



SPRING 2023 AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

Westminster Catawba Christian School is a private college-preparatory day school located in Rock Hill, South Carolina that was established in 1993 after the merger of Catawba Academy and Westminster Presbyterian Church. WCCS has been educating students in preschool through 12th grade and expanded to include early childhood classes in 2016. Their mission is to educate students to bless the world as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Educating students to bless our world as disciples of Jesus Christ



WESTMINSTER CATAWBA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



This spring, USCB student Kathryn Rodriguez (Human Services major) had the opportunity to intern at Westminster Catawba Christian School. One of her roles was to chaperone WCCS's junior class trip to St. Augustine, Florida. During this trip, the junior class was able to experience some of our nation's history they have learned in the classroom, had time to bond with classmates and form new friendships.

Kathryn was able to share her experience on the trip with the Sand Shark Sound: "Interning at WCCS has been a wonderful experience where I have been able to practice and observe many human services skills. I have spent this semester

working on building connections among elementary aged students through high school, but it

has been tough since I am not always around campus. This trip allowed me not only to connect with the junior class, but to observe how students their age network and process their surroundings. I was very impressed with how much the students loved to joke around but were also able to pull it together and be respectful. I also had a handful of opportunities to observe the teacher chaperones navigate social problems that arose between students as well as practice guiding group discussions myself. My internship has given me the opportunity to put many of the skills I am learning through the program to practice and has aided towards my growth as a competent and professional service worker.

**Photo Left to right: Jake Tassy (agency supervisor), Deanne Regier (teacher chaperone), Kathryn Rodriguez (USCB HMSV intern), and Zach Holz (teacher chaperone) in front of the Castillo de San Marcos fort in St. Augustine, FL.



During the spring 2023 semester, USCB student, Jessica Beasley (Human Services major), has had the opportunity to intern at Hopeful Horizons. As part of her internship, she was able to be a part of Hopeful Horizon's Race4Love 5k event, an annual race and walk fundraiser. Jessica Beasley kindly shared her experience with the *Sand Shark Sound*: "I am a senior with USC-B and currently pursuing my bachelor's in human services. I am serving my third internship with Hopeful Horizons, a nonprofit that advocates against child abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault. USC-Beaufort Human Services Program provides me the opportunity to receive real life field experience before entering the workforce as a Human Services graduate. On February 11, 2023, I served in the

community to support victims/survivors of abuse at Hopeful Horizons' 11th Annual Race4Love. I assisted in setting up and maintaining the raffle station. Several gifts were donated by the community and raffled off to raise money to help Hopeful Horizons advocate for victims/survivors of abuse."

**Photo Left: Jessica Beasley (USC-B Student), Mia DeBardelaben (Legal Department Court Advocate), Myrna Cruz (Finance Director)

SCYAP

South Carolina Youth Advocate Program



USCB Human Service student, Reese Cripe, has spent her spring internship at the South Carolina Youth Advocate Program (SCYAP). SCYAP is a foster care placement agency that also provides mental health services for at risk youths. The organization has locations in Charleston, Beaufort, Columbia, Florence, Myrtle Beach, and Greenville. Reese had this to share about her experience: “I worked closely this semester with the mental health side helping to manage their psychiatric

program. SCYAP mental health clinic asserts to ‘help the individual, family, or group achieve and maintain stability and improve their mental and emotional health’. SCYAP offers face-to-face sessions in the office, telehealth (depending on appropriateness), and in-home services. The psychiatric program is unique in that all the psychiatrists are based out of the Columbia office and can provide tele psych services throughout the state from the satellite offices.

What stands out about doing this type of human service work throughout the community is the drive the workers have to better their clients and families. The paperwork involved with working under a Medicaid manual appears to always be a barrier; but the employees understand it, take it on, and run their way past that barrier giving help to a demographic who rarely receives sustainable and appropriate services. I am thankful for my time here at SCYAP and have learned so much about what this fantastic agency has to offer.”

**Photo of Emily Holland (admin) and Dan Brees (therapist) discussing scheduling for the upcoming week.

The Donning of the Kente



The Donning of the Kente is an African-Inspired Rite of Passage held recently on the Bluffton campus and hosted by the African American Student Association (AASA). The Donning is designed to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments of students who helped enhance the USCB community by promoting diversity and inclusion. The ceremony aims to recognize and encourage graduating club members of the AASA as they embark on the next steps in their journeys.

The Kente cloth is a visual representation of African history, philosophy, moral values, political thought, and aesthetic principles – an acknowledgement and celebration of

rich African ancestry. The cloth signifies the wearer's pledge to make the world a more just and loving place and to help those who will follow in their footsteps.

Recipients of the Kente included: JaNiyah Beaver (Nursing Honors, **Jarria Brewer (Human Services)**), Tyreek Ferguson (Business Administration), Sarah Middleton (Business Administration), Raven Nelson (English), Khaylin Pinkney (Public Health, and Kevea Sanders (Nursing). Highlights of the event included a traditional Libation Offering and the signing of "Lift Every Voice and Sing" by Daryl Orage, and an inspiring keynote address by Dr. Jalen Maxell Manor of the USCB Department of Nursing and Health Professions.

Alumni Spotlight: ZaNiiya Gerald



USCB alumni, ZaNiiya Gerald, recently reached out regarding her career success and had this to share about USCB's human service program: "I currently work with mental health patients in a Lexington center, helping them with searching and preparing for job placements as well as supporting them once on their job. I am super grateful for what the Human Services program has done for me and am ready to continue the journey."

- USCB Human Services major – Class of 2022

Save the Date! HSSO Service Project

Stay tuned for more information regarding the Human Service Student Organization service project for the Spring/Summer semester!

When: July 15th

Where: James Island Town Hall

Bachelor of Science Human Services

Spring & Summer 2023 Graduates

Brianna M. Abney

Jeimy Argueta – *Cum Laude*

Jessica J. Beasley

Richard Ray Bennett – *Magna Cum Laude*

Ashley Michelle Bennett

Angel Brace

Janaya Monet Frazier

Leticia N. Gonzalez

Mytia Jackson

Katherine Marion Anne Laban

Sealey Williams Mackey – *Summa Cum Laude*

Lesley Marshall

Shania Christena Riddy

Kathryn Ennis Rodriguez

Keyira Smith

Payton M. Vollman

Destini' Mia Washington

Kayla Amore Zook