# WHAT'S HAPPENING













August 2024

## areSouth Carolina CEO Ann Lewis Honored at the Mary Dean Brewer Women of Distinction Awards



Nichole Gibson, Board Chair for the

CareSouth Carolina is proud to announce that its CEO, Ann Lewis, was recognized as one of the honorees at the prestigious Mary Dean Brewer Women of Distinction Awards held on July 20, 2024, at the Florence Country Club.

The Mary Dean Brewer Women of Distinction Awards, presented by the Girls Scouts of Eastern South Carolina, celebrate women who have demonstrated significant achievements in their fields, made substantial Women of Distinction Committee, achievements in their fields, made substantial presents Ann Lewis, CEO the award. contributions to their communities, and serve as

positive role models. Ann Lewis, with her extensive contributions to community health and service, was a fitting recipient of this honor.

Ann Lewis has dedicated her life to improving community health through her work and volunteer efforts on local, state, and national levels. Under her leadership, CareSouth Carolina has grown to encompass 13 state-of-the-art medical facilities providing comprehensive services across five Pee Dee counties.

Her commitment to community service is reflected in her involvement with numerous organizations, including the South Carolina Primary Health Association of which she is the Board Chairperson—and many others, including the Greater Pee Dee Champion Community, Hartsville Rotary Club, Coker College Board of Visitors, and the Darlington County Communities in Schools. On a state and national level, Ann is the founding president of the South Carolina Rural Health Association and a former president of the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association.

CareSouth Carolina extends its heartfelt congratulations to Ann Lewis and the other distinguished 2024 honorees, including Dr. Shirley K. Gamble, Ladell C. Grice, Tracy Robinson-Hughes, and Linda H. Weatherford.

Throughout her illustrious career spanning over four decades, Ann Lewis has received numerous accolades. These include the 2012 John Gilbert Award from the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) and the 2017 Champion Award from the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association (SCPHCA).

In 2024, Ann Lewis was further honored with the "Health Innovation Award" at the Foundation For Community Impact and Health Equity Inaugural Impact Awards Gala. Her vision and leadership have been instrumental in making CareSouth Carolina a beacon of community health and innovation.

#### **MEDICAL LOCATIONS:**

Hartsville • Society Hill • Bennettsville • Bishopville • Cheraw • Chesterfield • Dillon • Lake View • Latta • McColl PHARMACY LOCATIONS:

Hartsville • Society Hill • Bennettsville • Bishopville • Cheraw • Latta • McColl• Chesterfield• Dillon To make an appointment, please call 843.309.8301. www.caresouth-carolina.com



## Back to School: Make Sure Your Child Is Up-To-Date On Their Immunizations



IMMUNIZATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR KIDS ENTERING KINDERGARTEN AND 7TH GRADE.

August marks the observance of National Immunization Awareness Month, a time dedicated to highlighting the importance of vaccinations for people of all ages.

This annual event underscores the critical role that immunizations play in protecting public health by preventing the spread of contagious diseases. As children prepare to return to school, ensuring they are up-to-date on their vaccinations is particularly vital. Immunizations safeguard not only the health of individual children but also contribute to the broader community's well-being by maintaining herd immunity.

With the start of the school year just around the corner, parents should take this opportunity to review their children's immunization records.



Schools often require proof of vaccinations for enrollment to help maintain a safe and healthy environment. Vaccines protect against diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella, and whooping cough, which can spread quickly in a school setting. Staying current with immunizations is a straightforward yet powerful way to keep children healthy and prevent outbreaks of preventable diseases.

CareSouth Carolina provides comprehensive pediatric services to ensure that children receive the necessary immunizations and healthcare they need.

To schedule an appointment, please call 1.843.309-8301.

### CareSouth Carolina Set To Celebrate National Health Center Week 2024



CareSouth Carolina is proud to celebrate National Health Center Week 2024, taking place August 4-10. The annual event highlights the essential role Community Health Centers play in improving public health and advancing health equity. Health centers represent the nation's largest primary care network, serving 31.5 million patients nationwide.

This year's NHCW celebration, launched by the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), focuses on "Powering Communities Through Caring Connections" through a host of scheduled events that include resource fairs, back-to-school drives, health screenings, and visits to health centers by local, state, and national leaders.

With a mission to make high-quality, affordable care available to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay or insurance status, health centers save lives on the front lines of our nation's most pressing public health challenges.

They are powered by a workforce of nearly 300,000 dedicated professionals who reach beyond the walls of the exam room to not only prevent illness but also address the social drivers that may cause it -- climate change, homelessness, substance use disorders, food insecurity and behavioral health.

For over 40 years, CareSouth Carolina has served as a medical home — a place where people can experience healing, caring relationships — regardless of their personal circumstance.

Nearly 1,500 health centers are the health care home to:

- One in 5 uninsured people
  - One in 3 people living in poverty
- One in 7 rural residents
- Nearly 9 million children
- 400,000 veterans

To learn more about the mission and accomplishments of health centers, visit www.nachc.org. You can learn more about NHCW and view listing of events at www.healthcenterweek.org. #NHCW24

ALL CARESOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
THE FOLLOWING DATES:

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024 - SITE MEETING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2024 - LABOR DAY