authority belongs to the approved classification and organizational unit and may not be treated as an unrestricted personnel allowance.

Sec. 2-557. Independent contractors and circumvention prohibited.

(a) No county entity may avoid this article by designating an employee or employment relationship as an independent contractor, consultant, professional-service provider, temporary-agency worker, leased employee, compensated volunteer, employee of a foundation or nonprofit organization, or any similar designation.

(b) In determining whether an arrangement constitutes a position, the County shall consider the degree of control exercised over the individual's work, whether the duties are continuing or indefinite, whether the individual performs substantially the same duties as a county employee, whether the services are integral to an ongoing county operation, whether the County provides workspace, equipment, supervision, scheduling, or administrative support, whether the individual represents the County to the public, whether compensation is based primarily on time worked rather than completion of a defined deliverable, and applicable federal and state standards.

(c) A bona fide independent contractor performing a defined service or delivering a specified work product under a procurement or professional-services agreement is not a position solely because the contractor provides services to the County.

(d) No contract may be used to provide continuing personnel services when the arrangement's primary purpose or effect is to avoid Council authorization of a position.

(e) A contract that would provide the functional equivalent of a continuing county position for more than six months must specifically disclose that fact to County Council before approval or execution. Successive contracts, amendments, renewals, or changes in vendors must be considered together.

Sec. 2-558. Elected officials and positions controlled by state law.

(a) This article shall not be interpreted to interfere with the constitutional or statutory authority of an elected official to select, appoint, supervise, discipline, or discharge personnel.

(b) Except where general law expressly provides otherwise, positions funded, compensated, insured, classified, or administratively supported by the County remain subject to County Council's appropriation authority, the total position authorization established by County Council, countywide personnel and compensation policies lawfully applicable to the position, and the reporting requirements of this article.

(c) When general law mandates the existence, number, compensation, or appointment of particular personnel, that law controls to the extent of any direct conflict.

(d) The County Administrator and County Attorney shall identify any position believed to be wholly or partially exempt and provide County Council with the legal basis for the exemption.

Sec. 2-559. Boards, commissions, authorities, and component units.

(a) A county board, commission, authority, institution, or component unit does not possess independent authority to create a county position merely because it possesses authority to manage a county function, select or appoint staff, receive or expend grants or other revenues, adopt an internal budget, enter into contracts, or recommend personnel or organizational changes.

(b) Unless general law expressly provides otherwise, all positions within such an entity must be included in the position authorization and classification schedule approved by County Council.

(c) After County Council authorizes a position, the board, commission, authority, or other entity possessing lawful appointment and personnel authority retains that authority, subject to applicable law and county policy.

(d) Nothing in this section authorizes County Council or an individual council member to direct the selection, supervision, discipline, or discharge of a specific employee when such authority is vested elsewhere by law.

Sec. 2-560. Temporary and emergency personnel.

(a) The County Administrator may authorize temporary or seasonal personnel only within the number of positions, total full-time-equivalent authority, total compensation authority, and duration approved by County Council.

(b) In response to a declared emergency affecting life, health, safety, or property, the County Administrator may employ temporary emergency personnel without prior position authorization when the employment is reasonably necessary, delay would materially impair the response, the employment does not exceed sixty days unless extended by ordinance, and written notice is provided to County Council within five business days identifying the number of individuals, duties, duration, funding source, and estimated cost.

(c) This section does not authorize the establishment of a permanent or continuing position without Council approval.

Sec. 2-561. Certification and reporting.

(a) The County Administrator, Human Resources Director, and Finance Director shall establish administrative procedures necessary to enforce this article.

(b) Before an individual is added to the County payroll or benefit system, Human Resources and Finance shall verify that the position is authorized, assigned to the correct county entity and classification, supported by sufficient compensation authority, funded through a lawful and available source, and subject to any documented expiration date or condition.

(c) No salary, benefit, stipend, allowance, or other personnel expense may be paid for an unauthorized position.

(d) The County Administrator shall provide County Council with a position report at least quarterly showing authorized positions by county entity, filled and vacant positions, full-time-equivalent totals, positions funded wholly or partially by outside funds, positions scheduled to expire within twelve months, material reclassifications, temporary emergency personnel, and any variance or suspected noncompliance.

(e) Each county entity shall provide information requested to verify compliance.

Sec. 2-562. Effect of unauthorized action.

(a) An administrative action, internal approval, job posting, offer, appointment, employment agreement, funding transfer, or other commitment made in violation of this article does not bind the County beyond the extent required by applicable law.

(b) Upon discovering a suspected violation, the County Administrator shall prevent additional expenditures to the extent legally permissible, notify the Chairman of County Council and County Attorney, determine the legal, financial, and personnel consequences, present a corrective-action recommendation to County Council, and take lawful administrative action to prevent continued noncompliance.

(c) Nothing in this section eliminates any right afforded to an affected employee under state or federal law, the County's grievance procedure, an enforceable contract, or an applicable personnel policy.

(d) An employee shall not be personally penalized solely because the employee accepted or occupied a position that the employee reasonably believed had been properly authorized.

Sec. 2-563. No entitlement or guarantee of employment.

(a) Authorization of a position does not guarantee that the position will be filled.

(b) Authorization of a position does not create a contract of employment, property interest in employment, guarantee of continued funding, guarantee that the position will continue in a future fiscal year, or limitation upon lawful appointment, supervision, discipline, or discharge authority.

(c) All positions remain subject to funding availability, applicable law, County personnel policies, and future legislative action by County Council.

Sec. 2-564. Construction.

(a) This article shall be construed to preserve the lawful separation between County Council's legislative, fiscal, organizational, appropriation, position-authorization, and policy-making authority and the administrative and personnel authority vested in the County Administrator, elected officials, appointed boards, department heads, and other appointing authorities.

(b) When this article conflicts with a specific requirement of the Constitution or general law of the State of South Carolina, the Constitution or general law controls only to the extent of the direct conflict.

(c) The receipt of funds carrying conditions imposed by federal or state law does not waive the requirements of this article unless compliance is expressly prohibited by controlling law.

Secs. 2-565—2-575. Reserved.

SECTION 2. Implementation.

The County Administrator, Human Resources Director, Finance Director, and County Attorney are directed to take all lawful actions necessary to implement this ordinance and ensure that all county positions are administered consistently with the positions authorized in the annual budget ordinance.

SECTION 3. Codification.

The provisions of Section 1 shall be codified in Chapter 2, Article VIII, sections 2-550 through 2-564, of the Code of Ordinances of Oconee County, South Carolina. The Clerk to Council and the County's codifier may correct manifest typographical, grammatical, numbering, and cross-reference errors and may make nonsubstantive formatting corrections necessary for codification, provided no substantive change is made.

SECTION 4. Severability.

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, that determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions. County Council declares that it would have adopted this ordinance and each portion thereof irrespective of the fact that one or more portions may be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 5. Repeal of Conflicting Provisions.

All ordinances, resolutions, policies, practices, and prior actions in conflict with this ordinance are repealed or superseded to the extent of the conflict. Any provision that is not in conflict remains in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. Savings Clause.

Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to impair a vested contractual right, eliminate an employee grievance right established by law, or authorize an employment action contrary to state or federal law.

SECTION 7. Effective Date.

This ordinance takes effect immediately upon approval following third reading.

ORDAINED in meeting, duly assembled, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Oconee County Council

Matthew Durham
Chair, Oconee County Council

First Reading: August 18, 2026
Second Reading: September 01, 2026
Third Reading: September 15, 2026
Public Hearing: September 15, 2026

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE
ORDINANCE 2026-28**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-191, “APPOINTMENT; DUTIES,” OF DIVISION 4, “COUNTY ATTORNEY,” OF ARTICLE III, “OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES,” OF CHAPTER 2, “ADMINISTRATION,” OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, IN ORDER TO REQUIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION BEFORE A COUNTY AGENCY, COMMISSION, BOARD, DEPARTMENT, OR COMMITTEE MAY EMPLOY OR RETAIN AN ATTORNEY OTHER THAN THE COUNTY ATTORNEY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, Oconee County, South Carolina (“County”), acting by and through the Oconee County Council (“County Council”), is authorized by Sections 4-9-25 and 4-9-30 of the South Carolina Code of Laws to enact ordinances necessary for the governance, administration, and general welfare of the County; and,

WHEREAS, Section 2-191 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances establishes the position, duties, and responsibilities of the County Attorney; and,

WHEREAS, the County Attorney is responsible for providing legal services to County Council, the County Administrator, and County departments and agencies; and,

WHEREAS, County Council finds that the centralized provision and coordination of legal services promotes consistency in the County’s legal positions, protects the attorney-client privilege, reduces unnecessary legal expenses, and ensures proper oversight of the expenditure of public funds; and,

WHEREAS, County Council therefore desires to require its specific authorization before any County agency, commission, board, department, or committee may employ, retain, contract with, or otherwise engage an attorney other than the County Attorney.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Oconee County Council, in meeting duly assembled, that:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF SECTION 2-191.

Section 2-191, “Appointment; duties,” of Division 4, “County Attorney,” of Article III, “Officers and Employees,” of Chapter 2, “Administration,” of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-191. Appointment; duties; retention of other attorneys.

The County Attorney shall be an employee of the County and shall be compensated on a mutually agreeable basis, with the usual benefits of a County employee. The County Attorney shall provide legal services to the County Council, the County Administrator, and County departments and agencies. The County Attorney shall serve under the management of the County Administrator, in coordination with, and pursuant to, the directives and policies of County Council. The County Attorney may be subject to a contract of employment, to be executed by the County Administrator on behalf of the County at the direction of the County Council.

No County agency, commission, board, department, or committee shall employ, retain, contract with, or otherwise engage an attorney other than the County Attorney unless specifically authorized by County Council. Any such authorization shall be granted by

motion, resolution, or ordinance duly approved by County Council and shall identify the agency, commission, board, department, or committee authorized to obtain separate legal counsel.

SECTION 2. EXISTING LEGAL REPRESENTATION.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall terminate or impair an existing contract for legal services that was specifically approved by County Council before the effective date of this Ordinance. Any renewal, extension, amendment, or replacement of such contract shall require specific authorization by County Council in accordance with Section 2-191.

SECTION 3. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS.

All ordinances, resolutions, policies, and provisions of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances that are inconsistent with this Ordinance are repealed or amended to the extent necessary to give effect to this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this Ordinance is held invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. CODIFICATION.

The provisions of Section 1 of this Ordinance shall be codified as part of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances. Sections of this Ordinance that are temporary, transitional, or administrative in nature need not be codified.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval following third reading by County Council.

ORDAINED in meeting duly assembled this ____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Oconee County Council

Matthew Durham
Chair, Oconee County Council

First Reading: August 18, 2026
Second Reading: September 01, 2026
Third Reading: September 15, 2026
Public Hearing: September 15, 2026

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE
ORDINANCE 2026-29**

**AN ORDINANCE TO CONFIRM A BUILDING VARIANCE AND
TERMINATION OF PURCHASE OPTION FOR OCONEE INDUSTRY
AND TECHNOLOGY PARK IN THE PUBLIC RECORD.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Oconee County (the “**County Council**”), the governing body of Oconee County, South Carolina (the “**County**”) in a meeting duly assembled as follows:

Section 1 Findings of Fact. The County Council hereby makes the following findings of fact in connection with the enactment of this ordinance (this “**Ordinance**”):

(a) Mosdorfer Real Estate LLC, a South Carolina limited liability company (“**Mosdorfer**”) is the owner of that certain parcel of real property located in the County (“**Land**”), on which is located that certain completed industrial building constructed by Mosdorfer’s predecessor-in-interest to the Land (the “**Building**”) within the Oconee Industry and Technology Park (“**Project**”).

(b) The County is the declarant under that certain Declarations of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions, and Easements for the Oconee Industry and Technology Park f/k/a The Echo Hills Business and Industrial Park, recorded December 4, 2017, appearing of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Oconee County, South Carolina, in Record Book 2319 at Page 265, as amended by First Amendment to Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions, and Easements for the Oconee Industry and Technology Park f/k/a The Echo Hills Business and Industrial Park, dated February 22, 2022, recorded February 25, 2022, in Record Book 2784, Page 204, aforesaid records (collectively, the “**Declaration**”).

(c) Section 2.04 of the Declaration reserved the County a right to repurchase the Land in the event certain conditions more fully set forth in the Declaration were not met (the “**Right to Repurchase**”).

(d) the Building was constructed in accordance with the Declaration and the Right to Repurchase has expired.

(e) Section 2.19 of the Declaration reserved certain setbacks with respect to the Land, including that certain one hundred foot (100’) setback of all buildings from property lines which are adjacent to a public roadway as more fully forth in aforesaid Section of the Declaration (the “**Building Setback**”).

(f) The County previously approved the plans for the Building prior to its construction as required in the Declaration, which included (i) an approximately eight foot (8’) encroachment of the Building on the northeast corner of into the Building Setback and (ii) an approximately

seventeen foot (17') encroachment of the Building on the southeast corner of into the Building Setback (collectively, the "***Setback Encroachments***").

(g) The County now desires to record a document in the public record to (i) affirm the expiration of the Right to Repurchase in the public record, and (ii) grant a variance under the Declaration with respect to the Setback Encroachment of record and executes this Instrument for that purpose

Section 2 Approval of Termination of Right to Repurchase and Grant of Variance. The County Council hereby authorizes the formal release of the Right to Repurchase and the variance for the Setback Encroachments under the Declaration. The form, provisions, terms, and conditions of the termination and grant of variance, as attached as **Exhibit A** hereto (the "***Termination and Variance***"), are hereby approved, and all of the provisions, terms, and conditions thereof are hereby incorporated herein by reference as if the Termination and Variance was set out in this Ordinance in its entirety. The Chairman of County Council (the "***Chairman***") is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute the Termination and Variance in the name and on behalf of the County; the Clerk to County Council (the "***Clerk***") is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to attest the same; and the Chairman is further authorized, empowered, and directed to deliver the Termination and Variance to Mosdorfer for recordation in the County real property records. The Termination and Variance is to be in substantially the form now before this meeting and hereby approved, or with such changes therein as shall not materially adversely affect the rights of the County thereunder and as shall be approved by the Chairman, upon the advice of counsel, their execution thereof to constitute conclusive evidence of their approval of any and all changes or revisions therein from the form of the Park Agreement Amendment attached as an exhibit hereto.

Section 3 Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any section, phrase, or provision shall for any reason be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the sections, phrases, and provisions hereunder.

[Remainder of the Page Left Blank]

DONE AND ENACTED this _____ day of _____ 2026.

OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

(SEAL)

Matthew Durham, Chairman of County Council
Oconee County, South Carolina

ATTEST:

Jennifer Adams, Clerk to County Council
Oconee County, South Carolina

First Reading:	September 1, 2026 <i>(in title only)</i>
Second Reading:	September 15, 2026
Public Hearing:	October 06, 2026
Third Reading:	October 06, 2026

EXHIBIT A

Termination of Right to Repurchase and Grant of Variance

encroachment of the Building on the southeast corner of into the Building Setback (collectively, the “***Setback Encroachments***”);

WHEREAS, Section 5.05 of the Declaration permit Declarant to grant reasonable variances to the Declaration in order to overcome practical difficulties and unnecessary hardships in the application of the provisions of the Declaration, provided that, such variances are reasonably consistent with the purposes of the Declaration and do not in Declarant’s opinion, materially and adversely affect any existing Improvements (as such term is defined in the Declaration) on the Property (as such term is defined in the Declaration);

WHEREAS, Declarant has determined that, (i) requiring Mosdorfer to modify the Building to comply with the Building Setback would create practical difficulties and unnecessary hardship for Mosdorfer, and (ii) the granting of a variance by Declarant with respect to the Setback Encroachment does not materially or adversely impact the existing Improvements on the Property (as such term is defined in the Declaration);

WHEREAS, Declarant now desires to (i) affirm the expiration of the Right to Repurchase in the public record, and (ii) grant a variance under the Declaration with respect to the Setback Encroachment of record and executes this Instrument for that purpose.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy are hereby acknowledged, in accordance with the foregoing premises, Declarant hereby grants the following:

1. **Termination of Right to Repurchase.** Declarant hereby releases the Land and Building from, and forever terminates and cancels of record, the Right to Repurchase with respect thereto.
2. **Setback Variance.** Pursuant to Declarant’s rights set forth in Section 5.05 of the Declaration, Declarant hereby reduces the Building Setback for the Land from 100 feet (100’) to eighty-five feet (85’).

Except as set forth herein all other terms and conditions of the Declaration shall remain in full force and effect. For clarity and avoidance of all doubt, the foregoing termination of the Right to Repurchase and variance apply only to the Land. Any other real property encumbered by the Declaration, including, without limitation, any other Building Site (as such term is defined in the Declaration), shall remain subject to the Declaration as set forth therein.

SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

_____ day of _____, 2026.

OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA,
a body politic and corporate and political subdivision of
the State of South Carolina

WITNESSES:

Print: _____

Print: _____

By: _____
 Print: _____
 Title: _____

STATE OF _____)
)
COUNTY OF _____)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I, _____, Notary Public for the State of _____, do hereby certify that the above-named Oconee County, South Carolina, a body politic and corporate and political subdivision of the State of South Carolina by _____, its _____, personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Notary Public for _____
My Commission Expires: _____

EXHIBIT A

Legal Description

All that tract or parcel of land located in Oconee County, South Carolina, which is more particularly described below:

Tract A on the plat recorded at Book B819, Page 9 in Oconee County, South Carolina real estate records.

Derivation: Being the same property conveyed to Mosdorfer Real Estate, LLC, by deed Oconee Housing Solutions, LLC, dated of even date herewith, and recorded on even date herewith, in Book _____, at Page _____, in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Oconee County, South Carolina.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE
ORDINANCE 2026-31**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, "ADMINISTRATION," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, BY ADDING DIVISION 4, "APPOINTMENTS AND CONSTITUTIONAL OATHS," TO ARTICLE II, "COUNTY COUNCIL," CONSISTING OF SECTIONS 2-96 THROUGH 2-101; TO ESTABLISH A UNIFORM CONSTITUTIONAL OATH REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN PERSONS APPOINTED BY OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL; TO PROVIDE FOR ADMINISTRATION, SUBSCRIPTION, FILING, AND RETENTION OF SUCH OATHS; TO REQUIRE THE PROVISION OF A COPY OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES TO CERTAIN PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND SWORN COUNTY PERSONNEL; TO PROVIDE FOR TRANSITION, RATIFICATION, COMPLIANCE, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina provides that officers of the State and its political subdivisions, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, shall take and subscribe the oath of office prescribed by Article VI, Section 5;

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina prescribes an oath by which an elected or appointed officer affirms that the officer is duly qualified to exercise the duties of the office, will faithfully discharge those duties, and will preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the Constitution of the United States;

WHEREAS, Oconee County Council appoints citizens to county boards, commissions, authorities, committees, and other public bodies, and directly appoints or employs certain officials who exercise governmental authority on behalf of Oconee County;

WHEREAS, County Council finds that persons entrusted by Council with governmental authority should formally acknowledge their duty to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitutions under which that authority is exercised;

WHEREAS, County Council further finds that elected county officeholders and sworn law enforcement and public safety officers should be provided ready access to the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, County Council desires to codify these permanent requirements in a new Division 4, "Appointments and Constitutional Oaths," within Article II, "County Council," of Chapter 2, "Administration," using a portion of the section numbers presently reserved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Oconee County, South Carolina, duly assembled:

SECTION 1. CHAPTER 2 AMENDED.

Chapter 2, "Administration," of the Code of Ordinances of Oconee County, South Carolina, is amended by adding Division 4, entitled "APPOINTMENTS AND CONSTITUTIONAL OATHS," to Article II, "COUNTY COUNCIL," Sections 2-96 through 2-101, to read as follows:

DIVISION 4. - APPOINTMENTS AND CONSTITUTIONAL OATHS

Sec. 2-96. - Constitutional oath required.

(a) As a condition of appointment or service, as applicable, the following persons shall take and subscribe the oath prescribed by Article VI, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina:

1. Each member appointed by Oconee County Council to a county board, commission, authority, committee, or other public body created by Oconee County or otherwise subject to County Council's appointment authority, except where the governing state law, enabling legislation, or intergovernmental agreement provides otherwise;
2. The Oconee County Administrator;
3. The Oconee County Attorney;
4. The Clerk to Oconee County Council; and
5. Any other officer or position directly appointed by County Council that County Council expressly identifies, at the time of appointment or reappointment, as exercising governmental authority on behalf of Oconee County and as subject to this oath requirement. The Clerk to Council shall maintain a current list of positions so identified.

(b) Every person newly appointed to a position covered by section 2-96 shall take and subscribe the oath following appointment and prior to entering upon or assuming the duties of the office or position.

(c) Every person reappointed to a position covered by section 2-96 shall take and subscribe the oath following reappointment and prior to entering upon or assuming the duties of the new term.

(d) Nothing in this article shall apply solely by reason of ordinary employment with Oconee County to employees who are not directly appointed by County Council.

Sec. 2-97. - Form and administration of oath.

(a) The oath administered pursuant to this article shall be the oath prescribed by Article VI, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina:

“I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been elected, (or appointed), and that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge the duties thereof, and preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of this State and of the United States. So help me God.”

(b) A person may take the oath by affirmation rather than by swearing. The concluding phrase “So help me God” may be omitted when permitted or required by applicable law. No person shall be disqualified from appointment or service on account of a lawful election to affirm or to omit that concluding phrase.

(c) The oath or affirmation shall be administered by a person authorized by law to administer oaths and in a manner consistent with the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina.

Sec. 2-98. - Written subscription; filing and retention.

(a) Each person taking the oath shall sign a written copy of the oath.

(b) The written oath shall state the person's name; the office, position, board, commission, authority, committee, or public body in which the person will serve; the date the oath was administered; the signature of the person taking the oath; and the name, title, and signature of the person administering the oath.

(c) The original or an official copy of each subscribed oath shall be filed with the Clerk to Council.

(d) The Clerk to Council shall maintain the subscribed oaths as public records in accordance with the South Carolina Public Records Act and applicable records-retention schedules, and such records shall be subject to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Sec. 2-99. - Provision of Constitution of the United States.

(a) Oconee County shall provide a printed copy of the Constitution of the United States of America to:

1. Each person required to take the oath pursuant to section 2-96;
2. Each elected Oconee County officeholder;
3. Each sworn law enforcement officer employed by Oconee County or the Oconee County Sheriff's Office; and
4. Each sworn or credentialed public safety officer employed by Oconee County in fire, rescue, emergency medical services, emergency management, or another County public safety agency designated by County Council.

(b) For purposes of this section, the distribution requirement does not extend to municipal officers or employees, volunteer personnel, or personnel of another political subdivision unless County Council expressly provides otherwise.

(c) The Clerk to Council shall ensure that copies required by this section are made available. For elected officeholders and Council appointees, the Clerk shall provide the copy directly. For sworn law enforcement and public safety personnel, the Clerk shall provide copies in sufficient quantity to the Sheriff or applicable County public safety agency head, who shall distribute them to current personnel and thereafter to newly sworn, hired, or credentialed personnel as part of the agency's onboarding or swearing-in process.

(d) County Council finds that providing the Constitution of the United States serves the public purpose of ensuring that persons entrusted with governmental authority and public safety responsibilities have ready access to the federal Constitution.

Sec. 2-100. - Compliance and construction.

(a) A person appointed or reappointed after the effective date of the ordinance adopting this article shall not exercise the powers, cast a vote, or otherwise perform the official duties of the applicable appointment or position until the oath required by section 2-96 has been taken and subscribed.

(b) A person appointed or reappointed after the effective date who fails or refuses to take and subscribe the required oath within thirty (30) days after appointment or reappointment shall be deemed to have declined the appointment, and the position shall be treated as vacant to the extent permitted by applicable law. If state law, enabling legislation, or an intergovernmental agreement establishes a different procedure for qualification, declination, removal, or vacancy, that authority shall control.

(c) Nothing in this article shall be construed to create a new constitutional office, to declare that any particular position constitutes an office for purposes of Article VI of the South Carolina Constitution, to alter qualifications established by state law, to affect the constitutional prohibition against dual office holding, or to interfere with the authority of an independently elected official or another governmental entity.

(d) If general law, enabling legislation, or an intergovernmental agreement governing a particular office, board, commission, authority, committee, or other public body conflicts with this article, the controlling law or agreement shall govern to the extent of the conflict.

(e) A violation of this article shall not constitute a criminal offense or infraction and shall not be subject to the general penalty provisions of section 1-7 of this Code.

Sec. 2-101—2-130. - Reserved.

SECTION 2. CURRENT APPOINTEES; TRANSITION.

- (a) Each person serving on the effective date of this Ordinance in a position subject to the oath requirement established by Section 2-96 shall take and subscribe the oath within ninety (90) days after the effective date. Such persons may continue to exercise the duties of their positions during that ninety-day transition period.
- (b) The prohibition against exercising official duties before taking the oath applies only to persons appointed or reappointed on or after the effective date of this Ordinance and shall not suspend or interrupt the service of a person who was already serving on the effective date during the transition period provided in subsection (a).
- (c) To the fullest extent permitted by law, Oconee County Council hereby ratifies, confirms, and approves all lawful official actions, votes, decisions, recommendations, and other acts previously taken by persons appointed by County Council before the effective date of this Ordinance, notwithstanding the absence of a subscribed oath required by this Ordinance.
- (d) Nothing in this Section shall be construed as a determination or admission that any person serving before the effective date of this Ordinance violated the Constitution or laws of this State, lacked authority to act, or that any prior official action was invalid because the person had not taken or subscribed the oath required prospectively by this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this Ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS.

All ordinances, resolutions, policies, or portions thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance are repealed, revised, or superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall become effective upon approval following third reading and public hearing as required by law.

ORDAINED in meeting duly assembled this ____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Oconee County Council

Matthew Durham
Chair, Oconee County Council

First Reading: September 01, 2026
Second Reading: September 15, 2026
Third Reading: October 06, 2026
Public Hearing: October 06, 2026

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE
RESOLUTION 2026-13**

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING INTENT TO CEASE COUNTY MAINTENANCE ON, AND TO AUTHORIZE COUNTY CONSENT TO ABANDONMENT AND CLOSURE OF, A PORTION OF NELLIE ROAD (WA-21), SUCH ROAD BEING A PART OF THE OCONEE COUNTY PUBLIC ROAD SYSTEM; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, Nellie Road (hereafter the "Road") is currently a public road that is maintained by Oconee County ("County");

WHEREAS, at the request of certain owners of property adjacent to the Road (the "Petitioners"), the Oconee County Roads and Bridges Department investigated whether County operation and maintenance of portions of the Road should be abandoned and whether the County should consent to a petition for judicial abandonment by Petitioners;

WHEREAS, the findings of the Roads and Bridges Department (including a description of the dimensions of the portions of the Road proposed to be abandoned) are contained in its Staff Report of Findings, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference;

WHEREAS, with respect to the portions of the Road proposed to be abandoned, the County has complied with § 26-9 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances pertaining to cessation of maintenance and consent to judicial abandonment of Oconee County public road;

WHEREAS, none of the procedures undertaken by the County have shown definitively that the portions of the Road proposed to be abandoned should continue to be maintained by the County or remain a public road, and the Oconee County Transportation Committee and County staff have recommended that the County consent to judicial abandonment of the portion of the Road proposed to be abandoned; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 26-9 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances, the Petitioners must fully comply with all applicable laws, including, without limitation, S.C. Code § 57-9-10, *et seq.*, (providing all required notices and service of process to interested parties in accordance with applicable law and filing a proper petition with a court of competent jurisdiction).

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by Oconee County Council in a meeting duly assembled that:

1. Oconee County, a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, acting by and through its County Council, desires to express its intent to cease maintenance of the subject portion of the Road proposed to be abandoned, contingent on fulfillment of the requirements set forth in § 26-9 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances and South Carolina state law; Oconee County further desires to express its consent to judicial abandonment of the subject portion of the Road, as reflected on Exhibit A.
2. So long as all applicable laws are complied with, including § 26-9 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances and S.C. Code § 57-9-10, *et seq.*, and contingent on the understanding and qualification that such abandonment and closure will be at no expense or prejudice to Oconee County, Oconee County consents to the judicial abandonment and closure of the portions of the Road proposed to be abandoned, as specifically set forth above.
3. All actions, orders, and resolutions in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict only, repealed and rescinded.

4. Should any part or portion of this resolution be deemed unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such finding shall not affect the remainder hereof, all of which is hereby deemed separable.
5. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon enactment.

RESOLVED this _____ day of _____, 2026, in meeting duly assembled.

ATTEST:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Oconee County Council

Matthew Durham
Chair, Oconee County Council

STAFF REPORT OF FINDINGS

TO: County Council

FROM: Kyle Reid, Roads and Bridges Director

DATE: August 24, 2026

NELLIE RD ABANDONMENT AND CLOSURE

FACTS

Oconee County Roads and Bridges has been contacted by the developers of a new phase of Falcons Lair Subdivision along Nellie Rd (WA-21) regarding the abandonment of a portion of the road. This section is more accurately shown on the plat provided by Stephen R. Edwards & Associates, Inc., Plat Book C4, Page 7 (Attachment 1).

The proposed abandonment would abandon approximately 0.12 miles of county-maintained road. The developer has connected what would be the remaining segments of Nellie Rd within the new subdivision by creating a new intersection that ties the road alignment back together, providing a connection to Lecroy Rd and Austin Edwards Rd.

The realigned portion of Nellie Rd connecting to the new subdivision road was approved for acceptance into county maintenance at the April 7, 2026 Oconee County Council meeting.

The process for road closure and abandonment will follow the requirements listed in the ordinance referenced below. Summary of Investigations:

	<u>The County Needs to Investigate:</u>	<u>Findings:</u>	<u>Attachment</u>
1	Whether Nellie Rd is or has been a County road	Nellie Rd is a County road	2
2	If the section of Nellie Rd is still a County road	Yes, the section of Nellie Rd is still a County road	2
3	If the section of Nellie Rd to be abandoned is in use by the general public or if the road has been practically abandoned	The section of Nellie Rd is in use by the general public.	2
4	If documentation is available relating to the status of the access easement	Documentation relating to the status of the access easement is available.	3
5	If other information is available to assist County Council in evaluating the best interest for the Oconee County public.	Comments were solicited from the public by posting signs indicating that a portion of Nellie Rd was proposed for abandonment and closure.	4

Pertinent Ordinance or Regulation

Oconee County Code of Ordinances Section 26-9 (Attachment 5)

Staff Findings for Council Consideration

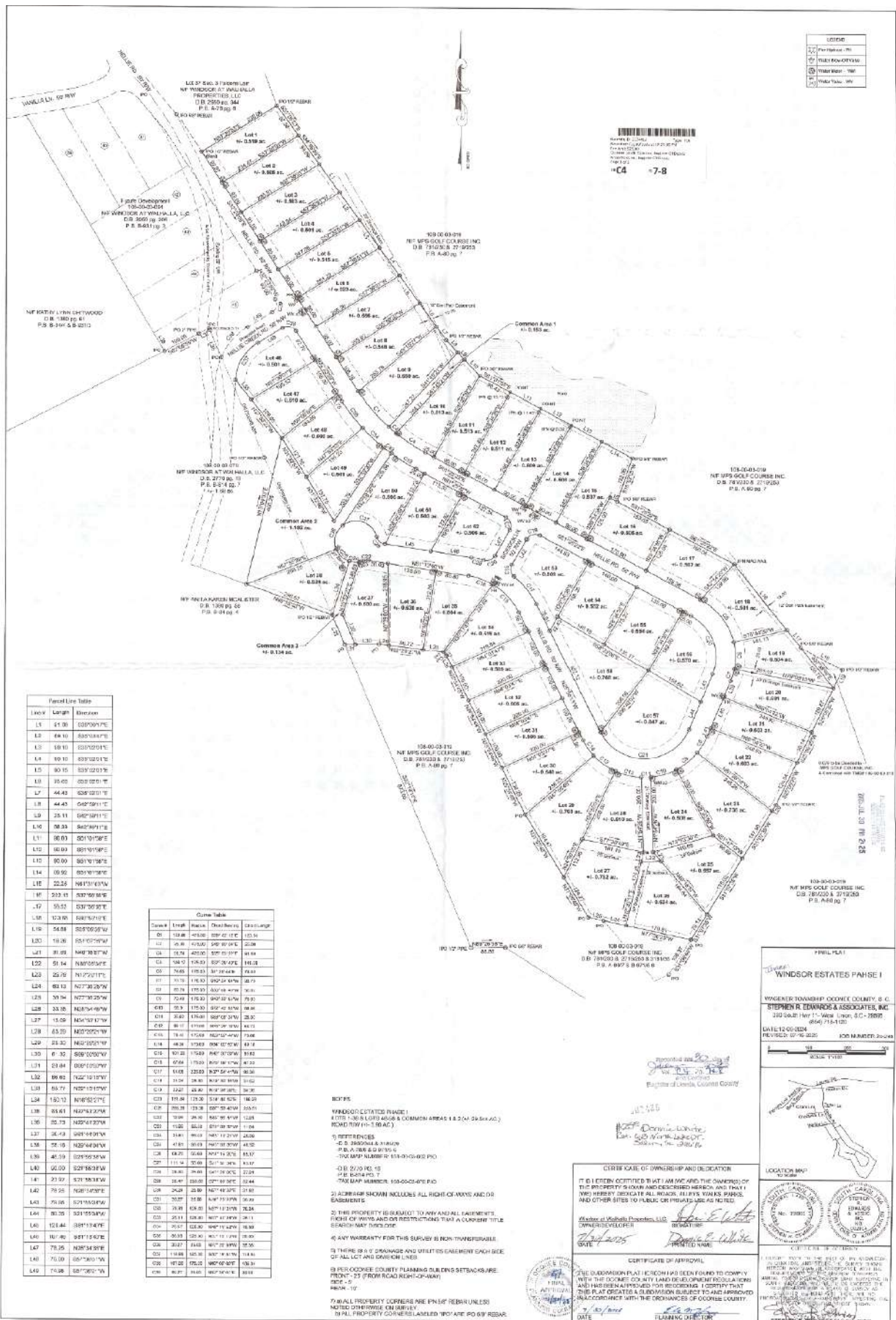
Nellie Rd is a through road from Austin Edwards Rd to Lecroy Rd. Nellie Rd runs through Falcons Lair Subdivision, serving adjacent homes and private roadways. Nellie Rd is primarily undeveloped beyond Falcons Lair Subdivision toward Austin Edwards Rd.

The developer has realigned Nellie Rd through the subdivision phase, which would allow the portion of the existing road proposed for abandonment to be incorporated into the subdivision development.

Oconee County Roads and Bridges solicited comments from the public by posting signs at the approximate location of the proposed abandonment. One respondent opposed the new alignment, citing sight-distance issues at the newly aligned intersection. Per the as-built supplied by Goldie & Associates, the vertical curve K-values are sufficient for a gravel road with a 20-mph design speed. If the court orders the abandonment and closure, the roadway will be regraded by the developer to provide for a 25-mph design speed.

If County Council consents to the proposed abandonment of the road, the developer will then need to follow S.C. Code 1976, § 57-9-10, as amended. Final abandonment and closure of the roadway is subject to the court proceedings required by state law. If County Council does not consent to the proposed abandonment, no further action is needed.

Attachment #1



Attachment #2



009330 nlc Bet: BOOK 1102 PAGE 281
 ACCEPTED FOR OCONEE COUNTY BY: Harriet E. OGA
 AUTHORITY: Conced DATE: 8-10-00

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
 COUNTY OF OCONEE

DEED TO RIGHT-OF-WAY

ROAD NO. WA-21 Nellie Rd

SUBDIVISION WHEN APPLICABLE

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT, That I, (or we) Luther J. McAlister & Harriet N. McAlister in consideration of the sum of one dollar, to me (or us) in hand paid and the acceptance and maintenance of the same as part of the Oconee County Road System, by Oconee County, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and released and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell release unto Oconee County, its successors and assigns, a right-of-way for the construction or maintenance of the road/highway from Austin Edwards Rd (WA-22) to Cul de Sac
 Name of Place Name of Place

On Road No. WA-21 State and County aforesaid, see Plat Book A764 at Page 8 recorded with the Clerk of Court, Oconee County, on and over all lands which I (or we) may own whole or in part, for the purpose of locating, constructing, improving and maintaining the above described highway with the bridges and causeways thereon, and the installation of public utilities. Said tract being shown on Tax Map 108-00-03-016 & 009 and being over the lands purchased from Lamar H. Cason, Et Al.

Deed Book 1099, Page 44 & 47. Said right-of-way to have a width of 50 feet, that

is 25 feet on each side of the center*line of the Highway except where a greater width is necessary for short distances on account of large cuts or fills and being approximately 2900 feet in length.

"Special Provisions": The undersigned waives any claim for damages, if any, and accepts the surface water from roadway and culverts and assumes the responsibility for drainage ditches, culverts, and etc., beyond the right-of-way.

*As staked and/or constructed by Oconee

OCONEE COUNTY

STATE TAX

COUNTY TAX

EXEMPT ✓

Together with all singular, the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise incident or appertaining. It is agreed that buildings, fences, signs or other obstructions will not be erected by me (or us), my heirs, assigns, or administrators within the limits of the right-of-way herein conveyed.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all singular, the said right-of-way and the rights hereinbefore granted unto the said Oconee County, its successors and assigns forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I (or we) have hereunto set my (or our) hand...seal...this 7th day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand, and 00.

SIGNED, SEALED & DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

Linda Young
Sheila O'Kelley

Luther J. McAlister
Harriet N. McAlister
 Signature

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF OCONEE:

Personally appeared Linda Young and made oath

That he/she saw the within named Luther J. McAlister & Harriet N. McAlister

Sign, seal and as his/her act and deed, deliver the within written Deed: and that with Sheila
 O'Kelley

witnessed the execution thereof.

Sworn to before me this 7th day of August A.D. 20 00

Sheila O'Kelley (L.S.) Linda Young
 Notary Public for South Carolina Witness sign here
 My Commission Expires 05-20-2004

FILED FOR RECORD
 OCONEE COUNTY, S.C.
 REGISTER OF DEEDS
 2000 AUG 10 P 2:42

BOOK 1378 PAGE 324

Ruto 1816
 n/c
 ACCEPTED FOR OCONEE COUNTY BY: Sam H. Henry
 AUTHORITY: General DATE: 10/27/04
 THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
 COUNTY OF OCONEE

Dirt _____ (FT) Paved _____ (FT)

DEED TO RIGHT-OF-WAY

ROAD NO. WA-21 Nellie Road

SUBDIVISION WHEN APPLICABLE

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT, That I, (or we) Luther J. McAlister & Harriet N. McAlister Jt Survivorship in consideration of the sum of one dollar, to me (or us) in hand paid and the acceptance and maintenance of the same as part of the Oconee County Road System, by Oconee County, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and released and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell release unto Oconee County, its successors and assigns, a right-of-way for the construction or maintenance of the road/highway from

Austin Edwards Rd (WA-22) to Lecrov Rd (WA-29).

Name of Place

Name of Place

On Road No. WA-21 State and County aforesaid, see Plat Book A764 at Page 8 recorded with the Clerk of Court, Oconee County, on and over all lands which I (or we) may own whole or in part; for the purpose of locating, constructing, improving and maintaining the above described highway with the bridges and causeways thereon, and the installation of public utilities. Said tract being shown on Tax Map 108-00-03-009 and being over the lands purchased from Myra A. Hilliard & Et Al.

Deed Book 1099, Page 47. Said right-of-way to have a width of 50 feet, that

is 25 feet on each side of the center*line of the Highway except where a greater width is necessary for short distances on account of large cuts or fills and being approximately 1800 feet in length.

"Special Provisions": The undersigned waives any claim for damages, if any, and accepts the surface water from roadway and culverts and assumes the responsibility for drainage ditches, culverts, and etc., beyond the right-of-way.

*As staked and/or constructed by Oconee

OCONEE COUNTY

STATE TAX _____

COUNTY TAX _____

EXEMPT ☒

Together with all singular, the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise incident or appertaining. It is agreed that buildings, fences, signs or other obstructions will not be erected by me (or us), my heirs, assigns, or administrators within the limits of the right-of-way herein conveyed.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all singular, the said right-of-way and the rights hereinbefore granted unto the said Oconee County, its successors and assigns forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I (or we) have hereunto set my (or our) hand...seal...this 22nd day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand, and Four

SIGNED, SEALED & DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

Sam H. Henry
George P. Brown Jr.

Luther J. McAlister
Harriet N. McAlister
 Signature

FILED FOR RECORD
 OCONEE COUNTY, S.C.
 REGISTER OF DEEDS
 2004 OCT 27 P 12:06

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF OCONEE:

Personally appeared W. Sam Henry and made oathThat he/she saw the within named Luther J. McAlister & Harriet N. McAlister Jt Survivorship

Print or type name

Sign, seal and as his/her act and deed, deliver the within written Deed: and that with

George P. Brown Jr. witnessed the execution thereof.

Sworn to before me this 22nd day of October A.D. 2004.

Sam H. Henry (L.S.) W. Sam Henry
 Notary Public for South Carolina Witness sign here

My Commission Expires 11-07-2011

BOOK 1378 PAGE 328

01347

Ret
NlcACCEPTED FOR OCONEE COUNTY BY: [Signature]
AUTHORITY: Dever DATE: 10/27/04THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE

Dirt _____ (FT) Paved _____ (FT)

DEED TO RIGHT-OF-WAY

ROAD NO. WA-21 Nellie Road

SUBDIVISION WHEN APPLICABLE

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT, That I, (or we) MPS Development Inc. A SC Corp. By: in consideration of the sum of one dollar, to me (or us) in hand paid and the acceptance and maintenance of the same as part of the Oconee County Road System, by Oconee County, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and released and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell release unto Oconee County, its successors and assigns, a right-of-way for the construction or maintenance of the road/highway from Austin Edwards Rd (WA-22) to Lecrov Rd (WA-29).

