



CULTURAL

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Enjoy new content from the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs, such as information on upcoming events in South Carolina and news affecting minority communities nationwide!

Hispanic Heritage Month



CMA AROUND TOWN

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15 through October 15, and this year's campaign will be called CMA Around Town! The purpose of this campaign is to expand our outreach to areas that aren't in our neck of the woods, like Walhalla, Summerville, Ridgeland, Aiken, and more! We want to bring awareness to the local Hispanic communities living in areas that are often overlooked compared to other areas of the state and showcase their vibrant and active Hispanic community. More details about this campaign will be coming soon, so keep an eye out on our feed in the next couple of weeks; we might be in your city next!

Employee of the Month

[CMA's Employee of the Month program](#) recognizes employees who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the agency's mission and vision, as well as its constituent communities. These individuals consistently demonstrate a positive and supportive attitude and contribute in ways that go above and beyond their scope of work.



"Jacelyn did a great job this month with the agency's latest CMA Sessions video. She helped set up and break down the audio and video equipment. She also did a great job interviewing the guest. She seemed that she was really comfortable behind the camera. She also listened and was able to ask great follow-up questions. She was able to continue the high quality of previous recordings."

- Mauricio Orozco, IT Business Analyst, Data Privacy Liaison, & Information Security Liaison

Thank you for all you do, Jacelyn!

Events and News



AUGUST 2022

President Joe Biden revealed a plan in August to cancel up to \$10,000 in federal student loan debt for millions of Americans, with Pell Grant holders receiving double the assistance. Details are still being worked out, but only borrowers earning less than \$125,000 a year will be considered. According to the Biden administration, approximately 8 million people may be eligible for automatic debt forgiveness.

[READ MORE >](#)

AUGUST 2022

United Community Bank is teaming up with CommunityWorks to provide a \$500,000 Equity Equivalent loan to minority business owners and affordable housing developers across the state. United Community Bank will also award a \$50,000 grant to help small minority developers construct affordable housing alternatives.



[READ MORE >](#)



AUGUST 2022

An anonymous donor from the College of Medicine at Howard has donated \$1 million to ensure that current students have similar opportunities that he had as a student. The gift will be utilized to fund facility and equipment renovations and enhancements that will improve the overall student

experience. Click below to learn more about what this Howard alum had to say about his donation.

[READ MORE >](#)

AUGUST 2022

Benedict College has become South Carolina's first HBCU to earn accreditation for its Environmental Engineering program. Clemson University is the state's only other school with this accreditation for its Environmental Engineering program. The Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, or ABET, bestowed the distinction on the college.

[READ MORE >](#)



SEPTEMBER 2022

September marks Workforce Development Month. In the next few weeks, the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce and SC Works will promote a variety of options for both job seekers and employers through job fairs, open house events, workshops, social media, news releases, and other means.

[READ MORE >](#)

SEPTEMBER 2022

South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs Executive Director, Dr. Delores Dacosta will be the keynote speaker at Denmark Technical College's Fall 2022 Convocation! This event will be held on **September 8, 2022**, at the McDuffie Student Life Center.



[READ MORE >](#)



AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2022

The Charleston County Department of Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization (HNR) invites you to attend a series of public sessions to address housing needs, a community engagement survey in the process, and comments on HNR's comprehensive housing strategy, Housing Our Future. The Department of Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization (HNR) has been tasked with planning, awarding, and distributing these monies to maximize neighborhood effect. For additional information about forthcoming meetings, please see the link below!

[READ MORE >](#)

SEPTEMBER 2022

On Saturday, **September 17, 2022**, the Santee Indian Tribe will host its 9th Annual Pow Wow! This free event is open for all to join and will feature various aspects of Native American culture such as traditional dancing, drumming, and food.

- Gate entry \$8
- Children (5 and under) FREE
- Adults (65+) FREE

[READ MORE >](#)



The 9th Annual POW WOW will be held on September 17th, 2022. Gates open at 9am, Grand Entry at Noon.

Santee Indian Organization
432 Bayview st Holly Hill Sc 29059

DANCERS, DRUMMERS, FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

NO ALCOHOL
NO DRUGS
NO COOLERS
NO FIRE ARMS
NO FOOD VENDORS/ARTS & CRAFTS ONLY
NO PETS/SERVICE ANIMALS ONLY

Host Drum- Edisto River Singers
Guest Drum- Bad Boyz
\$Cash Prizes for Dancers\$

Vendor spots are \$50 & \$70 with power.

Contact: Eric Pratt 803-759-0020
Dana Weatherford 843-277-7678
Vendors Contact: Bill Muckelvaney 803-971-0862

Gate Entry Fee-\$8 Kids 5 & under- Free Adults over 65- Free

PUBLIC EVENT ALL ARE WELCOME!!
SANTEE TRIBE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURY OR THEFT/ DAMAGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY DURING THE POW WOW.

