

# **South Carolina State Profile**

**Building Resilient Inclusive Communities** 

#### **Overview**

Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) is a program of the <u>National Association of Chronic Disease Directors</u> (NACDD) <u>Center for Advancing Healthy Communities</u>. NACDD and its more than 7,000 Members seek to improve the health of the public by strengthening leadership and expertise for chronic disease prevention and control in states, territories, and at the national level. Established in 1988, in partnership with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), NACDD is the only membership association of its kind serving and representing every state and U.S. territory's chronic disease division.

In collaboration with the CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity (DNPAO) and the Division of Population Health (DPH), and a team of nationally recognized experts, NACDD is providing funding to 20 states (including 15 DNPAO SPAN-funded states and five DNPAO Ambassador states) to implement BRIC at both a state and local level. As part of the program, states are engaging more than 60 communities to address food and nutrition security, safe physical activity access, and social connectedness through policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) change strategies. Social determinants of health, health equity, and social justice principles are integrated into the planning and implementation of all three strategy areas, in addition to accounting for the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on groups at highest risk.

The initial project period was Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021; an additional year of funding was awarded in 2021 and again in 2022, expanding the project period to Dec. 31, 2023. These profiles represent the state- and community-level activities planned by each BRIC state.

Learn more about the BRIC program or e-mail BRICinfo@chronicdisease.org.

## **State-Level Activities**

## Overarching

- Communicate with the Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina to support the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP).
- Establish partnership with Social Carolina Office of Rural Health.
- Serve on the Administrative Core Team for the South Carolina Roadmap to Address Social Determinants of Health.

#### Food and Nutrition Security

- Establish partnership with FoodShare South Carolina to expand and support infrastructure for FoodShare hubs in each of the selected BRIC communities.
- Explore the opportunity for FoodShare South Carolina to accept Women, Infants and Children (WIC) as a payment option statewide.
- Serve as faculty on the South Carolina Roadmap to Food Security Learning Collaborative.
- Align BRIC food and nutrition security efforts with relevant state-level food and nutrition security
  efforts including Healthy Palmetto Leadership Council, South Carolina Roadmap to Food
  Security Team, and South Carolina Food Policy Council.





#### Safe Physical Activity Access

- Participate in and provide a public health and health equity voice to the South Carolina Department of Transportation State Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Committee.
- Communicate and collaborate with other state-level partners working on physical activity access in the four BRIC communities to align efforts. Partners include South Carolina Office of Rural Health, Wholespire, South Carolina Hospital Association, and Clemson University.
- Align BRIC physical activity access efforts with relevant state-level physical activity efforts including Healthy Palmetto Leadership Council, South Carolina Department of Transportation State Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Committee, and South Carolina Food Policy Council Planning and Transportation Committee.

## Social Connectedness

- Work with South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Alliance for a
  Healthier South Carolina, and South Carolina Department on Aging to inform SHIP and State
  Plan on Aging (existing and upcoming) as it relates to BRIC strategies.
- Establish/expand partnerships with American Association of Retired Persons South Carolina and South Carolina Department on Aging that focus on senior populations.
- Provide Walk with Ease training and resources to at least two senior service providers in each BRIC community.

## **Community-Level Activities (All Rural)**

## **Dillon County**

Food and Nutrition Security (Reaching an estimated 499 residents)

- Establish a FoodShare hub to expand distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables throughout Dillon County.
- Purchase refrigeration/storage for each community FoodShare hub.
- Recruit and train community champions to build trust in underserved communities.
- Reexamine existing food access support services to ensure they reach and address the needs
  of underserved communities and individuals with disabilities and host community listening
  sessions.

## Safe Physical Activity Access (Reaching an estimated 2,096 residents)

Based on strategic planning process results, install wayfinding signage to connect Pages
Millpond with two other recreational areas (Hilltop and Centennial Park) in the Town of Lake
View.

## Social Connectedness

- Expand the South Carolina Department on Aging digital literacy training initiative.
- Recruit and train community champions to build trust in underserved communities.

#### **Marlboro County**

Food and Nutrition Security (Reaching an estimated 808 residents)

- Establish a FoodShare hub to expand distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Assist with expansion and reach of the existing Marlboro FoodShare hub.
- Purchase refrigeration/storage for each community FoodShare hub.
- Recruit and train community champions to build trust in underserved communities.