Name of Place

Name of Place

On Road No. WA-21 State and County aforesaid, see Plat Book A96 at Page 7 recorded with the Clerk of Court, Oconee County, on and over all lands which I (or we) may own whole or in part; for the purpose of locating, constructing, improving and maintaining the above described highway with the bridges and causeways thereon, and the installation of public utilities. Said tract being shown on Tax Map 108-00-03-002 and being over the lands purchased from Falcons Lair Dev. Corp.

Deed Book 781, Page 226. Said right-of-way to have a width of 50 feet, that

is 25 feet on each side of the center*line of the Highway except where a greater width is necessary for short distances on account of large cuts or fills and being approximately 2000 feet in length.

"Special Provisions": The undersigned waives any claim for damages, if any, and accepts the surface water from roadway and culverts and assumes the responsibility for drainage ditches, culverts, and etc., beyond the right-of-way.

*As staked and/or constructed by Oconee

OCONEE COUNTY

STATE TAX _____

COUNTY TAX _____

EXEMPT ✓

Together with all singular, the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise incident or appertaining. It is agreed that buildings, fences, signs or other obstructions will not be erected by me (or us), my heirs, assigns, or administrators within the limits of the right-of-way herein conveyed.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all singular, the said right-of-way and the rights hereinbefore granted unto the said Oconee County, its successors and assigns forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I (or we) have hereunto set my (or our) hand...seal...this 22nd day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand, and Four

SIGNED, SEALED & DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

[Signature]

MPS Development Inc. A SC Corp.

By: [Signature]

Signature

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF OCONEE:

Personally appeared W. Sam Henry and made oathThat he/she saw the within named MPS Development Inc. A SC Corp. By:

Print or type name

Sign, seal and as his/her act and deed, deliver the within written Deed: and that with

George P. Brown Jr. witnessed the execution thereof.Sworn to before me this 22nd day of October A.D. 20 04[Signature] (L.S.) W. Sam Henry

Notary Public for South Carolina

Witness sign here

My Commission Expires 11-07-2011FILED FOR RECORD
OCONEE COUNTY, S.C.
REGISTER OF DEEDS
2004 OCT 27 P 12:06

BOOK 1378 PAGE 329

01317

Ret
N/cACCEPTED FOR OCONEE COUNTY BY: GeneralDATE: 10/27/04THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE

Dirt _____ (FT) Paved _____ (FT)

DEED TO RIGHT-OF-WAY

ROAD NO. WA-21 Nellie Road

SUBDIVISION WHEN APPLICABLE

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT, That I, (or we) MPS Golf Course Inc. A SC Corp. By: in consideration of the sum of one dollar, to me (or us) in hand paid and the acceptance and maintenance of the same as part of the Oconee County Road System, by Oconee County, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and released and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell release unto Oconee County, its successors and assigns, a right-of-way for the construction or maintenance of the road/highway from Austin Edwards Rd (WA-22) to Lecrov Rd (WA-29).

Name of Place _____ Name of Place _____

On Road No. WA-21 State and County aforesaid, see Plat Book A80 at Page 7 recorded with the Clerk of Court, Oconee County, on and over all lands which I (or we) may own whole or in part; for the purpose of locating, constructing, improving and maintaining the above described highway with the bridges and causeways thereon, and the installation of public utilities. Said tract being shown on Tax Map 108-00-03-019 and being over the lands purchased from Falcons Lair Dev. Corp.

Deed Book 781, Page 230. Said right-of-way to have a width of 50 feet, that

is 25 feet on each side of the center*line of the Highway except where a greater width is necessary for short distances on account of large cuts or fills and being approximately 1200 feet in length.

"Special Provisions": The undersigned waives any claim for damages, if any, and accepts the surface water from roadway and culverts and assumes the responsibility for drainage ditches, culverts, and etc., beyond the right-of-way.

*As staked and/or constructed by Oconee

OCONEE COUNTY

STATE TAX _____

COUNTY TAX _____

EXEMPT ✓

Together with all singular, the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise incident or appertaining. It is agreed that buildings, fences, signs or other obstructions will not be erected by me (or us), my heirs, assigns, or administrators within the limits of the right-of-way herein conveyed.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all singular, the said right-of-way and the rights hereinbefore granted unto the said Oconee County, its successors and assigns forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I (or we) have hereunto set my (or our) hand...seal...this 22nd day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand, and Four

SIGNED, SEALED & DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

W. Sam Henry
George P. Brown Jr.

MPS Golf Course A SC Corp.

By: John M. Paul

Signature

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF OCONEE:

Personally appeared W. Sam Henry and made oathThat he/she saw the within named MPS Golf Course A SC Corp. By:

Print or type name

Sign, seal and as his/her act and deed, deliver the within written Deed: and that with

George P. Brown Jr. witnessed the execution thereof.Sworn to before me this 22nd day of October A.D. 20 04

George P. Brown Jr. (L.S.) W. Sam Henry
Notary Public for South Carolina Witness sign here

My Commission Expires 11-07-2011

FILED FOR RECORD
OCONEE COUNTY, S.C.
REGISTER OF DEEDS
OCT 27 P 12:06

Attachment #4



Attachment #5

Sec. 26-9. Road closure and abandonment.

(a)

Prior to any request for abandonment and closure of an Oconee County public road being brought before county council, county staff, including, without limitation, the Oconee County Roads and Bridges Department, will conduct a thorough investigation, adequate to determine: whether the road in question is, or ever has been, a county road; whether the road still is a county road; whether the road is still in general public use or has been practically abandoned; whether the county has any documentation relating to the status of the road, such as a dedication of right-of-way or easement, or a deed, or whether such road was subject to a prescriptive easement or easement by usage; whether there is any other information which would assist county council in determining whether the best interests of the Oconee County public will be served by consenting to the abandonment and closure of the road in question or by not so consenting. As a part of the investigatory process addressed herein, the Oconee County Roads and Bridges Department will post, adjacent to the road in question, a sign, marked so as to be as conspicuous as possible, prominently providing notice that the road, or portion thereof abutting the sign, is proposed for abandonment and closure, soliciting citizen comments concerning such proposed abandonment and closure, and providing notice of address and telephone number at the Oconee County Public Works Department to which concerned citizens may forward comments concerning such proposed abandonment and closure.

(b)

Following the investigation referred to in paragraph 1, supra, county staff will make a recommendation to the Transportation Committee of Oconee County Council, which, in turn, will make a recommendation to Oconee County Council as to whether the request for abandonment and closure should be honored or not, and provide the results of the staff investigation to county council for its use and final determination whether the county will consent to such abandonment and closure. Included with the recommendation will be any public comments received and the recommendation(s) of county staff and the transportation committee.

(c)

County council shall then, in public meeting, make a determination as to whether the request for abandonment and closure should be consented to by the County, acting by and through county council, and shall signify its decision by motion, if such decision be negative, and shall signify its decision by resolution of county council, if such decision be positive.

Attachment #5

(d)

If county council consents to the abandonment and closure of a county public road, as addressed herein, the resolution of county council consenting to such abandonment and closure shall state, with particularity, the road, or section thereof, to be closed; the basis for county council's decision to consent to the abandonment and closure of the road; and the absolute requirement that, prior to the road, or portion thereof, in question being closed, the primary private party(ies) in interest (unless the county, itself, is the party requesting the road closure, in which case the county will be the primary party in interest to comply with this section) shall fully comply with all applicable law, including, without limitation, S.C. Code 1976, § 57-9-10, as amended, and shall provide all required notice and service of process. Only upon the meeting of such conditions and the fulfillment of such procedures will the county council consent to such abandonment and closure be considered final, and that shall be stated in such resolution.

(Ord. No. 2010-28, §§ 1—5, 10-19-2010)

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC**

**COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 15, 2026
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 6:00 PM**

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

PRT Commission-Local ATAX Recommendations / Fall 2026 Cycle / \$50,000

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

A portion of Local ATAX revenues received by Oconee County are made available for ATAX grants through Ordinance 2011-12. ATAX grants are to be tourism related grants that meet the ATAX guidelines specified by local and State mandates. Grants are recommended by the PRT Commission based on tourism impact of the project and approved by County Council. All external ATAX grant recipients are required to turn in intermediate reports every 180 days to the progress of the grant and a final report upon completion of the grant. These reports are placed in the grant folder, which is kept active by the PRT staff until the grant is considered complete. Internal projects through Oconee PRT are also funneled through local ATAX for eligible projects.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

COMPLETE THIS PORTION FOR ALL PROCUREMENT REQUESTS:

Does this request follow Procurement Ordinance #2001-15 guidelines? No [review #2001-15 on Procurement's website]

If no, explain briefly: NO-ATAX grants

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

FY27 Local ATAX (235) Balance **\$903,157**

If all grants/projects approved/new balance will be: **\$853,157**

COMPLETE THIS PORTION FOR ALL GRANT REQUESTS:

Are Matching Funds Available: Yes

If yes, who is matching and how much: Varies by grant!

ATTACHMENTS

Spreadsheet approved by PRT Commission on 8.31.26.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Request approval of local ATAX recommendations per the attached spreadsheet.

Reviewed By/ Initials:

_____ County Attorney _____ Finance _____ Grants _____ Procurement

Submitted or Prepared By:

Approved for Submittal to Council:

Phil Shirley, PRT Director
Department Head/Elected Official

Stewart Jones, County Administrator

Council has directed that they receive their agenda packages a week prior to each Council meeting, therefore, Agenda Items Summaries must be submitted to the Administrator for his review/approval no later than 12 days prior to each Council meeting. It is the Department Head / Elected Officials responsibility to ensure that all approvals are obtained prior to submission to the Administrator for inclusion on an agenda.

A calendar with due dates marked may be obtained from the Clerk to Council.

Sep-26

Local ATAX Grants

Applicant	Funds Request	Project Description	Amount Eligible for ATAX	PRT Commission Recommendation
City of Seneca	\$7,500	WHNS Advertising "Race for the Green"	\$7,500	\$3,500
Discover Upcountry SC	\$20,000	Advertising-Print and Digital	\$20,000	\$7,000
Eagles Nest Arts Center	\$15,270	Advertising	\$15,270	\$5,400
Friends of Jocassee	\$5,000	2027 Bell Fest	\$3,780	\$3,000
Lake and Mountain Quilters Guild	\$2,500	Advertising	\$2,500	\$1,755
Oconee Farm Foundation	\$10,000	Advertising Oconee Farm Crawl	\$6,046	\$5,000
The FARM Center	\$10,000	Advertising	\$10,000	\$5,500
Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail	\$2,345	Advertising	\$2,345	\$2,345
Walhalla Performing Arts Center	\$12,000	Advertising	\$12,000	\$7,000
Westminster Music Centre	\$11,450	Advertising & Facility improvements	\$11,450	\$7,000
Wild Hearts Equine Center	\$6,429	Fabricate & Install Visitor Kiosk	\$3,215	\$2,500
TOTAL	\$102,494		\$94,106	\$50,000

PRT Internal Request

TOTAL		\$0		\$0	\$0

Total Requested

\$50,000

AGENDA
OCONEE COUNTY PRT COMMISSION
August 31, 2026
10:00 AM
Council Chambers

Call to order
Welcome Guests
Approval of Minutes
Treasurer's Report
Grant Presentation
Vote on Grants

Grant Applications Received

1. City of Seneca – advertising Half Marathon & 5K - \$7,500.00
2. Discover Upcountry Carolina Association – advertising - \$20,000.00
3. Eagles Nest Art Center – advertising - \$15,270.00
4. Friends of Jocassee – advertising Bell Fest - \$5,000.00
5. Lake & Mountain Quilters Guild – advertising - \$2,500.00
6. Oconee Farm Foundation – advertising Oconee Farm Crawl - \$10,000.00
7. The FARM Center – advertising - \$10,000.00
8. Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail – promotion of UHQT - \$2,345.00
9. Walhalla Performing Arts Center – advertising winter/spring 2026/2027 season - \$12,000.00
10. Westminster Music Centre – advertising Music on Main - \$11,450.00
11. Wild Hearts Equine Therapeutic Center – fabricate & install visitor kiosk - \$6,429.14

Vote on Grants

Next meeting date is November 19, 2026, in County Council Chambers beginning at 10:00 am.

Grants for the Spring cycle will be due Friday, February 15, 2027 by 3:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

PRT Commission

Tony Adams
Noah Baker
Trey Barnett

Alex Butterbaugh
Kevin Cope
Riley Johnson
Kelli Thomason

Sep-26

Local ATAX Grants

Applicant	Funds Request	Project Description	Amount Eligible for ATAX	PRT Commission Recommendation
City of Seneca	\$7,500	WSPA Advertising "Race for the Green"	\$7,500	
Discover Upcountry SC	\$20,000	Advertising-Print and Digital	\$20,000	
Eagles Nest Arts Center	\$15,270	Advertising	\$15,270	
Friends of Jocassee	\$5,000	2027 Bell Fest	\$3,780	
Lake and Mountain Quilters Guild	\$2,500	Advertising	\$2,500	
Oconee Farm Foundation	\$10,000	Advertising Oconee Farm Crawl	\$6,046	
The FARM Center	\$10,000	Advertising	\$10,000	
Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail	\$2,345	Advertising	\$2,345	
Walhalla Performing Arts Center	\$12,000	Advertising	\$12,000	
Westminster Music Centre	\$11,450	Advertising	\$11,450	
Wild Hearts Equine Center	\$6,429	Fabricate & Install Visitor Kiosk	\$3,215	
TOTAL	\$102,494		\$94,106	\$0

PRT Internal Request

TOTAL		\$0		\$0

Total Requested

\$0

County copy
2027 RACE

OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT APPLICATION FORM FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization City of Seneca
B. Address 221 E. N. First Street
Seneca SC 29678

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

A. ATAX Funds Requested \$ 7,500.00
B. How will ATAX Funds be used? Funds will be used to secure
advertising with WHNS-Fox to promote out-of-county
C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 100% town-
dance.
D. Funds furnished by your organization See Budget Attached
Matching Grant _____ Source _____
Matching Grant _____ Source _____
Other Funding _____ Source _____
Other Funding _____ Source _____

Provide an itemized total budget for your event and an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED**, attach on a separate sheet

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Title Race for the Green-The Ultimate 5K-2027
B. Description of project The Ultimate 5K And Kids Fun Run
C. Who will benefit from this project? Businesses in both downtown by-pass
area of Seneca; also, county hotels, restaurants, and
peripheral county retail businesses.

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning Sept 1, 2026 Ending MARCH 13, 2027

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

☒ Government Entity: City of Seneca Municipality
☐ Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date _____
☐ Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # _____
☐ Date of Determination Letter _____

RECEIVED
8.13.26

VI. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

This project will create overnight stays in both County & City hotels and will fill up County-wide restaurants.

A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?

2026 (1,200) 2027 (1,500)

B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?

Last Year 7090

This Year 7090

C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?

Last year: Furnished Separately

This Year: Furnished Separately

D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?

WVNS TV ADS, SOCIAL MEDIA - OUR 3 WEBSITES - Newsletter going to 20,000 people.

E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners)

Registration ORIGIN Print out - PLACER DATA ANALYTICS.

F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data?

(i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics) Geo-fencing program, website clicks, lead ads targeting custom audiences - PARTICIPANT Registration demographics.

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes ☒ No

Name of the Auditor: MARLENE J. JENKINS, GREENVILLE SC

VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? NO

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

A. Contact Name: Riley Johnson Title EVENTS Coordinator
Signature [Signature] Date 8-12-26
Address 221 E. N. 1ST ST Seneca SC 29678
Email rjohnson@seneca.sc.us Fax No. _____
Phone Number (s) 864-723-3910

B. Alternate Contact Name: DERRIC WILLIAMS Title EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Signature [Signature] Date 8-12-26
Address 221 E. N. 1ST ST Seneca SC 29678
Email _____ Fax No. _____
Phone Number (s) 864-888-0880

DWILLIAMS@SENECA.SC.US

**RACE FOR THE GREEN 2027 – THE ULTIMATE 5K
CITY OF SENECA**

T-SHIRTS, SOCKS, MEDALS	\$ 21,000.00
TIMING FOR THE RACE	\$ 5,000.00
MCS SEPTICSEPTIC	\$ 1,700.00
HOTEL ROOMS FOR TIMER	\$ 500.00
DJ FOR EVENT	\$ 500.00
ATAX GRANT – WHNS	\$ 7,500.00
HAT ADS	\$ 30,000.00
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 3,000.00
PHOTOGRAPHER FOR RACE	\$ 500.00
TOTAL	\$ 69,700.00

OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT APPLICATION FORM FOR TOURISM-RELATED PROJECTS

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization: *Discover Upcountry Carolina Association*

B. Address: *500 E North Street, Suite C, Greenville, SC 29601*

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

A. ATAX Funds Requested: *\$20,000.00*

B. How will ATAX Funds be used?

Advertising will be placed in travel-oriented publications and platforms such as Southern Living, South Carolina Living, The SC Travel Guide, Carolina Country, Georgia Magazine, AAA Living, Our State, and Blue Ridge Country. Additionally, digital advertising campaigns (Facebook sponsored & boosted posts, Google Search, Google Display, and sponsored content) will be implemented to drive traffic to our website.

C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? *100%*

D. Funds furnished by your organization	<i>\$534,500.00</i>
Matching Grant	<i>\$38,000.00</i> Source – <i>Tourism Advertising Grant (SCPRT)</i>
Matching Grant	<i>\$310,000.00</i> Source – <i>Accommodations Tax funds</i>
Other Funding	<i>\$186,500.00</i> Source – <i>Appropriated funds from SC General Assembly</i>

Provide an itemized total budget for your event **and** an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED; attach on a separate sheet.**

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Title: *Upcountry Advertising and Marketing*

B. Description of project: *Discover Upcountry Carolina Association was founded in 1978 to promote tourism as an economic development activity in the six northwestern counties of South Carolina. Our organization implements a comprehensive advertising, marketing, and public relations program that attracts around 685,000 leisure visitors to the region every year. Our marketing efforts focus on a 500-mile radius, and the main message in our advertising is aimed at the outdoor enthusiast due to the abundance of lakes, rivers, waterfalls, parks, and forest lands.*

C. Who will benefit from this project?

The main beneficiaries of our campaigns will be lodging, restaurants, attractions, and recreation providers/outfitters. Retail establishments will also enjoy the benefits, along with festivals & special events held in the county.

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

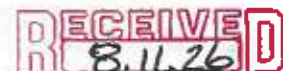
Beginning: *9-1-26*

Ending: *7-31-27*

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

☐	Government Entity
☐	Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date
☒	Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # <i>501(c)6</i>
☐	Date of Determination Letter <i>January 14, 1998</i>

VI. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA



How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

The entire advertising and marketing budget for our organization is targeted at audiences that are within a 50- to 500-mile radius of our region. Most of our advertising creative features outdoor recreation and the scenic beauty of the area, such as the waterfalls, Lakes Jocassee, Keowee, and Hartwell, the Chattooga River, the four state parks, and three county parks. Also featured in the annual Visitors Guide to the Upcountry are many Oconee attractions, sites, and activities.

A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?

Projected 52,550 in FY 2026. 55,178 in FY 2027.

B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50-mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?

Last Year – 52,550 This Year – 55,178

C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?

Last Year – 85,652 This Year – 89,935

D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50-mile radius of Oconee County?

The primary target markets for the Upcountry have traditionally been SC, NC, GA, and FL, so the majority of our advertising purchases are in publications (and on online platforms) that reach these geographic markets. The typical visitor to our area has a mean age of 57, an average HHI of \$92,463, and an average group size of 3.4.

E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes tourism in Oconee County? (i.e., photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners)

Several of our members and partners in Oconee County have shared testimonials about the positive benefits our efforts bring to their businesses and organizations. Lodging properties, restaurants, attractions, and recreation providers are the businesses that provide us with the most feedback. We also receive excellent feedback on our social media channels from visitors about their experiences in the area.

F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data? (i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics)

Visitor data is collected by our organization via multiple methods. Website visits are tracked with Google Analytics. Our site currently gets approximately 1.75 million unique visits per year. Inquiries are generated from advertising and marketing efforts. These inquiries will be fulfilled with the Upcountry Visitors Guide, and they will also be added to our e-newsletter mailing list (66,000 subscribers). Facebook Analytics is also tracked to evaluate our engagement. We currently average over 147,000 engagements per month on our page.

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? *Yes.*

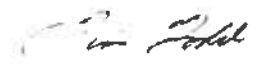
Name of the Auditor: *McKinley, Cooper, & Company, 777 Lowndes Hill Rd, Bldg. 3, Ste 225, Greenville, SC 29607*

VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? *No.*

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project. I will complete interim reports every sixty days and two final reports at completion of project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

A. Contact Name: *Tim Todd*

Title: *Executive Director*

Signature: 

Date: *August 11, 2026*

Address: *500 E North Street, Suite C, Greenville, SC 29601*

Email: *Tim@UpcountrySC.com*

Phone Number: *864-233-2690*



Advertising & Marketing Budget for FY 2027

Literature	Cost
2027 Upcountry Visitors Guide	\$55,000.00
Upcountry Map	\$7,500.00
Waterfalls Brochure	\$7,500.00
Digital, Print, & Social Media	
AAA Digital	\$15,000.00
Advent Media (Good Housekeeping)	\$4,000.00
Blue Ridge Country	\$21,000.00
Compass Media - Digital Program	\$51,500.00
Compass Media - Print	\$10,000.00
Facebook/Social Media Advertising	\$30,000.00
Georgia Magazine	\$10,000.00
Graphic Design Services (VG & ads)	\$3,000.00
Guest Quest	\$12,000.00
Our State	\$20,000.00
Phoenix Publishing - Digital Program	\$12,000.00
Power Play Marketing - USA Today	\$19,500.00
SC Fishing Regulations	\$1,000.00
SC Living	\$22,000.00
SC Travel Guide	\$8,000.00
Southern Living	\$55,000.00
Spartanburg Visitors Guide	\$1,500.00
Unscheduled	\$2,000.00
VisitGreenvilleSC Visitors Guide	\$3,000.00
Website Development	\$35,000.00
Shipping/Postage	\$35,000.00
Research	\$10,000.00
Photography/Videography	\$30,000.00
Photography/Videography CMS (Crowdriff)	\$10,000.00
Promotions/PR/Writing Projects	\$25,000.00
Promotional Giveaways	\$2,500.00
Familiarization Tours	\$1,500.00
Special Projects	
Euphoria	\$10,000.00
SCATR Revolutionary War Marketing	\$5,000.00
Total	\$534,500.00



**FY 2027 Budget For
Oconee County Accommodations Tax Grant Funds**

Print Media (<i>Southern Living, SC Living, Georgia Magazine, and Blue Ridge Country Magazine</i>)	\$12,500.00
Social Media (FaceBook & Instagram) and Digital Advertising (Google Search & Display)	\$ 7,500.00

OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT APPLICATION FORM FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization Eagles Nest Art Center

B. Address 4 Eagle Lane

Salem, SC 29676

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

A. ATAX Funds Requested \$ 15,270.00

B. How will ATAX Funds be used? Advertising-radio, programs, communications, need a copier/printer for ENAC office, paint and supplies to improve appearance of bathrooms and auditorium and upgrade electrical for the stage, signage, website outreach, copy and print supplies

C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 30%

D. Funds furnished by your organization

Matching Grant

Source

Matching Grant

Source

Other Funding x

Source fundraising events

Other Funding x

Source individual donations, sponsors

Provide an itemized total budget for your event and an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED**, attach on a separate sheet

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Title Event series for 2026 & 2027

B. Description of project Monthly events: concerts, plays, shows, seminars, local and regional talent shows, education, improved signage, improved appearance of bathrooms and auditorium

C. Who will benefit from this project? Artists and musicians have a venue to perform and educate. The communities of upstate South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina, Residents and visitors of all ages for family entertainment, restaurants, AIRBNB's, hotels, BRBO's, businesses and other local attractions.

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning August 14, 2026

Ending August 13, 2027

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

Government Entity: 1

x

Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date 6-15-2020

x

Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # 85-1919132

Date of Determination Letter 9-19-2020

VI. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

RECEIVED
8.14.26

Phone Number (s) 864-710-8758

Eagles Nest Art Center Budget – August 13, 2026 to August 13, 2027

Concert Events

Performance	\$2500 x 4 shows	\$10,000
Hospitality	\$125 x 4 shows	\$500
Sound	\$500 x 4 shows	\$2,000
Posters	\$100 x 4 shows	\$400
Advertising	\$500 x 4 shows	\$2,000
Facebook Boosting	\$125 x 4 shows	\$ 500
	Budget	\$15,400.00

Local Talent Events

Performance	\$400 x 4 shows	\$1,600
Sound	\$100 x 4 shows	\$ 400
Posters	\$100 x 4 shows	\$ 400
Advertising	\$200 x 4 shows	\$ 800
Facebook Boosting	\$125 x 4 shows	\$ 500
	Budget	\$3,700.00

Other Needs:

Printer/Copier	\$800
Stage Lighting	\$4,000
HVAC upgrades	\$2,000
Signs for identifying location	\$3,000
Paint & supplies	\$2,000
<u>Roof and inside wall repairs</u>	<u>\$20,000</u>
Budget	\$31,800.00

Total Budget	\$50,900.00
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**OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT
APPLICATION FORM
FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS**

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization Friends of Jocassee
B. Address 161 Holcombe Circle Salem, SC 29678

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

A. ATAX Funds Requested \$ 5,000
B. How will ATAX Funds be used? To cover expenses associated with the hosting of the annual BellFest celebration
C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 100%
D. Funds furnished by your organization 1,000
 Matching Grant _____ Source _____
 Matching Grant _____ Source _____
 Other Funding _____ Source _____
 Other Funding _____ Source _____

Provide an itemized total budget for your event **and** an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED, attach on a separate sheet**

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Title BellFest Celebration
B. Description of project Annual fundraising project for the Friends of Jocassee non-profit organization
C. Who will benefit from this project? Devils Fork State Park, Oconee County Tourism, Local Hotels/Restaurants

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning March 20, 2027 Ending March 20, 2027

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

Government Entity: _____
☒ Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date 12/27/12

Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # _____

Date of Determination Letter _____

RECEIVED
8.14.26

VI. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

This annual celebration was founded to recognize and promote the biodiversity in the Jocassee Gorges and serve as the primary fundraising event for Friends of Jocassee (FOJ). The Jocassee Gorges and Lake Jocassee are a significant driver of tourism in Oconee County, and the FOJ organization exists to protect and promote this area.

- A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?
2026 Attendance - approx 2,000, 2027 Attendance estimate - 2,500
- B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?
Last Year 1250
This Year 1500
- C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?
Last year : 35 at Devils Fork (unknown in community)
This Year: 45 expected at Devils Fork (will work on fidelity of overnight in community)
- D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?
Social Media Platforms (website, FaceBook, Instagram), Filers, Word-of-Mouth,
- E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners) Pull photos from Drive photographic montage from last year and any other documentation we have
- F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data? (i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics) What demographic info do we have

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes No X
Name of the Auditor: N/A

VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? No

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

- A. Contact Name: Matthew McCreery Title FOJ Board Member - Grants
Signature *Matthew McCreery* Date July 23, 2026
Address 201 Stone Briar Lane Easley, SC 29842
Email mat@jocasseerequest.com Fax No.
Phone Number (s) 864-616-0670
- B. Alternate Contact Name: Dan Polstra Title FOJ Board Member - President
Signature *Dan Polstra* Date July 23, 2026
Address 107 STILLINGFORD CT SIMPSONVILLE, SC 29681
Email danpolstra@gmail.com Fax No.
Phone Number (s) 864-380-8768

BellFest at Devils Fork State Park



March 20th, 2027

Expense allocation for requested grant funding:

- Shuttle Services -1,750
 - Due to limited parking at Devils Fork State Park, shuttle services are needed
- Entertainment – 1,000
 - Each year we provide musical entertainment and other local media/artist outlets that are family friendly
- Supplies – 600
 - Tent Rentals, Chair Rentals, Audio/Video
- Advertisement – 400
 - Fliers, Leading Events to promote
- Food/Beverages – 1,250

Prepared by Matthew McCreery

Board Member of Friends of Jocassee (Grants)

Email: matt@jocasseequest.com

864-616-0670

Mandy Holbrooks

From: Matthew McCreery <matt@jocasseequest.com>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2026 9:20 AM
To: Mandy Holbrooks; Phil Shirley
Subject: ATAX Grant Application - Friends of Jocassee
Attachments: ATAX Grant Application_Friends of Jocassee (1).pdf; BellFest at Devils Fork State Park_Expenses.pdf; 1000018819.png; 1000018820.png; 1000018817.png; 1000018818.png; 1000018816.png



This message needs your attention

- This is their first email to your company.

Report this Email or Mark as Safe

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To whom it may concern,

Good morning, my name is Matt McCreery and I'm a Board Member with the nonprofit organization Friends of Jocassee. Please see our attached ATAX Grant Application requesting support for our annual BellFest celebration.

This annual event is held at Devils Fork State Park to celebrate the Oconee Bell flower as well as promoting the beauty and uniqueness of Lake Jocassee and the Jocassee Gorges.

This annual event is Friends of Jocassee main charity raising. Last year's attendance reached over 1000 guests. The event along with other Friends of Jocassee (FOJ), helps promote and preserve a key tourist attraction for Oconnee County. This event alone brings in not only locals but tourist outside of the state bringing in lodging and restaurant revenue to Oconnee County.

Our mission statement is to preserve, protect, and promote the natural and cultural resources of Lake Jocassee and the Jocassee Gorges. We work closely with Devils Fork State Park and collaborate on numerous events that help fulfill this mission statement.

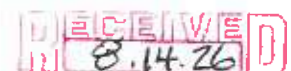
By providing this grant you can help our organization grow this event, offset costs which allows us to further our goals of assisting Devils Fork State Park with needed improvements as well as providing educational outreach reach programs, regular cleanup efforts of Lake Jocassee and the Gorges area, and other events geared towards our mission statement. By doing these things, we protect a valuable tourist resource for Oconnee County.

We welcome the opportunity to sit down and further discuss our Grant Application and organizations needs/goals.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

I have uploaded a few pictures of last year's event. Our Friends of Jocassee website has numerous pictures to view not only last year's Bell Fest but previous years as well as other events.

<https://friendsofjocassee.org/>



OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT APPLICATION FORM FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS

I. APPLICANT

- A. Name of Organization Lake and Mountain Quilters Guild (LMQG)
- B. Address P.O. Box 22, Seneca, SC 29679
- _____

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

- A. ATAX Funds Requested \$2,500.00
- B. How will ATAX Funds be used? To create and develop marketing tools to promote the 2027 LMQG Quilt show to the tri-state area.
- C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 100%
- D. Funds furnished by your organization TBD _____
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Matching Grant _____ | Source _____ |
| Matching Grant _____ | Source _____ |
| Other Funding Income from show _____ | Source <u>Revenue from show</u> |
| Other Funding In-kind services _____ | Source <u>TBD</u> |

Provide an itemized total budget for your event **and** an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED, attach on a separate sheet**

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- A. Project Title Promotion of 2027 LMQG Quilts and Threads Quilt Show
- B. Description of project Advertise and publicize the guild's biennial quilt show. The show will be held June 25 & 26 at Seneca Middle School. These funds will be used for print ads, save the date cards and social media boosts to reach audiences more than 50 miles from Seneca. Distribution to local outlets throughout the county, South Carolina Welcome Centers and fabric stores in the tri-state area.
- C. Who will benefit from this project? Local merchants, restaurants, and various destination sites throughout Oconee County. Visitor information will be provided to all attendees. Students at Hamilton Career Center will receive real world experience working with a client to create advertising products for this event.
- _____
- _____

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning November 2026_ Ending August 2027_

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

- _____ Government Entity:
- _____ ☒ Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date: 1987
- _____ Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # _____
- _____ Date of Determination Letter _____

RECEIVED
8.12.26



August 11, 2026

Dear Mr. Shirley,

Please find attached the 2026 August ATAX application from the Lake and Mountain Quilters Guild. This application has also been sent to you digitally.

In support of this application you will find our extensive social media plan, some very interesting demographics about quilters and a letter about collaboration with the local school district.

Both Carolyn Harris and I are interested in attending the Commission meeting when the applications are reviewed, and we'll be prepared to answer any questions they might have.

Thank you for your support,

Sincerely,

Jakki Vink Wiseman, LMQG
Carolyn Harris, LMQG 2027 Show Chair

Enclosure: Grant application & supporting paperwork

RECEIVED
8.12.26

V1. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

Lake and Mountain Quilters Guild is dedicated to the appreciation and promotion of all aspects of the art of quilting. The long

standing tradition of quilting in Oconee County will be highlighted. Oconee County quilters and other artists are noted for their expertise and creativity. This show helps bring attention to the studios, workshops, and individuals throughout the area displaying their craft for visitors. The attached distribution list of printed media shows where throughout South Carolina, regionally and nationally information will be distributed. The demographic information shows who quilters are willing to travel for their hobby.

- A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year? This event takes place every other year. In 2025, there were 934 attendees. We anticipate a higher number in 2027. We have already received requests for date/time/location information online.
- B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?
Last Year 2025 - 321 _____
This Year _____
- C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year? Last year : _____
This Year : _____
- D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?
- **Promotional Video and Shorts** created by Keowee Creative in collaboration with the Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail. This could be used by Visit Oconee, the Chamber of Commerce and any other county entity that would like to promote the rich history of quilting in the area.
 - **Quilters of South Carolina** newsletter. Membership 350
 - **Carolina's Country Register** This publication has a distribution of over 8,000 papers that are distributed through retailers, events and the 17 Welcome Centers in both Carolinas. The paper is free to readers. We would advertise twice before the show and they are willing to do a feature story on the show for no additional cost.
 - **The Laurel of Northeast Georgia Magazine** The Laurel of NE Georgia is available at 150 locations throughout NE Georgia.
 - **Mailings** 11,000 cards to tri-state area and distribution throughout the Upstate - see attached distribution plan
 - **Social Media** Please see attached plan for use of our Facebook and Instagram accounts. All show related posts would include the #visitoconeesc tag. Also asking quilt shops to post show information on their social media outlets.
 - **Media Coverage** We will be contacting the press and media outlets in Greenville, Asheville and Atlanta suburbs.
 - **Raffle Quilt Display** and selling of raffle tickets
 - **South Carolina Living Calendar**
 - **AAA Living Calendar**
 - **Radio Outlets**
-
- E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners) Please see attached _____
- F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data? (i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics) All visitors' zip codes will be recorded at registration and analyzed. Website and social

media activity will be monitored and the analytics will be broken down. Mailings will be recorded as well as any other impact information noted when reviewing the show. _____

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes _____ No _____
Name of the Auditor: Internal, Sue Swann

VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? No _____

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

A. Contact Name: Jakki Vink Wiseman **Title** LMQG Social Media Chair

JV Wiseman
Signature _____ **Date** August 10, 2026
Address 227 Jana Drive, Walhalla SC 29691
Email jakkiwiseman@gmail.com **Fax No.** _____
Phone Number (s) 803-729-9544

B. Alternate Contact Name: Carolyn Harris **Title** LMQG 2027 Show Chair

Carolyn Harris
Signature _____ **Date** August 11, 2026
Address 650 Deer Creek Lane, Fair Play SC 29643
Email chrrs650@gmail.com **Fax No.** _____
Phone Number (s) 864-710-1272



Hamilton Career and Technology Center

Discovering Passion. Defining Purpose.

LETTER OF SUPPORT

August 8, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the proposed collaboration between Hamilton Career and Technology Center, its Marketing and Graphic Arts programs, and Lake and Mountain Quilt Guild in preparation for the guild's 2027 quilt show. This partnership provides an exciting opportunity to connect classroom learning with a real-world community project while giving students meaningful career and technical education experiences.

Students in the Marketing and/or Graphic Arts programs will have the opportunity to work directly with a local organization to develop professional promotional materials for the quilt show. Depending on the scope of the project, students may create branding, logos, advertisements, posters, social media graphics, signage, programs, digital materials, and other visual communications to support the event.

This collaboration provides students with an authentic client-based experience that mirrors expectations in the Marketing and graphic design industries. Students will listen to a client's needs, develop concepts, receive feedback, revise their work, meet deadlines, and produce materials for an actual public event. These experiences build valuable skills that prepare students for college, careers, internships, and future employment.

The partnership also benefits Lake and Mountain Quilt Guild and the surrounding community. The quilt show provides an opportunity to showcase creativity, craftsmanship, history, and the artistic traditions of quilting. Working with HCTC students will allow the guild to incorporate fresh perspectives and contemporary design into its marketing while introducing students to an important local art and cultural tradition.

Most importantly, this project demonstrates the power of **school-community partnerships**. Students will see firsthand how their developing skills can contribute to a local organization, while guild members will have the opportunity to mentor and engage with young people.

This collaboration aligns strongly with the goals of career and technical education by developing **communication, creativity, collaboration, problem-solving, project management, technology, and professional workplace skills**. It also demonstrates how grant funding can create authentic experiences connecting education with the needs and opportunities of the local community.

Sincerely,

Carson LeCroy
HCTC Director
decroy@sdcc.org

BY LINDSEY BUCKWOLD-IR
PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW S. GUNTER FOR L'ORÉAL PARI

以下に示すように、 $\mathcal{H}_1$ と $\mathcal{H}_2$ は、 $\mathcal{H}_1 \cap \mathcal{H}_2 = \{0\}$ である。

ENCLOSURE MATTERS WITH ENCLINUS

SUE SWAN GRABS A QUILT 11119

used in hot water and untreated
by a disinfectant, controlling colors
in the water. However, even so,
disinfection and water treatment
with chlorine, hypochlorite and
sulfonamide antibiotics are not
sufficient to prevent the transmission of
Typhoid.

Some authors have proposed that the β subunit is involved in the binding of the α subunit to the DNA template strand, and that the β subunit is involved in the binding of the α subunit to the DNA template strand.

$$S_{\text{eff}} = S_0 + \frac{\alpha}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R + \dots \quad (9)$$
[illegible]

KEEP EM IN SITES "Asphyxiate"

is the term for fabric shapes that are sewn into the quilt top between blocks and/or much of the outer quilt. "Piecing" is the process of sewing fabric pieces together to form blocks and all make a quilt just as quickly as if you were to buy the quilt top.

together a new project on the design wall. Or you'll find her in the living room, hand-stitching the latest block of the month from folk-art quilt designer Sue Spargo.

Quilts are tucked away in closets and spread over every bed in Swan's house. On the walls hang art quilts with a zoo's worth of animals drawn with thread: raccoons, squirrels, goats, a kangaroo. Even an octopus with a whale and 77 tiny pink shrimp.

Swan has gifted her work to children and grandchildren. She's made quilts to celebrate new life and commemorate those who are gone. Her tuxedo cat, Riley, often curls up for a nap in the bedroom, princess-and-the-pea style, on a mattress 10 quilts thick.

Swan has mastered free-motion quilting, ruler quilting and English paper piecing, but there will always be one conundrum she can't overcome.

"I have everything I need except time," Swan says. The advanced techniques she's fond of take a lot of it, and there's always something new to learn.

Plus, this year the pressure's really on: The annual Anderson Area Quilt Show is in July. Swan hopes to complete several of her current works in progress by the deadline—if she can ignore the distraction of the next project that always seems to be calling her name.

Wrapped in a story

Quilting is centuries old, an art form born from the necessity for warmth. The craft found its way to Europe during the Crusades, and early American settlers brought the skill with them to the New World. The wealthy bought colorful pieces imported from faraway places, but everyone else saved cast-off fabric scraps—a bit of an outgrown flannel sack dress, the torn fragment of a cotton work shirt—and stitched them together by hand. These bits and pieces formed a story, a collection of memories families could wrap themselves in.

Quilting styles and technology have changed, but for modern-day quilters like Swan and other members of the

"What the quilt was designed for was to put around you and feel the hug."
—QUILT RETIREE SMITH

Prickly Fingers Quilters Guild, the sentiment remains.

There's the excitement of planning a new project or discovering a new fabric store. The satisfaction of uninterrupted time at the sewing machine. The nothing compares to the joy of sharing the finished product with a grandchild who lives overseas, a friend who recently lost her husband, or a daughter who just had a daughter of her own.

Better than a blue ribbon

"What the quilt was designed for was to put around you and feel the hug," says Renée Smith, another Prickly Fingers member.

Smith isn't a fan of precise measurements, so she leans toward art quilts that allow her to stick with whole and half inches. While traditional quilts rely on geometric designs pieced in blocks, art quilts use colors and patterns to portray an image. Art quilts with hand-embroidery or raw fabric edges are often reserved for wall hangings, where they don't have to endure the rough and tumble of everyday life.

Many of Smith's designs are inspired by her family, such as the



SOFT PORTRAITS Prickly Fingers guild member Renée Smith makes art quilts that hold special meaning to her and those she gives them to.

Frida Kahlo in Converse shoes design she made for her art-loving daughter, or the quilted wall hanging of another daughter's Facebook profile picture.

For this year's quilt show, Smith plans to enter a replica of her favorite photo of her granddaughter. After converting the photo to a pattern, Smith paper-pieced two identical quilts. One she gifted to her granddaughter on the child's seventh birthday. The other will be on display at the Anderson Civic Center this month, where quilt show attendees' votes will determine how this piece stacks up against other entries.

