

What's Inside.....

P1 / Woodard Receives
Community Partnership Award

P2 / CareSouth Carolina
2023 Employees of Year

P3 / Lewis Elected
SCPHCA Chairperson

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2024

WINTER EDITION

CareSouth Carolina Announces Lathran J. Woodard with Community Partnership Award

CareSouth Carolina announces Lathran J. Woodard as the recipient of its prestigious Community Partnership Award. Ms. Woodard, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association (SCPHCA), has dedicated over 36 years to the advancement of healthcare and social justice in the state of South Carolina.

In her role as CEO of SCPHCA, Ms. Woodard has tirelessly worked to strengthen federally funded community health centers (FQHCs), ensuring they provide essential services to medically underserved communities. Her leadership has extended to overseeing critical programs such as the State Agricultural Worker Health Program and the SC Health Center Controlled Network.

Reflecting on her career, Woodard shared that she has been “blessed to walk” in her calling.



Lathran Woodard, CEO of South Carolina Primary Health Care Association is presented the Community Partnership Award by Ann Lewis, CEO of CareSouth Carolina.

“It’s the work we have been able to do as Health Centers and other partners,” she said. “To be able to look at the fruits of your work and see system changes that have actually occurred and to be around a group of people that say, ‘We can change things.’ It’s really been a progression since I first started. I’ve enjoyed it and have been blessed to walk in my calling, which meant learning about health care. This is just a seasonal change; I still plan to advocate for social justice and social equity.”

Speaking about her association with CareSouth Carolina, Woodard praised the organization for its patient-centric approach, saying, “I was so impressed with the staff because they didn’t look down on our patients, but they looked at them as human beings. I have gone the journey with CareSouth Carolina. Ann Lewis, CEO of CareSouth Carolina, who has been here since I have been, has really been an encouragement to me.”

As she embarks on her retirement, Woodard outlined her future plans, sharing she still intends to be involved in the future of health care across the state.

“My plan is to be even more outspoken regarding social justice and health equity,” Woodard said. “My plan is to continue to work with health centers in a consultant role to not only help their organization to keep them viable but also to improve their workforce. I have a heart and a passion for staff in health centers. We’re always looking at patients, but we also have to take care of our staff and the trauma that they are going through. When they see social injustice, it’s impacting them, so that’s going to be a major part of my next season.”

CareSouth Carolina Announces Employees of the Year for 2023



CareSouth Carolina proudly recognizes the exceptional contributions of its employees by announcing the recipients of the Employees of the Year award, April Davis, LPN, and Levina Brown, FNP, who work together in the Rosa Lee Gerald office in Society Hill.

“I was shocked. Even when Tamara came for Employee of the Month, that was shocking,” Davis said. “We just do what we can for our patients. We’re not looking for awards or a spotlight. We just want to care for them. We [Ms. Brown and herself] have a different patient base than other providers. Our patients are part of the Medication Assisted Treatment program and may have other conditions, as well, such and they see us quite often. They become a part of our family.”

(L to R) Levina Brown, FNP & April Davis, LPN

Davis and Brown, as outstanding individuals, form a dynamic team that collaborates seamlessly to provide the highest level of care for their patients. Beyond their professional responsibilities, both exemplify the core values of CareSouth Carolina and are true embodiments of the organization’s Vision and Mission.

Both recipients consistently go above and beyond the call of duty, showcasing genuine compassion and empathy for their patients. Their commitment extends beyond routine office visits, reflecting the ethos of CareSouth Carolina in delivering holistic and patient-centered healthcare.

April Davis and Ms. Brown’s extraordinary dedication was further highlighted in their compassionate care for a terminally ill hospice patient. The patient, who has since passed away, had only his daughter as a support system. April provided the patient with her personal cell phone, ensuring he could maintain contact with Ms. Brown, despite the patient residing in Lancaster, SC. Although the patient had a hospice nurse, he had been seeing Ms. Brown and April for almost 10 years and felt comfort in their care.

