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Annual Accountability
Report 1995-96

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ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT
FY 1995-1996

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION FOR MINORITY AFFAIRS

MISSION STATEMENT:

The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs acts as a brain trust to provide leadership, focus and direction in addressing the adverse conditions of minorities in the State of South Carolina. The Commission exists to research the causes and effects of minority socio-economic deprivation. The staff works with other state agencies, economic development and community leaders, private businesses, and elected officials to build the infrastructure needed to foster minority prosperity, which ultimately benefits the general population and the State's economy. The Commission was established to address any issue pertinent to alleviating minority deprivation, i.e., educational issues, lack of economic development, high crime and illegal drug activity, voter apathy, and other related problems. Uniquely established at the agency level as opposed to programming level within an organization, the Commission serves as the State Government point of contact for information about the minority population and programs in place to serve this population. Also, unique is the Commission's position of serving as a point of reference for groups and individuals needing assistance with making contacts with members of the minority community.

PROGRAM NAME: ADMINISTRATION

PROGRAM GOAL:

1. Complete staffing of the agency according to state policies and procedures.
2. Computerize financial bookkeeping system according to the State Budget Office, Comptroller General's Office, the State Auditor's Office, and the State Treasurer's Office.
3. Develop the agency's policies and procedures according to the Office of Human Resources Management of the Budget and Control Board.
4. Receive approval from Joint Appropriations Review Committee (JARC) to raise, receive and expend federal and other funds to hold state and national conferences, conduct research and implement community initiatives that provide forums, training workshops and institutes.
5. Complete the compilation, publishing and distribution of the agency's first statistical abstract to members of the General Assembly, business leaders, agency heads, community leaders and the public.

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6. Make public aware of the agency and its mission by planning a conference to spotlight issues of concern to the minority population and to show how those issues contribute to minority poverty and deprivation.
7. Collaborate with the Department of Commerce's Community Development and Organization Division to create an environment in the minority community conducive to increasing wealth and jobs within economically deprived and poverty-stricken communities.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Complete administrative set up of the agency by June 30, 1996. Ensure that all support services policies and programs, i.e., personnel management, procurement and inventory control, fiscal management, etc., is found in compliance by the State Auditor's Office for Fiscal Year 1994-1995. Ensure that all employees are aware of their rights and clearly understand operational procedures of the agency.

Performance Measure: The agency received its first on-site review by the State Auditor's Office. Based upon the random records and documents reviewed, no exceptions were found for Fiscal Year 1994-1995. All Administrative Services Programs were fully operational by June 30, 1996. Employees were made aware of operational procedures and policies.

2. Receive approval from JARC to raise and expend non-state dollars. Additional non-state funds will be used to hold state and national conferences, forums, training workshops, and institutes within the minority community to address issues related to alleviating poverty and deprivation.

Performance Measure: Application was submitted June 11, 1996 and approval was received with an effective period of June 1, 1996 - May 31, 1997. Before June 30, 1996, the agency had raised several thousand dollars to be used in Fiscal Year 1996-1997.

3. Publish agency's first statistical abstract by Spring 1996 and disseminate to elected officials, state and local leaders, and the public.

Performance Measure: Publication was completed and some one thousand copies were disseminated. As a result of the publication, the number of inquiries for information have increased, thus fulfilling our mission to provide information about the minority population of the State of South Carolina.

4. Coordinate and hold a fall 1996 statewide conference to discuss issues related to the black male population and the relationship between their status and poverty and deprivation in the black community. Spotlight state and national programs aimed at (1) reducing teenage fatherhood and teaching teen fathers how to be responsible fathers, (2) decreasing high school dropout rates and increasing learning among the black male population, (3) practicing preventive health care, (4) reducing black male crime and incarceration, and (5) changing behaviors that contributes to the demise of the black family.

Performance Measure: Since the actions to carry out this Performance Objective was begun at the end of the 1995-1996 fiscal year and implemented during the 1996-1997 fiscal year, reporting its outcomes on the Fiscal Year 1995-1996 report would be inappropriate. Therefore, the accomplishment of this Performance Objective will be discussed as a part of the Fiscal Year 1996-1997 Annual Accountability Report.

5. Help local citizens as they build healthy communities, thus contributing to rural economic development and jobs, which ultimately decreases poverty and deprivation. Serve as member of Department of Commerce's Community Assistance Team to address issues identified as hindrances to economic development in counties with high minority population and poverty. Identify all the behavior factors within the minority community and the community at-large that contribute to poverty and deprivation. Identify all state and federal initiatives/programs in place within a county to address poverty and deprivation. Assess need for additional initiatives or discontinuation of present initiatives. Work with local citizens, i.e., adults and young people, interested in leading the effort to better the social-economic status of their communities. Guide local citizens as they redirect behaviors that contribute to the deterioration of the minority community and hinders overall rural economic development.

Performance Measure: Breakdown racial barriers that cause local citizens to pull apart. Focus community attention away from race and toward issues that they must address as a team to improve their community. Stimulate minority leaders, young and old, to set goals for increasing the educational level for every minority child and adult, which ultimately translates into a better workforce, increased employability, and increased industrial development.