After the show, though, Smith plans to take the quilt back home and hang it in the living room where, every time she sees it, she'll go back in her mind to the day her granddaughter was born. Rushing to her daughter's house. The paramedics on one phone and the midwife on another. Her granddaughter born so fast that the per to cutter Smith started when she arrived hadn't even finished birthing.

The gift of a healthy baby girl. The joy of holding her for the first time.

A blue ribbon might be nice, but it can't beat that. ☺

GET THERE

Anderson Area Quilt Show

More than 200 quilts created by members of the Electric City and Prickly Fingers quilters guilds will be on display, along with craft vendors, raffles and a silent auction.

WHEN: July 17, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., and July 18, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

WHERE: Anderson Civic Center, 3027 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Anderson

ADMISSION: \$7 per day to attend

MORE INFO: andersonscquilters.org

2027 LMQG Show Expenses and Income Budget

Expenses

Facility rental	\$2,800.00	Based on past rental fee
Promotion	\$3,500.00	ATAX proposal to be submitted Aug. 26 & Jan. '27
Preview Event	\$1,840.00	
Show Ribbons	\$350.00	
Pipe and Drape, other show supplies	\$3,017.00	white gloves, etc.
Printing	\$3,700.00	show books, forms, other printed materials
Postage	\$500.00	
Raffle Tickets	\$200.00	
Presentation Quilts	\$200.00	
Fat Quarter Baskets	\$75.00	
Judges	\$1,300.00	
Silent Auction	\$200.00	Display sets
Misc. supplies	\$150.00	show tags, gift for custodian
Insurance	\$0	
Signs	\$300.00	Directional and onsite
Replacement racks	\$1,200.00	
Work and vendor room	\$100.00	
Appraiser	\$150.00	

Estimate	\$19,722.00
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Anticipated Income from 2027 LMQG Show

Admissions	\$4,000.00
August & January ATAX	\$3,500.00
Boutique	\$2,000.00
Fat Quarter Baskets	\$800.00
Library	\$400.00
Presentation Quilt	\$2,000.00
Program Ads	\$1,500.00
Sponsor Donations	\$3,000.00
Silent Auction	\$2,000.00
Vendor Booths	\$1,500.00
Appraiser	\$0
Total	\$20,546.00

Lake and Mountain Quilters Guild June 2027 Show Promotion Budget

Items	Requested Funding
<i>Carolinas Country Register</i> ads January and March, \$199/placement	\$200.00
UHQQT and LMGQ Promotional Video \$1,500 non-profit rate from Keowee Creative (split cost)	\$750.00
Save the Date Card - printing production of 11,000 4"by 6" two Sided color cards	\$600.00
Postage Save the Date Card - Distribution October - January	\$300.00
Social Media Boosts: October - January	\$100.00
The Laurel of NE GA; ¼ page ad and sidebar ad	\$375.00
Supply costs for banner production - all artwork created by Hamilton Career Center students would be at no cost, this is for the physical supplies.	\$175.00
Total Request	\$2,500.00

2027 LMQG Printed Materials Distribution Plan

<i>Mailings greater than 50 miles from Oconee County</i>	<i>Group Category</i>	<i>Quantity Distributed</i>
12	Quilt Shops GA - 3, FL - 3, NC - 7 and SC (8 greater than 50 miles)	1,575
58	Quilting Guilds and Groups GA - 9, NC - 3 and SC (46 greater than 50 miles)	1,965
8	SC Welcome Centers	3,175
6	Quilt Museums	245
22	SC Historical Societies, Museums, Low Country Visitors Centers	330
40	LMGQ representative presentations and workshops	1,400
<i>Total for distribution >50 miles</i>		8,470
<i>Within Anderson, Oconee or Pickens Counties</i>		
1	SC Welcome Center, Fair Play	500
50	Local Destination Sites	1,750
<i>Total Delivered or mailed <50 miles</i>		2,250
Total Distribution		11,000



Quilt Show Social Media Plan

Facebook + Instagram | June 2027 Show

Recommended overall rhythm

- **August–October 2026:** 1 post/week
- **November–December 2026:** 1–2 posts/week
- **January–February 2027:** 2 posts/week
- **March 2027:** 2–3 posts/week
- **April 2027:** 3 posts/week
- **May 2027:** 3–4 posts/week
- **June 2027:** 4–5 posts/week + Stories/Reels
- **After the show:** 2–3 recap posts

The same basic content can be used on both platforms, but **Instagram** should emphasize beautiful photos, Reels, and Stories, while **Facebook** can carry more detailed information, event reminders, and community interaction.

PHASE 1: Build Awareness

August–October 2026

Goal: Let people know the show is coming

August

- 📅 **Save the Date** announcement
- Introduce the quilt show theme
- "What is a quilt guild quilt show?" educational post
- Share photos from the guild's previous show
- Introduce the quilt show committee

Sample post:

📅 SAVE THE DATE! 📅

Our guild is excited to announce that our next quilt show will be held in **June 2027!**

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for beautiful quilts, talented makers, vendors, demonstrations, and plenty of quilting inspiration.

More details coming soon!

#QuiltShow #Quilting #QuiltGuild #SaveTheDate

September

- Meet the quilt show committee
- "Did You Know?" quilt trivia
- Throwback photo from previous show
- Member quilt spotlight
- Ask: "What do you most enjoy at a quilt show?"

October

- Halloween quilt/fabric inspiration
 - Quilt show theme reveal, if applicable
 - "Quilters, what are you working on?"
 - Behind-the-scenes planning photo
-

PHASE 2: Build Interest

November–December 2026

November

Post 1: Thanksgiving/Gratitude

"Quilters are thankful for..."

Invite members to complete the sentence.

Post 2: Previous show photo

Post 3: Vendor announcement teaser

Post 4: "Start planning your trip!" post

December

Use the holidays as an opportunity to keep the show visible without making every post promotional.

Ideas:

- Christmas quilts

- Quilted ornaments
 - Quilted gifts
 - Member holiday projects
 - Favorite quilting books
 - "12 Days of Quilting" mini-series
 - Quilt show gift idea: **Put the June show on someone's calendar!**
-

PHASE 3: Countdown Begins

January 2027

Now begin a more deliberate countdown.

Post ideas

January 5 – 6 Months to Go!

📅 6 MONTHS TO GO! 📅

We're officially counting down to our June 2027 Quilt Show!

Have you started planning your visit? Tell us what you're most excited to see!

Other January posts

- Quilt show logo reveal
- Official show dates and location
- Admission information
- Vendor registration announcement
- Featured quilt sneak peek
- "Meet the Makers" series begins

New recurring feature:

#QuiltShowCountdown

Use the same hashtag throughout the campaign.

PHASE 4: Increase Engagement

February 2027

Post twice each week, with additional Stories.

Suggested posts

Week 1

-  Valentine's Day quilt
- Member spotlight

Week 2

- Vendor spotlight
- Quilt show FAQ

Week 3

- "Which quilt would you choose?" photo poll
- Behind-the-scenes planning

Week 4

- Featured quilt
- "4 months to go!"

Great Facebook question

If you could only buy ONE thing at a quilt show, what would it be?

-  Fabric
-  Notions
-  Books & patterns
-  Quilting gifts

This type of post encourages comments and gives the guild information about what visitors want.

PHASE 5: Quilt Show Promotion

March 2027

This is when I'd begin shifting from "We're having a show" to "Here's why you should come."

2-3 posts per week

Content categories:

Featured Quilts

Post one beautiful quilt at a time.

Include:

- Quilt name
- Maker
- Pattern/designer
- Technique
- Interesting story

Vendor Spotlights

Introduce vendors individually.

Example:

VENDOR SPOTLIGHT!

We're excited to welcome [Vendor Name] to our June Quilt Show!

What can you expect? Beautiful fabrics, quilting tools, patterns, and plenty of things you didn't know you needed! 🥰

Who's ready to shop?

Speaker/Demonstrator Spotlights

Introduce:

- Lecturers
- Teachers
- Demonstrators
- Special guests

Visitor Information

Start providing:

- Location
- Parking
- Admission
- Hours
- Nearby attractions
- Lodging information
- Restaurants

PHASE 6: 3-Month Countdown

April 2027

Increase to 3 posts per week.

Week 1

"3 Months to Go!"

Week 2

Featured Quilt

Week 3

Vendor Spotlight

Week 4

Member/Volunteer Spotlight

Introduce a "Quilt Show Countdown" Graphic Series

Create a consistent graphic for:

90 Days

75 Days

60 Days

45 Days

30 Days

14 Days

7 Days

This gives the campaign a recognizable visual identity.

PHASE 7: Final Push

May 2027

This is your **big promotional month**.

Post **3–4 times per week**.

Suggested weekly schedule

Monday – Countdown

30 days until the quilts arrive!

Wednesday – Featured Quilt

Show a beautiful quilt.

Friday – Vendor/Activity Spotlight

Tell people what they can do at the show.

Sunday – Planning Post

Planning your trip? Here's what you need to know!

May Content Ideas

"10 Reasons to Attend Our Quilt Show"

Make this a carousel on Instagram and an album/post on Facebook.

1. Beautiful quilts
2. Local artists
3. Vendors
4. Demonstrations
5. Raffle quilt
6. Shopping
7. Inspiration
8. Friendship
9. Door prizes
10. Supporting the guild

Award Preview

"Which category are you most excited to see?"

Raffle Quilt

Create several posts, not just one.

- Reveal the quilt
- Story behind the quilt
- Close-up details
- Meet the makers
- How to purchase tickets
- Countdown to drawing

Vendor Map

Show visitors where vendors will be located.

"What to Bring to a Quilt Show"

- Shopping bag
- Comfortable shoes
- Camera/phone

- Measuring tape
- List of supplies
- Friends!

PHASE 8: SHOW MONTH

June 2027

Now move to **4–5 feed posts per week**, plus frequent Instagram Stories.

Week Before the Show

7 Days

📢 ONE WEEK! 📢

The quilts are coming. The vendors are coming. We're almost ready!

5 Days

5 Things You Need to Know Before You Come

3 Days

Behind-the-scenes setup

Post photos of:

- Hanging quilts
- Decorating
- Vendor setup
- Volunteers working
- Signage going up

1 Day

TOMORROW!

Use your best quilt photo.

DURING THE SHOW

This is where Instagram can really shine.

Instagram Stories

Post throughout the day:

- "Good morning!"
- First quilt visitors see
- Vendor booths
- Demonstrations
- Crowd photos
- Volunteers
- Award winners
- Raffle quilt
- Interesting quilt details
- Short video clips

Reels

Create quick videos such as:

"Come with us to the quilt show!"

Film 1–2 seconds of:

- Entrance
- Quilts
- Vendors
- Demonstrations
- People shopping
- Special displays

Put the clips together with music and text.

Facebook

Facebook is particularly useful for:

- Schedule reminders
- Parking information
- Event updates
- Photos
- Winner announcements
- Last-minute changes

AFTER THE SHOW

Don't stop posting immediately after the event.

1–2 Days After

Thank You Post



What an incredible quilt show! Thank you to everyone who attended, exhibited a quilt, volunteered, demonstrated, sponsored, vended, donated, and helped make the event possible.

Our guild is grateful for every person who helped make this show a success.

We hope you left inspired to go home and **make something beautiful!** 🧡

One Week Later

Post:

"By the Numbers"

For example:



What a weekend!

Two Weeks Later

People's Choice Award

Share the winning quilt.

Three Weeks Later

Behind-the-Scenes Thank You

Recognize volunteers and committee members.

Recurring Series to Use Throughout the Campaign

I would strongly recommend giving your guild several **named series** so followers begin recognizing them.

Series

Frequency

Content

 Quilt Show Countdown	Monthly → Weekly	Countdown
 Meet the Maker	2/month	Quilt makers
 Vendor Spotlight	2/month	Vendors
 Quilt Sneak Peek	2/month	Exhibited quilts
 Quilting Tip Tuesday	Weekly	Tips & techniques
 Throwback Thursday	Monthly	Past shows
 Behind the Seams	2/month	Planning
 Volunteer Spotlight	Monthly	Committee members
 Quilt Show FAQ	Monthly	Visitor questions
 Color Inspiration	Monthly	Quilt/fabric colors

Holidays to Incorporate

Rather than forcing every holiday into your campaign, use holidays that naturally connect to quilting.

2026

- Halloween – October 31
- Thanksgiving – November 26
- Christmas – December 25
- New Year's Eve – December 31

2027

- Valentine's Day – February 14
- National Quilting Day – **March 20, 2027**
- Easter – March 28
- Mother's Day – May 9
- Memorial Day – May 31
- Father's Day – June 20
- Independence Day – July 4

National Quilting Day is particularly valuable for your campaign. Use it for a major post such as:

 **Happy National Quilting Day!** 

Today we celebrate the creativity, tradition, friendship, and stories stitched into every quilt.

And we're celebrating by getting even more excited about our **June 2027 Quilt Show!**

What does quilting mean to you? 

Recommended Hashtags

Create a consistent set rather than using dozens of hashtags.

Core hashtags

#QuiltShow
#Quilting
#QuiltGuild
#QuiltersOfInstagram
#QuiltLife
#QuiltInspiration

Your own show hashtags

Create a unique hashtag such as:

#[GuildName]QuiltShow2027

or

#QuiltsAndThreads2027

If your guild is using the **Quilts and Threads** show name from your previous planning, that would make an excellent consistent campaign hashtag:

#QuiltsAndThreads2027

A Simple Weekly Posting Calendar

Once you get into the final few months, you could make the schedule extremely easy for volunteers to manage:

Day	Post
Monday	 Countdown/announcement
Tuesday	 Quilting tip
Wednesday	 Featured quilt
Thursday	 Vendor/member spotlight

Friday	 Behind the scenes
Saturday	Instagram Story/reel
Sunday	 Question/poll

You **don't need to post all seven days**. Three quality posts each week will be much more effective than posting every day simply to fill a calendar.

Most important strategy

I'd make the campaign about **the quilts and the people**, not just the event. A post that says "*Quilt Show June 12–13*" is an advertisement. A post showing a gorgeous quilt and telling the **story behind its creation** gives people a reason to stop scrolling—and eventually gives them a reason to attend.

Why Quilters Are Valuable Event Attendees

Compared with many hobbyists, quilters tend to be:

- Financially established (many are retired with disposable income)
- Willing to travel specifically for quilting events
- Loyal repeat attendees
- Heavy purchasers from vendors
- Interested in local tourism, restaurants, hotels, and attractions while attending shows

For this reason, quilt shows generate meaningful economic impact for host communities through hotel stays, dining, shopping, and tourism spending.  Smoky Mountain... +1

Snapshot of the Average Quilter

- Female, age 65
- Retired
- Household income: \$75,000–\$100,000+
- Quilts 6–9 hours per week
- Spends about \$3,300 annually on quilting supplies
- Owns multiple sewing machines and a dedicated sewing space
- Attends one or more quilt shows each year
- Often spends \$700–1,500 per quilt show trip, plus hundreds of dollars with vendors

This combination of high engagement, discretionary spending, and willingness to travel makes quilters one of the most economically active segments within the craft industry.

OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT APPLICATION FORM FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization Oconee Farm Foundation

B. Address 209 Serenity Bay Drive
Seneca, SC 29672

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

A. ATAX Funds Requested \$10,000

B. How will ATAX Funds be used? ATAX funds will support tourism related expenses for the Spring 2027 Oconee Farm Crawl including regional advertising, visitor booklets and maps, event signs, promotional materials, and other expenses that help bring visitors to Oconee County and connect them with our local farms.

C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 35%

D. Funds furnished by your organization _____

Matching Grant _____	Source _____
Matching Grant _____	Source _____
Other Funding <u>\$10,000</u>	Source <u>Ticket Sales</u>
Other Funding <u>\$1,200</u>	Source <u>Participating Farm Fees</u>

Provide an itemized total budget for your event **and** an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED, attach on a separate sheet**

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Title Spring 2027 Oconee Farm Crawl

B. Description of project The Oconee Farm Foundation is a year-round agritourism organization connecting people with Oconee County farms through our signature Oconee Farm Crawl where visitors tour working farms, meet local farmers, learn about agriculture, and shop local.

C. Who will benefit from this project? Local farms, small businesses, residents, and visitors all benefit as the Farm Crawl brings new customers to our farms while encouraging visitors to eat, shop, and explore throughout Oconee County. Our goal is to build connections with our farms that continue long after Farm Crawl day.

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning October 1, 2026 Ending May 31, 2027

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

_____ Government Entity:

_____ Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date November 3, 2025

_____ Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # 39-5012175

_____ Date of Determination Letter _____

RECEIVED
8.15.26

V1. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

The Oconee Farm Crawl brings visitors to experience farms throughout the county while supporting local farmers and businesses.

Our May 2026 Crowl sold out with 1,000 tickets, representing 69 cities across 12 states, with 61 of those cities located outside Oconee County.

- A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?
Fall 2025 - 500 SOLD OUT May 2026 - 1,000 SOLD OUT September 2026 - 1,250 anticipated

Last Year 350

This Year	Unknown
100	100
90	90
80	80
70	70
60	60
50	50
40	40
30	30
20	20
10	10
0	0

- C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?

Last year : Unknown

This Year: *Take a course*

- D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?**

We will use targeted regional social media advertising, email marketing, our website, regional media, community calendars, printed materials, and tourism partnerships to reach visitors.

- E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners) Ticket and registration records, visitor location data, social media and website analytics, advertising results, event photography, promotional materials, media coverage, and attendee surveys.

- F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data? (i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics) Ticket registration records, ZIP codes, website and social media analytics, advertising results,
and attendee surveys. Spring 2027 surveys will also track distance traveled, overnight stays, lodging, other Oconee County
businesses visited, and estimated local spending.

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes No ☒ x

Name of the Auditor:

- VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds?** ☒ No

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

- A. **Contact Name:** Cynthia K. Carleton **Title:** Executive Director
Signature: *Cynthia K. Carleton* **Date:** August 15, 2026
Address: 209 Serenity Bay Drive, Seneca, SC 29672
Email: info@coconefarmcraw.com **Fax No.:**
Phone Number (s): 720-936-3793

- B. Alternate Contact Name:** _____ **Title** _____
Signature _____ **Date** _____
Address _____
Email _____ **Fax No.** _____
Phone Number (s) _____

Proposed Spring 2027 Oconee Farm Crawl Budget

Event Planning & Management – Oconee Farm Collective: \$6,000

Farm Crawl Booklet Design: \$1,500

Farm Crawl Booklet Printing: \$2,000

Regional Advertising & Promotion: \$2,000

Posters & Postcards: \$300

Graphic Design for Promotional Materials: \$100

Event Signs / Additional Yard Signs: \$300

Sponsor Banners: \$300

Wristbands: \$150

Farmer T-Shirts: \$1,500

Farm Crawl Merchandise Inventory: \$2,000

Merchandise Supplies & Bags: \$50

Welcome Bags / Visitor Materials: \$250

Welcome Postcards: \$225

Check-In Supplies: \$250

Gas & Meals: \$300

Parking / Event Supplies: \$50

TOTAL PROPOSED PROJECT BUDGET: \$17,275

Abbeville	29620 SC	Abbeville	OUT OF COUNTY	1	28 CITIES	OUT OF COUNTY
Anderson	29625 SC	ANDERSON	OUT OF COUNTY	22		
Asheville	28805 NC	Asheville	OUT OF STATE	3		
AUGUSTA	30907 GA	AUGUSTA	OUT OF STATE	1	34 CITIES	OUT OF STATE
Battle Ground	98604 WA	Battle Ground	OUT OF STATE	1		
Braselton	30517 GA	Braselton	OUT OF STATE	2		
CAMPOBELLO	29322 SC	CAMPOBELLO	OUT OF COUNTY	1	8 CITIES	OCONEE COUNTY
CANON	30520 GA	CANON	OUT OF STATE	6		
Central	29630 SC	Central	OUT OF COUNTY	2		
CHARLESTON	29412 SC	CHARLESTON	OUT OF COUNTY	1		
Chesnee	29323 SC	Chesnee	OUT OF COUNTY	1		
Chicago	60605 IL	Chicago	OUT OF STATE	2		
CLEMSON	29631 SC	Clemson	OUT OF COUNTY	11		
Coraopolis	15108-89 PA	Coraopolis	OUT OF STATE	2		
DECATUR	30033 GA	DECATUR	OUT OF STATE	1		
EASLEY	29640 SC	EASLEY	OUT OF COUNTY	10		
FAIR PLAY	29643 SC	FAIR PLAY	OCONEE COUNTY			
Flemington	8822 NJ	Flemington	OUT OF STATE	1		
FLINTON	16640 PA	FLINTON	OUT OF STATE	1		
GAINESVILLE	30501 GA	GAINESVILLE	OUT OF STATE	2		
Greenville	29615 SC	Greenville	OUT OF COUNTY	10		
GREEK	29650 SC	GREEK	OUT OF COUNTY	2		
HARTWELL	30643 GA	HARTWELL	OUT OF STATE	1		
HENDERSONVILLE	28739 NC	HENDERSONVILLE	OUT OF STATE	2		
INMAN	29349 SC	INMAN	OUT OF COUNTY	1		
Landrum	29356 SC	Landrum	OUT OF COUNTY	4		
Lavonia	30553 GA	Lavonia	OUT OF STATE	4		
LIBERTY	29657 SC	LIBERTY	OUT OF COUNTY	9		
LONG CREEK	29658 SC	LONG CREEK	OUT OF COUNTY	5		
MARIETTA	29661 SC	MARIETTA	OUT OF COUNTY	5		
Matthews	28105 NC	Matthews	OUT OF STATE	5		
Merritt Island	32953 FL	Merritt Island	OUT OF STATE	1		
Mills River	28759 NC	Mills River	OUT OF STATE	4		
Milton	30004 GA	Milton	OUT OF STATE	1		
Morrisville	27560 NC	Morrisville	OUT OF STATE	2		
Mount Holly	28120 NC	Mount Holly	OUT OF STATE	1		
MOUNTAIN RESI	29664 SC	MOUNTAIN RESI	OCONEE COUNTY			
Naperville	60565 IL	Naperville	OUT OF STATE	2		
NAPLES	34117 FL	NAPLES	OUT OF STATE	2		
NANTIC	06357-16 CT	NANTIC	OUT OF STATE	2		
Palm Coast	32137 FL	Palm Coast	OUT OF STATE	2		
PAWLEYS ISLAND	29585 SC	PAWLEYS ISLAND	OUT OF COUNTY	1		
PENDLETON	29670 SC	PENDLETON	OUT OF COUNTY	8		
Pickens	29671 SC	Pickens	OUT OF COUNTY	16		
PIEDMONT	29673 SC	PIEDMONT	OUT OF COUNTY	2		

Powder Springs	30127	GA	Powder Springs	OUT OF STATE	2	
RICHLAND	29675	SC	RICHLAND	OUT OF COUNTY	6	
Rio Verde	85263	AZ	Rio Verde	OUT OF STATE	2	
Rochester Hills	48306	MI	Rochester Hills	OUT OF STATE	6	
SAINT PETERSBURG	33702	FL	SAINT PETERSBURG	OUT OF STATE	2	
SALEM	29676-36	SC	SALEM	OCONEE COUNTY		
SAPPHIRE	28774	NC	SAPPHIRE	OUT OF STATE	5	
SARASOTA	34233	FL	SARASOTA	OUT OF STATE	4	
SENECA	29678	SC	SENECA	OCONEE COUNTY		
Simpsonville	29680	SC	Simpsonville	OUT OF COUNTY	4	
SIX MILE	29682	SC	SIX MILE	OUT OF COUNTY	12	
Summerville	29485	SC	Summerville	OUT OF COUNTY	5	
Sumter	29154	SC	Sumter	OUT OF COUNTY	4	
Tamassee	29686	SC	Tamassee	OCONEE COUNTY		
Tiger	30576	GA	Tiger	OUT OF STATE	4	
Toccoa	30577	GA	Toccoa	OUT OF STATE	1	
TOWNVILLE	29689	SC	TOWNVILLE	OUT OF COUNTY	19	
Travelers Rest	29690	SC	Travelers Rest	OUT OF COUNTY	2	
Walhalla	29691	SC	Walhalla	OCONEE COUNTY		
Weaverville	28787	NC	Weaverville	OUT OF STATE	1	
West Columbia	29169	SC	West Columbia	OUT OF COUNTY	1	
WEST UNION	29696	SC	WEST UNION	OCONEE COUNTY		
Westminster	29693	SC	Westminster	OCONEE COUNTY		
WILLIAMSTON	29697	SC	WILLIAMSTON	OUT OF COUNTY	4	
Total					247	0

**OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT
APPLICATION FORM
FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS**

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization FARM Center / Carolina Foothills Heritage Fair
B. Address 2063 Sandifer Blvd Seneca SC 29678
mailing PO Box 130 Richland SC 29675

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

A. ATAX Funds Requested \$ 10,000.00
B. How will ATAX Funds be used? Promotion and Advertising Fair and other upcoming events.
C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 50%
D. Funds furnished by your organization _____
Matching Grant _____ Source _____
Matching Grant _____ Source _____
Other Funding 5000 Source Donations / Sales
Other Funding 5000 Source Sponsorships

Provide an itemized total budget for your event and an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED**, attach on a separate sheet see budgets

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Title Carolina Foothills Heritage Fair, Night of Worship, Native Plant
B. Description of project Holiday Market, Live Nativity, 4 Wheeling at Farm
and promoting Agriculture in Oconee Co and farms.
C. Who will benefit from this project? Restaurants, Hotels, and Campgrounds
and farms.

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning 9-1-26

Ending 12-31-26

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

Government Entity:



Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date 12-03-09

Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # 30-0593172

Date of Determination Letter 1-11-11

RECEIVED
8.13.26

VI. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

Tourist stay in hotels and Campgrounds. They eat in our restaurants and shop in our retail stores.

A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?

30,000

B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?

Last Year 8,000

This Year 9,000

C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?

Last year: 5%

This Year: 5%

D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?

Billboards, Radio, TV and Newspaper

E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners) Pictures

F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data?

(i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics) ticket sales, Stripe account payments

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes ☒ No

Name of the Auditor: Kellie Good - Blackstone Accounting

VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? no

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete Interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

A. Contact Name: Melinda Harbin Title Program + Events Chairman
Signature Melinda Harbin Date 8-10-26
Address 720 Penny Ln, Seneca, SC 29678
Email melinda.scfhf@gmail.com Fax No. -
Phone Number (s) 864-723-0698

B. Alternate Contact Name: Sandra Powell Title Board Member
Signature Sandra Powell Date -
Address 203 Augusta St, Westminster, MD 21157
Email Shopp11302@gmail.com
Phone Number (s) 864-247-6838

Heritage Fair Income and Expenses 2026		
Item Description	Income	Expenses
Heritage Fair Income and Expenses 2026		
Item Description	Income	Expenses
Comm. Vendors/Sponsors	\$ 12,000.00	
ATAx		
Food Vendors	\$ 4,250.00	
Snack Vendors	\$ 500.00	
Inside Craft Vendors	\$ 2,250.00	
Outside Craft Vendors	\$ 600.00	
Livestock Entries	\$ 750.00	
Carnival/Games Proceeds	\$ 15,000.00	
Ticket Sales	\$ 50,000.00	
Pageant	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Ag Days	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Security		\$ 15,000.00
Dues/conventions		\$ 150.00
Livestock Premiums		\$ 500.00
Barn Shavings/Supplies		\$ 1,000.00
Fuel		\$ 300.00
Gate sales staff		\$ 3,000.00
Judges		\$ 750.00
Ribbons/awards		\$ 1,000.00
Advertising (Social/radio/print)		\$ 6,000.00
Signs/Flyers		\$ 1,000.00
Entertainment		\$ 15,000.00
Arena Events		\$ 10,500.00
Rentals/tents/tables etc.		\$ 6,000.00
Misc. Supplies		\$ 500.00
Parking		\$ 3,000.00
Trash and Bathrooms		\$ 3,500.00
Utilities		\$ 1,500.00
Restroom Trailer/Porta Johns		\$ 4,000.00
Totals	\$ 88,850.00	\$ 76,200.00
Fund Balance		\$ 12,650.00

Night of Worship



Journal ads	\$300
Fliers/poster prints.	300
Banner.	75
Social media fees.	500
Radio ads	500
Total.	\$1675

Golden Corner Native Plant Festival 2026 Budget

Income

sponsorships	\$6,000.00	\$4000 presenting sponsorship already obtained
vendor fees	\$1,000.00	\$40 inside, \$30 and \$50 outside
	-	food trucks will be handled by the FARM Center
	-	merchandise will be handled by the Festival Committee
total income	\$7,000.00	

Expenses

signage/printing	\$600.00	
tent rental	\$1,500.00	
FARM Center fees	\$750.00	
speaker fees	\$4,000.00	4 speakers
total expense	\$6,850.00	
Profit/Loss	\$150.00	

4-Wheelin' at The FARM Center Budget			
<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Sponsorships		\$ 5,000.00 Banner printing	\$ 200.00
Food Vendor Fees (\$100 x 4)		\$ 400.00 Decals	\$ 300.00
Commercial/Retail Vendors (\$100 x 5)		\$ 500.00 Power	\$ 300.00
Overland Camping (\$30 per night x 10)		\$ 300.00 Restrooms / Porta Johns	\$ 500.00
50/50 Raffle		\$ 500.00 Security	\$ 750.00
Show & Shine (\$30 x 20)		\$ 450.00 Prizes	\$ 500.00
4x4 Course (\$40 unlimited x 20)		\$ 800.00 Advertising	\$ 2,000.00
4x4 Course \$15 per run - x20		\$ 300.00	300.00
Spectators (\$10 per vehicle x 200)		\$ 2,000.00 Guard Rail Installation	\$ 3,000.00
Total INCOME		\$ 10,250.00 Total EXPENSES	\$ 7,550.00



10695-2 for 4weeks at \$1,000 starting August 28th
S/O Sheep Farm Rd WS

10708-2 for 4weeks at \$1,000 starting August 28th
Hitec Rd ES, S/F

10715-2 for 4weeks at \$1,000 starting August 28th
Hwy 123 350 ft N/O Davis Creek Rd WS

11209-1 for 4weeks at \$1,000 starting August 28th
Hwy 17 Alt 200ft N/O Rock Creek Rd ES (Toccoa)

Total contract value would be \$4,000 for the four boards.

Let me know if you have any questions, thank you!!

Loudon M. Rosier

Sales Executive

Mobile: 864-280-5079

Email: trosier@trailheadmedia.com

Web: www.trailheadmedia.com

WHNS

of Tactics

2

Impression Total

189,473

Total Cost

\$3,000

Homepage Takeover

Increase your brand's visibility with high-impact creatives that take over our website's homepage, ensuring unparalleled exposure and engagement from every visitor.

150,000
Impressions

Targeted Streaming TV

Reach the right audience on the biggest streaming platforms with precision targeting. Deliver your message to households most likely to become customers while they watch the content they love—combining the impact of television with the accuracy and measurability of digital advertising.

39,473
Impressions

Noah Lay

Media Executive

Phone: 864 361-1958

Email: Noah.Lay@foxcarolina.com

Greenville Studios

21 Interstate Court

Greenville, SC 29615

www.FOXCcarolina.com

www.TelemundoGreenvilleSC.com



TELEMUNDO
SOUTH CAROLINA

THE JOURNAL

210 W North First Street • P.O. Box 547 • Seneca, SC 29679 • Ph: 864.882.2375 • Fax: 864.882.2381

Proposal for the Farm Center

Melinda,

Per our conversation today we know that you would to increase traffic to the Fair.

Print Advertising and Digital Advertising

Print Advertising-

Print advertising in the Pendleton Post, the Journal and Editorial Content

Pendleton Post ads publish twice a month and are full color – rate is \$175 for a quarter page

x 4 months =
\$700

Journal advertising is included in your monthly spend along with Editorial content

Digital Advertising on our website-

Banner ads placed on our website with 20,000 impressions per month.

Starting in August and running through September

Link will be to the website or Facebook page

Price will be \$140 per month

x 4 months = \$560

Geofencing-

40,000 Impressions

Starting in August and running through September

Price will be \$500

\$500

Prepared on August 10, 2026

By Jeremy Power



Farm Center Fall/Winter Marketing Plan

Goal -To promote and encourage listeners to visit the Farm Center for upcoming Foothills Heritage Fair.

Plan – To utilize both radio stations and a strong commercial schedule to promote the upcoming Foothills Heritage Fair. Both stations will offer additional support through sharing FARM Center posts on our social media platforms and morning show interviews. Recommended schedules per station are below.

100 commercials per month/per station for September

5 ads per day Monday through Friday

\$1,000 per station

\$2,000 total for September

* Thirty second commercials to be run between 6a-7p

*Net rates

(Brandon Kessler-Sales)

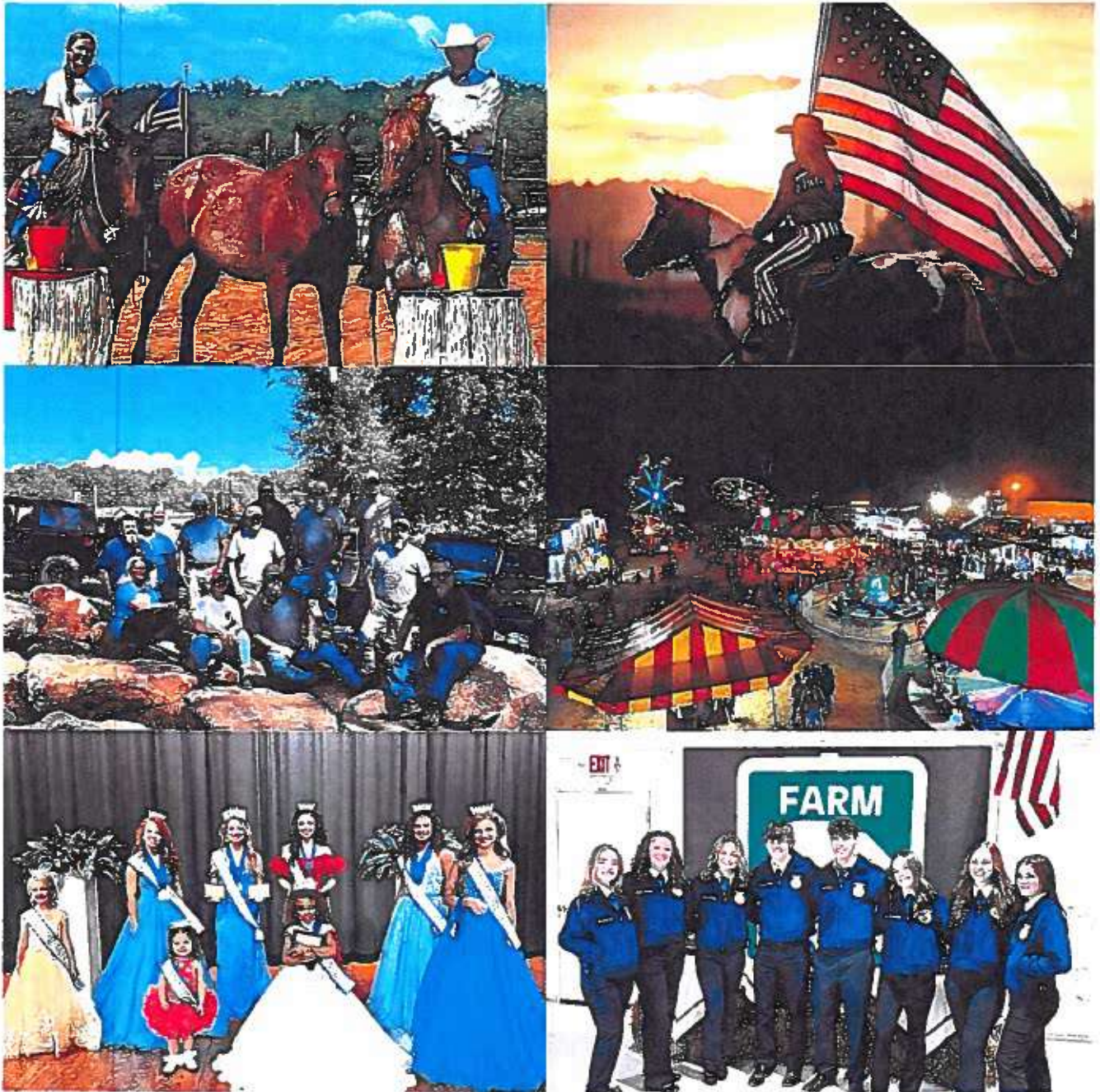
(Advertiser)



12

5









Mr Phil Shirley
Oconee PRT
415 S Pine street
Walhalla SC 29691

Mr Shirley ,

The City of Westminster proudly support the FARM center activities such as the Carolina Foothills Heritage Fair and other activities they conduct. The FARM center provides an outlet for wholesome activities for all ages. Visitors and locals alike support our restaurants and retail stores during events at the center. We appreciate the work at the center to support our local farmers.

Thank you,

James M Powell

Westminster Mayor Pro Tem

OOCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT APPLICATION FORM FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization: Oconee Conservatory of Fine Arts dba Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail
B. Address P.O Box 482 Seneca, SC 29679

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

- A. ATAX Funds Requested \$ 2,345.00
B. How will ATAX Funds be used? Funds will be used to promote and market the Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail.
C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 100%
D. Funds furnished by your organization To be determined
Matching Grant to be determined Source: Anderson County aTax 2026-27
Matching Grant _____ Source: City of Anderson aTax 2026-27
Other Funding \$2,019 Source: Pickens County aTax 2026
Other Funding _____ Source: _____

Provide an itemized total budget for your event and an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED**, attach on a separate sheet

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- A. Project Title Promotion and Marketing of the Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail
B. Description of project see attached
C. Who will benefit from this project? see attached

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning Fall, 2026 Ending Spring 2027

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

Government Entity:

- ☒ Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date 11/15/2004
☐ Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # _____
☐ Date of Determination Letter _____

RECEIVED
8.13.26

VI. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

See attached

- A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?
UHQT is a self-guided tour. As such, we use other sources to measure participants.
- B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?
Last Year _____
This Year _____
- C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?
Last year _____
This Year _____
- D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?
UHQT website, ads in art and quilting publications, both print & online, social media, Oconee County's website, attendance at local events, local online advertising
- E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners) see attached
- F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data? (i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics) Website analytics, feedback from UHQT sites, UHQT Facebook analytics, Collaborative collection with the Lake & Mountain Quilter's Guild project

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes _____ No X

Name of the Auditor: _____

- VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? Yes, Lake and Mountain Quilters' Guild in Oconee County

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

A. Contact Name: Cynthia J. Blair Title: BOD Chair
Signature: Cynthia J. Blair Date: 8/13/26
Address: 738 Old Seneca Rd. Central, SC 29630
Email: info@uhqt.org Fax No. _____
Phone Number (s): 864-973-3921

B. Alternate Contact Name: Nancy Warmath Title: Treasurer
Signature: Nancy Warmath Date: 8/12/26
Address: 507 Willow Branch Ln. Seneca, SC 29672
Email: nwarmath@icloud.com Fax No. _____
Phone Number (s): 864-710-1351

III B. Description of Project

The Trail continues to request funding for computer support and maintenance of our website (uhqt.org), program analytics, social media, email services, domain fees and security. Earlier this calendar year we canceled our relationship with the STQRY, a company who had previously supported our tour app for smart phones. Under new ownership, STQRY had raised their fees to a level that we did not feel was either justified by their services or within our budget. Subsequently, we have moved our tours to the UHQT website and it is now under the management of our webmaster, Janice Hinson.

Our relationship with CU Prints in Clemson has been very satisfactory and we plan on continuing this relationship. Our new advertising with Carolina Arts and The Country Register has been fruitful, yielding exposure to a much broader audience. We have also joined the South Carolina Quilters and can advertise on their website now as members.

We continue to request support for our interpretive signs that are included in sites that are open to the public and assistance in repairs or replacement of some of our older, damaged blocks. Unfortunately, we did not receive enough funding to assist in the replacement of the older blocks that were painted on MDO in the last grant cycle. Some of these early blocks are located in Oconee County and are placed at sites that do not have the funds to replace them at this time.

UHQT has been approached by the Lake and Mountain Quilters Guild to join in a collaborative project that will encourage visitors to come to Oconee County to view the talents of both the Guild and UHQT. As we know, Oconee County has a legacy of quilting and many amazing current quilters that should be a draw for visitors interested in history and the arts. The two groups, LMQG and UQHT, would like to develop a promotional video highlighting historical locations, local venues and events across the county. The cost of this video would be split equally between the two groups and is dependent on both entities receiving this funding.

The video could be posted on a variety of media sites including Visit Oconee. We would achieve this objective by videotaping interviews with area quilters with their quilts and of local sites with quilt panels that are historical or of artistic excellence. Additionally, short clips would be developed for use on social media by both organizations. Oconee County's rich history is told through the stories of its past and present quilters, a story, often overlooked, but which should be shared.

III C. Who will benefit from this project?

The proposed new video should enhance interest in many sites throughout Oconee County where quilt blocks are placed. We anticipate feedback from those visitors in response to their experiences when they visit the county. Local restaurants, shops and other businesses in the upstate benefit from the visitors to the Trail's walking, biking and driving tours. Businesses such as restaurants and marinas on Lakes Keowee and Hartwell will benefit from the increased tourism as a result of the Trail's new Water Tours.

VI. Demographic Data, How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

We hope to extend the video presentation to many of our sources throughout the country that support us through advertising to share the video on their websites. The collaboration between the Quilt Guild and the Trail is sure to excite many visitors. We feel that we offer a different take on barn quilt trails, which are located in every state of the US and a good portion of Canada. Because our quilt blocks represent real quilts, our interactive website includes the stories of the original quilters, and in addition, this first collaborative effort to join a guild and a trail together to promote both entities should be one of a kind!