Sylvia McKoy Watts, APR, FNP-BC, Bids Farewell After More Than 20 Years at CareSouth Carolina



CareSouth Carolina recently announced the retirement of Sylvia McKoy Watts, FNP-BC a highly esteemed Family Nurse Practitioner whose illustrious career has left an indelible mark on the field of healthcare.

Over the course of her career, Sylvia dedicated her expertise to various healthcare settings, with a primary focus on Family Medicine. Her impactful contributions were felt at the Chesterfield Clinic Corp in Bennettsville, SC, Maxton Family Practice in Maxton, NC, and notably at CareSouth Carolina in McColl, SC, where she began her tenure in October 2002.

Throughout her time at CareSouth Carolina, Sylvia’s compassionate care and unwavering dedication to improving the health and well-being of her patients earned her a special place in the hearts of the McColl community.

Sylvia Watts, FNP-BC

“Having a connection with the community and my patients, seeing generations of families, and helping in the rural setting have been the highlights of my time here,” Watts said. “Educating clients to take care of themselves and their families has been a rewarding experience. I’m officially a great-grandmother, and it’s time to go home and enjoy my family, travel, and do the things that I have put aside until this point.”

Sylvia McKoy Watts’ retirement marks the conclusion of a remarkable 47-year career in the medical field. Her legacy as a Family Nurse Practitioner, coupled with her dedication to patients and the community, will leave a lasting impact.

“Sylvia has been such a cornerstone to our services in McColl - she will be missed. But we wish her the very best in her retirement,” CareSouth Carolina CEO Ann Lewis said.

“Sylvia McKoy Watts is loved and respected by her patients,” CareSouth Carolina McColl Site Administrator, Pat Graham said. “She will be greatly missed by her patients and co-workers. She always speaks the truth in love. I have had the pleasure of working with her for over 15 years and I know firsthand the care she gives her patients, as I have been one of them. We are happy for her but sad for us. We wish her the best as she moves on, but will absolutely miss her.”

CareSouth Carolina extends its deepest gratitude to Sylvia McKoy Watts for her exemplary service and wishes her a fulfilling and joyous retirement.



CareSouth Carolina offices will be closed in observance of MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY on Monday, January 15, 2024.

CareSouth Carolina CEO Ann Lewis elected as SCPHCA Chairperson



CareSouth Carolina CEO Ann Lewis has been elected as the Chairperson of the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association (SCPHCA).

The South Carolina Primary Health Care Association serves as the unifying organization for Community Health Centers (CHCs) in the state. Established in 1964, CHCs are integral components of the healthcare landscape, providing comprehensive, high-quality, and patient-focused services in a culturally appropriate manner.

Ann Lewis, CEO These community-based, non-profit organizations play a crucial role in improving the health status of their communities, offering primary care, prevention, education, and case management. Lewis played a vital role in helping establish the organization.

As the newly elected Chairperson of SCPHCA, Ann Lewis will contribute to the association's mission of providing a unified and supportive infrastructure that facilitates access to community-based primary, behavioral, and other healthcare services across South Carolina.

"I am honored to fill this position again," Lewis said. "This time of transition, as we welcome a new CEO and say our goodbyes to our long-time CEO, Lathan Woodard, will be filled with both opportunities and challenges. But I have every confidence that the SCPHCA will be a strong leader in whatever the future holds!"

Ann Lewis' extensive commitment to community service is evident through her involvement in various organizations, including the Greater Pee Dee Champion Community, the Hartsville Rotary Club, Coker College Board of Visitors, Darlington County Communities in Schools, and many more. She has served as the CEO of CareSouth Carolina for over 40 years, contributing to the organization's mission as a medical home where people can experience healing and caring relationships.