Reexamine existing food access support services to ensure they reach and address the needs
of underserved communities and individuals with disabilities, and host community listening
sessions.

## **Lee County**

## Food and Nutrition Security (Reaching an estimated 3,433 residents)

- Assess community needs to ensure the voices of underserved populations are heard and engaged in decision-making.
- Establish a FoodShare hub to expand distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Assist with expansion and reach of the existing Lee FoodShare hub.
- Purchase refrigeration/storage for each community FoodShare hub.

## Safe Physical Activity Access (Reaching an estimated 3,246 residents)

- Install portable recreation/fitness equipment suitable for all ages and abilities, especially seniors to engage with each other and their grandchildren, at the Lee County Council on Aging in Bishopville
- Review existing plans and progress, and conduct community needs assessment, including listening sessions, related to safe physical activity, food and nutrition security, and social connectedness, as needed, to ensure all voices are heard and part of planning and decision making.
- Partner with Clemson University High Obesity Program and partners to re-evaluate needs, existing resources, and community assets related to safe physical activity access.
- Review existing Santee-Lynches Council of Governments (COG) Comprehensive Plan and engage COG in a discussion to identify improvements to existing community physical activity access.
- Community will identify and implement at least one improvement based on assessment.

#### Social Connectedness

- Assess community needs to ensure the voices of underserved populations are heard and engaged in decision-making.
- Incorporate social connectedness into food and nutrition security and physical activity access efforts.
- Expand the South Carolina Department on Aging digital literacy training initiative.

#### **Williamsburg County**

#### Food and Nutrition Security (Reaching an estimated 2.510 residents)

- Assess community needs to ensure the voices of underserved populations are heard and engaged in decision-making.
- Increase the reach of food pantries, especially in high need areas.
- Establish a FoodShare hub to expand distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Assist with expansion and reach of the existing Williamsburg FoodShare hub.
- Purchase refrigeration/storage for each community FoodShare hub.

#### Safe Physical Activity Access (Reaching an estimated 3,458 residents)

- Led by youth, enhance walking trail in downtown Kingstree with the addition of trail markings; create and distribute a walking map.
- Led by Williamsburg County Recreation, Buildings, and Grounds, enhance existing walking trail through signage, benches, and outdoor fitness stations in Kingstree.



- As part of the Donnelly Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative and led by the Waccamaw Economic Opportunity Council, enhance existing walking paths with the addition of portable and accessible recreation equipment and benches as well as signage and outreach campaign targeting seniors.
- Build upon improvements to sidewalks, trails, and parks by conducting an environmental scan/assessment of safe and equitable access to physical activity.
- Identify parks in up to five underserved areas across the county Trio, Lane, Nesmith, Greeleyville, and Cades.
- In collaboration with Williamsburg County Community Coalition; Williamsburg County Recreation, Buildings, and Grounds; and Williamsburg Sherriff's Department, assess improvements to existing spaces using community park audit tool or other data collection tool.
- Purchase and install necessary equipment for park improvements/enhancements. The community will consider and evaluate the feasibility of use by older adult populations and people with disabilities to also address social connectedness outcomes.

## Social Connectedness (Reaching an estimated 6,915 residents)

- Develop a Memorandum of Understanding between Vital Aging, Boys and Girls Club of Hemingway, and other community partners to create opportunities for social connectedness including youth and senior art projects, meal delivery, and note writing.
- Vital Aging of Williamsburg County will prioritize opportunities for social connectedness, as senior centers begin to re-open, including gardening, quilting circles, and opportunities for recreation at the Greeleyville Wellness Center and the Kingstree Wellness Center.
- Strengthen and build new partnerships to address social connectedness; include listening sessions with community members.

## **Health Equity**

South Carolina is putting many actions into place to assure that health equity is at the
forefront of all SC BRIC efforts. These include having the DHEC Public Health Director of
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion serve on the SC BRIC State Planning Committee;
developing GIS mapping showing census/zip code level data for the four BRIC
communities, focusing on FoodShare which accepts SNAP and Healthy Bucks; and
assuring that health equity is integral to the micro-grant process for physical activity
access and social connectedness and community action planning process.



#### **Contact Information**

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