VI D. Demographic Data, How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?

The Trail is active on our website and Facebook page, posting not only items about the Trail but also sharing event information and local venue's posts on our pages. We have increased our advertising in two new publications; one the Carolina Arts magazine, an online comprehensive entity that covers both North and South Carolina artists and art events and the Country Register, which is more craft and quilt oriented, a bi-monthly, printed newsletter that covers North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. With the addition of the video on a variety of websites, the quilts and their makers will reach a much more diverse audience.

We also attend many quilt shows throughout the southeast, connecting with attendees, vendors and visitors. We always carry a stack of our rack cards with us to add to their information tables to share what's happening in the Upstate. Trail members of the Board also give presentations throughout the region to groups that are interested in hearing about the Trail.

UHQT Annual Budget 2026-2027			
Marketing Line Items	UHQT Annual Budget 2026-2027	OC ATAX Requests	
Adobe-1 year	\$255.00	\$64.00	
Elementor-1 year	\$320.00	\$80.00	
Website	\$282.00	\$71.00	
Freemius Independent Analytics-1 year	\$80.00	\$15.00	
Subtotal	\$917.00	\$230.00	
Printed Materials			
Rack Cards-Design and Printing+	\$897.00	\$224.00	
Rack Cards-Postage and Shipping	\$274.00	\$69.00	
County Register-ad	\$573.00	\$143.00	
Carolina Arts-ad	\$438.00	\$109.00	
Upcountry ad	\$156.00	\$39.00	
Subtotal	\$2338.00	\$684.00	
Social Media Marketing			
Video Collaboration with Guild	\$750.00	\$750.00	
Online Design	\$267.00	\$67.00	
Subtotal	\$1017.00	\$817.00	
Promotional Projects			
Equipment			
New Projector for Presentations	\$104.00	\$26.00	
Development			
Update Slide Presentation	\$156.00	\$39.00	
Subtotal	\$260.00	\$65.00	
Interpretive Signs			
	\$104.00	\$26.00	
Subtotal	\$104.00	\$26.00	
Block Repair			
Quilt Block Repairs	\$823.00	\$623.00	
Subtotal	\$823.00	\$823.00	
TOTAL UHQT BUDGET	\$8257.00	\$2345.00	

010128
11p
m

**OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT
APPLICATION FORM
FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS**

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization Wahalla PAC
B. Address 101 E.N. Broad St
Wahalla, SC 29691

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

A. ATAX Funds Requested \$ 12K
B. How will ATAX Funds be used? Advertising of the
WAPAC and Oconee County SC
C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 100%
D. Funds furnished by your organization \$100K
Matching Grant _____ Source _____
Matching Grant _____ Source _____
Other Funding _____ Source _____
Other Funding _____ Source _____

Provide an itemized total budget for your event and an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED, attach on a separate sheet**

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Title Advertising-marketing 26'-27' winter-spring
B. Description of project promoting 40+ events Oct 26' - April 27'
C. Who will benefit from this project? Greater Oconee County and
surrounding communities in and around @ 60 mile
radius

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning 10/26 Ending 4/27

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

Government Entity: _____
☒ Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date 1993-501C3

Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # _____

Date of Determination Letter _____

57-0994911
WCA

RECEIVED
8.15.26

VI. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

Promoting 100+ events for the greater
Oconee County area entertaining residents and families
of all ages helping support the OC tourism dollars

- A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?
- B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?
- Last Year 20k+
This Year 20k+
- C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?
- Last year: _____
This Year: 10-2090 of attendees

D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?
WPAC website - Social media - Brochures - Radio - TV - newspaper
and email blasts of 40k people

- E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners) _____

- F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data? (i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics) ticketing software, website tracking,
social media, email, local tourism dollar

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes ☒ No _____

Name of the Auditor: HR Block

- VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? The City of Walhalla

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

A. Contact Name: Mark K Thompson Title WPAC Director
Signature Mark K Thompson Date 8/15/26
Address 101 E. R. Street Walhalla, SC 29691
Email _____ Fax No. _____
Phone Number (s) _____

B. Alternate Contact Name: Darryl Drame Title WPAC Board President
Signature _____ Date _____
Address _____
Email _____ Fax No. _____
Phone Number (s) _____

mark @ waltheentertainment.com
walhalla pac @ gmail.com
walhalla pac.com



WALHALLA

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

EST. 1993

Walhalla Performing Arts Center
PO Box 523, Walhalla SC, 29691
864-638-5277
Walhallapac@gmail.com

WPAC 2026-2027 Media & Advertising Budget

Radio

- iHeart Media, Greenville SC (covering the complete upstate)- \$2,000 Monthly/ \$24,000 annually.
- WGOG 101.7 & The Lake 94.1 (SC, OC), WNEG (Toccoa GA), WLHR (Hartwell GA)- \$2,600 monthly/ \$32,000 annually.
- Audacy Media, WORD - \$2,000 monthly/\$24,000 annually.

Newspaper

- The Journal (covering all of Oconee County) includes Scuttlebutt and Visit Oconee Tour Guide- \$2,200 monthly/ \$26,400 annually.

Facebook

- Social Media Advertising- \$600 monthly/ \$7,200 annually.

Website

- Drum Creative- \$500 monthly/ \$6,000 annually.

Brochures

- Design and build by WPAC and The Journal- \$3,000 half season/ \$6,000 annually.

WPAC Logoed Concert Cups

- Design and build by WPAC and Whirley DrinkWorks- \$3,000 half season/ \$6,000 annually.

Keowee Creative

- Marketing/Social Media- \$1,200 monthly/ \$14,400 annually.

Total Advertising Cost- \$140,000.00

OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT APPLICATION FORM FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization Westminster Music Centre

B. Address 216 E Main St Westminster SC 29693

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

- Produce and Promote our free family-friendly concert series "Music on Main" which brings in over 500 people per event from all around the region to downtown Westminster. In addition, we are seeking additional funding to help with infrastructure improvements and marketing funds to help our new community concert venue in 216 E Main St move forward. We will be opening this Fall! See attached project description for details
- A. ATAX Funds Requested \$ 11450
- B. How will ATAX Funds be used? attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 100
- C. Estimated percentage of costs directly
- D. Funds furnished by your organization 8000
- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Matching Grant | Source |
| Matching Grant | Source |
| Other Funding <u>3000</u> | Source <u>Beverage sales, guitar raffle, VIP tickets</u> |
| Other Funding <u>5000</u> | Source <u>Business/Personal Sponsorships</u> |
| <u>10000</u> | <u>State PRT Grant</u> |

Provide an itemized total budget for your event **and** an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED, attach on a separate sheet**

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- A. Project Title 2026-27 Music on Main & 216 E. Main St. Venue Infrastructure/Marketing
- B. Description of project Please see attached addendum for Description and Benefits
- C. Who will benefit from this project? Please see attached addendum for Description and Benefits

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning 7/1/26

Ending 6/30/27

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

Government Entity:

x

Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date 9/19/16 81-2463067

Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS #

Date of Determination Letter

RECEIVED
8.13.26

V1. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

Please see attached addendum for tourism influence

- A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?
1500 last year & 2500 this year
- B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?

Last Year ~40%

This Year	~40%
-----------	------

- C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?**

Last year : ~10%

This Year: ~10%

- D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?**

Online marketing (google/facebook/instagram ads, website, newspaper ads, radio ads, billboard, e-newsletter)

- E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners)**

patron data cards, photos of parking lots, letters from local business owners & vendors, attendee testimonial

- F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data? (i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics)

Data Cards, Website & Social Media analytics, newspaper/radio demographics, newsletter clicks

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes ☐ No ☒

Name of the Auditor: _____

- VIII.** Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? **NO**

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

- A. **Contact Name:** BJ Callahan **Title** Director
Signature *[Signature]* **Date** 8/8/26
Address 129 Greenfield Rd Westminster
Email fnkymusic@gmail.com **Fax No.**
Phone Number (s) 8542803779

- B. Alternate Contact Name:** Randy Roberts **Title** Board President
Signature Randy Roberts **Date** 8/8/26
Address 224 E Main St Westminster
Email randy.roberts.sc@gmail.com **Fax No.**
Phone Number (s) 7704024199

Music on Main Budget - 2026				
Item	Cost	Vendor		
Performance				
Headliner Band x3	7,500	WMC		
Opening Band x6	2,500	WMC		
Meals (Band & Staff)	1200	On-Site Food Vendors Catering		
Hospitality	900	WMC		
Total Band Budget	12,100			
Production				
Stage Rental	0	City of Westminster partnership		
Production Coordinator + assistant	1,500	WMA director & subcontract labor		
Sound/Light equipment	1500	WMC & FNKY Music		
GL/Board Annual Insurance	1500	Johnson & Johnson via Insurance Works, Westminster		
Event Insurance (GL/liquor)	950	Specialty Advantage (via Acord)		
On-site Security	750	Off Duty City Police Officer		
Total Production	6,200			
Marketing				
Website hosting/plugins/domains	600	Godaddy		
Social Media ads	2000	Facebook, Instagram		
Newspaper ads	2400	Daily Journal		
Radio ads	900	WSNW, WGOG, WNCW		
Billboard	1000	Trailhead Media		
printed flyers, postcards	0	Blue Ridge Electric		
Total Marketing	6900			
216 E Main St Rent	6000	Appletown Properties		
NEW 216 E Main St Infrastructure				
Acoustic Treatment (20) 4x4 Panels	3300	Kings Woods		
Theater Curtain for Stage Walls (12x20x11')	1250	Denis Window Treatments Inc		
Electrical Upgrade-wire receptacles, fixtures etc	7500			
Total 216 Infrastructure	12050			
Annual Budget	43,250			

Westminster Music Centre

8.8.26

Fall 2026 ATAX Grant Request Addendum

The Westminster Music Centre, a registered 501c3, has renewed our commitment to organizing and promoting “Music on Main” which is a family-friendly, free-to-the-community concert series. This concert series aims to further the mission of the Music Centre, which is to *promote the joys of live music to our community*.

In addition, we are excited about opening our indoor Music & Events Venue in our new home at 216 East Main Street, which has an anticipated “soft opening” during the South Carolina Apple Festival on September 11, 2026, with many more events to follow. We are seeking grant funding to help ensure the sustainable growth of both Music on Main and the new Music Centre venue.

A Record of Sustainability and Growth

Music on Main has a 10 year track record of generating tourism to Oconee County. These events help further establish the County and the City of Westminster as a destination for our region due to the high quality music and family environment we seek to create and foster.

In 2026, we are committed to renewing our 4 events-per-year program and our goal is to grow to an attendance of 1000+ per event. In 2021, our first year back hosting events in the wake of the pandemic, we hosted 2 Music on Main events, the 2nd of which grew to an estimated 200 attendees. In 2022, we produced 4 events, with an average attendance of 300, with majority of attendees coming from outside of city, and many from outside of the county (and even state!).

In 2023 and 2024, with help from ATAX funds, we held 4 successful events, with an average attendance closer to 500. In 2025, due to budgetary constraints, we held only 2 events, with similar attendance. These events are free to the public, but do require significant financial inputs in order to fulfill our commitment to the high quality of music we have set for ourselves, as well as the standard of patron experience we seek to achieve. In 2026, we plan to return to our 4 event program.

We also partner with and support other local organizations with similar missions of music promotion and tourism generation. The Music Centre is completely volunteer run, with the addition of paid production staff on event days. Our volunteer board of directors not only generously give of their time to make Music on Main a success, but each has also made

financial contributions to ensure our future success.

Resilience and New Opportunities

In 2020, we made the difficult, but necessary, decision to leave our home at 101 W Main St, to pursue a more sustainable path for keeping our mission alive in Downtown Westminster. This plan has recently taken some unexpected, but exciting turns. We now have taken lease of 216 E Main St, a space which is much closer to being ready to host events. The space will be used for ticketed concerts, but we are also taking a much broader, more community focused approach to the use of 216; We intend to offer other events such as: group and private music lessons, band rehearsal space, open Blues, Jazz, and Rock Jam sessions, and private bookings such as camps and workshops.

Putting the Grant to Work

Our specific infrastructure requests regarding the 216 space are to be used in purchasing and installing acoustic paneling all around the venue to make for a world class sonic experience for our patrons. These panels will be made by a local artisan and installed generously throughout the audience listening area. Additionally, we will purchase and install a high-quality theater curtain surrounding the walls of the stage area which will add great acoustic and aesthetic value. Using grant funds from Spring 2026, our board and team of volunteers have been hard at work re-painting and finishing the interior walls and ceiling. We have also already significantly invested in upgrading the electrical work to meet code and event requirements. We recently completed building a 20x12' stage and fully expect to be able to hold concerts and events starting in Fall 2026, with a planned "soft opening" during the Apple Festival September 11-12th.

The funds requested for this grant will be used both to help with the final upfit of 216 and to help fund the production and promotion of Music on Main, which is a free event open to the public. We have committed to booking national and regional level original talent for our headliner bands, while also committing to booking up-and-coming local talent for the opening slots. This ensures a high quality of music for the concerts, but it also allows for us to be recognized in a much more visible way to the greater region. As such, we have expanded our marketing efforts far beyond Oconee County, and these grant funds will allow us to continue to expand the reach of our marketing. This greatly increases the brand potential for Oconee County to be seen as a destination for regional tourism. Now that we have indoor events to promote once again, we will be able to more efficiently market all of our events in tandem with our existing Music on Main marketing strategy.

Bringing People Together

Attendees are drawn to Music on Main events for more than the music and family-friendly elements. Each event includes a "classic car cruise in" with over 100 classic cars, food trucks, arts & crafts vendors, and a beverage stand which is our main avenue for raising funds. In 2022, we instituted a popular guitar raffle and VIP experience, which served as further self-generated revenue. The rest of the operating funds come from generous support of local businesses and individuals who are passionate about bringing live music to Westminster – "The Little Town with the Big Sound."

Grant funding at the local, county and state level are therefore essential in helping to continue and grow Music on Main and ensure that it will not only exist for years to come, but will flourish and expand as work to make this concert series a destination event for our community and those in the greater region.

Thanks sincerely for your consideration,

BJ Callahan

Interim Director, Westminster Music Centre

**OCONEE COUNTY ATAX GRANT
APPLICATION FORM
FOR TOURISM RELATED PROJECTS**

I. APPLICANT

A. Name of Organization WILD HEARTS EQUINE THERAPEUTIC CENTER, INC.

B. Address 598 WILD HEARTS WAY
SENECA, SC 29678

II. FUNDS REQUESTED

A. ATAX Funds Requested \$ 6,429.14

B. How will ATAX Funds be used? FABRICATE & INSTALL A PERMANENT
VISITOR WELCOME & INFORMATION KIOSK AT WILD HEARTS

C. Estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to attracting or serving tourists? 100%

D. Funds furnished by your organization \$0
Matching Grant \$0 Source _____
Matching Grant _____ Source _____
Other Funding \$0 Source _____
Other Funding _____ Source _____

Provide an itemized total budget for your event and an itemized budget only reflecting how ATAX funds will be spent. **THIS IS REQUIRED, attach on a separate sheet**

III. NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Title DISCOVER WILD HEARTS: VISITOR WELCOME & INFORMATION KIOSK

B. Description of project PLEASE SEE ATTACHED PROJECT NARRATIVE

C. Who will benefit from this project? VISITORS TO WILD HEARTS, INCLUDING SC
AGRI-TOURISM PASSPORT PARTICIPANTS, AND OTHER TRAVELERS
EXPLORING OCONEE COUNTY

IV. DATES OF PROJECT

Beginning NOV. 2026

Ending APRIL 2027

V. APPLICANT CATEGORY

Government Entity: _____

☒ Non-profit Organization: Incorporation date EFFECTIVE 7/2/2015

_____ Eleemosynary Organization under IRS Code: IRS # _____

_____ Date of Determination Letter _____

RECEIVED
8.10.26

VI. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED PROJECT NARRATIVE

- A. How many visitors/participants attended the event last year and are anticipated this year?
N/A - INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT, NOT AN EVENT
- B. How many of the visitors/participants were from beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County last year and are anticipated this year?
Last Year: N/A
This Year: N/A
- C. How many overnight stays were created by this event last year and are anticipated this year?
Last year: N/A
This Year: N/A
- D. How do you plan to advertise this event beyond a 50 mile radius of Oconee County?
N/A - INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT, NOT AN EVENT
- E. What other documentation can you provide demonstrating this event promotes Tourism in Oconee County? (i.e. photographs, letters from local chambers of commerce, restaurants, shop or accommodations owners) N/A
- F. What records will be kept during this event to obtain the above demographic data? (i.e. guest logs, phone logs, accommodations contracts, website hits, advertising demographics) N/A

VII. AUDIT

Does your organization perform an independent audit? Yes ☐ No ☒

Name of the Auditor: _____

VIII. Will your project be using any funds from another group that received ATAX funds? No

I have read the guidelines for the Oconee County Accommodations Grant Request and do hereby agree to comply with all rules and requirements. I understand failure to comply may result in a loss of funding for the project or ineligibility of future grants. I will complete interim reports every 180 days and a final report no more than 60 days from completion of the project. All information required for final reporting MUST be detailed when project is complete.

1. Contact Name: PAM MURDOCK Title: GRANTS COORDINATOR
Signature: Pam Murdock Date: 8/8/2026
Address: 598 WILD HEARTS WAY, SENECA SC 29678
Email: FUNDRAISING@WILDHEARTSOUNIETHERAPY.ORG
Phone Number (s): (864) 314-4751
- B. Alternate Contact Name: _____ Date: 7/26
Signature: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____ Fax No.: _____
Phone Number (s): _____

WILD HEARTS VISITOR INFORMATION KIOSK

CONCEPT RENDERING & SPECIFICATIONS



96\"/>

FRONT VIEW



SIDE VIEW



REAR VIEW



NOTES

All dimensions are approximate.
Final design may vary slightly
based on materials and
construction methods.
Install panels in sequence starting
top, left, and then right.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Wild Hearts Visitor Information Kiosk will provide visitors with a welcome, orientation, and information about our farm, programs, amenities, and upcoming events.

FEATURES

- Illustrated farm map
- Key locations & amenities
- Visitor information
- QR code for tours, events and horse stories
- Welcoming, durable, and easy to read

MATERIALS

- Premium-treated timber posts (4\"/>

SIGN PANEL SIZE

48\"/>

COLORS

- Custom colors
- Additional branding
- Optional lighting

PLACEMENT

To be installed near to the Collaborative Farm Shop.



WILD HEARTS
EQUINE THERAPY

wildheartsequinetherapy.org



WILD HEARTS EQUINE THERAPY

598 Wild Hearts Way, Seneca, SC 29678
864-991-9163 | www.wildheartsequinetherapy.org

Discover Wild Hearts: Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET

- Digital Print (36" × 48" visitor information panel): \$369.00
- Fabrication of Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk: \$4,800.00
- Delivery, Installation & Concrete Footing: \$950.00
- Sales Tax: \$310.14

Total Project Cost: **\$6,429.14**

ATAX FUNDS REQUESTED

- Digital Print (36" × 48" visitor information panel): \$369.00
- Fabrication of Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk: \$4,800.00
- Delivery, Installation & Concrete Footing: \$950.00
- Sales Tax: \$310.14

Total ATAX Funds Requested: **\$6,429.14**

Budget Narrative

ATAX funds will be used to fabricate and install a permanent ***Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk*** at Wild Hearts Equine Therapeutic Center. The project includes fabrication of the kiosk structure, production of the 36" × 48" digital visitor information panel, delivery and installation with a concrete footing, and applicable sales tax. The total project cost is **\$6,429.14**, based on the most cost-effective complete turnkey proposal received.

Three estimates were obtained for the project in accordance with ATAX requirements. Two vendors submitted complete turnkey proposals for fabrication and installation of the **Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk**. One vendor submitted an estimate for the 36" × 48" information panel only, as that company does not construct kiosk structures.



D-Sign and Graphics, LLC
PO Box 1707
Seneca, SC 29679
Ph: (864) 885-0435
Email: Debbie@dsignseneca.com
Web: <http://www.dsignseneca.com>

Estimate #: 4496

Page 1 of 1

Created Date:	7/29/2026 4:19:00PM	Prepared For:	Wild Hearts Equine Therapeutic Center
Salesperson:	House Account	Contact:	Pam Murdock, Administrative
Email:		Office Phone:	(864) NA -
Phone:	N/A	Email:	fundraising@wildheartsequinetherapy.org
Entered by:	Chrystal Baker	Address:	598 Wild Hearts Way Seneca, SC 29678

Description: VISITOR KIOSK SIGN

		Quantity	Unit Price	Subtotal
1	Product: Digital Prints Description: 7-10 Year Vinyl • 1, 36 in x 48 in Single Sided Custom Roll Print, Made From Premium Cast Vinyl	1	\$369.00	\$369.00
2	Product: Signage Description: Single Sided Wood Stained Frame with Metal Roof Hardware Included	1	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
3	Product: Service and Install Description: Standard Install with concrete footing • Standard Install	1	\$950.00	\$950.00

Notes

Estimate valid for 30 days.

Estimate Total:	\$6,119.00
Subtotal:	\$6,119.00
Taxes:	\$310.14
Total:	\$6,429.14
Deposit Required:	\$3,214.57

Payment Terms: 50% Deposit required payable at <https://dsignseneca.wixsite.com/d-sign/payments>.
Balance due upon receipt.

Client Reply Request

- ☐ Estimate Accepted "As Is". Please proceed with Order.
☐ Changes required, please contact me.

☐ Other: _____
SIGN: _____ **Date:** / /

Print Date: 8/7/2026 11:05:10AM

The ***Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk*** is a permanent tourism amenity that directly enhances the experience of travelers visiting an Oconee County agritourism destination. It builds upon Wild Hearts' continued growth and previous ATAX-supported tourism improvements while providing a practical, long-term resource for visitors.

The kiosk will also serve as the foundation of the ***Discover Wild Hearts*** tourism initiative, a phased effort to further enhance the visitor experience through future projects such as a professional tourism marketing campaign, expanded wayfinding and interpretive signage, self-guided visitor experiences, promotional videos, and additional visitor amenities.

Together, these efforts represent a long-term commitment to strengthening Wild Hearts as an agritourism destination and supporting Oconee County's tourism economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

As Wild Hearts has grown, so has the need for clear visitor orientation. First-time guests frequently arrive unsure where to check in, where to go for educational workshops, where accessible trails are located, where to obtain their Agritourism Passport stamp, or what other experiences are available.

Previous ATAX-funded improvements—including RV utility hookups, Horse Hotel advertising, guest equine pasture fencing, tourism signage, and the Highway 24 South Carolina Agritourism directional sign—have helped expand Wild Hearts' tourism infrastructure and visitor offerings. As more visitors discover Wild Hearts, the **Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk** is the next logical step in supporting that continued growth by providing visitors with the information they need upon arrival.

Enhancing the Visitor Experience:

The kiosk will provide visitors with immediate access to information that helps them confidently navigate the property and discover its amenities. Depending on the final design, it may include:

- Property map with *"You Are Here"* orientation
- Check-in information
- Walking trail map
- Collaborative Farm Shop information
- South Carolina Agritourism Passport information and stamping instructions
- QR codes linking to the Wild Hearts website, calendar of events, self-guided walking tour, educational information, and trail descriptions
- Weather-protected literature holder for Wild Hearts rack cards and, if appropriate, South Carolina Agritourism Passport booklets

By making this information readily available, the kiosk allows visitors to spend less time figuring out where to go and more time enjoying the farm and its visitor experiences.

Supporting Tourism in Oconee County:

The kiosk strengthens Wild Hearts' role as an established Oconee County agritourism destination by improving the experience of travelers who visit the farm as part of their time in the county. It also supports the South Carolina Agritourism Passport Program by making Passport information and stamping instructions readily accessible to participating travelers.

A well-organized visitor experience can encourage guests to stay longer, return for future experiences, share their visit through social media and online reviews, and recommend Wild Hearts to others—all of which contribute to continued tourism activity in Oconee County.

The kiosk will also be a lasting tourism asset that can be updated as Wild Hearts' visitor offerings evolve.

Why this project is an appropriate use of ATAX funds:



WILD HEARTS
EQUINE THERAPY

598 Wild Hearts Way, Seneca, SC 29678
864-991-9163 | www.wildheartsequinetherapy.org

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Discover Wild Hearts: Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk

Description of Project:

Because a visitor's experience begins the moment they arrive, Wild Hearts is committed to creating a welcoming, informative, and positive first impression.

Wild Hearts proposes the fabrication and installation of a permanent **Visitor Welcome & Information Kiosk** adjacent to the primary visitor parking area. The kiosk will serve as a centralized welcome point providing orientation, wayfinding, maps, check-in information, South Carolina Agritourism Passport information, and resources to help visitors make the most of their visit.

The kiosk will feature a **48" x 36" visitor information panel** with property maps, wayfinding, and information about Wild Hearts' visitor experiences and amenities. QR codes will provide access to additional information, including the Wild Hearts website, events, self-guided walking tours, educational information, and trail descriptions.

Demographic Data: How will the project influence tourism in Oconee County?

- 1) Creates a welcoming point-of-contact for visitors to one of Oconee County's agritourism destinations.
- 2) Enhances the visitor experience by encouraging longer visits, repeat visitation, positive word-of-mouth, social media sharing, and online reviews.
- 3) Strengthens an existing countywide tourism initiative by supporting South Carolina Agritourism Passport participation and improving visitor orientation.

Project Need:

Wild Hearts Equine Therapeutic Center welcomes hundreds of visitors each year, including educational workshop participants, farm tour guests, travelers participating in the South Carolina Agritourism Passport Program, RV groups, visiting horse owners, and others exploring Oconee County.

Over the past decade, Wild Hearts has grown into one of Oconee County's unique agritourism destinations, offering the Collaborative Farm Shop, guest equine facilities, walking trails, RV accommodations, and participation in the Farm Crawl and South Carolina Agritourism Passport Program. These offerings provide visitors with multiple opportunities to experience and explore the farm.

EyeCatcher Signs, Inc.

15312 Wells Hwy
Seneca, SC 29678
864-557-6357 Mobile

Estimate

DATE	ESTIMATE NO.
8/4/2026	1721/181

NAME / ADDRESS
Wild Hearts Equine Therapeutic Center

P.O. NO.	PHONE NO.	FAX NO.
Verbal/email		

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	COST	Total
36"x48"(apprx size) SIGN FACE with UV laminated digital Print on aluminum with 3/4" back panel and bracing	1	6,250.00	6,250.00T
Painted Posts (2-6"x6"x12") painted supports & timber framework, includes standing seam metal roof w/ hardware & posts to remain at groundlevel, in concrete	1	8,780.00	8,780.00T
Service and Install Crew to install the Kiosk & sign and post system with steel flat bar so posts will remain level and above ground, in concrete	1	2,800.00	2,800.00
Does not include any permit fees or sales tax or any unforeseen expenses required to complete the project. Any variations from original project scope may result in a change order and additional charges This quote is valid for 30 days		0.00	0.00T
Finalize and setup concept into scaled drawings for production and fabrication & installation	1	1,750.00	1,750.00T
This project will require a 50% deposit of \$10,250 (please allow 6-8 weeks for completion once final specifications are approved		0.00	0.00T

Estimate per request	Subtotal	\$19,580.00
	Sales Tax (6.0%)	\$1,006.80
	Total	\$20,586.80



4130 Clemson Blvd
Ste A
Anderson, SC 29621
(864) 964-0029

ESTIMATE

EST-23012

Payment Terms: Deposit Required

DESCRIPTION: Kiosk Sign Panel

Bill To: Wild Hearts Equine Therapy Center
135 Jim Joe Road
Seneca, SC 29678
US

Installed: Wild Hearts Equine Therapy Center
Pam Murdock
598 Wild Hearts Way
Seneca, SC 29678
US

Requested By: Pam Murdock
Email: fundraising@wildheartsequinetherapy.org
Work Phone: (864) 314-4751
Tax ID: 31274

Salesperson: Cameron Tarrant
Email: Cameron@signarama-anderson.com

PRODUCTS	QTY	UNIT PRICE	TAXABLE	TOTALS
1 36x48 ACM Panel	1	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$170.00
2 Installation	1	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00

Unless credit terms have been pre-approved by Signarama Anderson, orders of \$500 or less must be paid in full at the time the order is placed. Orders over \$500 require a 50% deposit (minimum) before any work can begin, including design. Final payment is due upon notification of completion and/or delivery of the signage. Installation, if included in the order, will not begin until final payment is received. All shipping services are considered FOB shipping point.

Subtotal:	\$520.00
Taxable Amount:	\$0.00
Taxes:	\$0.00
Grand Total:	\$520.00
Deposit Required:	\$260.00
Credit Card Surcharge:	3.00%
Total with Surcharge:	\$535.60
Deposit with Surcharge:	\$267.80

Estimate is valid for 30 days after delivery.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thanks for choosing Signarama Anderson for all of your sign and graphics needs.
Each office is independently owned and operated

THE JOURNAL

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF OCONEE

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

IN RE:

BEFORE ME the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State and County above named, This day personally came before me, Larry Davidson, who being first duly sworn according to law, says that he is the General Manager of **THE JOURNAL**, a newspaper published Tuesday through Saturday in Seneca, SC and distributed in **Oconee County, Pickens County** and the Pendleton area of **Anderson County** and the notice (of which the annexed is a true copy) was inserted in said papers on

August 26, 2026

the rate charged therefore is not in excess of the regular rates charged private individuals for similar insertions.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
8/26/2026



Larry Davidson
General Manager




Velma J. Nelson
Notary Public
State of South Carolina

864.973.6676
upstatetoday.com

FILED
LACE



BY COUNTY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE THAT THE RECEIPT OR AVAILABLEITY OF A GRANT, STATE APPROPRIATION, DONATION, RESTRICTED REVENUE FEE, OR OTHER FUNDING DOES NOT INDEPENDENTLY AUTHORIZE THE CREATION OR CONTINUATION OF A COUNTY POSITION, RECLASSIFICATION, CONTINUATION, EXPIRATION, AND ABOLITION OF COUNTY POSITIONS TO PRESERVE LAWFUL APPOINTMENT AND PERSONNEL AUTHORITY; TO PROHIBIT CIRCUMVENTION; AND TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. ORDINANCE 2026-28 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-191, "APPOINTMENT; DUTIES," OF DIVISION 4, "COUNTY ATTORNEY," OF ARTICLE III, "OFFICES AND EMPLOYEES," OF CHAPTER 2, "ADMINISTRATION," OF THE OCOFEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, IN ORDER TO REQUIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION BEFORE A COUNTY AGENCY, COMMISSION, BOARD, DEPARTMENT, OR COMMITTEE MAY EMPLOY OR RETAIN AN ATTORNEY OTHER THAN THE COUNTY ATTORNEY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

NOTICE
ETHAN ISAIAH SHERIFF

The State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, has filed a petition against you seeking to terminate forever your parental rights to N.J.S. (d.o.b. 12/15/2022). It appears that served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby ORDERED to appear in the Juvenile Court of Washington County, Tennessee at Jonesborough, Tennessee on the October 22, 2026, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. to personally answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights. Failing to appear for the hearing on this date and time, without good cause, pursuant to Rule 103 of the Tenn. R. Juv. P., will result in the loss of your right to contest the petition to terminate your parental rights to the child listed above. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents at the Washington County Juvenile Court Clerk's Office, Jonesborough, Tennessee.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
 Notice is hereby given that Krishn, LLC dba Keowe Package Store intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and Off Premises consumption of Wine and Liquor at 105 Ebenezer Rd West Union, SC 29686. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than September 4, 2026. For a protest to be

Estate: RICHARD EDWIN HUGHES
 Date of Death: 6/4/2026
 Case Number: 2026ES3700505
 Personal Representative: JAMES EDWARD HUGHES
 Address: 7160 TARPON CT FLEMING ISLAND, FL 32003
 Attorney, if applicable: SETH A. LEVY
 Address: 222 W COLEMAN BLVD STE 125 MT PLEASANT, SC 29464
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATE
TATES
 All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of OCOFEE County, the address of which is 415 S PINE ST Walhalla SC 29691, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 82-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: ROBERT B MCCALL
 Date of Death: 7/24/2026
 Case Number: 2026ES3700514
 Personal Representative: JOYCE M MCCALL
 Address: 310 HICKORY LANE SEN- ECA, SC 29678
 Estate: THOMAS VIRGIL SISK
 Date of Death: 8/3/2026
 Case Number: 2026ES3700515
 Personal Representative: JULIA S HALL
 Address: 150 WOLF LANE MOUNTAIN REST, SC 29664
 Estate: MILDRED SMITH JACKSON
 Date of Death: 5/18/2026
 Case Number: 2026ES3700529
 Personal Representative: REGINA ANN COLLINS
 Address: 12 JAMES STREET SEN- ECA, SC 29679
 Estate: ANDREA L BAILEY
 Date of Death: 6/13/2026
 Case Number: 2026ES3700445
 Personal Representative: BRUCE T. BAILEY
 Address: 912 PONTIAC AVENUE FREDERICK, MD 21701
 Estate: GLENDA FAYE BALLENGER WILSON
 Date of Death: 2/24/2026
 Case Number: 2026ES3700479
 Personal Representative: RICKY EU- GENE WILSON
 Address: 320 N ISUNDEGA ST WEST- MINSTER, SC 29693
 Estate: GRADY LEE POOLE
 Date of Death: 7/6/2026
 Case Number: 2026ES3700496

McAlister, South Carolina Department of Revenue; 1st Franklin Financial aka 1st Franklin Financial Corporation; Mortgage Research Center, LLC DBA Padlo, A Missouri Limited Liability Company; I the undersigned as Clerk of Court for Ocofee County, will sell on September 8, 2026 at 11:00 AM at Ocofee County Court House, Walhalla, South Carolina 29691 to the highest bidder:
 Legal Description and Property Address:
 All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land with all improvements thereon, situated, lying and being in the State of South Carolina, County of Ocofee, being known and designated as Lot Number Sixty (60) of Evergreen Forest as shown on a plat recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Ocofee County, South Carolina
 in Plat Book W at Page 192 and having the metes and bounds, courses and distances as upon said plat appear and incorporated herein by reference thereto.
 This being the same property conveyed to Jason McAlister by Deed of Mary Witmer dated May 19, 2023 and recorded May 23, 2023 in Deed Book 2944 at Page 203, in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Ocofee County, South Carolina.

TERMS OF SALE: For cash. Interest at the current rate of 7.625% to be paid on balance of bid from date of sale to date of compliance. The purchaser to pay for papers and stamps, and that the successful bidder or bidders, other than the Plaintiff herein, will, upon the acceptance of his or her bid, deposit with the Clerk of Court for Ocofee County a certified check or cash in the amount equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of bid on said premises at the sale as evidence of good faith in bidding, and subject to any resale of said premises under Order of this Court; and in the event the said purchaser or purchasers fail to comply with the terms of sale within Thirty (30) days, the Clerk of Court for Ocofee County shall forthwith resell the said property, after the due notice and advertisement, and shall continue to sell the same each subsequent sales day until a purchaser, who shall comply with the terms of sale, shall be obtained, such sales to be made at the risk of the former purchaser. As a personal or deficiency judgment is demanded, the bidding will remain open for a period of thirty (30) days pursuant to the S.C. Code Ann. Section 15-39-720 (1976), if the Plaintiff or the Plaintiff's representative does not appear at the above-described sale, then the sale of the property will be null, void, and of no force and effect. In such event, the sale will be rescheduled for the next available sales day. Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale. Sold subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions. Plaintiff agrees to pay the costs of the sale.

McAlister, South Carolina Department of Revenue; 1st Franklin Financial aka 1st Franklin Financial Corporation; Mortgage Research Center, LLC DBA Padlo, A Missouri Limited Liability Company; I the undersigned as Clerk of Court for Ocofee County, will sell on September 8, 2026 at 11:00 AM at Ocofee County Court House, Walhalla, South Carolina 29691 to the highest bidder:
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 All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land with all improvements thereon, situated, lying and being in the State of South Carolina, County of Ocofee, being known and designated as Lot Number Sixty (60) of Evergreen Forest as shown on a plat recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Ocofee County, South Carolina
 in Plat Book W at Page 192 and having the metes and bounds, courses and distances as upon said plat appear and incorporated herein by reference thereto.
 This being the same property conveyed to Jason McAlister by Deed of Mary Witmer dated May 19, 2023 and recorded May 23, 2023 in Deed Book 2944 at Page 203, in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Ocofee County, South Carolina.
 210 Doyle Drive
 Seneca, SC 29678
 TMS# 254-05-01-005
 TERMS OF SALE: For cash. Interest at the current rate of 7.625% to be paid on balance of bid from date of sale to date of compliance. The purchaser to pay for papers and stamps, and that the successful bidder or bidders, other than the Plaintiff herein, will, upon the acceptance of his or her bid, deposit with the Clerk of Court for Ocofee County a certified check or cash in the amount equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of bid on said premises at the sale as evidence of good faith in bidding, and subject to any resale of said premises under Order of this Court; and in the event the said purchaser or purchasers fail to comply with the terms of sale within Thirty (30) days, the Clerk of Court for Ocofee County shall forthwith resell the said property, after the due notice and advertisement, and shall continue to sell the same each subsequent sales day until a purchaser, who shall comply with the terms of sale, shall be obtained, such sales to be made at the risk of the former purchaser. As a personal or deficiency judgment is demanded, the bidding will remain open for a period of thirty (30) days pursuant to the S.C. Code Ann. Section 15-39-720 (1976), if the Plaintiff or the Plaintiff's representative does not appear at the above-described sale, then the sale of the property will be null, void, and of no force and effect. In such event, the sale will be rescheduled for the next available sales day. Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale. Sold subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions. Plaintiff agrees to pay the costs of the sale.

THE JOURNAL

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF OCONEE

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

IN RE:

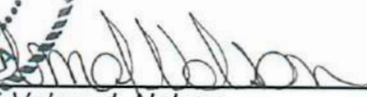
BEFORE ME the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State and County above named, This day personally came before me, Larry Davidson, who being first duly sworn according to law, says that he is the General Manager of THE JOURNAL, a newspaper published Tuesday through Saturday in Seneca, SC and distributed in **Oconee County, Pickens County** and the Pendleton area of **Anderson County** and the notice (of which the annexed is a true copy) was inserted in said papers on

January 10, 2026

the rate charged therefore is not in excess of the regular rates charged private individuals for similar insertions.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
1/10/2026




Larry Davidson
General Manager


Velma J. Nelson
Notary Public
State of South Carolina

FILED PLACE

864.973.6676

upstatetoday.com

HOUSES FOR SALE

PUBLISHERS NOTICE

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitations or discrimination" based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

LEGALS

Public Notice

Linda A. Traynor, of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, is in construction in Navigable Waters Permit to remove 177 cubic yards of silt by using an excavator on a barge at the edge of the shoreline and transported by barge to the off-load staging area. The silt will be removed from under and around the privately owned dock located at 122 Fair Haven Ct in Seneca, SC on Lake Keowee. Comments will be received by South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control at 2600 Bull St, Columbia SC 29201, ATTN: Charles Hightower, Division of Water Quality, until January 23, 2025.

Public Notice

Sharon Swindale has applied to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for a Construction in Navigable Waters Permit to remove 256 cubic yards of silt by using an excavator on a barge at the edge of the shoreline and transported by barge to the off-load staging area. The silt will be removed from under and around the privately owned dock located at 13058 Janda Road in Seneca, SC on Lake Keowee. Comments will be received by South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control at 2600 Bull St, Columbia SC 29201, ATTN: Charles Hightower, Division of Water Quality, until January 23, 2025.

The Oconee County Aeronautics Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday January 29, 2026 has been canceled.

The meeting will instead be held on Tuesday January 27, 2026 at 3:30 pm in the Oconee County Chambers located at 415 S. Pine St., Walhalla, SC.

MEETING NOTICE OF THE PIONEER RURAL WATER DISTRICT

5500 West-Oak Hwy., Westminster, SC
Tuesday January 13, 2026 @ 3:00 pm

Agenda:
Call To Order
Concerns of the District
Limited: 2 citizens per meeting, for 5 minutes,
prior scheduling required.
Agenda & Non Agenda Items: Combined both
are limited to a total of forty (40) minutes, four
(4) minutes per person.
Approval of Minutes
Financial Report / System Report
Treatment Plant PER Discussion
Old Business
New Business
Adjourn

The Oconee County Council will meet in 2026 on the first and third Tuesday of each month with the following exceptions:

June and November meetings, which will be only on the third Tuesday of each of these months; October and December meetings, which will be only on the first Tuesday of each of these months.

All Council meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, South Carolina.

Oconee County Council will also hold a Planning Retreat beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 20, 2026 to establish short- and long-term goals. This meeting will be held off-site at Tri-County Technical College, Oconee Campus, conference room located at 552 Education Way, Westminster, South Carolina.

Oconee County Council will also meet on Tuesday, January 5, 2027 in Council Chambers at which point they will establish their 2027 Council and Committee meeting schedules. Additional Council meetings, workshops, and/or committee meetings may be added throughout the year as needed.

Oconee County Council Committees will meet in 2026 prior to County Council meetings on the following dates/times in Council Chambers located at 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, South Carolina unless otherwise advertised. The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health, & Welfare Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 17, May 19, July 21, & September 15, 2026.

The Transportation Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 17, May 19, July 21, & September 15, 2026.

The Real Estate, Facilities, & Land Management Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 7, June 16, August 18, & October 06, 2026. The Planning & Economic Development Committee at 4:30 p.m. on

the following dates: April 7, June 16, August 18, & October 06, 2026. The Budget, Finance, & Administration Committee at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates: Friday, February 20th [Strategic Planning Retreat], Friday, February 27th [Budget Workshop] and 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: March 3, April 21, & May 5, 2026.