Lewis' accolades include being the founding president of the South Carolina Rural Health Association and a former president of the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association. She received the 2012 John Gilbert Award from the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) and The Champion Award from the South Carolina Primary Healthcare Association in 2017, recognizing her longstanding excellence, leadership, and commitment to community health.

CareSouth Carolina's Jeri Andrews, Ann Lewis, and Joe Bittle join state leaders for 11th Annual Telehealth Summit

Palmetto Care Connections recently concluded its 11th Annual Telehealth Summit of South Carolina, providing a platform for healthcare professionals to discuss and explore the impact of telehealth on rural communities. Jeri Andrews, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, Associate Medical Director at CareSouth Carolina, served as a keynote speaker for the event.

How Telehealth Impacts Rural Communities

The session delved into the significance of telehealth in rural areas, emphasizing that for many residents, it is not just a matter of convenience but a crucial means of care. Jeri Andrews, along with other healthcare leaders such as Graham Sullivan and Carolyn McClain, shared insights on the panel moderated by Graham Adams, PhD, Chief Executive Officer of the South Carolina Office of Rural Health.

"I am honored and excited to join a panel of other South Carolina rural healthcare leaders at Palmetto Care Connection's annual telehealth summit to discuss how telehealth impacts rural communities," Andrews said. "Here at CareSouth Carolina, we have been able to see firsthand how telehealth services have provided a means for patients to stay connected with their healthcare team when a face-to-face visit is not feasible or necessary."

In addition to Jeri Andrews, CareSouth Carolina CEO Ann Lewis and Chief of Community Health Joe Bittle, LBSW, MHA served as moderators for two other major panels during the summit.

CareSouth Carolina's Johnathan Davis, DC Voted Runner-Up for Best Chiropractor in the Pee Dee of South Carolina

CareSouth Carolina is proud to announce that Johnathan Davis, DC, a dedicated member of the CareSouth Carolina team, has been voted as the runner-up for the Best Chiropractor in the Pee Dee by the Post & Courier's Pee Dee Reader's Choice. Chiropractic health care, as provided by CareSouth Carolina, is based on the scientific fact that the nervous system controls the function of virtually every cell, tissue, organ, and system of the body.

"I'm honored to be nominated and recognized," said Davis. "I'm thankful to be able to serve the community and my patients. As a chiropractor, we work to restore normal function to the body, and it's a blessing to be able to serve patients across the Pee Dee region and beyond."

At CareSouth Carolina, Dr. Johnathan Davis and his team offer chiropractic services at our Hartsville and Latta Centers, diagnosing and treating musculoskeletal conditions. Patients interested in learning more about our chiropractic services can inquire at any of CareSouth Carolina's locations across the Pee Dee. The CareSouth Carolina staff will be happy to answer questions and share the benefits of chiropractic care.

To schedule an appointment or receive more information about any of our locations and services, please call the following numbers: 843.339.5520 for Hartsville and 843.339.5520 for Latta. The Hartsville office is located at 1268 South Fourth Street, and the Latta office is located at 122 Latimer Street.

Services:

Family Medicine
Pediatrics
Women's Care
Behavioral Health Counseling
Lab
IV Therapy
Internal Medicine
Radiology/Ultrasound
Chiropractic Care
Dental Care
Family Support Services
Substance Abuse Prevention Program
HIV/AIDS Primary Care
Infectious Diseases Primary Care
Senior Support Services
Community Pharmacy

Convenient Locations

Bennettsville Center
999 Cheraw Street
Bennettsville, SC 29512
843.479.2341

Bennettsville Pediatric Center
210 W. Main Street
Bennettsville, SC 29512
843.479.1200

Bennettsville Women's Center
1076 Marlboro Way Road, Suite 1
Bennettsville, SC 29512
843.454.2294

Bishopville Center
545 Sumter Highway
Bishopville, SC 29010
803.484.5317

Bishopville Pediatric Dental
101 Harris Street
Bishopville, SC 29010
866.815.9845