The Corinth-Shiloh Fire Commission will meet during 2026 on the third Thursday of each month. All Commission meetings, unless otherwise noted, will be held at the Corinth-Shiloh Fire Department, 940 Old Clemson Highway, Seneca, SC 29672, at 6:00 p.m. in the training room.

The Commission will hold two budget workshops on Tuesday, February 12, and Tuesday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m. at the fire department. The annual budget meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Additional Commission meetings and/or workshops may be scheduled throughout the year as needed. A monthly schedule is available at the fire department.

Members of the Commission are invited to attend Corinth-Shiloh Volunteer Fire Department meetings, trainings, and community activities. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken. The monthly department meeting is held on the first Monday of each month. Training is held on the third Monday of each month, as well as the Saturday following the third Monday. A monthly schedule of activities, including dates and times, is available at the fire department.

Several fire department ceremonies are planned for 2026, to which the Fire Commission is invited. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken. Scheduled events include Meet the Chief on January 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and the Transfer of Command on Friday, February 27, at 6:00 p.m. Summer and fall family events, Station Open Houses and other community fire department events, and the annual Christmas dinner has not yet been scheduled. Once finalized, dates, times, and locations will be available at the fire department. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken.

Commission agendas will be available and publicized no later than the day prior to the scheduled meeting and/or workshop at www.corinthshilohfd.com. All meetings and workshops, with the exception of executive sessions, are open to the public.

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

Oconee County Council

Oconee County
Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Phone: 864-718-1023
Fax: 864 718-1024

E-mail:
jennifercadams@oconeesc.com

John Elliott
District I

Matthew Durham
Chairman
District II

Don Mize
Vice Chairman
District III

Thomas James
Chairman Pro Tem
District IV

J. Glenn Hart
District V



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Sec. 2-61. - Access to and conduct at county meetings, facilities and property.

(a) *Purpose.* The county council has determined that it is necessary to regulate access to county facilities, grounds and property in order to ensure the safety and security of the public who visit these areas or the county employees who serve them. The conduct of persons who visit county facilities and/or who have contact with county employees must also be regulated to preserve public order, peace and safety. The regulation of access and conduct must be balanced with the right of the public to have reasonable access to public facilities and to receive friendly, professional service from county employees. These regulations apply to all county facilities and meetings, as defined below, for and over which county council exercises control and regulation, and to the extent, only, not pre-empted by state or federal law.

(b) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Facility means any building, structure, or real property owned, leased, rented, operated or occupied by the county or one of its departments, offices or agencies.

Meeting means any assemblage of persons for the purpose of conducting county governmental business, operations or functions or any assemblage of persons within a county governmental facility. The term "meeting" includes, but is not limited to, county council meetings, county board and committee and staff meetings, trials, hearings and other proceedings conducted in the courts of general sessions and common pleas, family court, master-in-equity, probate court and magistrate's court; and other meetings by entities duly authorized by the county council.

(c) *Prohibited acts.* It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- (1) Utter loud, obscene, profane, threatening, disruptive or abusive language or to engage in any disorderly or disruptive conduct that impedes, disrupts or disturbs the orderly proceedings of any meeting, or operations of any department or function of the county government, including, without limitation, speaking when not explicitly recognized and authorized to do so by the presiding official in such meeting.
- (2) Bring, carry, or otherwise introduce any firearm, knife with blade longer than two inches or other dangerous weapon, concealed or not concealed, into any facility or meeting. This prohibition does not apply to law enforcement personnel or any other person whose official, governmental duties require them to carry such firearm, knife, or other weapon.
- (3) Engage in partisan political activity, including speech, in any meeting not authorized and called for the purpose of partisan political activity and explicitly authorized for such purpose in the facility in which such activity is to be conducted, or refusing to cease such activity when

the presiding official of the meeting in question has ruled that the activity in question is partisan political activity and has directed that such activity stop.

- (4) Interfere with, impede, hinder or obstruct any county governmental official or employee in the performance of his duties, whether or not on county government property.
- (5) Enter any area of a county government facility, grounds or property when such entry is prohibited by signs, or obstructed or enclosed by gates, fencing or other physical barriers. Such areas include rooms if clearly marked with signs to prohibit unauthorized entry.
- (6) Enter by vehicle any area of a county governmental facility, grounds or property when such area is prohibited by signs or markings or are obstructed by physical barriers; or park a vehicle in such restricted areas; or park in a manner to block, partially block or impede the passage of traffic in driveways; or park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant or in a fire zone; or park in any area not designated as a parking space; or park in a handicapped parking space without proper placarding or license plate; or park in a reserved parking space without authorization.
- (7) Use any county governmental facility, grounds or other property for any purpose not authorized by law or expressly permitted by officials responsible for the premises.
- (8) Enter without authorization or permission or refuse to leave any county governmental facility, grounds or other property after hours of operation.
- (9) Obstruct or impede passage within a building, grounds or other property of any county governmental facility.
- (10) Enter, without legal cause or good excuse, a county governmental facility, grounds or property after having been warned not to do so; or, having entered such property, fail and refuse without legal cause or good excuse to leave immediately upon being ordered or requested to do so by an official, employee, agent or representative responsible for premises.
- (11) Damage, deface, injure or attempt to damage, deface or injure a county governmental property, whether real property or otherwise.
- (12) Enter or attempt to enter any restricted or nonpublic ingress point or any restricted access area, or bypass or attempt to bypass the designated public entrance or security checkpoint of a facility without authorization or permission.
- (13) Perform any act which circumvents, disables or interferes with or attempts to circumvent, disable or interfere with a facility's security system, alarm system, camera system, door lock or other intrusion prevention or detection device. This includes, without limitation, opening, blocking open, or otherwise disabling an alarmed or locked door or other opening that would allow the entry of an unauthorized person into a facility or restricted access area of the facility.
- (14) Exit or attempt to exit a facility through an unauthorized egress point or alarmed door.

- (d) *Penalty for violation of section.* Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished in accordance with section 1-7. In addition, vehicles that are improperly parked on any county property, facility, or other premises may be towed at the owner's expense.

(Ord. No. 2003-04, §§ 1—4, 4-15-2003; Ord. No. 2012-06, § 1, 4-3-2012)

August 25, 2026

Dear Don,

I understand that an ordinance has come up around position authorization and classification control. I don't know if that is aimed at any particular position and I do understand the need for the county to know about positions paid by various things like grants, but I also know about structures put in place that make it hard to be flexible with opportunities.

Needless to say, I hope that the county realizes how valuable support positions can be to our community. Whatever is decided about the ordinance, I ask that you authorize the library resource associate position, at least through the fiscal year to allow for time to make the appropriate steps so that the work that has been done through the grant doesn't immediately go away.

I also understand that Blair Hinson, library director, has tried to obtain money from various sources to help keep various positions. I hope that the board will support Blair in these efforts and try to help in this area.

Sincerely,

Ryan Wilson

Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church



To whom it may concern,

This letter is in support of the Library Resource positions with Oconee County Library. I have worked directly with Kerry and Amy and have seen how critical their positions are to bridge the gaps for Oconee County residents to vital health, housing, insurance, food and clothing resources to help and uplift them.

While working alongside them with our Mobile Clean of Heart program at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, you see the lasting impact they are making with our most vulnerable population. Kerry and Amy take great care in ensuring everyone feels welcomed and cared for as they provide showers, clothing, and resources to support our community. In 2024 they provided 224 showers to individuals that would not have had access to showers otherwise, due to there being no other shower resource for unhoused or low income Oconee County residents. In 2025 the clients that were served more than doubled to 460 individuals receiving shower services. The ripple effects of these Library Resource positions have lasting impacts throughout Oconee County and the individuals they passionately serve. Please allow these critical Library Resource positions to remain to ensure Oconee County individuals have the support and wraparound services that they need.

Thank you,

Jessica Thrall

Site Administrator

September 4, 2026

To the Oconee County Council Members:

I was appointed on the OCPL Board from January 2021 until January 2025. While I was on the Board, we received a 4-year grant to provide a licensed social worker (Kerry Leeper Brock) and a Spanish interpreter (Amy Saylor) to provide Library Resource Services. They provided programs and services that acted as social infrastructure and promoted equity, lifelong learning and civic engagement to our community and residents.

During their grant funding period, Kerry and Amy operated several projects including:

- The Mobile Showers program every other Wednesday at our Daily Bread.
- Training on "A Matter of Balance" falls prevention program and conducted classes for seniors.
- Brought in speakers to the local branches on a variety of topics including lawyers that spoke on Wills and Trusts.
- Coordinated individual cases and got one homeless person into a senior living facility.

Needless to say, their services are valuable to our residents and the general community.

I heard where some on County Council feel this should be the role of DSS. While DSS might provide some of these responsibilities, an individual's situation has to become so severe before they qualify for DSS services. And in our rural county, public libraries become the first line of resources for our community. I recall during COVID, families would be outside the library walls to access the internet for their children's e-learning days! Much like our local post office branches do more than ship letters and packages! They become "Hubs" in the community!

I write this letter to demonstrate my full support for using the State Aid Library funds (and any other grants and funds) to continue to provide these services for the 2026-2027 fiscal year and beyond. In addition, I strongly support the creation of the roles of a Library Resource Service Director and a Spanish Interpreter onto the Oconee County Organizational chart.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Monica Alles White
242 Point Road
Seneca, SC 29672
monica.white1956@gmail.com
513-295-6863

From: [Ryan Forbes](#)
To: [Jennifer C. Adams](#)
Subject: Support the continued position of Library Resource Associate
Date: Thursday, September 10, 2026 3:59:24 PM



Dear Oconee County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for maintaining the Library Resource Associate position at the Oconee County Library.

It is my understanding that funding has been offered to cover this position for at least another year. Even without this funding, I fully support keeping the position due to the valuable community service it provides to our county. When external funding is available to offset costs, we should take advantage of the opportunity to support our community services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Ryan Forbes

Ryan Forbes
1211 Stillwater Dr, Seneca, SC 29672

Dear Mr. Matthew Durham,

My name is Susan Dillard and as a resident of Oconee County, I am writing about Ordinance 2026-27. I'm asking you to please make a position so we can keep Kerry Brock and the vital work she provides to our county and library system. Kerry has been an incredible asset to our community. Eliminating her position would be a tremendous disservice.

I have worked at the Oconee County Public Library for over six years, and I have witnessed first-hand how many people come to us in need of help with things other than the basic library needs. On a daily basis people are coming to the library in need of employment, housing, social services, as well as other needs. As library staff, unfortunately we are not trained or equipped to help with these complex needs. Kerry fills that void by providing guidance, connecting people with resources, and helping them navigate situations they may not know how to handle on their own.

I have personally witnessed how valuable she is and the dire need for this position inside of the library and outside in the community. While at a doctor's appointment one morning, a woman in the waiting room had all of her belongings with her. She was visibly upset as she spoke with a staff member about finding somewhere to go. I went to the staff member and advised her that I worked for the library and that we had a social worker available. Although I did not have Kerry's contact information with me, I directed her to the library website so she could get the information to connect the woman with Kerry. She was very grateful for the information.

This experience reminded me that Kerry's impact reaches far beyond the library walls. She is a bridge between people in need and the resources that can help them.

I attended a library event that was hosted at the Anderson County Library. The event is called OPAL which stands for Oconee, Pickens, Anderson Libraries. During a session with a smaller group of people, we were mentioning things that our libraries offered. I mentioned that Oconee currently has a social worker and explained some of the things she assisted with. The Anderson librarian was very intrigued that we have this resource available to our patrons and was interested in finding out more information.

Our county is one of four in the state that offers their patrons the assistance of an on-staff social worker. That makes us unique and sets us apart from other counties. However, I hope this service grows across the state and country and I hope we are a part of that process.

Kerry has made a meaningful difference in the lives of our patrons, our staff, and our community. She has even helped library staff and their families with resources and assistance. Her position is not simply another county position—it is an essential community resource. Removing it would leave a significant gap for people who are already struggling to find help.

I strongly urge the county to recognize the value of Kerry's work and preserve and protect her position. Our community needs the services she provides, and we should not take that valuable resource away from the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan Dillard

9/14/26

To: Mr. Durham, John Elliott, Don Mize, Thomas James and Glen Hart

I am writing all of you in support of the Library Resource Associate at the Oconee County Libraries.

The Library Resource Associate program has been an asset to our community since it began.

The managers of the different branches have found a support system which helps them serve their patrons.

As a Friend of the Library I work in the basement of the library sorting, pricing and shelving books for our weekly book sale each Thursday. Through Kerry and Amy we have been introduced to services in the community and have been able to supply books and participate in some of the programs.

On August 11, 2026 at 5:30 I attended a Community Relations Meeting in the Walhalla Library Meeting Room. (I have included the public notice that was posted in the library).

Discussion - Temporarily Funding the Resource Librarian Position with State Aid

Purpose - Review the proposal to fund the Resource Librarian position through State Aid and identify operational budget adjustments necessary to support the position.

Three of the nine appointed library board members attended and led the meeting -Kim Jackson, C. Paul Holcombe, Mandy Ellison as well as Staff Liaison Blair Hinson.

It was an eye-opening meeting with several speakers - community resource program directors, library managers, Friends of the Library members, patrons that have been able to get help....all speaking on the importance of having this service in our community.

Thank you for your time.

Judy L. Roth(Matthew Durham is my representative on the council.)

OCONEE COUNTY LIBRARY

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Walhalla Library Meeting Room, Tuesday, August 11, 5:30 PM

Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

Kim Jackson

New Business

Discussion: Temporarily Funding the Resource Librarian Position with State Aid

Purpose: Review the proposal to fund the Resource Librarian position through State Aid and identify operational budget adjustments necessary to support the position.

Discussion Topics

1. Resource Librarian Position

- Annual Salary: \$39,000
- Staffmark cost

2. Benefits of the Resource Librarian Position

- Provides a central point of assistance for community members seeking information and services.
- Supports patrons with complex needs that often require resource navigation and social service knowledge.
- Reduces the workload of library staff, allowing librarians to focus on core library services.
- Assists the county, at no local cost, by maintaining community resource directories and partnership information.

3. Potential Operational Budget Reductions

- **Training:** Increase the use of local and regional training opportunities in place of national conferences.
- **Information Technology:** Delay computer replacements, as new computers were purchased last year.
- **Library Materials:** No reductions to print collections or e-books; most digital media costs are associated with Hoopla.
- **Audio/Visual:** Review expenditures for possible reductions.
- **Operating Supplies:** Reduce spending on office supplies, furniture, craft materials, 3D printing supplies, promotional items, and other program supplies where feasible.
- **Other Budget Lines:** Consider modest reductions to dues and memberships, small capital purchases, data processing, and copier click charges.

Public Discussion: 4 min per speaker, 30 min total

Committee Discussion and Recommendation

- Review the proposal and budget impacts.
- Determine whether to recommend using State Aid to fund the Resource Librarian position.

From: [Ashley Lester](#)
To: [Stewart Jones](#)
Cc: [Council Clerk Info](#); [Jennifer C. Adams](#)
Subject: in support of ordinance 2026-27
Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 6:44:36 AM



Dear Mr. Jones:

I'm ccing the council clerk to enter this letter into backup material.

I am writing as a licensed social worker in Oconee County; a colleague and former coworker of Kerry Leeper-Brock. In my 3 years working for the Center for Family Medicine - Oconee through Prisma Health as a bilingual social worker, Kerry and I worked closely together and was a source of many referrals. Due to lack of user friendly systems for various social services, and due to lack of digital literacy and health literacy of our Oconee County residents, Kerry's position as library resource associate is an essential stop gap resource. She not only helped 1:1, but provided workshops at the library to increase health and digital literacy (in English and in Spanish). Our county's high poverty rate needs services like Kerry's; to help navigate systems and the few resources there are. Due to Kerry's experience and license, she is easily able to assess if there are mental health issues that may be barriers to accessing resources. Sometimes it's not just handing someone the resource, but explaining to the person, in their language and in a trauma informed way how to access the resource.

The loss of this position that the library provides would be detrimental to the health and well being of our county's residents.

Ashley Lester, LISW-CP
Ashley Lester Counseling
864.710.7922

From: [Linda Lovely](#)
To: [Council Clerk Info](#)
Subject: Public comment on County Council Ordinance 2026-27
Date: Monday, September 14, 2026 5:44:43 PM



Please share the public comment below with all Oconee County Council representatives. I also am asking for my comment to be read aloud during the public comment session for Ordinance 2026-27.

I hope County Council will vote against Oconee County Ordinance 2026-27. This ordinance does not mention the Oconee County Public Library (OCPL) system nor the fact that the ordinance will deprive our libraries and community of a library resource position—even if that position is funded by a grant and represents no cost to taxpayers.

What will the community lose if this Ordinance passes? I believe—and always have—that local libraries should serve as trusted, nonpolitical community hubs that welcome everyone. Their mission is to help patrons find the information they want and need. Sometimes that's a nonfiction or fiction book or an historical document. But patrons also may seek help to successfully apply for a job online, learn the latest flu vaccine recommendations, or discover what local resources are available to help a relative suffering from dementia or a Veteran voicing suicidal thoughts.

Helping library patrons access information has never been more important than in our new online world. And it is absolutely crucial for community members with limited or no access to computers and the internet. That's why our libraries need to have one or more community resource staffers who can help improve quality of life for our neighbors who face challenges ranging from housing and food worries to health concerns.

Please vote against Ordinance 2026-27.

Linda Lovely
authorlovely@gmail.com



PO Box 727
Seneca, South Carolina 29679

Oconee County Administrator
Stewart Jones
c/o 415 S. Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Ref: Oconee County Council Ordinance 2026-27

September 14, 2026

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Oconee County Public Library's position of Community Resource Program lead filled by Mrs. Kerry Leeper Brock. The Oconee Library's Community Resource Program has been successful in contributing to the health and health-supportive needs of our community meaning a positive impact on individuals with limited resources. Mrs. Brock through the library has been great at engaging in partnerships with community organizations to accomplish this work.

Kerry Leeper Brock, LISW-P, with OCPL has partnered with Our Daily Bread and Catholic Charities of South Carolina to provide the Mobile Clean of Heart shower unit every other Wednesday at our facility. The showers are free for the clients. Additionally, she engages with local groups to collect clothing and hygiene products to provide to each client taking a shower. The shower and clothing helps address a vital need for those that are unhoused or housing-insecure and clients seeking employment.

Mrs. Brock partners with Our Daily Bread to communicate and make our clients aware of available health-supportive resources being provided in our county. With her help we post these scheduled activities to ensure our clients are aware of their availability.

The Oconee County Public Library is addressing many important issues that affect a large segment of our community. This helps improve the health and well-being of the people in our community. Not having a position implementing a Community Resource Program will result in an adverse impact on a growing segment of our counties population. Many of this population are also responsible for children and not having access to the resources of the county will have a detrimental affect on these children by limiting their access to available resources to improve their opportunities for success. It may on first look that this is not the role of the Public Library, but it is the agency that most easily connects with and assists this segment of our community to include the children. A very natural and effective connection point. The bottom line is this works.

I urge you to address this positively in Ordinance 2026-27.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Ledford
Our Daily Bread, President

LIBRARY RESOURCE PROGRAM

at the Oconee County Public Library



GRANT FUNDING

- **2022-2024:** Oconee County Public Library (OCPL) applies for and is awarded a grant from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (now the SC Department of Public Health). The intention of this two year grant, administered through the Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare at the University of South Carolina, was to hire social workers in rural libraries to provide support, social service and healthcare information, and connection to area resources; essentially to create a community resource hub. This grant enables OCPL to hire Kerry Leeper Brock, LISW-CP, in June 2022 and Amy Saylor, CHI-Spanish, in October 2022. Total award \$123,325.
- **2024-2026:** The Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare elects to provide two more years of funding for libraries with established programs, including OCPL. Total award \$103,703.
- **2022-2023:** \$5000 transportation grant from the Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare is applied for, awarded, and administered over a 6-month period in 2023 to provide rides to and from health/mental health appointments for Oconee County residents.
- **2022-present:** The Oconee County Friends of the Library provide just over \$2900 (\$500 renewable) to help with incidental costs for patrons seeking assistance.

GRANT FUNDING (CONTINUED)

- **2023-2025:** Dabo's All In Team Foundation grants of \$3500 (2023 and 2024) and \$4500 (2025) obtained for the Mobile Clean of Heart (MCOH) in Oconee County shower project, a joint program between OCPL, Our Daily Bread in Seneca, and Catholic Charities of South Carolina (Greenville office). The funds were granted to Catholic Charities, a 501(c)3 organization, but writing the grant has been done by OCPL Library Resource staff each year. In addition, OCPL Library Resource staff coordinate the bimonthly shower events at Our Daily Bread.



GRANT FUNDING SOUGHT IN 2026

- Realizing that the CRPH grant that funded the library resource associate position was ending, and understanding that Oconee County might not fund the position, the following entities/foundations were approached in 2026 regarding grant funding for the 2026-27 fiscal year:
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of SC Foundation
- Community Foundation of Greater Clemson
- Duke Energy Foundation-South Carolina
- Foothills Community Foundation
- **Gutenstein Heritage Foundation***
- Keowee Key Community Partnership
- Knistrom Foundation
- Oconee Federal Charitable Foundation
- Prisma Health-Oconee Hospital Memorial Foundation
- Prisma Health-Oconee Memorial Hospital
- Prisma Health Sponsorship program
- Tribble Foundation

Oconee County Administration was aware that foundations were being approached for funding.

***On August 11, 2026, Howard Gutenstein of the Gutenstein Heritage Foundation, offered to fund the position.**

MOBILE CLEAN OF HEART SHOWER PROJECT

Partnership project with Catholic Charities
& Our Daily Bread soup kitchen
(September 2023-present)

- Twice monthly shower opportunities provided x 32 months, 2023-present)
- 1200+ total showers provided
- 171 total shower participants
- Average of 16 showers per occurrence
- 30+ community volunteers
- In 2024, following Hurricane Helene, the mobile shower unit was used by Oconee County Emergency Services to provide showers for first responders assisting with clean-up in the county



FREE
SHOWERS

MOBILE CLEAN *of heart*

@ OUR DAILY BREAD

106 JORDAN STREET, SENECA SC 29678

11:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

June 3 & 17

Oconee County Public Library, in partnership with the Catholic Charities and Our Daily Bread, will provide the opportunity for folks to have access to a free shower. Towel and soap will be provided.

Call OCPL Library Resource Associate, Kerry Leeper Brock, at 864-364-5702, if you have questions about this event or if you would be interested in volunteering for future Mobile Clean of Heart shower events.



IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN OCONEE COUNTY



- 129 individuals/families served from June 2022-August 2026
- 101 English-speaking
- 28 Spanish-speaking
- Current Caseload is 29 (September 10, 2026)
- Most patrons are contacted at least twice; many are provided services over several months or even years
- Follow-ups are made a) to ensure that services provided/referrals made were appropriate/effective and b) to reassess needs

EXAMPLES OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO INDIVIDUALS/FAMILIES

Assistance is provided through direct service and referrals to community providers. Assistance is made via phone calls, text, email, & in-person visits. Resource lists are provided to patrons.

Food	Hygiene products
Clothing	Digital literacy
Housing	Benefit literacy
Employment	Financial literacy
Education (ESL, GED)	Spanish language translation (paperwork, phone calls, etc.)
Healthcare/dental care	Assistance with applications for jobs, housing, Medicaid, Disability, SNAP/food stamps
Medication assistance	Baby products (diapers, formula, wipes)
Substance use	Adult diapers
Mental health care	
Transportation	
Weather-related goods (coats, sleeping bags, blankets)	



COMMUNITY RESOURCE HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMMING

Monthly 1-hour programs are provided at OCPL branches on various health, mental health, and related topics. Some topics covered in the past include:

Anxiety

Depression

Sleep

Mental Health Resources (NAMI, AOBHS, AOPMHS)

Diabetes

Heart Health

Dementia/Alzheimer's/Brain Health

Cancer Screenings (with Best Chance Network)

Prisma Health Medication Access Program

Home & Life Safety

Breast Cancer/Mammography

Eye Safety and Eye Care

Human Trafficking

Sexual Assault

Healthy Dating Relationships for Teens

Mindfulness

Yoga/Chair Yoga

The Healing Power of Nature

Ask a Social Worker

Red Cross Mission and Services

Medicare 101

Opioid Awareness

Nutrition



ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING PROVIDED

- Vision Screenings (provided by the Salem Lions Club) quarterly at all 4 branches in 2025-2026
- Blood Drives through the Blood Connection
- Law Talks through the SC Bar on various legal topics
- Immigration and Citizenship
- Know Your Rights
- Landlord-Tenant Issues
- Protecting Yourself from Financial Frauds and Scams (Oconee Co. Sheriff)
- SC Works Resume Building Workshop
- Goodwill Job Connection Mobile Unit
- I Read to Animals/Sit, Stay, Read (children's programming utilizing therapy dogs)



ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING PROVIDED (CONTINUED)



- A Matter of Balance (8-session balance/mobility/fall prevention classes for senior adults), sessions provided in 2023 in Walhalla and Westminster
- Self-Defense (2-hour classes) offered 3x in 2023-24 (in Salem, Seneca and Westminster)
- Yoga (ongoing monthly class meeting January 2024-present)
- Dementia Caregiver Support Group (September 2023-January 2025) This support group eventually moved, due to space issues, from the Seneca branch to the Clemson University Institute for Engaged Aging.

***Roughly 1/3 of all programming was presented in Spanish or with Spanish interpretation.**

****Monthly health displays (books and handouts) are at the main OCPL branch in Walhalla and frequently at the other OCPL branches as well.**

INTENTIONAL OUTREACH TO SPANISH-SPEAKING OCONEE COUNTY RESIDENTS

Intentional outreach to Spanish-speaking residents has been employed to create trust and community through:

- Provision of Spanish-language interpreter at the Walhalla branch every Thursday afternoon and one Wednesday per month at the Seneca branch
- Provision of Spanish-language programming and bilingual programming
- Participation in the OCPL Cultural Outreach Committee with Spanish-speaking volunteers
- Assisting with the planning and implementation of the OCPL Cinco de Mayo celebration each year
- Participation in the city-wide Hispanic Heritage Festival in Walhalla each fall
- Assisting with the coordination/set up of the initial mobile Mexican Consulate visits to Oconee County (2023 and 2024)
- Provision of scholarships for two Spanish-speaking OCPL volunteers to attend Community Health Worker training
- Provision of scholarships for SCDOC Adult Ed ESL classes (2023-2024, 2026)
- Participation in the local Community Impact Network
- Loan of OCPL Spanish-language interpreter to other area agencies including Salvation Army, SHARE, Walhalla Women's Club (Toys for Tots)
- Expansion/updating of OCPL Spanish-language library materials



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Our Daily Bread soup kitchen (Mobile Clean of Heart partner)
- Catholic Charities of South Carolina, Greenville office (Mobile Clean of Heart partner)
- Healthy Oconee Coalition
- Golden Corner Food Pantry (weekly bread distribution at all 4 OCPL branches)
- Salvation Army Oconee County Service Center
- United Way of Oconee County
- Foothills Care Center
- Chamber of Commerce Non-Profit Vitality Group
- Community Impact Network
- SC Thrive
- ABLE-SC
- SC Works
- South Carolina Legal Services
- South Carolina Department of Public Health



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (CONTINUED)

- Prisma Health Center for Family Medicine-Oconee
- Prisma Health Medication Assistance Program
- Prisma Health Cancer Institute-Seneca
- Clemson University Rural Health Clinic (Walhalla)
- Clemson University Institute for Engaged Aging
- Clemson University Cooperative Extension Office
- Salem Lions Club (vision screenings)
- Clemson Martial Arts (self defense classes)
- South Carolina Department on Aging
- Greenbird Nature Therapy
- Dabo's All In Team Foundation
- Unite Us
- SC Bar
- The Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare at the University of South Carolina
- Oconee County EMS- creation and maintenance of an online community resource guide:
<https://oconee.myresourceguide.org/resources>

PRISMA
HEALTH®



CLEMSON
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CLEMSON
RURAL HEALTH



Current Employment

1/22-Present Owner and Principal Consultant, Beth Wahler Consulting LLC (social work consulting services for libraries)

Select Peer-Reviewed Publications

Provence, M., & **Wahler, E. A.** (2025). Public library patrons in crisis: Interprofessional perceptions and responses. *Families in Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10443894251343122>

Wahler, E. A. (2023). Trauma-informed librarianship: Guidance for libraries with and without social workers. *Journal of the Australian Library and Information Association*, 72(4), 452-471. <https://doi.org/10.1080/24750158.2023.2255942>

Johnson, S. C., & **Wahler, E. A.** (2023). Anticipating and overcoming common challenges for library and social work collaborations. *Journal of the Australian Library and Information Association*, 72(4), 362-375. <https://doi.org/10.1080/24750158.2023.2261598>

Wahler, E. A., Rortvedt, C., & Saecker, T. (2022). Public library patrons' views of their psychosocial needs and how the library can help. *The Library Quarterly*, 92(2), 172-187.

Wahler, E. A., Ressler, J. D., Johnson, S. C., Rortvedt, C., Saecker, T., Helling, J., Williams, M. A., & Hoover, D. (2022). Public library-based social work field placements: Guidance for public libraries planning to become a social work practicum site. *Public Library Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01616846.2022.2044264>

Wahler, E. A., Spuller, R., Ressler, J. D., Bolan, K., & Burnard, N. (2022). Changing public library staff and patron needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Library Administration*, 62(1), 47-66. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01930826.2021.2006985>

Wahler, E. A., Provence, M. A., Johnson, S. C., Helling, J., & Williams, M. A. (2021). Library patrons' psychosocial needs: Perceptions of need and reasons for accessing social work services. *Social Work*, 66(2), 297-305. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/sw/swab032>

Provence, M. A., **Wahler, E. A.**, Helling, J., & Williams, M. A. (2021). Self-reported psychosocial needs of public library patrons: Comparisons based on housing status. *Public Library Quarterly*, 40(3), 244-257. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01616846.2020.1730738>

Wahler, E. A., Provence, M. A., Helling, J., & Williams, M. A. (2019). The changing role of libraries: How social workers can help. *Families in Society*, 101(1), 34-43. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1044389419850707>

Book

Wahler, E. A. & Johnson, S. C. (2024). *Creating a person-centered library: Best practices for supporting high-needs patrons*. Santa Barbara, CA: Bloomsbury Libraries Unlimited.

Invited Book Chapters

Wahler, E. A., Johnson, S., Paauw, M. A., Provence, M., Topek-Walker, L. (forthcoming). Library social work. In C. Simmons and E. L. Weiss (Eds), *Trauma-Informed and Culturally-Inclusive Practice with Organizations and Communities*.

Select Peer-Reviewed Presentations

Wahler, E. A., Body, A., Burton, K., & Terry, C. (2025, November). Social work in Libraries. Panel presentation at the 2025 Kentucky Department of Libraries & Archives Programming Conference, Louisville, KY.

Wahler, E. A., Body, A., Burton, K., Marshall, T., & Terry, C. (2025, February). Library social work. Panel presentation at the 2025 annual conference of the Kentucky Public Library Association, Lexington, KY.

Wahler, E. A. (2024, October). Effective library leadership strategies for reducing staff stress and trauma. Half-day “supersession” at the 2024 annual conference of the California Library Association, Pasadena, CA.

Wahler, E. A. (2024, October). Caring for ourselves and one another: Supporting sustainable practice for library staff. Half-day “supersession” at the 2024 annual conference of the California Library Association, Pasadena, CA.

Lee, M., **Wahler, E. A.**, Senteio, C., & Perez, D. (2024, June). Developing the next generation of library social workers. Oral presentation at the 2024 annual conference of the American Library Association, San Diego, CA.

Wahler, E. A. (2022, March). How to initiate and pilot a social work practicum in your library. Oral presentation at the 2022 annual conference of the Public Library Association, Portland, OR.

Wahler, E. A., Johnson, S. C., & Ressler, J. (2021, November). Public library-based practicums: Lessons learned to inform new field placements. Oral presentation at the 2021 annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education, Orlando, FL.

Wahler, E. A., Provence, M., & Johnson, S. (2020, November). Social work/public library partnerships: Patron needs addressed by MSW practicum students. Oral presentation at the 2020 annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (virtual).

Provence, M., & **Wahler, E. A.** (2020, November). Library/social work collaborations for promoting inclusion of persons experiencing homelessness. Oral presentation at the 2020 annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (virtual).

Wahler, E. A., & Provence, M. (2019, October). Psychosocial needs of public library patrons: Implications for library/social work program partnerships. Oral presentation at the 2019 annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education, Denver, CO.

Select Invited Presentations

Wahler, E. A. (forthcoming 2026, October). Creating a Person-Centered Library: Supporting High-Needs Patrons While Caring for Staff. Virtual presentation for Niche Academy.

Wahler, E. A. (2026, May 12). Keynote presentation: Defusing and Preventing Behavioural Escalation in Libraries and Beyond. Presentation at the annual conference of the Australian Library and Information Association, Sydney, NSW, Australia.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, November 13). Keynote presentation. Back in Circulation Conference, University of Wisconsin- Madison. Madison, WI.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, May 22). Supporting patrons in crisis while caring for yourself: Presentation for the State Library of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, April 16). Trauma-informed librarianship: Foundations. Presentation for Library Journal/School Library Journal. Dublin, OH.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, April 15). Managing patron challenges from a trauma-informed lens. Presentation for Reaching Across Illinois Library System, Burr Ridge, IL.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, April 11). Collections and connections: Creating and maintaining a healthy library culture that benefits all. Presentation at the 2025 Library Summit on Social Cohesion, Devens, MA.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, April 2). Trauma-informed library management: Practical strategies for supporting both patrons and staff. Presentation for NC Public Library Directors' Association. New Bern, NC.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, March 27). Keynote presentation- Caring for ourselves and one another: Supporting sustainable practice for library staff. Presentation for the 2025 annual conference of the Queensland Public Libraries Association, Townsville, QLD, Australia.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, March 20). Trauma-informed library management: Practical strategies for creating a healthy organizational culture. Presentation for the Colorado State Library, Denver, CO.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, February 13). Library social work: Is it the right choice for your library? Presentation for the Urban Libraries Council Directors' Group. Urban Libraries Council, Washington, DC.

Wahler, E. A. (2025, January 27). Measuring and Communicating the Impact of Library Social Work. Presentation for the Urban Libraries Council Social Worker Group. Urban Libraries Council, Washington, DC.

Wahler, E. Johnson, S., Nelson, Parry, K., Perez, D., Schley, N., & Senteio, C. (2024, December 4). Region One Insights Webinar Series- How to initiate, support, and evaluate a social work practicum student in your library: Lessons learned from a statewide initiative in New Jersey. Network of the National Library of Medicine, National Library of Medicine, Baltimore, MD.

Wahler, E. A. (2024, December 3). Reducing staff stress and trauma. Presentation for Library Journal/School Library Journal. Dublin, OH.

Wahler, E. A. (May 2024). Library/social work collaborations: A mutually beneficial way to address community needs. National webinar presented for Sheppard Pratt (virtual webinar). Baltimore, MD.

Wahler, E. A. & Johnson, S. C. (March 2024). Creating a person-centered library: Supporting patrons while avoiding burnout. National webinar presented for WebJunction (virtual webinar). Seattle, WA.

Wahler, E. A. (October 2023). Effective library responses to changing user needs: Importance of people, programs, and partnerships. Keynote presentation for the Library Association of New Zealand Aotearoa annual conference (virtual presentation).

Wahler, E. A. (October 2023). Trauma-informed librarianship. Presentation for the Charles Sturt University Social Work in Libraries Online Simulation Hub Lecture Series (virtual webinar). Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia.

Wahler, E. A. (July 2023). Why put a social worker in a library? Presentation for Charles Sturt University. Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia.

Wahler, E. A. (July 2023). Trauma-informed librarianship. Presentation for State Library Victoria. Melbourne, Australia.

Wahler, E. A. (March 2023). Trauma-informed librarianship. Keynote presentation for the Cora Paul Bomar Summit. Association for Library & Information Science Education. Greensboro, NC.

Wahler, E. A. (December 2022). Trauma-Informed Library Practice. Social Workers in Libraries 2022 Symposium (virtual presentation), Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia.

Wahler, E. A., McGraw, Y., & Gates, B. (November 2022). Social Workers in the Library. Oral presentation at the 2022 Indiana Library Federation annual conference, Indianapolis, IN.

Wahler, E. A. (June 2022). Library patrons' psychosocial needs: How social work collaborations could help in Kentucky's public libraries (virtual webinar). Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives.

Wahler, E. A. (May 2022). Library patron psychosocial needs: How social work collaborations can help. NC Live Distinguished Speaker Series (virtual webinar).

Wahler, E. A. (April 2022). Library-based social work practice. National Association of Social Workers- Indiana Chapter (virtual webinar).

Wahler, E. A. (February 2022). Libraries and social workers: What a collaboration could look like in your library. State Library of Iowa (virtual webinar).

Wahler, E. A., Provence, M., Helling, J., & Williams, M. (November 2019). Public libraries: How social workers can help. Oral presentation at the 2019 Indiana Library Federation Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN.

Wahler, E. A., Helling, J., Provence, M., & Williams, M. (2018). Social workers in the library. Oral presentation at the 2018 Indiana Library Federation Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN.

Podcast

Wahler, E. A., & Garner, J. (Co-hosts). (2024-Present). Surviving the Stacks [Audio podcast]. <https://open.spotify.com/show/52P9i62qW43uAdGOyufzKi>.

Other Media Appearances

- ABC News Prime Focus: [US Libraries on the Frontlines of Homelessness](#)
- NPR- [Why Your Local Library Might Be Hiring a Social Worker](#)
- Scripps Media- [Social Work in Libraries](#)
- [Libraries Look to Social Workers to Meet New Patron Needs](#)- Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity
- [More Than Books](#) - Route Fifty
- [Why Put a Social Worker in a Library](#)- 2MCE (Australia)
- [Creating a Person Centered Library](#)- Circulating Ideas Podcast
- [Library Social Work Podcast](#)
- [Mental Wellness and Trauma-Informed Librarianship](#)- Unbound Podcast

Education

2012 PhD in Social Work, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

2005 Master of Social Work, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Specialization: Clinical Social Work

1998 Bachelor of Science, University of Evansville, Evansville, IN
Major: Psychology, Minor: Sociology

Attached are the results of a survey designed by Kerry Leeper Brock to elicit feedback from OCPL personnel (in October 2025), regarding the Library Resource program (formerly the Community Resource program).

23 surveys were completed and turned in by OCPL staff members. Not every question had a response on every survey, particularly the open-ended questions at the end of the survey.

The red #s shown below the survey question ranking numbers is the number of OCPL staff who ranked the question with that value. Staff comments are marked in blue.

The Social Worker/Library Resource Associate, (formerly Community Resource Associate) has been at OCPL for 3+ years. Please answer the questions below to help us evaluate the efficacy of the program. Most questions will be ranked 1-5, per the scale below:

- 1 = strongly disagree
2 = disagree
3 = neutral/no knowledge/no opinion/not applicable
4 = agree
5 = strongly agree

1. How long have you worked for OCPL?

Less than 1 year	4
1-3 years	5
3-5 years	1
5-10 years	3
+10 years	10

2. There is value in the library resource/social work program at OCPL.

_____1	_____2	_____3	_____4	_____5
0	0	0	2	16

3. Before today, I understood what the social worker/library resource associate does.

_____1	_____2	_____3	_____4	_____5
0	0	3	15	4

4. The library resource/social work program fits within OCPL services, values, strategic plan.

_____1	_____2	_____3	_____4	_____5
0	0	0	2	21

5. I can go to the social worker/library resource associate for assistance for patrons.

_____1	_____2	_____3	_____4	_____5
0	0	0	2	21

6. I can go to the social worker/library resource associate for information/support for myself or my own family.

_____1	_____2	_____3	_____4	_____5
0	0	3	1	19

7. The social worker/library resource associate is available enough hours per week/month at my OCPL branch.

_____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5
0 4 5 7 4

Comment: She is solidly booked every time she is here.

8. The Spanish interpreter for the library resource program is available enough hours per week/month at my OCPL branch.

_____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5
3 5 10 4 1

9. There is value in the health/mental health displays (typically at Walhalla only).

_____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5
0 0 4 9 9

10. I would like to see more health/mental health displays at my branch.

_____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5
0 0 7 8 6

11. There is value in the health/mental health/social service programs offered at OCPL.

_____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5
0 0 1 3 19

12. I would like for there to be more health/mental health/social service programming at my branch.

_____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5
0 0 6 10 6

The best thing about this program is:

- The help people get.
- Great resources available for people in the community.
- The ability to provide resource assistance from a valued source, over the internet.
- The help it provides patrons that need it.
- All the people that get help out of the program.
- Help to community.
- Actual follow up and emphasis on assistance vs. just a reference interview.
- Having an extra step to offer patrons in need.
- The resources available to patrons in need. The variety of said resources.
- Shower program.
- Offering real help that nowhere else offers. Serves the people of Oconee.
- We can provide better service for our patrons.

- The ability to give resources to those who need it.
- The resources it offers are helpful and gives me somewhere to direct patrons.
- It lets the community know they are seen with needs they may have.
- We are offering services that regular employees don't have enough time or enough knowledge to help.
- It demonstrates just how needed it is when there are a lot of people present needing...
- Shows what all yall do and shows us resources to help when yall are unavailable.
- The help provided is very valuable.

The worst thing about this program is:

- Need more hours/workers.
- This would be even better if it was a full time position.
- That it is difficult to remember where to find the webpage—and assisting patrons that come in during the night shift.
- There's not enough hours or staff to cover all branches multiple times a week.
- More help for the program.
- Only one Kerry.
- I'm not sure when to refer people for an appointment vs. showing them the resource page.
- There aren't two of you.
- Only get to see Kerry once a week. 😞
- Not enough workers for the needs.
- Availability can be limited.
- There is only one associate available in the county.
- Probably time at all branches.
- I'm not sure how the circ staff can best help refer people at the right day or time.
- Not enough hours available.
- Too few hours & days, we need more.

Suggestions/comments/feedback/questions:

- I think it could use more advertisement. Like, post the hours on Facebook once a month, not just in the printed newsletter.
- I believe it would be helpful for Kerry & Amy to be aware of the basic library services. For example, what is provided in the New Borrower Handout.
- Keep up the great work. You're making such a great impact on others' lives.
- Are people able to make an appt. if they can't get to the branch on designated day?
- I wish that there was maybe some more training in Spanish or how to deal with our Spanish-speaking patrons who need help.
- I wish we could have staff for these services more often at each branch.
- Contact me if advocacy for program is needed: ewhitmire@oconeesc.com
- Kerry and Amy are an invaluable resource for our community.
- Very grateful for the help.

March 3, 2026

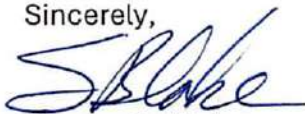
To Our Oconee County Council,

My name is Stephanie Blake, and I have both worked on the board of Our Daily Bread and been employed with SC Works in Seneca for eight years. I am writing to you in support of the Community Resource program through the Oconee County Public Library System. It is my understanding that funding from the Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare, ends this June. I have seen first-hand how this program has positively impacted the citizens of Oconee County through provision of assistance with housing, clothing, navigating Social Security Administration processes and shower access. These are some of the many barriers to employment they have helped individuals overcome. Kerry Leeper-Brock and her team have established a standard practice of meeting at the libraries with anyone seeking a way to better their situation, get off the streets and become productive citizens. Thus, we can send individuals to them as we become aware of these barriers, confident that they will receive the assistance they require.

This program made it possible to restart the Mobile Clean of Heart Ministry that Steve Finger facilitated through Catholic Charities during COVID. This ministry makes accessible a shower trailer and provides clean clothing on the property of Our Daily Bread. As they are only able to offer this service every other Wednesday, my church has started offering the shower ministry one Saturday a month, when we also provide the meal. So, we are up to three days a month, which is still not nearly enough to support those who are homeless yet working.

Citizens of Oconee County have received many hand ups, not hand outs, through the Community Resource program and we are all better off because of the work they have done. Together we can find a way for them to continue to provide their much-needed services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Blake', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephanie Blake
SC Works – Seneca
Our Daily Bread



Oconee County Friends of the Library

501 West South Broad Street • Walhalla, SC 29691
(864) 638-4133

Main Library
Walhalla, SC
Branch Libraries
Salem, SC
Seneca, SC
Westminster, SC
Bookmobile

March 5, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

The Friends of the Library (FOL) supports the continued funding for the Oconee County Public Library's Community Resource Program.

FOL has successfully worked with both Amy Saylor and Kerry Leeper Brock as they engage in their very vital efforts to assist those in our community.

Historically, the OCPL system has served as an important resource for our county's residents. The addition of the Community Resource Program further extends additional services to our disadvantaged residents.

We appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Stephanie White

Stephanie White
FOL President

SW:cy



March 6, 2026

Dear Oconee County Council:

It is with pleasure that I am writing this letter of recommendation for the Oconee County Library in support of them as a community partner. The Oconee County Library and their Library Resource Associate, Kerry Leeper Brock, have been an essential source in providing direction and support for families needing it in the Oconee community.

Please strongly consider their request in support of the Library Resource position. I know the value your support would add to the lives of families they serve needing additional assistance and direction. With several in our community benefiting from their services, they continue working hard to fill the gap.

Thank you in advance for considering their request. Should you have additional questions, I have included my contact information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "LaShauna D. Harrison".

LaShauna D. Harrison, CEO
United Way of Oconee County, Inc.

lharrison@oconeeunitedway.org

864.882.9743 x.103

Letter

From Caroline Zimmerman <czimmerman@sdoc.org>

Date Tue 2026-08-11 17:14

To Kerry Leeper Brock <kleeperbrock@oconeesc.com>

To Whom it May Concern,

Over the past several years, I've had the pleasure of getting to know Kerry Leeper-Brock and other constituents at the Oconee County Public library. The services they offer for our community have been invaluable. We are a rural community and have limited access to programs and opportunities that cannot compare to larger cities like Greenville, Anderson, and Columbia .

I have worked in this community and in the field of social work for over 25 years. I have seen the ups and downs of programming in our area. When Oconee County Public library hired Kerry Leeper- Brock programs started being consistent, reached the entire community and made access to services easier. It showed that a small rural community can be fruitful.

I would highly recommend that the Oconee County Board and Oconee County consider continuing their employment to ensure that more services in our community are not taken away.

If you have any questions or would like to talk with me further my contact information is below.

Carrie Zimmerman
School and Community Liaison
Oconee County School District
864-710-9859

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This message may contain confidential information and is intended only for the individuals named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete this e-mail from your system. If you are not the intended recipient you are notified that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited.

I would like to express my support for the Oconee County Public Library to continue providing their Library Resource Program. Kerry Leeper Brock, Amy Saylor, and their volunteers, provide a beneficial service to our community.

Reviewing OCPL's Mission and Vision Statement, it says....OCPL provides resources...to connect people with their community; is a hub of the community with resources people need and want...to help people reach their goals.

The Library Resource Program through either direct one-on-one assistance, or connecting residents with other agencies/non-profits, has provided individuals and families with food, transportation, housing assistance, employee guidance, medical help, and access to Medicaid and SNAP benefits. In the last three years it has provided close to 1200 showers through the Mobile Clean of Heart Shower program. It has initiated educational and informational programs at the local branches cover such topics as depression, dementia, nutrition, diabetes, cancer screenings, vision screenings, and tenant's rights when dealing with landlords.

The Library Resource Program is fulfilling OCPL's vision of providing Oconee "with resources people need and want..." and the library should continue this program.

Regards.

Jim Corey

803 Barnes Rd. Seneca, SC 29672

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express my support for the Oconee County Public Library to continue providing their Library Resource Program. Kerry Leeper Brock, Amy Saylor, and their volunteers, provide a beneficial service to our community.

Reviewing OCPL's Mission and Vision Statement, it says....OCPL provides resources...to connect people with their community; is a hub of the community with resources people need and want...to help people reach their goals.

The Library Resource Program through either direct one-on-one assistance, or connecting residents with other agencies/non-profits, has provided individuals and families with food, transportation, housing assistance, employee guidance, medical help, and access to Medicaid and SNAP benefits. In the last three years it has provided close to 1200 showers through the Mobile Clean of Heart Shower program. It has initiated educational and informational programs at the local branches cover such topics as depression, dementia, nutrition, diabetes, cancer screenings, vision screenings, and tenant's rights when dealing with landlords.

The Library Resource Program is fulfilling OCPL's vision of providing Oconee "with resources people need and want..." and the library should continue this program.

Regards.

Jim Corey

803 Barnes Rd. Seneca, SC 29672

March 3, 2026

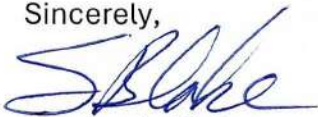
To Our Oconee County Council,

My name is Stephanie Blake, and I have both worked on the board of Our Daily Bread and been employed with SC Works in Seneca for eight years. I am writing to you in support of the Community Resource program through the Oconee County Public Library System. It is my understanding that funding from the Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare, ends this June. I have seen first-hand how this program has positively impacted the citizens of Oconee County through provision of assistance with housing, clothing, navigating Social Security Administration processes and shower access. These are some of the many barriers to employment they have helped individuals overcome. Kerry Leeper-Brock and her team have established a standard practice of meeting at the libraries with anyone seeking a way to better their situation, get off the streets and become productive citizens. Thus, we can send individuals to them as we become aware of these barriers, confident that they will receive the assistance they require.

This program made it possible to restart the Mobile Clean of Heart Ministry that Steve Finger facilitated through Catholic Charities during COVID. This ministry makes accessible a shower trailer and provides clean clothing on the property of Our Daily Bread. As they are only able to offer this service every other Wednesday, my church has started offering the shower ministry one Saturday a month, when we also provide the meal. So, we are up to three days a month, which is still not nearly enough to support those who are homeless yet working.

Citizens of Oconee County have received many hand ups, not hand outs, through the Community Resource program and we are all better off because of the work they have done. Together we can find a way for them to continue to provide their much-needed services.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Blake
SC Works – Seneca
Our Daily Bread

August 4, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am saddened to learn that the current funding for the OCPL's Library Resource Program is ending. This letter's aim is to speak to the value of this program with the hope that funding can be renewed.

Until I retired a year ago, I was employed as a nurse practitioner working for the Clemson Rural Health Clinic in Walhalla. I have also lived in Walhalla for about 25 years. As a primary care clinician, I learned early on in my career that many factors impact the health of an individual and the community one lives in. It is deeply ingrained in me that to improve health and promote wellness, ALL an individual's needs must be assessed and addressed. Unfortunately, there are limited resources available to those in need in Oconee County.

My relationship with the Library Resource Program, and specifically with Kerry Leeper Brock and Amy Saylor, began at the inception of the program. I remember being so excited that this program would be available to us as a clinic. It gave me another "tool for my toolbox" as I tried to address patient's needs. I remember thinking that OCPL was truly thinking outside the proverbial box in creating this collaborative, creative advocacy program. I have not been disappointed. A few examples of our collaborative efforts included me receiving referrals for individuals who needed health care access, me referring patients who needed help with community resources that were beyond my scope of practice and time, my referring patients who needed help completing applications for health care programs and digital access, collectively promoting the development of community health workers, linking patients to some of the health information programs offered by the Library Resource Program. I always received positive feedback and deep appreciation from all participants for the help they received and the respect that they were shown by the program's two staff members. Ms. Leeper Brock and Ms. Saylor are dynamos (!) and, in my mind, the reason that the Library Resource Program has been such a success. Having a Spanish-speaking staff member was icing on the cake- and so necessary in our community.

The importance of continuing this uniquely creative advocacy program in Oconee County is critical to the wellbeing of our community. The fact that it is run by the OCPL demonstrates the commitment the library has to the community it serves -and truly makes the library stand out as a model institution.

Thank you for your time. It is my sincere hope that the library board will work to continue funding of this invaluable program. Don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of further help.

Sincerely,

Michelle Deem

Retired nurse practitioner, Clemson Rural Health Walhalla Clinic -and-proud resident of Walhalla.

864-324-1952 or zideem@bellsouth.net

To the Oconee County Public Library Board,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for continuing to fund the positions of Kerry Leeper Brock, LISW-CP, Library Resource Associate, and Amy, and to share why I believe the work they do is an incredibly important part of the Oconee County Public Library and our community.

I had the privilege of working at the Seneca branch of OCPL, so I have seen firsthand that a library is so much more than a place to check out books. A library is a living, breathing hub of information, connection, education, and community resources. People walk through those doors for all kinds of reasons, and sometimes the information they need is not found on a bookshelf.

Kerry and Amy fill an incredibly important role in bridging that gap.

They meet people where they are and help connect them with the resources they need to move forward. They assist community members with finding food, shelter, employment, showers, paperwork, and other essential services. They help people navigate systems that can otherwise feel overwhelming and impossible to navigate alone. Amy's ability to communicate with Spanish-speaking members of our community makes that assistance even more accessible to people who might otherwise face an additional barrier.

This isn't simply providing someone with a phone number or telling them where to go. It is helping people understand their options, advocating for them, connecting them with resources, and treating them with dignity when they may be experiencing some of the most difficult circumstances of their lives.

My family and I have also had the opportunity to see their work from a completely different perspective through our volunteer involvement with the Mobile Clean of Heart Showers program. We have personally witnessed the difference these women make in the lives of people in our community. We have seen the people they serve, the needs they encounter, and the compassion and dedication they bring to that work.

Their impact is not theoretical to me. **I have seen it. My family has seen it. And during my time working at the library, I saw countless examples of how important it is for a library to have people whose job is to connect community members with more than just books.**

For many people, the library may be one of the few places where they feel comfortable walking in and simply asking for help. That makes the library an especially powerful place to provide these services. When someone comes through the library doors, looking for information about housing, food, employment, government assistance, or other basic

needs, having trained, compassionate people there who can help them navigate those resources is invaluable.

Eliminating or reducing funding for these positions would not simply mean losing two jobs.

It would mean losing a vital connection between some of the most vulnerable members of our community and the resources available to help them. It would leave people who are already struggling with fewer places to turn, and fewer people willing and able to walk alongside them through complicated systems.

I understand that funding decisions are difficult and that there are many needs competing for limited resources. But I strongly believe that positions like Kerry's and Amy's represent exactly what a public library should be: **a place where people can find information, opportunity, connection, and help.**

Books and technology are incredibly important, but so is having someone who can sit beside a person in crisis and help them figure out what to do next.

Please consider the countless people whose lives are touched by this work before making a decision about its funding. Consider the families who have found food, shelter, employment, showers, assistance with paperwork, and HOPE because Kerry and Amy took the time to help them. Consider the people who may never have known where to turn without them.

I sincerely hope you will continue to recognize the tremendous value of these positions and provide the funding necessary for Kerry and Amy to continue serving our community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear from someone who has experienced the value of this work both as a former employee and as a member of this community.

With sincere appreciation and support,

Miranda Jones

Former OCPL Employee

Oconee County Community Member and Volunteer



August 5, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to provide context about the value of social work within public libraries, and how beneficial having a library social worker can be at a time when libraries are being asked to respond to increasingly complex community needs with fewer available resources. For background, I am a researcher, consultant, and trainer whose work focuses extensively on the intersection of public libraries and social work. I am the founder and principal consultant of [Beth Wahler Consulting, LLC](#), and have conducted extensive research on library/social work collaborations in the United States and internationally. In my consulting work and my research, I have worked with libraries of all sizes and in urban, suburban, and rural communities to assess and help them respond to changing patron social service needs, develop and evaluate library social work programs, strengthen community partnerships, support staff serving patrons with complex needs, and address work-related stress and trauma. I have published and presented internationally on these topics (see attachment for more information) and am the author of *Creating a Person-Centered Library: Best Practices for Supporting High-Needs Patrons*, a book that focuses specifically on library strategies for responding to patrons' social service needs while simultaneously supporting library staff. Although I have not evaluated/reviewed Oconee County Public Library's social work position, so cannot speak to the specifics of your library, I can provide general context from other libraries that might be helpful to you in your decision-making process.

Over the past decade, I have worked with many libraries wanting to add a social worker or similar social service-focused position, requesting an evaluation of their existing social work position/program, seeking assistance for revising a social work position to best fit the library's needs, or collecting data to help them justify creating an integrated social service position. In addition, I also work with libraries around other non-social work strategies for responding to the growing patron needs they experience, improving organizational culture, and increasing capacity of library staff. These requests are increasing because of changing community needs impacting libraries and their staff. Across the country, public libraries have consistently observed growing numbers of patrons experiencing complex social, psychological, and financial needs such as housing instability and homelessness, mental health concerns, substance use, food insecurity, unemployment, health challenges, and other similar hardships. At the same time,

many of the resources and systems designed to address these needs are increasingly strained, and in many cases, have been reduced. Affordable housing is scarce, mental health and substance use services can be difficult to access, shelters have limited capacity, and many social service organizations are operating with reduced funding and staffing. When these resources disappear or become harder to access, the needs do not disappear. Instead, they often become more visible in places that remain accessible to everyone, and public libraries are among the most accessible institutions in our communities.

As free, welcoming spaces open to everyone, libraries naturally serve people from all walks of life, including those with many complex needs and few other places to turn. As a result, library staff increasingly find themselves assisting patrons with needs that extend far beyond traditional library services. Staff may be asked to help someone find emergency housing, navigate a complicated benefits system, respond to a person experiencing a mental health crisis, manage challenging behavior, or listen to someone facing an overwhelming personal situation. Library employees approach these situations with compassion and a commitment to serving their communities, but most did not enter the profession to become social workers, nor should they be expected to function as social workers. Repeatedly responding to complex social and behavioral needs without adequate expertise, resources, or support can contribute to role strain, compassion fatigue, secondary trauma, burnout, and staff turnover. In addition, with shifting resources and often changing referral criteria, it is difficult for library staff to remain up-to-date on local resources to provide accurate info to patrons. This is where a library social worker can make an important difference.

A social worker brings specialized expertise to needs that are *already* entering the library's doors. Their presence does not turn the library into a social service agency, but instead, provides a more appropriate and sustainable response when patrons have needs that extend beyond the training and role of traditional library staff. Library social workers help a library fulfill their responsibility to meet patrons' information needs, but specialize in social service information and appropriate responses. The existing body of research and evaluation data indicates that library social workers benefit both patrons and staff in the following ways:

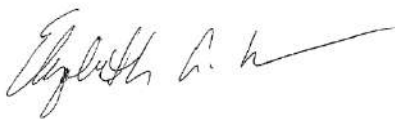
- 1) For patrons, a social worker can assess needs, identify appropriate resources, provide referrals, assist with service navigation, coordinate short-term support, and help people successfully connect with community providers. This is especially important when resources are limited and navigating complex eligibility requirements, waitlists, and service systems can be difficult. Many people fall through the cracks in our communities without someone who can provide guidance and help them know where to turn for help. In addition to supporting individual patrons, library social workers further help serve community members on a larger scale by developing and sustaining essential library/community partnerships, bringing outside providers into the library, creating resource guides and/or staff response protocols, and helping leadership develop thoughtful approaches to recurring patron and organizational needs.

- 2) For staff, the presence of a social worker means they have someone to consult when situations fall outside their expertise, and a professional to whom complex social service needs can be referred. Social workers can also provide staff training and consultation related to trauma-informed service, mental health, boundaries, crisis response, and community resources. This helps employees establish clearer professional boundaries, improves their capacity to respond to patron needs and requests, and reduces the expectation that they must solve every problem themselves. Supporting staff in this way also supports the work of the library; employees who feel prepared, supported, and able to maintain appropriate professional boundaries are better positioned to provide patient, compassionate, empathetic, and consistent customer service. Conversely, chronic stress and emotional exhaustion can contribute to burnout, turnover, and diminished service quality.

The growth of library social work across the US and internationally reflects how widely these changing needs are being experienced. Over the past decade, and particularly since the COVID-19 pandemic, public libraries across the United States have increasingly added social workers to their teams, with similar models developing internationally. Today, social workers are embedded in libraries of different sizes and in urban, suburban, and rural communities, providing direct assistance to patrons while also supporting staff, strengthening community partnerships, and helping libraries respond more effectively to complex needs. Many additional libraries are currently exploring how to establish these positions, seeking funding to hire social workers, or working to identify sustainable funding models to maintain existing positions. This continued growth reflects increasing recognition that having in-house social work expertise can help libraries respond to changing community needs while reducing the burden placed on library staff. Libraries that are lucky enough to have in-house social workers often aggressively try to sustain and maintain these positions due to the benefits they experience from a social worker's presence!

I hope this information helps Oconee County Public Library with the decision-making process about your social work position, and please reach out if you need individualized or personalized assistance evaluating your specific needs. I would be happy to answer any questions if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth (Beth) A. Wahler, PhD, MSW
Founder and Principal Consultant, [Beth Wahler Consulting, LLC](#)
Co-Author, [Creating a Person-Centered Library](#)
Co-Host, [Surviving the Stacks Podcast](#)



SALEM LIONS CHARITIES, INC.

Post Office Box 210 • Salem, South Carolina 29676

August 5, 2026

Oconee County Public Library
501 W. South Broad Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Attn: Oconee County Public Library Board Community Relations Committee

Dear OCPL Board Community Relations Committee Members:

As citizens of Oconee County and members of the Lions Club of Salem, SC, we strongly endorse continued funding of the Library Resource Program including the professional social worker and Spanish interpreter positions. Jointly, these positions have been providing essential community services through the public libraries to residents of Oconee County.

The Lions Club of Salem SC, as one of its primary service missions, strives to provide eye examinations and prescription glasses to individuals of all ages in our area that cannot afford them. In the last fiscal year, we provided over \$28,000 to pay for eye examinations by a professional optometrist and to get prescription glasses. This is not the only financial support the Salem lions club provides to area residents, but it is by far the largest financial support our group provides.

We have found it to be very challenging to find ways to reach residents of Oconee County who need financial support for what many might consider to be routine vision care. In years prior to 2023, our community screenings were held at public venues, but most of those screened and found to need a professional examination never took advantage of the offer for a free professional examination.

Last year we were approached by Kerry Leeper Brock, the libraries social worker, about possibly setting up vision screening in the county libraries. We agreed to perform screening in the libraries but had low expectations for the number of people that we might serve. When we got to the first screening at the library in Seneca, which was also our visit to that branch, we were shocked by the number of cars in the library lot, which was almost full. And we were in awe of the number of people in the library, looking at books, reading

books or sitting in quite spaces at tables in the library. At that visit we screened 60 individuals, a huge number for a public screening. Many of those screenings were for Hispanic families, both parents and children. The children mostly spoke both English and Spanish, but many of the parents only spoke Spanish. None of us in the screening team spoke Spanish. The presence of the interpreter, Amy Saylor, was an essential component of that screening, communicating to the parents what we were doing, and what the parents would need to do to get a free professional exam and free glasses. We held additional screenings at the Walhalla and Salem library branches where we serviced the needs of an additional 38 Oconee County residents. Of the 98 residents screened in the libraries last year, 43 were approved for a professional eye examination and glasses.

It is our opinion that the presence of the social worker in the county libraries currently provides a rare and reliable connection between the needs of many Oconee County residents and the plethora of charitable organizations set up in the county to help residents in need of support. The presence of the social worker and interpreter goes a long way towards helping the county to be a welcoming and supportive community to some of its most needy residents. That it also brings those residents into the library and in contact with traditional print and online library resources is a key element in helping the library, as it has helped the Salem Lions Club, to reach patrons it would most likely otherwise miss the opportunity to serve.

Very Truly Yours:




Cynthia M Heldrich, Director of Salem Lions Club Vision
Rick Heldrich, Assistant to Salem Lions Club Vision



Healthy Oconee
Coalition

Matthew Durham
Chair of Oconee County Council
415 S. Pine St.
Walhalla, SC 29691

March 3, 2026

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Oconee County Council,

The Healthy Oconee Coalition is honored to provide this letter in strong support of the Oconee County Public Library's (OCPL) request for budgetary support from Oconee County Council. Since its implementation in 2022, the Libraries in Health program has been successfully established across Oconee County through the OCPL system, effectively addressing critical health and health-related needs within our community. By integrating this model into the core resources of our community, the library has strengthened its role as a trusted hub for information, education, and essential services, consistently demonstrating excellence in both service delivery and resource accessibility.

Through the library system, Kerry Leeper Brock, LISW-CP, has traveled between branches to provide direct support to residents throughout the county. In addition to her on-site work, she has cultivated meaningful partnerships with organizations that deliver community-based health services and address key social determinants of health. These collaborations form a strong

 @healthyoconee

 @HealthyOconeeSC

 healthyoconeesc@gmail.com

 PO Box 1693
Seneca SC 29679

 A program of
United Way

 4 Leas Courtyard Dr
Seneca SC 29672

foundation of support that has measurably improved the health, stability, and overall well-being of Oconee County residents. Ms. Brock has also played a pivotal role in expanding local resources, including coordinating vision screenings and securing transportation vendors to reduce barriers to care.

Access to transportation, assistance navigating healthcare systems and insurance, and support with housing and employment opportunities are critical factors in achieving long-term stability and improved health outcomes. The mission of the Healthy Oconee Coalition is to advocate for and promote a culture of health in Oconee County by engaging the community as partners in fostering healthy behaviors across all aspects of life. We are proud to partner with Ms. Brock and the OCPL system, and we recognize the significant positive impact this program has had on individual lives and community health outcomes—ultimately contributing to cost savings for taxpayers.

We respectfully urge Oconee County Council to invest in this vital initiative, which strengthens our community and ensures that residents have access to the resources they need to thrive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Misty M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Misty M. Lee, MCHES
Facilitator
Healthy Oconee Coalition
leemm@dph.sc.gov
864-933-2976

From: [Kerry Leeper Brock](#)
To: [Jennifer C. Adams](#)
Cc: [Council Clerk Info](#)
Subject: LOS Paula Henao
Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 1:26:32 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Ms. Adams,

Please include the letter below in the backup material for tonight's county council meeting.
Thanks.

Kerry Leeper Brock, LISW-CP (she/her)
Library Resource Associate
Oconee County Public Library
501 W. South Broad Street
Walhalla, SC 29691
864-364-5702 (office)
864-710-8763 (cell)
www.oconeelibrary.org

From: Paula Henao <Paula.Henao@PrismaHealth.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2026 13:46
To: Kerry Leeper Brock <kleeperbrock@oconeesc.com>
Subject: RE: OCPL Community Relations meeting tonight and letters of support



My name is Paula, and I work at Prisma Health, where I run the Medication Access Program (MAP). I first met Kerry at a community event in Oconee County a couple of years ago. Since then, I have continued to see her at various community events supporting individuals and families who need assistance.

The Medication Access Program at Prisma Health helps individuals who are seeking assistance with the cost of their prescriptions and connects them with available resources and pathways to affordable medications.

Kerry invited me to host two community workshops at the Seneca and Walhalla libraries. These workshops provided an opportunity for me to engage directly with members of the community, answer questions, and offer assistance with prescription costs and medication access. Amy was also able to attend and provide translation assistance, which allowed us to better serve members of our Spanish-speaking community.

In addition to the workshops, I have left information packets with Kerry to distribute to individuals she meets through her work at the library. We have already received several referrals and inquiries as a direct result of those packets, and Kerry has personally reached out to me on behalf of individuals who needed help accessing their medications.

Kerry is an invaluable resource and advocate for the Oconee County community. Her dedication to connecting people with the resources they need makes a meaningful difference in the lives of so many individuals.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside Kerry and look forward to continuing to grow our partnership. I hope to continue supporting her in any way I can as we work together to make prescription assistance more accessible to the Oconee County community.

Thank you!

Paula Henao

Medication Access Program (**MAP**) Coordinator, CPhT

Prisma Health–Upstate
Oconee Memorial Hospital
Seneca, SC 29672
864-885-7343 (office)
864-522-1731 (fax)

Paula.Henao@prismahealth.org



Inspire health. Serve with compassion. Be the difference.

From: Kerry Leeper Brock <kleeperbrock@oconeesc.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2026 12:06 PM

Subject: OCPL Community Relations meeting tonight and letters of support

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION

This message originated outside the organization.
Be cautious with links, attachments, and unexpected requests.

[Report Suspicious](#)

Greetings everyone!

This is your reminder of the Community Relations committee of the Oconee County Public Library board which will take place this evening at 5:30 in the meeting room in the library at Walhalla (501 W. South Broad Street). At this meeting they committee will discuss the continued funding of my Library Resource Associate position now that the grant funding has ended and Oconee County did not put the position in the FY '26-27 budget. Following this meeting, the committee will make a recommendation to the full library board regarding my position. During the meeting there will be 30 minutes total for public comment, with a maximum of 4 minutes per speaker. Some of you have indicated that you will speak and we are very appreciative! Please keep your comments brief and try to add to comments that have already been made, rather than reiterate what has already been said. As of now, Amy's position is not listed on the agenda for the meeting tonight, but you may speak to her work as well as mine in your comments.

Many of you have written letters of support, for which we are also deeply grateful. If you still want to write a letter, please just be sure to get it to me by 5:00pm today, so that I have time to make copies of the letter prior to the 5:30 meeting. Of course you may also send letters later, as the full board will not meet again, unless they call a special meeting, until the fourth Tuesday in September.

We really appreciate your support!

Kerry Leeper Brock, LISW-CP (she/her)
Oconee County Public Library
Library Resource Associate
501 W. South Broad Street
Walhalla, SC 29691
864-364-5702 (office)
864-710-8763 (cell)
www.oconeelibrary.org

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CENTER FOR RURAL AND PRIMARY HEALTHCARE

Matthew Durham
Chair of Oconee County Council
c/o 415 S. Pine Street
Walhalla, SC, 29691

February 26, 2026

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Oconee County Council,

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the Oconee County Public Library's (OCPL) budgetary request to the Oconee County Council. OCPL's participation in the Libraries in Health program has been successful in library integration and in meeting the health and health-supportive needs of the community. The library has also been an excellent partner in this work and a model to be shared both within South Carolina and with national partners.

Since 2022, Kerry Leeper Brock, LISW-CP, and Amy Saylor have provided critical assistance to County residents and fostered strong partnerships among various organizations to better serve individuals' medical and non-medical needs at the library. They help numerous individuals navigate and access resources such as housing, medical care, health insurance, food, transportation, and clothing. Beyond this direct support, the library has partnered with Our Daily Bread and Catholic Charities of SC to run the Mobile Clean of Heart Project, providing free showers to unhoused or housing-insecure individuals in the county.

Ms. Brock has built connections and strengthened partnerships to ensure resources and health information are available and supports community health and well-being. Ms. Saylor's contributions have ensured that language is not a barrier to access for Spanish-speaking families needing services. Their efforts have not only supported individual health and well-being, but they have also become well integrated into the network of support across Oconee County.

The social worker program demonstrates the expansiveness of libraries as accessible hubs for services and resources beyond books, especially for rural communities with limited access to medical and social services. We urge the County Council to support the continuation of these roles at the Oconee County Public Library.

Best Regards,

Alanti Price

Alanti Price
Program Manager
SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare
University of South Carolina School of Medicine



REFUGEE HOPE UPSTATE



August 11, 2026

Dear OCPL Community Relations Board,

It is our understanding that your committee is considering the need to fund two positions within the Oconee County Public Library System's Library Resource Program. I appreciate the opportunity to address the value these positions hold in the local community.

Refugee Hope Upstate is a 501c3 registered charity whose mission is to create community where legal refugees are welcomed and empowered to become self-sufficient and independent. We operate in partnership with the US State Department-contracted refugee resettlement agency, Lutheran Services Carolinas. The families we serve are well-vetted by the United Nations and the US State Department prior to their relocation to the United States. They are legally present, with the right to work immediately upon arrival and the expectation of rapid self-sufficiency, assimilation into their communities, and a pathway to citizenship.

In Oconee County, we serve ten refugee families, all of whom are native Spanish speakers. At the Seneca Library, they have found a safe space where they and the community volunteers who help them learn how to navigate in their new community can find help. Especially in the days immediately after their arrival, Amy Saylor's presence was vital in helping the families to not only learn how to use the library's resources, but also in understanding many other processes like how to use the library computers to complete tasks vital to their self-sufficiency (e.g., search for jobs, complete job applications, understand the requirements for a driver's license). Kerry Leeper Brock has consistently made us aware of opportunities within the community that help families new to the United States to understand cultural expectations and community services. She regularly sends us notices on health and wellness events (e.g., immunization awareness, vision/dental/hearing screenings, and car seat safety, for example), school/church/community events, opportunities for refugee families to volunteer to help others, and community celebrations that help refugee families learn about their new culture and how they can be active, contributing members to it. By working through the Friends of the Library, Kerry has repeatedly helped us provide beginning reader books to our emerging readers (children and adults) as they work hard to learn the English language.

These are just a few examples of the services provided by the individuals in the positions you are considering for funding. I hope that our perspective on the services they provide will demonstrate that they are invaluable to many members of the community, whether refugee or multi-generational American, as all strive to become self-sufficient, contributing members of the Oconee County community.

Sincerely,

Andrea Kesler, Program Director, Refugee Hope Upstate
397 College Avenue
Clemson, SC 29631
864-710-9236; andreakesler@refugeehopeupstate.org



DOING
THE MOST
GOOD™

William Booth, Founder
Lyndon Buckingham, General
Commissioner Kelly Igleheart, Territorial Commander
Major Leon Ferrãez, Divisional Commander
Majors Mike and Christine Harris, Area Commanders/Senior Kroc Officers
Debra Andrews, Director, Oconee County Service Center

July 30, 2026

Dear Library Board,

We were recently made aware that the funding of the two positions with the OCPL involving Kerry Leeper Brock and Amy Saylor ended in June 2026. It's also our understanding that the potential for OCPL to pick up the funding for these positions for the 2026-27 year might also be in jeopardy. We would appreciate the opportunity to speak to the critical need of these positions within our county.

OCPL's mission states that it exists to 'connect people with their community' and serves as a hub with 'staff trained to help people reach their goals.' While we know that these positions might not have mirrored library missions of past decades, we can firmly vouch for the significant gap these roles fill in today's overall public need.

We, as well as other service organizations, are overwhelmed daily with county residents looking for help. In working alongside all of us, Kerry's role is critically important in providing resources to individuals who we assume view the library system as a safe community 'friend.' Her involvement over the past four years has been vital to the needs of Oconee County and those whose goals are often critical to their very existence. Additionally, Amy Saylor is a lifeline for our Hispanic population and our Angel Tree Christmas program as well as in other needs throughout the year. Many local nonprofits utilize both roles on a regular basis, and we believe their absence would leave a significant and detrimental gap within our communities throughout Oconee County.

One last thing I would like to mention is that in the past several years, especially since 2020 and the pandemic, personal face-to-face relationships are at an all-time low. As a local service provider, we fight each day to keep our ministry personal with those who need real relationship when discussing their concerns/needs. Sometimes that just means someone willing to listen to a hardship with which no one can clearly assist. The library system is one of those lasting institutions that continue to embrace personal connection. The value both to the system and to the community it serves is beyond measure. I realize that these roles might seem outside OCPL's mission, but they are as instrumental as working with SDOC to provide meals to children struggling with food insecurity. OCPL's value as a community hub stands strong. These roles solidify that value.

Thank you for allowing us to share our sincerest hope that the library board will work to find some way to continue funding for both roles.

Sincerely,

Debra Andrews, Director
Oconee County Service Center
The Salvation Army
864-539-6124
Debra.Andrews@uss.salvationarmy.org



March 6, 2026

Dear Oconee County Council:

It is with pleasure that I am writing this letter of recommendation for the Oconee County Library in support of them as a community partner. The Oconee County Library and their Library Resource Associate, Kerry Leeper Brock, have been an essential source in providing direction and support for families needing it in the Oconee community.

Please strongly consider their request in support of the Library Resource position. I know the value your support would add to the lives of families they serve needing additional assistance and direction. With several in our community benefiting from their services, they continue working hard to fill the gap.

Thank you in advance for considering their request. Should you have additional questions, I have included my contact information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LaShauna D Harrison".

LaShauna D Harrison, CEO

United Way of Oconee County, Inc.

lharrison@oconeeunitedway.org

864.882.9743 x.103



PUBLIC HEARING SIGN IN SHEET

Oconee County Council Meeting

September 15, 2026 ~ 6:00 p.m.

ORDINANCE 2026-26 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "PROTECTION FROM MASS SURVEILLANCE"; TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF COUNTY FUNDS, PROPERTY, PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT, CONTRACTS, INFORMATION-TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS, AND OTHER COUNTY RESOURCES FOR PROHIBITED MASS SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS; TO PROHIBIT THE PLACEMENT OR OPERATION OF SUCH SYSTEMS ON COUNTY PROPERTY AND WITHIN COUNTY-CONTROLLED ROAD RIGHTS-OF-WAY; TO ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCRETIONARY COUNTY APPROPRIATIONS, RECREATION FUNDS, ACCOMMODATIONS-TAX AWARDS, GRANTS, SPONSORSHIPS, AND OTHER COUNTY-CONTROLLED DISTRIBUTIONS; TO INCLUDE MUNICIPALLY SPONSORED EVENTS AND MATERIAL IN-KIND MUNICIPAL SUPPORT WITHIN SUCH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS; TO PREVENT CIRCUMVENTION THROUGH AFFILIATED OR SEPARATELY INCORPORATED ENTITIES; TO AMEND CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE III, BY ADDING PERMANENT ACCOMMODATIONS-TAX ELIGIBILITY, DISCLOSURE, AND ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS; TO AMEND CHAPTER 26 BY PROHIBITING MASS SURVEILLANCE ENCROACHMENTS WITHIN COUNTY-CONTROLLED RIGHTS-OF-WAY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

ORDINANCE 2026-27 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, "ADMINISTRATION," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, BY ADDING ARTICLE VIII, ENTITLED "POSITION AUTHORIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION CONTROL"; TO REQUIRE ALL COUNTY POSITIONS, REGARDLESS OF FUNDING SOURCE, TO BE INCLUDED IN A POSITION AUTHORIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE APPROVED BY COUNTY COUNCIL; TO PROVIDE THAT THE RECEIPT OR AVAILABILITY OF A GRANT, STATE APPROPRIATION, DONATION, RESTRICTED REVENUE, FEE, OR OTHER FUNDING DOES NOT INDEPENDENTLY AUTHORIZE THE CREATION OR CONTINUATION OF A COUNTY POSITION; TO ESTABLISH UNIFORM PROCEDURES FOR THE CREATION, RECLASSIFICATION, CONTINUATION, EXPIRATION, AND ABOLITION OF COUNTY POSITIONS; TO PRESERVE LAWFUL APPOINTMENT AND PERSONNEL AUTHORITY; TO PROHIBIT CIRCUMVENTION; AND TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE 2026-28 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-191, "APPOINTMENT; DUTIES," OF DIVISION 4, "COUNTY ATTORNEY," OF ARTICLE III, "OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES," OF CHAPTER 2, "ADMINISTRATION," OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, IN ORDER TO REQUIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION BEFORE A COUNTY AGENCY, COMMISSION, BOARD, DEPARTMENT, OR COMMITTEE MAY EMPLOY OR RETAIN AN ATTORNEY OTHER THAN THE COUNTY ATTORNEY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Everyone speaking before Council will be required to do so in a civil manner. Council will not tolerate personal attacks on individual council members, county staff or any person or group. Racial slurs will not be permitted. Council's number one priority is to conduct business for the citizens of this county. All citizens who wish to address Council and all Boards and Commission appointed by Council should do so in an appropriate manner.

Written comments may be submitted at any time prior to the hearing for inclusion in the official record of the meeting.

PRINT Your Name & Check Ordinance[s] You Wish to Address

		Flock	County Positions	Attorney
	Ordinance #	ORD 2026-26	ORD 2026-27	ORD 2026-28
✓1.	Stephanie White		✓	
✓2.	Drew Graham	✓		
✓3.	Ashley Lester		✓	
✓4.	Emily Hitchcock		✓	
✓5.	Stephanie Blake		✓	
✓6.	Monica Alleswhite		✓	
7.	Rusty Brock		✓	
✓8.	Kerry Leeper Brock		✓	
✓9.	Breanne Alexander		✓	
✓10.	Abe Connally	✓		
✓11.	Liz Kuemmerer	✓	✓	
✓12.	Valerie McWhirney	✓		
✓13.	Lauren Ballard (Lauren)	✓		
✓14.	Gary Pointer		✓	
✓15.	Chelsey Sullivan		✓	
✓16.	Amil Saylor		✓	
✓17.	JB Brubacher	✓		
✓18.	Melissa Carroll	✓		
✓19.	Mickey HANEY	✓		
✓20.	Johnathan Hunter		✓	
✓21.	Emily Sluder		✓	
✓22.	Dewen Clay		✓	
23.				
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25.				
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29.				
30.				



Public Comment
SIGN IN SHEET
6:00 PM

September 15, 2026

The Public Comment Sessions at this meeting is limited to a total of 50 minutes, 5 minutes per person. Please be advised that citizens not utilizing their full four [5] minutes may not "donate" their remaining time to another speaker.

PLEASE PRINT

	FULL NAME	PURPOSE OF COMMENT
1	Sue Christensen	Noise Ordinance
2	Stephanie White	Ord. 2026-27
3	Kerry Leeper Brock	OCPL
4	Jim Carey	Library Resource Associate
5	Leo Shehan	ordinances
6	Charles Todd Latiff	Social Workers.
7	Rusty Brock	
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Response to: Oconee County Council

Re: Kerry Leeper Brock

Community Relations Position

9/15/2026

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Good Evening Gentlemen~

My name is Liz Kuemmerer. I am a resident of Oconee County. I am a Chamber member and have the privilege of helping with the chamber's Nonprofit Alliance program.

I am constantly amazed at how people want to help. And all the help that is available. There are a lot of charities and gaps that need our support. Our county has a wide variety and a solid foundation of so many resources. But the challenging part is connecting them to where the needs are. That's tricky.

Jim Corey, an amazing Oconee County resident, puts together a resource guide that we all reference. But, again, how to navigate it when you're in need and don't see it. Those of us that do see it, it's up to us to share it and make those connections available. We have to look out for each other and share resources as we come upon them.

Kerry Leeper-Brock is that person. She is the hub of so many connections. She is plugged into law enforcement, civilians, nonprofits, businesses, churches, shelters, and of course, the library: the hub of information; our present day community center. What she brings to the table is necessary and kind. And that's the goal, isn't it?

This Library Resource Associate position was not included in the most recent budget you all approved.

So as a way to continue this position, our Oconee County Library Director, Blair Hinson secured Library State Aid.

But at a recent Oconee County Library BOT committee meeting, The Gutenstein Heritage Foundation (located here in Salem), offered to fund her position for a year. And the purpose of the Library Resource Associate's responsibilities are exactly what the foundation's principals are: education, philanthropy, volunteerism and human services.

In response, instead of being grateful for this gift, you all come up with this ordinance blocking any help that Kerry, actually this position in general, can give. The wording itself is scary: "Position Authorization and Control."

Seriously, we can do better. This county, this area of the globe, can do better.