Cheraw Center
715 S. Doctors Drive Suite E
Cheraw, SC 29520
843.537.0961

Chesterfield Center
204 Perry Wiley Way
Chesterfield, SC 29709
843.623.5080

Dillon Center
1016 Old Latta Highway
Dillon, SC 29536
843.774.4337

Hartsville Center
1268 S. Fourth Street
Hartsville, SC 29550
843.332.3422
843.339.5520 Chiropractic

Lake View Center
103 N. Kemper Street
Lake View, SC 29563
843.759.2189

Latta Center
122 Latimer Street
Latta, SC 29565
843.627.6252

McColl Center
3080 Highway 15-401 E.
McColl, SC 29570
843.523.5751

Society Hill Center
737 S. Main Street
Society Hill, SC 29593
843.378.4501

Public Employee Health
Services - Marlboro County
100 Matheson Street
Bennettsville, SC 29512
843.456.7752

CSC Community Pharmacy Locations

HARTSVILLE
1280 South Fourth Street
843.339.5530

BENNETTSVILLE
999 Cheraw Street
843.456.7777

CHERAW
715 S. Doctors Drive, Suite A
843.865.4080

MCCOLL
3080 Highway 15-401 E.
843.523.6212

DILLON
1016 Old Latta Highway
843.627.7154

LATTA
122 Latimer Street
843.627.6261

BISHOPVILLE
545 Sumter Highway
803.588.7960

SOCIETY HILL
737 S. Main Street
843.378.4148

CHESTERFIELD
204 Perry Wiley Way
843.927.1030

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CareSouth Carolina's Jeri Andrews Talks With Harvard-Affiliated Mobile Health Map



Jeri Andrews,
FNP-C

CareSouth Carolina Associate Medical Director Jeri L. Andrews, FNP-C recently spoke with the Harvard-affiliated Mobile Health Map about CareSouth Carolina's work with mobile care in its community.

CareSouth Carolina's Moby Outreach program allows the organization to go out into the community and deliver our services everywhere- from community centers to churches to schools to store parking lots to town halls and many more places.

"When we visit, we ask: What is it that you need? They could have food insecurity or no refrigerator to keep food safe, or no electricity at all, or they could have a transportation issue," she said in the interview. "A nurse or a CHW can spend an hour or two at your home [to assess the situation] and then coordinate those resources, plus arrange for close follow-up. That's what we're focusing on - getting into their environment and getting them what they need. It may not have anything to do with health care. But if we fix those other issues, their health is going to improve. This is just a different way of providing care. Going to someone's home and helping them instead of saying, 'Come to me.'"

Angela Smith & Crystal Campbell are Patient Success Stories at CareSouth Carolina

CareSouth Carolina patients Angela Smith and Crystal Campbell have seen an incredible journey towards better health in collaboration with their healthcare provider, Haley Jones, FNP-BC, at the Dillon Medical Office.

Both patients embarked on a mission to not only enhance healthcare metrics but to give themselves something to anticipate upon reaching their major health goals.

Angela lost an astounding 11 pounds within her time frame of two to three months. In addition, she diligently adhered to her prescribed diet, maintained a regular exercise regimen, and followed her medication regimen under the guidance of Jones. Her A1C levels, which began at 6.1, were reduced to an impressive 5.9.

Over the course of her journey, Crystal demonstrated unwavering dedication to her health and well-being. Her hard work and perseverance paid off, resulting in remarkable progress.

As of today, she has achieved an incredible weight loss of over 12 pounds. Even more impressive, her A1C levels have seen a significant improvement, dropping from a concerning 8.1 to a healthy 5.6.

CareSouth Carolina recognizes the importance of caring for the "whole patient." The organization provides a comprehensive set of services and looks to come alongside the patient by helping them achieve their goals.

CareSouth Carolina congratulates Angela Smith and Crystal Campbell on their remarkable achievements and looks forward to sharing more inspiring success stories within the community.



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