- *We can make connections.
- *We can share information.
- *We can volunteer.
- *We can support programs that are helping.
- *We can donate money.
- *We can help the world be better. And kinder.

I think we should expect nothing less from ourselves.

I am submitting a well-thought out list of community service project ideas, via DoSomething.org and Jim Corey's Resource List (in two versions) along with my comments.

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Hey DC, come hang with us at the H-Street Festival!

Bonus: You can do something good and get paid, [click here to learn more.](#)

[Log In](#)[Join Now](#)

73 Community Service Project Ideas

Helping the place you love, doing the things you love.



By DoSomething Editors

September 12, 2019

[Share](#)

Updated: March 10, 2025

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Community service is exactly what it sounds like: services that you do to benefit your community. If that sounds a little broad, it's because it is -- community service can take a lot of different forms since there's SO much you can do to help folks out in your area.

But that might leave you wondering where to start. (Spoiler alert: *this* is where you start!) We've put together a list of community service project ideas, organized by what you'll be doing. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. often spoke of a Beloved Community--one that requires acts of service based on justice and equal opportunities.

Whether that's collecting, teaching, volunteering, or something else, you should be able to find something to inspire you to get out there and *do*.

Collect and Donate Things for Your Community:

If you look around your community, you'll probably find at least a few places that accept donations -- like food pantries, family shelters, and schools, just to name a few. Here's a super comprehensive guide on [running your own donation drive](#), and here are some [places that accept donations](#).

1. Collect and donate school supplies.
2. [Collect and donate backpacks.](#)
3. Collect grocery coupons for local food pantries to help them with costs.
4. [Collect and donate non-perishable food items.](#)
5. Collect unused makeup to donate to domestic violence shelters.
6. [Collect Halloween candy](#) to send to deployed military service members who can't be home to celebrate.
7. Collect and donate hygiene products, including period products.

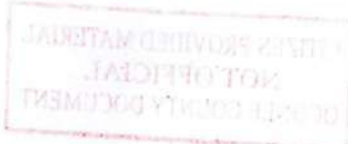
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8. **Donate or recycle unwanted clothes** and textiles to support vulnerable populations and protect the planet.
9. Collect stuffed animals.
10. **Collect SAT books** and donate them to a library.

Do Things for Your Community:

Some of these take a few minutes, and others a bit longer, but they all help out in some way. Especially try pitching in to do tasks for neighbors who can't do them themselves, like folks who are ill, elderly, or busy with work or childcare.

1. Walk kids home from school.
2. Rake leaves for an elderly neighbor.
3. Mow your neighbor's lawn.
4. Offer dog-walking services.
5. **Clean up cigarette butts** on the ground.
6. If you know another language, be a translator at parent-teacher conferences.
7. Babysit during PTA meetings.
8. Foster a shelter animal.
9. Take and donate photos during community events.
10. Donate blood (if you're at least 17, or 16 with parental consent).
11. Contact your reps about local issues.
12. Share mental health resources with your community.



Teach Things to Your Community:

We've all got things that we're good at, so why not share those skills with others? If teaching feels a little intimidating at first, try using these tips for [teaching anything to anyone](#).

1. Help kids with their homework.
2. Teach underclassmen safe social media practices.
3. Give free music lessons.
4. Coach a youth sports team.
5. Educate beachgoers about sustainability.
6. Teach adults in your life internet skills.
7. Give a seminar on driving safety.
8. Teach CPR (after getting certified).
9. Help English language learners practice with conversation.
10. Teach people [how to register to vote](#).

Fix Things in Your Community:

If you see a problem in your community, consider doing something about it! Sometimes the best service we can do the places we love is to take care of them.

1. [Start a little, free library.](#)
2. Place campfire safety plaques near campsites.
3. Clean up your local park.

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4. Beautify your area with seed bombs.
5. Help a neighbor or community org paint fence or building.
6. Spruce up a run-down playground.
7. Help your neighbors with repairs.
8. Offer to patch up clothes and stuffed toys.
9. Organize books at the library.
10. Give IT help to local adults.

Host Things in Your Community:

Here's your chance to flex your event-planning muscles and put on something that will bring folks together. After all, the only thing better than community service is doing it with friends.

1. Host a bake sale.
2. Host a clothing swap.
3. Host a holiday meal.
4. Host a competitive book drive.
5. Host activities for kids in hospitals.
6. Host a dog wash.
7. Host an immunization clinic.
8. Host a river clean-up.
9. [Host a gardening party.](#)
10. Host a study group.

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11. Publicly host and share your creativity to help uplift and revitalize your community.

Make Things For Your Community:

There's something special about receiving a handmade gift, and we're sure there are plenty of people and places that would really appreciate it. Make and send items to folks at elderly care facilities, family shelters, or hospitals to make their days a little brighter.

1. Knit scarves or hats for families in shelters.
2. Bake cookies and snacks for food pantries.
3. Write letters to seniors in care facilities.
4. Make quilts or blankets for kids in hospitals.
5. Build birdhouses for your neighbors.
6. Make Ramadan or Eid cards for your local mosque.
7. Design a community mural.
8. Put together first aid kits for local shelters.
9. Make birthday cards for kids in homeless shelters.
10. Produce a community newsletter.

Volunteer For Things in Your Community:

The cool thing about volunteering is that you can do it just about anywhere ([even online!](#)), so hopefully this gets you thinking. For more inspiration, we've got [a few](#)

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[other places you can volunteer](#) and a bunch of volunteer opportunities with [DoSomething.org](#).

1. Volunteer at your local library.
2. Volunteer to chaperone a field trip.
3. Volunteer with a local nonprofit.
4. Volunteer at an animal shelter.
5. Volunteer at a community center.
6. Volunteer as a lifeguard.
7. Volunteer to be a crossing guard.
8. Volunteer to do social media for a local org.
9. Volunteer to help set up a community event.
10. Volunteer at a food pantry.

GET INVOLVED

Take action to make a difference in your community today

[Join DoSomething](#)

Take Action

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[Prime Time Newsletter](#)

[Strategic Plan](#)

[Donate](#)

[Articles](#)

[Pays to Do Good](#)

Jobs & Internships

DoSomething Strategic

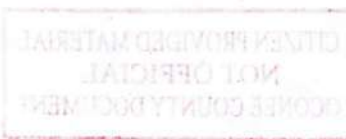
Our Financials

Privacy Policy Terms of Service

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GET INVOLVED

Take Action



WHERE TO TURN FOR HELP IN OCONEE COUNTY (July, 2026)

UNITED WAY- 4 Leas Courtyard Dr (near Bountyland) Seneca. 882-9743 **Call 2-1-1 for list of services.** Also diapers, free Tax Prep help

DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES – 223A Kenneth St., Walhalla; 638-4400; Hours: 8:30-5 M-F. SNAP Food Stamps, Family Independence-Financial Aid to Families w/dependent children. Additional services for children and families.

DEPT. OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES: Medicaid - 223 B Kenneth St. Walhalla, ph.: 638-4420 8:30-5pm M-F.

VETERANS: Office of Veterans Affairs: 638-4231, 223C Kenneth St. Walhalla, Help w/ paperwork, home repairs, homelessness. **DAV help w/VA benefits paperwork** - Wednesdays; KOC Hall, 1-5pm; 112 E. N. 2nd St Seneca. 973-8455 **Purple Heart Home Repairs** for veterans, contact goldencornerchapter@phhusa.org. **Upstate Warrior Solution:**

Contact Tim Conrad 864-413-8242 tconrad@uws.us or Lauren Luna 864-413-1403 lluna@uws.us Provides veteran advocate-led case management, connecting veterans to resources such as employment, housing, VA healthcare and benefits, recreation, family support, and more. **SC Works** - assisting Veterans with jobs, Cynthia Sprinkle, 864-722-9264 **LEGAL HELP-SC Legal Services** - Free legal help for civil (i.e. non-criminal) situations. Call 888-346-5592 Greenville: 864-679-3232 or apply online at <https://sclegal.org/>

SENIOR SOLUTIONS: 101 Perry Ave, Seneca; 885-1000; 8-5 M-F. Transportation for seniors, activity center, dining, home bound support; home-delivered meals, adult day care info/referrals on financial, legal and mobility issues; Medicare counseling. Help with food stamps & Medicaid; Low-Income subsidy (help w/ drug Rx); senior housing/assisted living, home care; personal care items for the home; help with insurance paperwork.

SC THRIVE: 800-726-8774 Help with filing for Healthy Connections Medicaid, Long Term Care benefit, SNAP, TANF, Medically Indigent Assistance, Refugee Cash Assistance, SC birth certificate and Social Security card replacement **Seneca Transit** - Operates Mon- Sat from 6 am to 6 pm. TRIP REQUESTS MUST BE MADE AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE by calling 864-332-5424. Eligible trips include visits to medical providers, hospitals, pharmacies, grocery stores and home good stores at **no cost to the rider**. Will operate within the full geographic boundaries of the City of Seneca, as well as destinations located up to one mile outside the Seneca city limits

TEMPORARY/EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Oconee United Ministries - 114 W. South 1st St, Seneca, SC 29678. Limited emergency assistance with rent or utilities. Appointments only, Tuesdays 9:00-11:00 am. Call for an appointment 864-882-0504 and leave message.

SHARE (Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources) - 708 E. Main St, Seneca; call for help ph-864-882-3495. Services include rent/utility assistance; Must have eviction notice or court order for rent help. Twice a year limit for heating help.

The Salvation Army – 100 Debra St, Seneca; 864-882-1160; Hours: M–F: 9-noon & 1-5 pm. Emergency assistance by appt only, call for eligibility requirements. Utilities, food, Christmas, disaster assistance; disaster assistance requires Red Cross referral and fire report.

Red Cross Disaster Services: call Stacy Sample 636-2676

Golden Corner Food PANTRY: 635 Business Park Drive, Seneca, 864-882-3610; 9:30-12 M-F & 1st Sat. of the month.

College St. Baptist: PANTRY - M/T10-1; 407 S. College St, Walhalla 638-2986; Serves greater Walhalla area

'SON' Flower Closet: free CLOTHING Mon/Tues 10am-1pm; 301 S. Laurel St., Walhalla, 638-2986

St. Luke United Methodist PANTRY – 4:30-5:30pm, 2nd and 4th Wed, 607 E Main St., Walhalla, 638-3628,

Our Daily Bread: 106 Jordan St, Seneca; ph-882-3308; hours 11am - 12:30 M-F & Sat Free lunch

Calvary Church of God Food Ministry Pantry: Maxin Dr & Hwy 123, Westminster, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesday 4:30-6:30pm

Dot's Kitchen: American Legion Bldg; 205 Lucky St. Westminster. LUNCH served M-F 11:30-12:30pm 903-1791 (To Go meals)

Ann Hope United Methodist: 702 Goddard Ave. Seneca; Wednesday evening DINNER at 6pm. 882-5502.

Mount Nebo's Grace Food Pantry - 3rd Saturday of each month from 10-noon. 225 Nebo Church Road, Seneca, near airport

Community Tree – 150 School House Rd. Westminster 203-998-8609. Food box give-away 3rd Saturday of the month; seasonal backpacks, coats & toy give-aways.

LIFE CHANGING ASSISTANCE---EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

SC Works (Unemployment Office)—at Quickjobs Dev. Center - 104 Vocational Dr. Seneca, 8:30-1; 2-5 M-F.

864-646-1741 – Job search, resume preparation and on-line application assistance, computer resource center. For

WIOA Services/Training Grant program information call 864-646-1742. **Goodwill Career & Training Center:** 1616

Sandifer Blvd. 864-482-7857: M-F 9-12; 1-4:30. Employment help: on-line job applications, job leads, resume/cover letter help, copy machine, readiness workshops/counseling/non-computer literate help

Jobs for those with criminal records: SC Works has Federal Bonding Vouchers/GJC has a list of '2nd chance' companies.

Ride To Work Ministry - low-cost transportation to/from work only. Apply at website: rtwministry.org

Jobs for those with disabilities: Vocational Rehabilitation of SC 1951 Wells Hwy, Seneca; 882-6669; hrs: 8:30-5 M-F. Vocational & medical assessment of a person's ability to work even if disabled. Train at the on-site factory/locate a job with a local business. All services free.

HUB Ministries - Empower people to improve their own lives by providing resources such as transitional housing, Christ-Centered mentorship, and life skills education in a positive environment. 734-4673

Admin@thehubministries.org

Tribble Center: 864-885-6055; hours 8-4 M-F. Day and Residential Services, and Employment Training, for individuals with disabilities and needs. Plus an Early Intervention Program for delayed toddlers/children.

Oconee Adult Education Office: 100 Vocational Drive, Seneca, 864-886-4429; Assists adults in becoming literate, obtaining a GED, and improving knowledge/skills for employment. Also ESL/GED Hispanic help. All capability levels are welcome & will receive help.

Palmetto Youth Connections - help youth 17-24 obtain workforce training, GED & occupational skills. Emphasis on jobs, attending post-secondary or enlisting in the military. Supportive services/individual career coaching. Call 864-634-8861.

TriCountyTech: Fast, flexible, industry-recognized workforce training and certificate programs available at little to no cost. Some programs can be completed in just 14 weeks. Call 864-646-8282 or visit tctc.edu

Affordable Child Care go to www.ABCQuality.org for more than 30 local childcare facilities or contact Oconee County First Steps- 882-3342; Child care vouchers available from DSS (see above)

SC Equipment Distribution Program free communication equipment to anyone with a hearing or speech challenge. Requirements: SC residency, existing phone service, certified hearing or speech need. Visit scedp.sc.gov or call 1-877-889-8337

FAMILY HELP, FINANCIAL & LIFESTYLE COUNSELING

Ripple of One - 5 Commons Blvd., Seneca 882-8777; Services include: Financial & lifestyle Counseling to help families escape poverty using a plan to move toward self-sufficiency. rippleofone.org

Heath's Haven: 528 Hwy 123. Suite F, Seneca. czim22@gmail.com Training to promote healthy, nurturing relationships with children.

Grace's Closet (located in each school; contact school's guidance office) - free food, clothing, hygiene items, school supplies (www.gracescloset.org or Julie-Ann Shannon at 864-557-9399)

Care Closet - Free kids clothing for families-in-need every 6 months at Oakway United Wesleyan Church on Mondays. A referral from the Golden Corner Food Pantry, DSS or a local pastor is needed. Call 864-482-1789 or 864-499-4945 for more information and to schedule a pick up.

Domestic Violence Shelters & Counseling: 1) **Safe Harbor:** HotLine 800-291-2139 safeharborsc.org. 2) **Channel Missions' The Hiding Place:** HotLine 888-341-9568. 3) **Marys House:** Admin 855-1708, 864-859-9191, maryshouse.com

Family Connection SC - Support and resources to families raising children with disabilities 800-578-8750 or familyconnection.org

Foothills Care Center: 207 Main St. Seneca, 882-8796; M-Th 8:30-5:30pm and Fri 8:30-12:30. Pregnancy confirmation through pregnancy testing and ultrasounds for those that qualify. Material assistance for children up to the age of 1 as well as educational resources for prenatal and parenting are available. All services are at no cost and confidential. Clemson office T,W,TH 8:30-5:30pm 654-6200. 518 College Ave. Suite 170

The Parenting Place - Home visit with new parents and baby to age 3. Parenting skills/ support counseling free of charge. 898-5583 tppupstate.org

Collins Children's Home: 110 Collins Home Dr. Seneca; 882-0893; 8:30 to 5 M-Th. We provide shelter to children birth-21, counseling for families and children facing hardship, and mentorship, coaching and life skills development to at-risk youth and young adults (16-25).

Tamassee DAR School - Starlight Program: a residential recovery program for mothers and their children focusing on counseling, parenting, education, life and job skills training (lasts 18 to 36 mo.). Also offers Early Childhood Learning, Afterschool, and Summer Camp programs. 944-1390

Tribble Center: 116 South Cove Road, Seneca; 864-885-6055; hours 8-4 M-F. Day and Residential Services, and Employment Training, for individuals with disabilities and special needs. Plus an Early Intervention Program for delayed toddlers/children

ARC of Oconee County. 295 Market St. 864-614-5985 Services for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families

Able-SC: Empowering those w/ disabilities thru independent living services - 864-235-1421. www.able-sc.org

First Light - Sexual assault and child abuse resource center 231-7273. 24 hr. Hotline 855-810-4482 firstlightsc.org 102 Lura Ln, Walhalla

Fostering Faithfully - Faith-based organization that encourages and equips foster parents and kinship caregivers. 864-539-2133 905 E. Main St. Walhalla; www.fosteringfaithfully.org

Emerson Rose Heart Foundation provides resources for families with a child with a congenital heart defect (CHD). Financial help and other services, need-based.

<https://emersonroseheartfoundation.org/what-we-do/support-families-in-need/> Emergency? Call 864-365-6188.

Agape Center- After school program in Fairplay. 207 Farmhouse Ln. \$50 a week per child. Claire Children at Claire.agape1@gmail.com 864-309-5007

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MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Prisma Health - Mobile Recovery Program - Care for individuals with Opioid Use Disorder providing medications for opioid use, harm reduction services, and provides connections to ongoing treatment and recovery resources. Services include buprenorphine initiation and continuation, peer support, case management, infectious disease screening, and connection to primary care and behavioral health services. The mobile units operate at Oconee Memorial Hospital in Seneca in the main parking lot on Tuesday and Thursdays from 9-2. To schedule an appointment call 864-522-6691. We also have the capacity to accept 1 to 2 new patients per day on a walk-up basis.

Oconee Mental Health Clinic: 115 Carter Park Dr, Seneca. Call 885-0157 M-F 8:30am-5pm. Give name, phone # and info. A counselor will contact you. Low-cost options available for those without insurance. **Suicide Hotline:** 988

FAVOR Upstate - For individuals and families facing addiction. Seneca Presbyterian Fellowship Hall 115 West South 1st Street Seneca --Recovery Meetings M-F 6-7pm. Family Recovery Meeting TH 6-7pm. Contact: Katrina Moss 864-364-0284 favorupstate.org/oconee/

Christ Central Ministries: **Men's:** Oconee Addiction Recovery & Solutions Men's Residential Program: 864-638-3322. www.oars-recovery.org **Women's:** Magnolia House Women's Residential Program: 864-916-4040 - substance abuse recovery program for women. 864-916-4040

Recovery Bridges - offers individual and group therapy for individuals for people in recovery, those currently struggling with substance use, and family members impacted by a loved one's addiction. 315 Holland Ave, Seneca, SC 864-803-5660 www.thenolanetwork.org/recoverybridges

New Life Women's Recovery Home a sober living facility in Oconee for women in addiction coming out of jail, rehab or off the streets. Contact Charity Comeaux at 864-723-7548

Anderson-Oconee Behavioral Health 205 Holleman St. Seneca 882-7563; M-Th 8am-5pm; Provides substance abuse assessment & treatment for alcohol, drugs, gambling, smoking, anger management. Call for appointment.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Oconee/Pickens area toll-free number is 877-544-8426. Meetings at multiple sites.

SC Voc Rehab Substance Abuse Treatment- contact local office 1951 Wells Highway: 882-6669.

NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness: meetings in Pendleton; support groups & courses; namiaop.org Michelle 864-882-5131 michelleready@hotmail.com

Giant Slayer Ministries - Substance abuse resource center for those seeking help to find a successful recovery plan. Once recovery is completed, we offer one on one mentoring programs and monthly mentorship class that is open to the public. Contact Greg 864-324-4396

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Oconee Public Health Dept. - 609 N. Townville St. Seneca, 882-2245. Immunizations, Women, Infants & Children (WIC), Family planning. STD/HIV testing, Help is on a sliding scale. **Quit Smoking:** 800-784-8669 Free help (nicotine patches). Call for appt. M-F 8:30-5pm

Seneca - Rosa Clark Medical Clinic: 301 Memorial Dr.; ph:882-4664; hours 8-4:30 M-F, extended to 5:30pm on Tuesdays. Services: sliding fee scale clinic; medical assistance; pharmacy, Vaccines for Children site; SNAP applications; Mental health/substance abuse counseling & treatment. Offers free transportation within 25 miles of the clinic...call 5 days ahead.

Westminster (satellite office) - Rosa Clark Health Center - 1608 E Main St. Westminster 973-7391. M-Th 8:00 - 4:30 PM. Services: sliding fee scale clinic; medical assistance and pharmacy. Offers free transportation within 25 miles of the clinic...call 5 days ahead

Access Health Mountain Lakes: 298 Memorial Dr. Seneca, Call 864-885-7341 for appointment, M-F, 8-4pm. Help for uninsured/limited income to gain access to primary care, specialists, and other medical services/case management.

Clemson Rural Health: serves Oconee County - 200 Booker Dr. Walhalla; M-F 8-4:30 call for more info and appt 656-3076. Accepts Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance. Some services are free: birth control, Hepatitis C treatment and various testing. Medical and nutritional services. Bilingual. Has mobile units that provide services throughout the upstate. www.clemsonruralhealth.org

Rosa Clark Dental: offers extractions, restorations, cleaning and preventative care, on a sliding fee scale - 210 Oak St. Tues, Wed. and Thurs; call Rosa Clark Medical Clinic for appt. 882-4664. Must enroll with Rosa Clark Medical Clinic.

Dental Clinic: 298 Memorial Dr. 885-7545; call for appt. Extractions for uninsured w/ limited income.

American Cancer Society Road To Recovery: Free transportation and possible lodging to cancer related medical appointments 800-227-2345

Dentures: Affordable Dentures -Anderson-Extractions, dentures, partials, implants 224-8106 affordabledentures.com

Anderson-Oconee Speech/Hearing-4 Leas Courtyard Drive, Seneca, 864-226-2477 aosh.org Comprehensive hearing services; hearing aids. Sliding fee schedule.

Eyeglasses/Hearing Aid Assistance Lions Club: Seneca contact SHARE 882-3495 for application. Salem (eye glasses only) contact vision@salemsc.org

Medical Transportation- if on Medicaid call 1-866-910-7688 for a ride to/from medical appt. Call 3 days before: M-F 8-5

Medication Access Program (MAP) free to reduced priced medications to those who are uninsured or insured, and make less than 300% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Contact Paula Henao at 864-885-7343 or paula.henao@prismahealth.org. Paula speaks both English and Spanish

HOUSING/SHELTERS/CURRENT HOME HELP

Habitat for Humanity-130 Bountyland Rd, Seneca; ph- 864-888-2118: building homes for qualified low-income individuals and families

United Housing Connections 864-241-0462-housing assessment for homeless/ living in a car/ living in a shelter.

SC Regional Housing Authority-417 Tribble St, Seneca; 8-5pm; Call 885-1659 for info/appointment; 200+ income-based apts.

Safe Harbor-Emergency Shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children-864-467-3636 or 800-291-2139

Family Promise- 644-8828; Sheltering program in Pickens County for families with children under 18; Background/drug checks required

Our Daily Rest: 864-482-2040; 525 E. Main St., Seneca. Services: Shelter Program for men and women (must be alcohol/drug free, willing and able to work; call for intake information), Rapid Rehousing Program (short-term financial assistance program--has a waiting list), White Flag Program (emergency overnight shelter during times of inclement weather—typically when the temperature drops below 36 degrees).

SC Home Weatherization for low income. Call 864-229-8870 or go to www.gleamshrc.org (program links->weatherization)

Emmanuel's Hammer: www.ehammer1.org; 864-214-6139. Home Repair – Call and leave message; someone will get back to you.

Rebuild Upstate - provides non-emergency home repairs and accessibility modifications to low- income home owners Call 864-603-2708 or rebuildupstate.org

Able-SC: Housing resources for those with disabilities or health conditions - 864-235-1421; 803-779-5121 able-sc.org

Wheelchair Ramps - Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church, Call 864-882-3209.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace – new beds and bedding for 3- to 17-year-olds. <https://shpbeds.org/> 844-432-2337

LOCAL THRIFT STORES

Goodwill Thrift- 1616 Sandifer Blvd (near Walmart), 482-7866, 9-9 M-Sat; 10-7pm Sun. Sundays 1/2 price on some clothes

Boys Camp Thrift. 714 W. North 1st St Seneca, 882-2734; 9-5 M-Sat & 111 E. Windsor St. Westminster, 647-4812; 9-5 Tu-Sat

Girls Camp Trading Post-304 W North 1st St. Seneca, 882-7008; 9-5 M-Sat & 9119 Long Creek Hwy, Westminster, 647-7014;

Tamassee DAR Thrift Shop – No special programs. 9695 N. Hwy 11, Tamassee, 944-2660; 10-6 Tues-Sat

Habitat For Humanity Thrift Store - 130 Bountyland Rd, Seneca; 864-888-2118; hours 10-4 W/Th/F; Sat 10-1.

Dream Center Resale Store- 11011 N Radio Station Road, 10-6 M-Sat 864-614-8008; Earn Dream \$ to spend at store by attending LifePoint Church classes on parenting, budgeting, & life skills. -108 E N 1st St., Seneca; call 864-280-2752

Ripple Resale Store – 203 Oconee Square Dr. by Auto Zone 864-343-1923 M-Thurs 10-6; Fri-Sat 10-7

Agape Thrift Store-Fairplay - 9am- 1pm M-Th, 9am-5pm F&Sat. Also includes a coffee shop with treats. Located at 207 Farmhouse Ln, Fair Play. 864-309-5007..

MISCELLANEOUS

Pets: Oconee Humane Society: low-cost pet spay/neuter voucher 1925 Sandifer Rd, Seneca 882-4719

Crimestoppers: Financial rewards for providing anonymous tips about crime in Oconee County. 844-712-7463)

www.71crime.com

Steadfast HOPE is dedicated to supporting men facing mental health challenges, incarceration, drug addiction, and other issues that put them at risk. Goal to reclaim a healthy lifestyle, reintegrate into their families, workplaces, communities, and daily routines. We provide encouragement, equipping them with necessary skills and resources, and fostering an environment where they can enjoy a renewed sense of well-being & purpose. We do mentoring, coaching, and discipleship programs for men. Contact Steadfast HOPE to set an appointment and create a pathway.

Email: contact@steadfasthope.us or call: 864-633-0582. Visit <http://www.steadfasthope.us/>

Murktch MakerSpace: located in the Blue Ridge Community Center at 315 Holland Ave, Seneca. It is "a place to create, learn, and innovate...refine a craft, learn a new skill, invent something, or start a business. We have a small computer lab, 3D printer, laser engraver, and just about everything you need to start a small business." To find out more, or to schedule an appointment, visit their website <https://murktch.com/schedule>

The Way Youth Center: Thursday nights from 6pm-8pm at 706 East South 6th ST Seneca for youth ages 12-18.

The program encourages and motivates teens to seek God and love each other. Thursday evenings start with chapel

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and then opens up for basketball, pool, arts and crafts, and other games. Contact Mike for more details miked.theway@gmail.com

Oconee County Resource List as of 7-1-26

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Addiction Recovery

Christ Central Ministries – Men's: Oconee Addiction Recovery & Solutions Men's Residential Program: 864-638-3322.
www.oars-recovery.org **Women's:** Magnolia House Women's Residential Program: 864-916-4040 - substance abuse recovery program for women. 864-916-4040 www.magnoliahouse-recovery.org

New Life Women's Recovery Home a sober living facility in Oconee for women in addiction coming out of jail, rehab, or off the streets. Contact Charity Comeaux at 864-723-7548

Prisma Health - Mobile Recovery Program - Access to low-barrier, evidence-based care for individuals with Opioid Use Disorder providing rapid access to medications for opioid use disorder, harm reduction services, and provides connections to ongoing treatment and recovery resources. Services include buprenorphine initiation and continuation, peer support, case management, infectious disease screening, and connection to primary care and behavioral health services. The mobile units operate at Oconee Memorial Hospital in Seneca in the main parking lot on Tuesday and Thursdays from 9-2. We encourage new patients to arrive prior to 12pm on the day of their first appointment. To schedule an appointment call 864-522-6691. We also have the capacity to accept 1 to 2 new patients per day on a walk-up basis.

Recovery Bridges, a program of the NOLA Network, offers affordable individual and group therapy for individuals who are uninsured or underinsured and face barriers to accessing traditional mental health care. We support people in recovery, those currently struggling with substance use, and family members impacted by a loved one's addiction. In addition to therapy, we offer case management services to help clients navigate resources, coordinate care, and build a stable foundation for long-term recovery. 315 Holland Ave, Seneca. 864-803-5660 recoverybridges@thenolanetwork.org thenolanetwork.org/recoverybridges

FAVOR Upstate - For individuals and families facing addiction. Seneca Presbyterian Fellowship Hall 115 West South 1st Street Seneca -Recovery Meetings M-F 6-7pm. Family Recovery Meeting TH 6-7pm. Contact: Miranda Hobson 864-396-0977 favorupstate.org/Oconee/

AA Meetings - Lake Keowee Sobriety at Stamp Creek Baptist Church in Salem; Oconee at Foothills Church 505 Bountylane Rd; Pass It On at St. Luke's UMC in Walhalla; Seneca Serenity at Seneca Presbyterian Church. <https://www.area62.org/districts.php?district=11>

Anderson-Oconee Behavioral Health - 205 Holleman St downtown Seneca, 882-7563; M-Th 8am-5pm www.aobhs.org Call for appointment. Provides outpatient substance abuse assessment & treatment counseling for alcohol, drugs, gambling, smoking, family anger management. Each client will be assessed to develop a personalized treatment plan. Additional services include: referrals to detox and residential treatment centers, NARCAN distribution, Medication Assisted Treatment, Nicotine Replacement Therapy, Peer Support Services, ADSAP Services, DOT SAP Services, Adult and Child & Adolescent Services.

Rosa Clark Medical Clinic: 301 Memorial Dr.; ph:882-4664; hours 8-4:30 M-F, extended to 5:30pm on Tuesdays Medication Assisted Treatment in conjunction with Suboxone. Individual and Group Substance Use Disorder Counseling

SC Voc Rehab Substance Abuse Treatment- contact local office 1951 Wells Highway: 882-6669. Treatment facility in Florence SC.

Tamassee DAR School – Starlight Program: a residential recovery program for mothers and their children focusing on counseling, parenting, education, life and job skills training (lasts 18 to 36 mo.). Also offers Early Childhood Learning, Afterschool, and Summer Camp programs . 944-1390

The Magdalene Clinic – For pregnant women with drug use, offering prenatal care, mental health counseling, and peer support. magdaleneclinic.com Magdalene Clinic Oconee: (864) 482-3483, press 9 - then press 1

Rosa Clark Medical Clinic: 301 Memorial Dr. Seneca 882-4664; hours 8-4:30 M-F, extended to 5:30pm on Tuesdays; Mental health/substance abuse counseling & treatment.

Giant Slayer Ministries - An alcohol and drug recovery resource center that assist those seeking help to find a successful environment for their recovery plan. We are connected, and in partnership, with many upstate facilities. Once recovery is completed, we offer one on one mentoring programs, as well as a monthly mentorship class that is open to the public. Contact Greg 864-324-4396 gregwhitfield99@gmail.com

Adult Protective Services

DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES – 223A Kenneth St., Walhalla; 638-4400; Office hours: 8:30-5 M-F

Childcare

Affordable Child Care go to www.ABCquality.org for more than 30 local childcare facilities; Child care vouchers available from DSS

Agape Center-After school program in Fairplay. 207 Farmhouse Ln. \$50 a week per child. Claire Childers at Claire.agape1@gmail.com 864-309-5007

Tamassee DAR School – Offers After School, Summer Camp, and Early Childhood Learning. 944-1390

Seniors Raising Children - Qualifying relatives may receive assistance for their child(ren)'s involvement in a program of your choice such as camps of all types including instructional (math, reading and other), athletic, music, art, dance or church camp/activity. 864-242-9733 and ask for a family caregiver support program advocate. You will be sent an application and a self-addressed stamped envelope for its return

Clothing

'SON' Flower Closet: free CLOTHING Mon/Tues 10am-1pm; 301 S. Laurel St., Walhalla, 638-2986 Must live in greater Walhalla.

Community Tree – Westminster 203-998-8609. Call for food box delivery, backpacks, coats & toy give-aways.

Grace's Closet (located in each school; contact school's guidance office) – free food, clothing, hygiene items, school supplies
(www.gracescloset.org or Julie-Ann Shannon at 864-557-9399)

Care Closet - Free kids clothing for families-in-need every six months at Oakway United Wesleyan Church on Mondays. A referral from the Golden Corner Food Pantry, DSS or a local pastor is needed. Call 864-482-1789 or 864-499-4945 for more info and to schedule a pick up.

Dental Assistance

Rosa Clark Dental: offers extractions, restorations, cleaning and preventative care, on a sliding fee scale - 210 Oak St. Tues, Wed. and Thurs; call Rosa Clark Medical Clinic for appt. 882-4664. Must enroll with Rosa Clark Medical Clinic.

Dental Clinic: 298 Memorial Dr. 885-7545; call for appt. Extractions for uninsured w/ limited income.

Low Cost Dentures: Affordable Dentures - Anderson 864-224-8106 Extractions, dentures, partials and implants. Go to affordabledentures.com for information on costs and financing options

Diapers

UNITED WAY- 4 Leas Courtyard Dr (near Bountyland) Seneca. 882-9743 Call 2-1-1 for list of services. Baby & adult diapers, free Tax Prep help

Foothills Care Center: 207 Main St. Seneca, 882-8796; M-F 8:30-5:30

Disability Services

South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation 1951 Wells Hwy, Seneca; 882-6669; hrs: 8:30-5 M-F. Vocational & medical assessment of a person's ability to work even if disabled. Train at the on-site factory/locate a job with a local business. All services free.

Tribble Center: 864-885-6055; hours 8-4 M-F. Day and Residential Services, and Employment Training, for individuals with disabilities and special needs. Plus an Early Intervention Program for delayed toddlers/children.

SC Equipment Distribution Program free communication equipment to anyone with a hearing or speech challenge. Requirements: SC residency, existing phone service, certified hearing or speech need. Visit scedp.sc.gov or call 877-225-8333 or 877-889-8337

ARC of Oconee County. 295 Market St. 864-614-5985 Services for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. arcofoconee.org

Able-SC: Empowering those w/ disabilities thru independent living services - 864-235-1421. www.able-sc.org

Family Connection SC- Support and resources to families raising children with disabilities 800-578-8750 or familyconnection.org

Wheelchair Ramps- Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church, - call 864-882-3209.. **UNITED WAY-** 4 Leas Courtyard Dr (near Bountyland) Seneca. 882-9743 Potential funding for ramps. **Salvation Army-** 100 Debra St. Seneca; 882-1160 Potential funding for ramps. **Rebuild Upstate** – provides wheelchair ramps to low income homeowners focusing on veterans, seniors, the disabled, and families with children. Contact 603-2708 or rebuildupstate.org

Education

Oconee Adult Education Office; 100 Vocational Drive, Seneca, 864-886-4429; *Assists adults in becoming literate, obtaining a GED, and improving knowledge/skills for employment. Also ESL/GED Hispanic help. All capability levels are welcome & will receive help.*

Palmetto Youth Connections –help youth 17-24 obtain workforce training, GED & occupational skills. Emphasis on jobs, attending post-secondary or enlisting in the military. Supportive services/individual career coaching. Call 864-634-8861

TriCountyTech Fast, flexible, industry-recognized workforce training and certificate programs available at little to no cost. Some programs can be completed in just 14 weeks. Call 864-646-8282 or visit tctc.edu

Tamassee DAR School – Offers After School, Summer Camp, and Early Childhood Learning. 944-1390

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act administered through SC Works – for qualified candidate it covers all costs of Certificate Programs at Tri County Tech or other training facilities. Program/Certificate examples include Welding, Commercial Drivers License, Nurse Aid, CNC Operator, EKG Technician and Heavy Equipment Operation. Contact SC Works 864-508-6651

Employment Assistance

SC Works — at Quickjobs Dev. Center - 104 Vocational Dr. Seneca, 8:30-1; 2-5 M-F. 864-646-1741 – Job search, resume preparation and on-line application assistance, computer resource center. For WIOA Certificate/Training Grant program information call 864-508-6651.

Goodwill Career and Training Center : 1616 Sandifer Blvd. 864-482-7857: M-F 9-12; 1-4:30. Employment help: on-line job applications, job leads, resume/cover letter help, copy machine, readiness workshops/counseling/non-computer literate help

Jobs for those with criminal records: SC Works has Federal Bonding Vouchers/GJC has a list of '2nd chance' companies.

Ride To Work Ministry - low-cost transportation to/from work only. Apply at website: rtwministry.org

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South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation 1951 Wells Hwy, Seneca; 882-6669; hrs: 8:30-5 M-F. Vocational & medical assessment of a person's ability to work even if disabled. Train at the on-site factory/locate a job with a local business. All services free. Job readiness training provides you with real world experience and skill development in an environment designed to prepare you for the modern workforce. In partnership with the SC Department of Adult Education, we provide foundational workplace training such as writing, reading and math which are first assessed through vocational testing. Additional opportunities for post-secondary training at technical colleges or universities are also available.

Tribble Center: 864-885-6055; hours 8-4 M-F. Day and Residential Services, and **Employment Training**, for individuals with disabilities and special needs. Plus an Early Intervention Program for delayed toddlers/children.

Employment Training

South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation 1951 Wells Hwy, Seneca; 882-6669; hrs: 8:30-5 M-F. Vocational & medical assessment of a person's ability to work even if disabled. Train at the on-site factory/locate a job with a local business. All services free. Job readiness training provides you with real world experience and skill development in an environment designed to prepare you for the modern workforce. In partnership with the SC Department of Adult Education, we provide foundational workplace training such as writing, reading and math which are first assessed through vocational testing. Additional opportunities for post-secondary training at technical colleges or universities are also available.

TriCountyTech Fast, flexible, industry-recognized workforce training and certificate programs available at little to no cost. Some programs can be completed in just 14 weeks. Call 864-646-8282 or visit tctc.edu

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act administered through SC Works – for qualified candidate it covers all costs of Certificate Programs at Tri County Tech or other training facilities. Program/Certificate examples include Welding, Commercial Drivers License, Nurse Aid, CNC Operator, EKG Technician and Heavy Equipment Operation. Contact SC Works 864-508-6651

Financial Assistance - Rent & Utilities

Oconee United Ministries - 114 W. South 1st St, Seneca, SC 29678. Limited emergency assistance with rent or utilities bills. Call for an appointments. Open Tuesdays 9am-11:00 am. Call 864-882-0504 and leave message.

SHARE (Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources) - 708 East Main St, Seneca; call for help ph-864-882-3495. Services include rent and utility assistance; Must have eviction notice or court order for rent help. Twice a year limit for help with propane bill.

The Salvation Army – 100 Debra St, Seneca; 864-882-1160; Hours: M – Th 9-noon & 1-5 pm. Provides emergency assistance by appt only. Call for eligibility requirements. May assist with utilities, food, Christmas needs. Disaster assistance requires Red Cross referral and fire report.

Our Daily Rest: 864-482-2040; 525 E. Main St., Seneca. Services: Shelter Program for men and women (must be alcohol/drug free, willing and able to work; call for intake information), Rapid Rehousing Program (short-term financial assistance program—has a waiting list), White Flag Program (emergency overnight shelter during times of inclement weather—typically when the temperature drops below 36 degrees.

Red Cross Disaster Services: call Stacy Sample 864-636-2676 Provides help after disasters...fire, storms, floods

Food Pantry

Golden Corner Food PANTRY: 635 Business Park Drive, Seneca, 864-882-3610; 10-12 M-F & 1ST Sat. of the month. Mondays for seniors only

College St. Baptist: PANTRY - M/Tu10-1; 407 S. College St, Walhalla 638-2986; For residents of Walhalla, Mountain Rest, West Union. Salem, Tamassee Bring ID, proof of income and address

The Salvation Army- 100 Debra St. Seneca; 882-1160; Hours: M–F: 9-noon & 1-5 pm. Emergency assistance by appt only, call for eligibility requirements. Utilities, food, Christmas, disaster assistance; disaster assistance requires Red Cross referral and fire report.

St. Luke United Methodist PANTRY – 4:30-5:30pm, 2nd and 4th Wed, 607 E Main St., Walhalla, 638-3628

Calvary Church of God Food Ministry Pantry – 155 Maxim Dr & Hwy 123, Westminster, 1st, 2nd, 3rd-4th Tuesday 4:30 – 6:30pm

Mount Nebo's Grace Food Pantry – 3rd Saturday of each month from 10-noon. 225 Nebo Church Road, Seneca, near airport

Community Tree – 150 School House Rd, Westminster 203-998-8609. Food box give away 3rd Saturday of the month; backpacks, coats & toy give-aways seasonally.

[Food Pantries of America - Welcome to FoodFinder!](#) – map and contact info on food pantries and soup kitchens in the USA.

Food Stamps/SNAP/TANF

DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES – 223A Kenneth St., Walhalla; 638-4400; Office hours: 8:30-5 M-F. Services include: SNAP (Food Stamps), Family Independence Program (Financial aid to Families with dependent children). Chldcare scholarships. Adult Protective Services. A variety

of services for children and families.

SC THRIVE: 800-726-8774 Help with filing for Healthy Connections Medicaid, Long Term Care benefit, SNAP, TANF, Medically Indigent Assistance, Refugee Cash Assistance, SC birth certificate and Social Security card replacement

Rosa Clark Medical Clinic: 301 Memorial Dr. Seneca 882-4664; hours 8-4:30 M-F, Help with SNAP and TANF applications.

Foster Care

Fostering Faithfully - Faith-based organization that encourages and equips foster parents and kinship caregivers .864-539-2133 905 E. Main St. Walhalla; www.fosteringfaithfully.org Services include: Fully stocked resource and equipment centers (including beds, cribs and car seats); new shoes for every child entering school; foster recreational scholarships; birthday sponsorships; support group; training conference scholarships for re-certification

Collins Children's Home: Collins Home Dr. Seneca; 882-0893; 8:30 to 5 M-Tr. We provide shelter to children birth-21, counseling for families and children facing hardship, and mentorship, coaching and life skills development to at-risk youth and young adults (16-25).

Housing & Home Repair

Habitat for Humanity 864-888-2118 www.oconeehabitat.org Building homes for low-income families. The entire process – qualification, application, approval and home build – will take on average 24-30 months.

United Housing Connections 864-241-0462 - housing assessment for homeless/ living in a car/ living in a shelter.

SC Regional Housing Authority-417 Tribble St, Seneca; 8-5pm; Call 885-1659 for info/appointment; 200+ income-based apts.

Family Promise- 644-8828; Sheltering program in Pickens County for families with children under 18; Background/drug checks required

Our Daily Rest: 864-482-2040; 525 E. Main St., Seneca. Services: Shelter Program for men and women (must be alcohol/drug free, willing and able to work; call for intake information), Rapid Rehousing Program (short-term financial assistance program—has a waiting list), White Flag Program (emergency overnight shelter during times of inclement weather—typically when the temperature drops below 36 degrees.

The Hub Ministries – Senior Ladies Living: Offers an affordable group home for woman 55+. 864-734-4673 Admin@thehubministries.org

SC Home Weatherization for low income. Call 864-223-8434 or go to www.gleanshrc.org (program links->weatherization)

Emmanuel's Hammer: www.ehammer1.org; 864-214-6139. Home Repair: MUST BE HOMEOWNER. Call & leave message

Rebuild Upstate - provides non-emergency home repairs and accessibility modifications to low- income home owners. 864-603-2708 or rebuildupstate.org

Able-SC: Housing resources for those with disabilities or health conditions - 864-235-1421; 803-779-5121

Wheelchair Ramps- Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church; contact Deek Decker at 864-356-2135 or docdeek0@yahoo.com (the 0 in this address is the number zero).

Sleep In Heavenly Peace – Beds for 3 to 17 year olds. <https://shpbeds.org/> 844-432-2337. They deliver and install, providing the frame and bedding for singles and bunk beds.

Housing - Transitional

The HUB Ministries - mission is to empower men to improve their own lives by providing them with resources such as transitional housing, Christ-Centered mentorship, and life skills education in a positive environment. 864-734-4673 Admin@thehubministries.org

Our Daily Rest: 482-2040; 525 E. Main, Seneca. Long term Shelter for men and women offering case mgt and counseling; must be alcohol/drug free. Call for appt

Legal Assistance

Legal Services - Free legal help for civil (i.e. non-criminal) situations. Call 888-346-5592 Greenville: 864-679-3232 or apply online at <https://sclegal.org/>

Lifestyle Counseling

Ripple of One – 5 Commons Blvd., Seneca 882-8777; Services include: Financial & lifestyle Counseling to help families escape poverty using a plan to move toward self-sufficiency. rippleofone.org

Heath's Haven: 528 Hwy 123. Suite F, Seneca. 710-5851 Training to promote healthy, nurturing relationships with children.

Meals & Home Delivery

Our Daily Bread: 106 Jordan St, Seneca; ph-882-3308; Free lunch 7 days a week; hours 11:30am - 12:30pm

Dot's Kitchen: American Legion Bldg; 205 Lucky St. Westminster. Lunch (take out only) M-F 11:30-12:30pm 903-1791.

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Ann Hope United Methodist: 702 Goddard Ave. Seneca; Wednesday evening DINNER at 6pm. 882-5502.

SENIOR SOLUTIONS: 101 Perry Ave, Seneca; 885-1000; 8-5 M-F.; home-delivered meals

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Medicaid

DEPT. OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES: Medicaid - 223 B Kenneth St. Walhalla, ph.: 638-4420 8:30-5pm M-F.

SC THRIVE: 800-726-8774 Help with filing for Healthy Connections Medicaid, Long Term Care benefit, SNAP, TANF, Medically Indigent Assistance, Refugee Cash Assistance, SC birth certificate and Social Security card replacement

SENIOR SOLUTIONS: 101 Perry Ave, Seneca; 885-1000; 8-5 M-F; Help with food stamps & Medicaid; Low-income subsidy (help w/ drug rx); senior housing/assisted living, home care; personal care items for the home; help with insurance paperwork. Medicare counseling,.

Medical Assistance/Services

Oconee Public Health Dept. - 609 N. Townville St. Seneca, 882-2245. Immunizations, Women, Infants & Children (WIC), Family planning. STD/HIV testing, Help is on a sliding scale. **Quit Smoking:** 800-784-8669 Free help (nicotine patches). Call for appt. M-F 8:30-5pm

Seneca - Rosa Clark Medical Clinic: 301 Memorial Dr. Seneca 882-4664; hours 8-4:30 M-F, extended to 5:30pm on Tuesdays. Services: sliding fee scale clinic; medical assistance; pharmacy, Covid testing, Vaccines for Children site; SNAP applications; Mental health/substance abuse counseling & treatment. Offers free transportation within 25 miles of the clinic...call 5 days ahead.

Westminster (satellite office) Rosa Clark Health Center - 1608 E Main St. Westminster 973-7391. M-Th 8:00 - 4:30 PM. Services: sliding fee scale clinic; medical assistance and pharmacy. Offers free transportation within 25 miles of the clinic...call 5 days ahead

Access Health Mountain Lakes: 298 Memorial Dr. Seneca, Call 864-885-7341 for appointment, M-F, 8-4pm. Help for uninsured/limited income to gain access to primary care, specialists, and other medical services/case management.

Clemson Rural Health: serves Oconee County - 200 Booker Dr. Walhalla; M-F 8-4:30 call for more info and appt 656-3076. Accepts Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance. Some services are free: birth control, Hepatitis C treatment and various testing. Medical and nutritional services. Bilingual. Has mobile units that provide services throughout the upstate. www.clemsonruralhealth.org

The National Hispanic Family Health Helpline - provides free reliable and confidential health information in Spanish and English to help callers navigate the health system. Staffed by bilingual health promotion advisors who provide basic information on a wide range of health topics. Additionally, our up-to-date database includes over 14,660 providers enabling health promotion advisors to refer callers to health care services in their community. Call 866-783-2645 M-F 9am to 6pm eastern. <https://www.healthymamericas.org/help-line>

American Cancer Society Road To Recovery: Free transportation and possible lodging to cancer related medical appointments 800-227-2345

Emerson Rose Heart Foundation provides resources for families with a child with a congenital heart defect (CHD). Financial help and other services, need-based. Emergency? Call 864-365-6188. <https://emersonroseheartfoundation.org/request-support/>

Anderson-Oconee Speech/Hearing 4 Leas Courtyard Drive, Seneca, 864-226-2477 hearing help; hearing aids; sliding fee. aosh.org

Lions Club - Eyeglasses & Hearing Aid Assistance: Seneca contact SHARE 882-3495 for application. Salem (eye glasses only) contact vision@salemnc.org

Anderson-Oconee Speech/Hearing 4 Leas Courtyard Drive, Seneca, 864-226-2477 aosh.org Comprehensive hearing services; hearing aids. Sliding fee schedule

Medical Transportation - if on Medicaid call 1-866-910-7688 for a ride to/from medical appointment. Call 3 days before: M-F 8-5

Brain Injury Association of SC: A statewide non-profit organization which provides information and support to individuals with brain injury and their families. Services include: Brain Injury Support Groups (in-person and virtual); Free Help-Line 1-877-TBI-FACT-Information and referrals; Tuesdays at Ten-weekly online community activities including chair yoga, support group, art therapy, and special speakers; Brain Injury Fundamentals Classes for caregivers; Brain Injury Specialist Certification Classes for professionals; Resource packets biaofsc.com

Medication Access Program (MAP) at Prisma Health can offer free to reduced priced medications to those who are both uninsured and insured, and make less than 300% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Contact Paula Henao 864-885-7343 paula.henao@prismahealth.org Paula speaks both English and Spanish

Men's Program

Steadfast HOPE is dedicated to supporting men facing mental health challenges, incarceration, drug addiction, and other issues that put them at risk. Our aim is to assist these individuals in reclaiming a healthier lifestyle, enabling them to reintegrate into their families, workplaces, communities, and daily routines. Our focus is providing encouragement, equipping them with necessary skills and resources, and fostering an environment where they can enjoy a renewed sense of well-being & purpose. We do mentoring, coaching, and discipleship programs for men. Contact Steadfast HOPE to set an appointment and create a pathway. Email: contact@steadfasthope.us or call: 864-633-0582. Visit <http://www.steadfasthope.us/>

Mental Health Services

Oconee Mental Health Clinic: 115 Carter Park Dr, Seneca. Call 885-0157 M-F 8:30am-5pm. Give name, phone # and info. A counselor will contact you. Low-cost options available for those without insurance.

Suicide Hot Line call 988

Psychiatric Hospital - Patrick B. Harris Psychiatric Hospital (HPH) is an acute care psychiatric inpatient facility located in Anderson, South Carolina. It is the only public psychiatric inpatient facility located in the Upstate and serves 13 counties providing short-term, intensive psychiatric diagnostic and treatment services on an involuntary, inpatient, basis. 864-231-2600 <https://www.scdmh.org/hph/hph-about-us/>

NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness: meetings in Pendleton; support groups & courses; namiaop.org Michelle 864-882-5131 michelleready@hotmail.com namiaop.org

Rosa Clark Medical Clinic: 301 Memorial Dr. Seneca 882-4664; hours 8-4:30 M-F, extended to 5:30pm on Tuesdays; Mental health/substance abuse counseling & treatment.

Miscellaneous

Pets: Oconee Humane Society: low-cost pet spay/neuter voucher 1925 Sandifer Rd, Seneca 882-4719

Crimestoppers: Financial rewards for providing anonymous tips about crime in Oconee County. 844-712-7463 www.71crime.com

Murktech MakerSpace: located in the Blue Ridge Community Center at 315 Holland Ave, Seneca. It is "a place to create, learn, and innovate...refine a craft, learn a new skill, invent something, or start a business. We have a small computer lab, 3D printer, laser engraver, and just about everything you need to start a small business." To find out more, or to schedule an appt visit <https://murktech.com/schedule>

The Way Youth Center: Thursday nights from 6pm-8pm at 706 East South 6th ST Seneca for youth ages 12-18. The program encourages and motivates teens to seek God and love each other. Thursday evenings start with chapel and then opens up for basketball, pool, arts and crafts, and other games. Contact Mike for more details miked.theway@gmail.com

SC THRIVE: 800-726-8774 Refugee Cash Assistance, SC birth certificate and Social Security card replacement Help with filing for Healthy Connections Medicaid, Long Term Care benefit, SNAP, TANF, Medically Indigent Assistance,

UNITED WAY- 4 Leas Courtyard Dr (near Bountyland) Seneca.882-9743 Call 2-1-1 for list of services

Parenting/Family Assistance

Ripple of One - 10802 Clemson Blvd Suite C, Seneca 882-8777; Services include: Financial & lifestyle Counseling to help families escape poverty using a plan to move toward self-sufficiency. Starting program for young single adults (17 to 25 years old) in 2022.

Heath's Haven: 528 Hwy 123. Suite F, Seneca. czim22@gmail.com Training to promote healthy, nurturing relationships with children.

Family Connection SC- Support and resources to families raising children with disabilities 800-578-8750 or familyconnection.org

The Parenting Place: Home visiting program with new parents and baby to age 3. Providing parenting skills and support counseling free of charge. 864-898-5583 tppupstate.org

Sleep In Heavenly Peace – beds for 3 to 17 year olds. <https://shpbeds.org/> 844-432-2337

Seniors Raising Children - Qualifying relatives may receive assistance for their child(ren)'s involvement in a program of your choice such as camps of all types including instructional (math, reading and other), athletic, music, art, dance or church camp/activity. 864-242-9733 and ask for a family caregiver support program advocate. You will be sent an application and a self-addressed stamped envelope for its return

Pregnancy Care & Early Childhood Development

Foothills Care Center: 207 Main St. Seneca , 882-8796; M-Th 8:30-5:30pm and Fri 8:30-12:30. Pregnancy confirmation through pregnancy testing and ultrasounds for those that qualify. Material assistance for children up to the age of 1 as well as educational resources for prenatal and parenting are available. All services are at no cost and confidential. Clemson office 518 College Ave, Suite 170. T,W,TH 8:30-5:30. 654-6200

The Magdalene Clinic – For pregnant women with drug use, offering prenatal care, mental health counseling, and peer support. magdaleneclinic.com Magdalene Clinic Oconee: (864) 482-3483, press 9 - then press 1 Center for Family Medicine-Oconee, Prisma Health, 139 Lila Doyle Dr. Seneca 29672

The Parenting Place, 864-898-5583 Home visiting program with new parents and baby to age 3. Providing parenting skills and support Counseling, free of charge. Parenting education class, virtual \$100. tppupstate.org

Family Connection SC- 800-578-8750 connects family to over 40 public services for children birth to 5 years old covering special needs, developmental delays, parenting, early intervention etc. and others. familyconnectionsc.org

Collins Children's Home: 110 Collins Home Dr. Seneca; 882-0893; 8:30 to 5 M-F. Resident care for children birth-21. life skills for resident children and their families, foster care for children, counseling, parenting classes for "at risk" families

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Hope Embraced Adoption Agency-Provides free services to expectant mothers, including domestic adoptive services, unplanned pregnancy counseling, and home study services. (864) 641-8142 www.hopeembracedoptions.com

Senior Support

SENIOR SOLUTIONS: 101 Perry Ave, Seneca; 885-1000; 8-5 M-F. Transportation for seniors, activity center, dining, home bound support; home-delivered meals, adult day care Info/referrals on financial, legal and mobility issues; Medicare counseling, Help with food stamps & Medicaid; Low-Income subsidy (help w/ drug rx); senior housing/assisted living, home care; personal care items for the home; help with insurance paperwork.

SC THRIVE: 800-726-8774 Help with filing for Healthy Connections Medicaid, Long Term Care benefit, SNAP, TANF, Medically Indigent Assistance, Refugee Cash Assistance, SC birth certificate and Social Security card replacement

UNITED WAY- 4 Leas Courtyard Dr (near Bountyland) Seneca. 882-9743. Adult diapers, free Tax Prep help

Seniors Raising Children - Qualifying relatives may receive assistance for their child(ren)'s involvement in a program of your choice such as camps of all types including instructional (math, reading and other), athletic, music, art, dance or church camp/activity. 864-242-9733 and ask for a family caregiver support program advocate. You will be sent an application and a self-addressed stamped envelope for its return

Sexual Abuse Support

First Light – Sexual assault and child abuse resource center 231-7273. 24 hr. Hotline 855-810-4482 firstlightsc.org 102 Lura Ln, Walhalla

Shelters

Our Daily Rest: 482-2040; 525 E. Main, Seneca. The White Flag Program is a "first come, first served" program allowing unsheltered individuals or families to come into the shelter during time of inclement weather. This is normally done during nights of extreme cold (when the nightly temperature drops below 36 degrees. Long term Shelter with case mgt & counseling; call for appt

Shelters - Domestic Abuse

Safe Harbor: HotLine 800-291-2139 safeharborsc.org.

Channel Missions' The Hiding Place: HotLine 888-341-9568,

Marys House: Admin 864-855-1708, HotLine 864-859-9191, maryshouse.com

Suicide Hotline

Call 988 The 988 Lifeline is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the United States.

Support Services Miscellaneous

UNITED WAY- 4 Leas Courtyard Dr (near Bountyland) Seneca. 882-9743 **Call 2-1-1 for list of services.** Also diapers, free Tax Prep help

DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES – 223A Kenneth St., Walhalla; 638-4400; Office hours: 8:30-5 M-F. Services include: SNAP (Food Stamps), Family Independence Program (Financial aid to Families with dependent children). A variety of services for children and families.

DEPT. OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES: Medicaid - 223 B Kenneth St. Walhalla, ph.: 638-4420 8:30-5pm M-F.

Thrift Stores

Goodwill Thrift- 1616 Sandifer Blvd (near Walmart), 482-7866, 9-9 M-Sat; 10-7pm Sun. Sundays 1/2 price on some clothes

Boys Camp Thrift. 714 W. North 1st St Seneca, 882-2734; 9-5 M-Sat & 111 E. Windsor St. Westminster, 647-4812; 9-5 Tu-Sat

Girls Camp Trading Post- 304 W North 1st St. Seneca, 882-7008; 9-5 M-Sat & 9119 Long Creek Hwy, Westminster, 647-7014;

Tamassee DAR Thrift Shop – No special programs. 9695 N. Hwy 11, Tamassee, 944-2660; 10-6 Tues-Sat

Habitat For Humanity Thrift Store - 130 Bountyland Rd, Seneca; 864-888-2118; hours 10-4 W/Th/F; Sat 10-1.

Dream Center Resale Store- 11011 N Radio Station Road, 10-6 M-Sat 864-614-8008;

Ripple Resale Store – 203 Oconee Square Dr. by Auto Zone 864-343-1923 M-Thurs 10-6; Fri-Sat 10-7

Agape Thrift Store-Fairplay - 9am- 1pm M-Th, 9am-5pm F&Sat. Also coffee shop with treats. Located at 207 Farmhouse Ln, FairPlay. 864-309-5007.

Transportation

Medical Transportation- if on Medicaid call 1-866-910-7688 for a ride to/from medical appointment. Call 3 days before: M-F 8-5

American Cancer Society Road To Recovery: Free transportation and possible lodging to cancer related medical appointments 800-227-2345

Ride To Work Ministry - low-cost transportation to/from work only. Apply at website: rtwministry.org

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SenecaTransit - will operate Monday through Saturday from 6 am to 6 pm. **TRIP REQUESTS MUST BE MADE AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE** by calling 864-332-5424. Eligible trips include visits to medical providers, hospitals, pharmacies, grocery stores and home good stores at **no cost to the rider**. Will operate within the full geographic boundaries of the City of Seneca, as well as destinations located up to one mile outside the Seneca city limits

Veteran Services

Office of Veterans Affairs: 638-4231, 223C Kenneth St. Walhalla, Help w/ paperwork, home repairs, homelessness.

SC Works - assisting Veterans with employments Cynthia Sprinkle 864-722-9264

DAV help w/VA benefits paperwork - Wednesdays; KOC Hall, 1-5pm; 112 E. N. 2nd St Seneca. 973-8455

Purple Heart Home Repairs for veterans, contact goldencornerchapter@phhusa.org.

Upstate Warrior Solution: Contact Tim Conrad 864-413-8242 tconrad@uws.us or Lauren Luna 864-413-1403 lluna@uws.us Provides veteran advocate-led case management, connecting veterans to resources such as employment, housing, VA healthcare and benefits, recreation, family support, and more.

Rebuild Upstate - provides floor/stair/roof repairs; plumbing/electric/HVAC work, ramps and decking to low income homeowners focusing on veterans, seniors, the disabled, and families with children. Contact 603-2708 or rebuildupstate.org

Wheelchair Ramps (Disability Assistance)

Wheelchair Ramps- Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church, contact Deek Decker at 864-356-2135 docdeek0@yahoo.com (the 0 in this address is the number zero) or John Beattie, 864 280-5008

UNITED WAY- 4 Leas Courtyard Dr (near Bountyland) Seneca.882-9743 Potential funding for ramps.

The Salvation Army- 100 Debra St. Seneca; 882-1160 Potential funding for ramps.

Rebuild Upstate - provides wheelchair ramps, floor/stair/roof repairs; plumbing/electric/HVAC work, and decking to low income homeowners focusing on veterans, seniors, the disabled, and families with children. Contact 603-2708 or rebuildupstate.org

Youth Services

South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation 1951 Wells Hwy, Seneca; 882-6669; hrs: 8:30-5 M-F. Helps qualified youth build self-esteem, learn teamwork, gain communication and leadership skills, prepare for employment success, and achieve independence. We work to help youth prepare for their futures and work towards securing and retaining competitive employment in a fun, yet structured, way.

Palmetto Youth Connections - Helps youth 17-24 obtain workforce training, GED & occupational skills. Emphasis on jobs, attending post-secondary or enlisting in the military. Supportive services/individual career coaching. Call 864-633-6354 (Karen)

On line resource guides:

oconee.myresourceguide.org

oconeefirststeps.org/community-resource-guide

Pickens County pickens.myresourceguide.org/resources

Anderson County myresourceguide.org/app/crg/resources

www.sc211.org

[Food Pantries of America - Welcome to FoodFinder!](#)

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Not just healthcare help but areas like food, housing, utilities:

<https://prismahealth.findhelp.com/>

Good evening Council members, County staff and citizens of Oconee County.

My name is Stephanie Blake. I have been employed with the State of South Carolina at SC Works in Seneca and have served on the board of Our Daily Bread for the past 8 years.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak about the Community Resource Associate position through the Oconee County Public Library System.

I have a unique perspective, as I have worked with those who are unemployed and seeking employment, those at risk of losing their homes, the homeless, individuals struggling with addiction...broken people with many barriers.

Four years ago, when Kerry Leeper-Brock was hired to be our Community Services Associate; it was a blessing from God. Finally, someone who can assist those citizens who inquire about barriers they are experiencing for whom I have no time to find resources. Someone who can sit down and speak with those who are losing hope because they have nowhere to turn for help. Someone who can peel back the deep layers to find the root cause of their issues. It already has been devastating to not be able to refer these citizens to Kerry any longer. Through her work, I have seen the homeless housed, the food insecure empowered and those wearing rags, clothed. When their issues are addressed, it becomes a hand up out of their situations and not just a handout anymore; they then have the potential to become productive, self-sufficient, tax-paying citizens. There is no one else in Oconee County who has the time it takes to work on these issues with her clients, but Kerry. Additionally, she has amassed an amazing portfolio of resources that exists nowhere else!!

I just don't know how these potentially life-threatening issues will be addressed now. The last gentleman I referred to her a few weeks ago was staying at Our Daily Rest. He came to the SC Works office; I assisted him with registering for SC Works and writing his resume. Before he left the office, he said, okay, now I need to know about housing options. Immediately I told him to visit Kerry at the Seneca Library on Wednesday at 2pm. The same statement I had made to many, many people over the years. Now we are all at a loss because she has not been available in that capacity. This is a necessary position that has alleviated so much suffering of the people you and I serve.

It is interesting to note that according to the latest statistics from my research, violent crime rates have dropped every year since 2022, according to Plain Crime's Oconee County, SC page. The rate has dropped every year since Kerry began her role as Community Resource Associate in 2022. We certainly owe Sheriff Mike, his deputies, Chief Bowling and his officers a huge thank you for placing themselves on the front lines daily while fighting crime. While I cannot prove there is a direct correlation between this decline and her

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service years, it is plausible that offering help to those in desperate circumstances has literally reduced the instances where people lose hope and snap under the pressure.

I am requesting that you continue this position housed through the Oconee Public Library System. At a meeting on August 11, 2026, at the Walhalla Library, a grant funding source for this position was presented and made available, so this will not require an additional salary in the budget. Again, no budgetary line item needed! This is a win/win for the City and County Councils, the library employees, **and every single citizen of Oconee County!**

Summary table (2020–2024 violent crime per 100K):

Year	Violent Crime Rate	Trend vs. 2020
2020	253.2	Baseline
2021	262.1	+3.5%
2022	~245–250	–3% to –5%
2023	~240–245	–3% to –5%
2024	220.1	–13.1%

If you need **exact annual property crime rates** for all years, the FBI Crime Data Explorer or PlainCrime’s Oconee County page can provide full decade-by-decade breakdowns.

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Services Provided by Community Resource Associate – January-June 2026

We served 43 individuals/families with 98 referrals made during this time. Of the 98 referrals, 53 were closed during this time. 37 of those closures received services from the agency to whom they were referred. We also provided 110+ internal services, like assisting with applications, providing translation, assisting with benefit literacy, providing case management, providing resources like toiletries, clothing, etc.

Some demographic breakdowns are below:

Demographics

Race	
<i>Asian</i>	0
<i>Black/African American</i>	6
<i>White</i>	37
<i>Other</i>	0
<i>Prefer Not to Report</i>	0
Ethnicity	
<i>Non-Hispanic or Latino</i>	25
<i>Hispanic or Latino</i>	18
<i>Unknown</i>	0
<i>Other</i>	0
<i>Prefer Not to Report</i>	0
Age	
<i><18</i>	1
<i>18-24</i>	6
<i>25-29</i>	2
<i>30-34</i>	5
<i>35-39</i>	5
<i>40-44</i>	8

45-49	2
50-54	3
55-59	5
60-64	3
65-69	2
70-74	0
75+	1
<i>Prefer Not to Report</i>	0

Gender

<i>Male</i>	9
<i>Female</i>	34
<i>Other</i>	0

In addition to our work with individuals and families, we held 31 programs/events during this 6-month period, including fourteen Mobile Clean of Heart shower days at Our Daily Bread, with a total of 241 showers provided. We hosted two free vision screenings put on by the Salem Lions Club (Walhalla & Salem OCPL branches) with a total of 38 people receiving free eye exams...of those more than 50% were referred to local eye doctors for exams and glasses provided by the Salem Lions Club. (Over 120 residents have been seen through this partnership between October 2025-August 2026, with plans for continued screenings at all 4 OCPL branch locations in the future.)

We also partnered with the South Carolina Department on Aging to have Dementia 101 and Dementia 201 programs at the Seneca OCPL branch this spring. Both of those sessions were well attended, with 16 people at each program. Also, through that program, some local caregivers were able to be referred to a local dementia caregiver support group that currently meets at the Clemson University Institute for Engaged Aging (IEA) at Oconee Memorial Hospital. That support group originally met at our Seneca OCPL branch for about 18 months. They only moved to the IEA because we only have one meeting room at our Seneca branch and they needed two rooms once they began providing activities for those with dementia in addition to the support group for the caregivers.

In addition, eight different health/mental health displays were exhibited in 2 different OCPL branches during that 6-month period. Each display had books that can be checked out as well as free handouts on the subject being featured.

Hello Kelly, hope all is well!

Yes, Kerry Leeper-Brock is our Community Resource Associate through the Oconee County Public Library system. She works with Virginia, who has become our housing expert. They typically meet with individuals needing assistance at the Seneca library every Wednesday at 2:00 PM. Kerry Leeper Brock kleeperbrock@oconeesc.com

I have attached the latest housing list provided by them this week.

Thank you for all you do!

Stephanie

From: Kelly Liston <kliston@collinsfamilyministries.org>

Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2026 2:06 PM

To: Blake, Stephanie <SBlake@dew.sc.gov>

Subject: Housing contact names

CAUTION: This email was sent from outside the agency, clicking on links could open malicious websites.

Hello Stephanie

When we met with you a couple of weeks ago you mentioned a name, Bridgette I believe, that helped with housing. You mentioned two other names that come into the library and Our Daily Bread. We called Bridgette to try to find contact information for the other two you mentioned and she did not have that information. Would you happen to have it? We have a young lady we are trying to help and would love for her to be able to speak/meet with either one of them.

Also, the woman that was in the meeting with us that works with the youth. Can you provide her name and contact information as well? I thought I had it in my notes but cannot find it.

Thank you!

Kelly Liston

SHINE at Collins Program Founder

Collins Family Ministries

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 (864) 882-0893

 kliston@collinschildrenshome.org

 collinsfamilyministries.org/

 110 Collins Home Drive, Seneca, SC 29672

"Collins Home Family Ministries is a U.S. tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

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OCONEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



415 SOUTH PINE STREET
WALHALLA, SC 29691

Mike Crenshaw, Sheriff



Jennifer Adams
Oconee County Clerk to Council
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

September 8th, 2026

Jennifer,

This letter serves as notification that the Oconee County Sheriff's Office has received and approved your Freedom of Information Act request, received by e-mail on Thursday, August 27th, 2026, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann § 30-4-10 *et seq.*, requesting:

Access to and copies of public records maintained by the Oconee County Sheriff's Office for the following records, in each case covering the period from January 1st, 2021 through December 31st, 2024:

- The complete Organization Audit and Network Audit logs for the Oconee County Flock account for the life of the account, in the native electronic export format available from the Flock platform, with all fields intact, including license plate numbers;
- All monthly audit reports or reviews of license plate reader searches conducted by the Sheriff's Office;
- The Sheriff's Office request to the South Carolina Attorney General for an opinion concerning Council's audit log request, together with any response; and
- Invoices, payments records, and records identifying the fund or funding source used to pay for the Flock account.

The request is currently being processed. **This approval letter relates to all non-exempt, publicly available documents and records that are pursuant to your request and based upon the criteria provided.** This letter serves as the final opinion of the Oconee County Sheriff's Office as to the public availability of the requested public record, however, the determination is not required to include a final decision, or express an opinion, as to whether specific portions of the documents or information may be subject to redaction according to exemptions provided for by Section 30-4-40 or other state or federal laws. Under S.C. Code

Ann. § 30-4-30(2)(C), documents and records that are less than 24 months old will be furnished, or made available, no later than 30 calendar days from the date that the final determination is provided, which is today, Tuesday, September 8th, 2026, while documents and records that are more than twenty-four months old will be furnished, or made available, no later than thirty-five calendar days from the date on which the final determination is provided, which is today, Tuesday, September 8th, 2026. If, however, additional time is needed to fulfill the request, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office will notify you and will seek an "extension by written mutual agreement" and FOIA provides that "this agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld (S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-30(C)).

In response to wording in your request requesting an estimate of fees associated with fulfilling this request, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office will be assessing reasonable fees, for requests made under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, not to exceed the actual cost of the search, retrieval and redaction of records under S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-30(B). The Sheriff's Office will notify you when the documents and records are available and will notify you if any fees are assessed. You will also receive a final letter as it relates to exemptions under the law for redacted information on the non-exempt, publicly available documents and records produced. Since reasonable fees will be assessed for the search, retrieval and redaction of records, you will also receive an invoice, which will need to be paid in full, before any of the non-exempt, publicly available documents and records is produced.

Based upon a preliminary review of the records requested, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office has approximately 27,059 searches in the Flock system, dating from February of 2022 to the present. In order to determine if each search is an open or closed case, each record will have to be searched individually. Factors to be considered, in each review, include whether juveniles are connected to the search, whether an expungement order has been issued by the court, whether a search is related to the Evidence Preservation Act, or whether a case has been fully adjudicated in court.

The review will take at least 10 minutes per record. Based on our review, a preliminary number of hours to complete the search, retrieval and redaction of records will take 4,509 hours. The Oconee County Sheriff's Office charges \$18.96 per hour, which is the lowest rate of an employee capable of fulfilling the request. The Sheriff's Office estimated cost is \$85,490.64, with anticipation that additional time will be needed in order to fulfill the request. For example, one employee working 40 hours per week on this request would need more one year to fulfill this request.

The Oconee County Sheriff's Office, in an effort to be transparent, and to address citizen privacy concerns, will begin a process of searching the records that contain tag numbers. This is estimated to be approximately 8,000 searches. After a determination has been made on each case that is closed, the Sheriff's Office will release the tag numbers searched and publish them on the Oconee County Sheriff's Office website at oconeelaw.com. We will again ask for time to complete this request as an employee, working 40 hours a week, will need approximately seven months to complete this task.

In lieu of the Oconee County Council receiving an electronic copy of any redacted record, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office will allow Oconee County Council the right to inspect the requested redacted records under S.C. Code § 30-4-30(A)(1), in accordance with reasonable rules concerning time and place of access. Under an agreement to allow Oconee County Council

the right to inspect the redacted records, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office will assess any fees pertaining to the search, retrieval and redaction of records. The Oconee County Sheriff's Office will also assess copying fees for physical copies of the requested redacted record, during inspection, under S.C Code Ann. § 30-4-30(B).

Please be advised that according to SC Code Ann § 30-2-50, any use of public records for commercial solicitation is prohibited and is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$500 or one year in jail or both.

Sincerely,



Michael L. Crenshaw
Sheriff
Oconee County

Corporal Jimmy Watt

Corporal Jimmy Watt
Public Information Officer

OONEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



415 SOUTH PINE STREET
WALHALLA, SC 29691

Mike Crenshaw, Sheriff



Jennifer Adams
Oconee County Clerk to Council
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

September 8th, 2026

Jennifer,

This letter serves as notification that the Oconee County Sheriff's Office has received and approved your Freedom of Information Act request, received by e-mail on Thursday, August 27th, 2026, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann § 30-4-10 *et seq.*, requesting:

Access to and copies of public records maintained by the Oconee County Sheriff's Office for the following records, in each case covering the period from January 1st, 2025 through the date of the response:

- The complete Organization Audit and Network Audit logs for the Oconee County Flock account for the life of the account, in the native electronic export format available from the Flock platform, with all fields intact, including license plate numbers;
- All monthly audit reports or reviews of license plate reader searches conducted by the Sheriff's Office;
- The Sheriff's Office request to the South Carolina Attorney General for an opinion concerning Council's audit log request, together with any response; and
- Invoices, payments records, and records identifying the fund or funding source used to pay for the Flock account.

The request is currently being processed. **This approval letter relates to all non-exempt, publicly available documents and records that are pursuant to your request and based upon the criteria provided.** This letter serves as the final opinion of the Oconee County Sheriff's Office as to the public availability of the requested public record, however, the determination is not required to include a final decision, or express an opinion, as to whether specific portions of the documents or information may be subject to redaction according to exemptions provided for by Section 30-4-40 or other state or federal laws. Under S.C. Code

Ann. § 30-4-30(2)(C), documents and records that are less than 24 months old will be furnished, or made available, no later than 30 calendar days from the date that the final determination is provided, which is today, Tuesday, September 8th, 2026, while documents and records that are more than twenty-four months old will be furnished, or made available, no later than thirty-five calendar days from the date on which the final determination is provided, which is today, Tuesday, September 8th, 2026. If, however, additional time is needed to fulfill the request, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office will notify you and will seek an "extension by written mutual agreement" and FOIA provides that "this agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld (S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-30(C)).

In response to wording in your request requesting an estimate of fees associated with fulfilling this request, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office will be assessing reasonable fees, for requests made under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, not to exceed the actual cost of the search, retrieval and redaction of records under S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-30(B). The Sheriff's Office will notify you when the documents and records are available and will notify you if any fees are assessed. You will also receive a final letter as it relates to exemptions under the law for redacted information on the non-exempt, publicly available documents and records produced. Since reasonable fees will be assessed for the search, retrieval and redaction of records, you will also receive an invoice, which will need to be paid in full, before any of the non-exempt, publicly available documents and records is produced.

Based upon a preliminary review of the records requested, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office has approximately 27,059 searches in the Flock system, dating from February of 2022 to the present. In order to determine if each search is an open or closed case, each record will have to be searched individually. Factors to be considered, in each review, include whether juveniles are connected to the search, whether an expungement order has been issued by the court, whether a search is related to the Evidence Preservation Act, or whether a case has been fully adjudicated in court.

The review will take at least 10 minutes per record. Based on our review, a preliminary number of hours to complete the search, retrieval and redaction of records will take 4,509 hours. The Oconee County Sheriff's Office charges \$18.96 per hour, which is the lowest rate of an employee capable of fulfilling the request. The Sheriff's Office estimated cost is \$85,490.64, with anticipation that additional time will be needed in order to fulfill the request. For example, one employee working 40 hours per week on this request would need more one year to fulfill this request.

The Oconee County Sheriff's Office, in an effort to be transparent, and to address citizen privacy concerns, will begin a process of searching the records that contain tag numbers. This is estimated to be approximately 8,000 searches. After a determination has been made on each case that is closed, the Sheriff's Office will release the tag numbers searched and publish them on the Oconee County Sheriff's Office website at oconeelaw.com. We will again ask for time to complete this request as an employee, working 40 hours a week, will need approximately seven months to complete this task.

In lieu of Oconee County Council receiving an electronic copy of any redacted record, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office will allow Oconee County Council the right to inspect the requested redacted records under S.C. Code § 30-4-30(A)(1), in accordance with reasonable rules concerning time and place of access. Under an agreement to allow Oconee County Council

the right to inspect the redacted records, the Oconee County Sheriff's Office will assess any fees pertaining to the search, retrieval and redaction of records. The Oconee County Sheriff's Office will also assess copying fees for physical copies of the requested redacted record, during inspection, under S.C Code Ann. § 30-4-30(B).

Please be advised that according to SC Code Ann § 30-2-50, any use of public records for commercial solicitation is prohibited and is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$500 or one year in jail or both.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "mil Crenshaw", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael L. Crenshaw
Sheriff
Oconee County

Corporal Jimmy Watt

Corporal Jimmy Watt
Public Information Officer

From: [Casey Bowling](#)
To: [Jennifer C. Adams](#)
Cc: [Bo Bowman](#); [Scott Moulder](#)
Subject: Seneca PD FOIA request
Date: Thursday, September 10, 2026 11:57:27 AM



Dear Jennifer,

The City of Seneca is in receipt of your FOIA request dated, and received, August 27, 2026, and has determined that it will make the requested records available to Oconee County subject to the following:

(a) the complete Organization Audit and Network Audit logs with all fields intact, agreements with Flock Group, Inc., or any other license plate reader vendor;

The City asserts that the request for the Organization Audit and Network Audit logs is overly broad and unduly burdensome. If the logs were to be produced as requested, they would require significant redactions to remove information exempt from disclosure pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-40(a)(3)(A). This would constitute an extremely time consuming and labor intensive undertaking, particularly given the voluminous nature of the logs and the County's request that unique identifiers be used for each individual redaction. As a result, it would be challenging to even begin to estimate the costs associated with such redactions.

However, the City desires to be fully transparent with the County regarding its use of any license plate reader system. The City is operating under the good-faith assumption that the County is requesting the responsive Audit logs for a legitimate governmental purpose. Accordingly, if the County is willing to provide explicit written assurance that the Audit logs received will only be used by Oconee County employees and/or Oconee County officials for legitimate and official Oconee County governmental purposes, and that the Organization Audit and Network Audit logs will not be disseminated, distributed, or otherwise disclosed to any third party in any manner without the prior written consent of the City, the City will agree to provide copies of the unredacted Audit logs to the County in an electronic format. Should the County subsequently desire to disseminate, disclose, distribute, or otherwise share the Organization Audit and Network Audit logs, or any of the detailed information or data contained therein, after receipt of the same, the County must agree to give the City the opportunity to redact all information exempt from disclosure pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-40(a)(3)(A) and any other applicable exemption prior to such dissemination, distribution, or disclosure. All costs for said redactions would be borne by the County.

The City will provide copies of all agreements that the City has entered into with Flock Group, Inc., and/or any other license plate reader vendor in an electronic format.

(b) all monthly audit reports or reviews of license plate reader searches conducted by the City of Seneca or the Seneca Police Department;

The City will provide the requested records in an electronic format.

(c) invoices, payment records, and records identifying the fund or funding source used to pay

for the license plate reader system; and

The City will provide the requested records in an electronic format.

(d) all correspondence concerning data sharing with the Oconee County Sheriff's Office or any other agency.

The City will provide the requested records in an electronic format.

I trust that you will find these responses fair and reasonable and in compliance with all applicable laws. Upon receipt of written assurance from the County agreeing to the conditions set forth in response to request (a) above, the City will produce the requested Audit logs. Should you have any questions or should you desire to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me, or the City Attorney, Bo Bowman, who I have copied on this email, directly.

Chief Casey Bowling
Seneca Police Department
320 Shiloh Road Unit A
Seneca, South Carolina 29678
864-888-0852



Town of Salem

5A Park Ave. Salem SC 29676
Phone 864-944-2819
Fax 864-944-7795

Mayor: Lynn Towe
Council: Kevin Talley – Mayor Pro Tem
James Barker
Judy Hines
Russell Patterson

August 31, 2026

Dear Oconee County Council,

The Town of Salem does not own, lease, maintain, or have any agreement or contracts with Flock Group, Inc. or any other LPR or any other LPR vendors.

Sincerely,
Mayor Lynn Towe and
Salem Town Council

Town of Salem
5-A Park Avenue
Salem SC 29676
864-944-2819

Town of Salem

Police Department

5A Park Ave. Salem S.C. 29676

Ken Scott Peterson

Chief of Police



Office: 864-944-2819

fax: 864-944-7795

August 31, 2026

To: Jennifer C. Adams

Clerk to Council Oconee County

County Council Members.

From: Chief Ken Scott Peterson

Town of Salem Police Department

5A Park Ave. Salem SC 29676

The Town of Salem Police Department does not own, lease, maintain, or have any agreement or contracts with Flock Group, Inc. or any other LPR vendors. During the requested time frame the Salem Police Department has never requested any information be entered into or searched for, from the Oconee County Sheriff's Office or any other Agency related to the Flock Camera system or any other LPR program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Ken Scott Peterson, written in black ink, over a horizontal line.

Chief Ken Scott Peterson



CITY OF WALHALLA

Main Street to the Mountains

September 8, 2026

Jennifer Adams
Oconee County Clerk of Council
415 S Pine St.
Walhalla, SC 29691

Tim Hall
Mayor

David Underwood
Mayor Pro Tem

Jessie Bunning
Councilwoman

Chris Grant
Councilman

Lynn McClain
Councilwoman

Sarai Melendez
Councilwoman

Michael Kozlarek
City Attorney

David Poulson
City Administrator

Re: Automated License Plate Reader Systems

Per your request for information on Automated License Plate Reader Systems, the City of Walhalla and Walhalla Police Department do not possess any of the following:

1. Agreements with license plate reader vendors
2. License plate reader searches, nor reports of such searches
3. Funding or payment of license plate reader systems, current or proposed
4. Correspondence concerning data sharing with OCSO.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ed Halbig".

Ed Halbig
Walhalla City Clerk