PAIA LOWER EASTERN CHEROKEE NATION SC



15th Annual Pow-Wow

Celebrating 7 years as a State Recognized Tribe
Saturday, September 24, 2022

❖ **Open to the Public**

Luck of the Draw Dance Contest
(Must Be in Regalia)
Drumming * Flute Music
Dancing * Story Telling
Hand Made Crafts * Fry Bread * Raffles

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: DAVID SPIRIT WALKER
HOST DRUM: RED OAK DRUM TEAM
HEAD MAN DANCER: DOUG CARTER
HEAD LADY DANCER: KAREN SWEARINGEN
ARENA DIRECTOR: FREDDY FELDER
ENTERTAINERS: DALE WOODRUFF
SOCIAL DANCES: RAIN CROW MOORE
STORYTELLER: NANCY BASKET



LOWER EASTERN CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL GROUNDS
3688 WARRIOR CREEK CHURCH RD.
GRAY COURT, SC 29645
I-385 EXIT 10, FOLLOW THE SIGNS
I-26 E. EXIT 41 TOWARDS ENOREE
U.S. 221, TURN ONTO METRIC ROAD, FOLLOW SIGNS
15 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN LAURENS

Schedule of Events

Gates open 9:00 A.M. / Pow-Wow ends at 7 P.M.

Grand Entries: 12:00 Noon & 5:00 P.M.

Admission: Adults \$7.00 / Children (3-17) \$3.00

Children (2 and under) & Veterans Free

(Children must be always supervised)

Designated Smoking Area

Bring your own Chairs

Public Welcome/No Alcoholic Beverages/No Pets Allowed

For more information contact Scott Gephart phone# (423-494-4255)

Email: scottgephart16@comcast.net

SEPTEMBER 2022

The PAIA Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation of SC is hosting their 15th Annual Pow-Wow celebration on **September 24, 2022!** This event is open to the public and will showcase Native American drumming, dances, crafts, and foods for anyone to enjoy. The event will run from 9 AM to 7 PM and admissions are as follow:

- Adults \$7.00 / Children (3-17) \$3.00
- Children (2 and under) & Veterans FREE

[READ MORE >](#)

OCTOBER 2022

[HUSH No More](#), a non-profit founded in 2019 with the purpose to provide a platform and support for domestic violence survivors will be hosting an event on **October 13, 2022**, at the South Carolina Statehouse with the purpose of uniting survivors, families, communities, and organizations again domestic violence. If you would like to volunteer or be a sponsor, please contact Dr. Vanessa Guyton via email at info@hushnomore.org or call 1-888-285-2161 for more information. This event is free and open for all members of the community to join.

[READ MORE >](#)



We are UNITING survivors, families, communities, and organizations together to HUSH No More against Domestic Violence in our State. Resources and support services will be available.

OCT 13 2022
4PM

FREE

Domestic Violence affects 1 in 3 women and 1 and 4 men
South Carolina Statehouse
1100 Gervais St, Columbia, SC 29201
Register and volunteer at <https://HNMDay.eventbrite.com>

For more information contact us at info@hushnomore.org or call 1-888-285-2161

OCTOBER 2022

The Pine Hill Health Network in collaboration with several organizations are hosting their Stay In Your Lane Art Contest, for Native Youth in South Carolina! This year's focus will be on MMIW2S people, Teen Dating Violence, and Domestic Violence. All art mediums are welcome and the deadline for submissions is **October 30, 2022**. Those interested in submitting art pieces are asked to please email photos of their art prior to submission at info@phhn.org.

[READ MORE >](#)

STAY IN YOUR LANE ART CONTEST

Native American Youth/Teen Artists Age 18 and Under
Art Focus: Missing and Murdered Indigenous People,
Teen Dating Violence, Domestic Violence



All Art Mediums Allowed
Art Submission Deadline
October 30, 2022
1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Winners
Announced November 1, 2022



Art Submission Location:
Pine Hill Health Network
1631 Savannah Highway
North, SC 29112

*** Please email photos of art prior submission info@phhn.org ***

Presented By

TEEN TALK, a Pine Hill Health Network Program

Funded By



Pine Hill Health Network

PINE HILL
Indian Community Development Initiative



Urban Indian
Health Institute
A Division of the South Indian Health Board



The Culture Connect



A new episode of The Culture Connect podcast airs Friday, **September 2nd** with Mrs. Evelyn Lugo, President, and Founder of the [South Carolina Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#)! The South Carolina Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was incorporated on August 30, 2007, to represent and help the growing Hispanic business community.

As the President and founder of the first Hispanic chamber in South Carolina, Mrs. Lugo came from Puerto Rico after deciding, along with her husband, that Greenville, South Carolina would be the perfect place to continue raising their two sons, college and high school students at that time.

It was shortly after she started working for a local credit card processing company that she found many Hispanic business owners experiencing problems interacting and doing business with the rest of the business community. Looking for ways to help the business community, Mrs. Lugo found that there was no Hispanic Chamber in South Carolina and worked to create the first Hispanic chamber in the state.

Tune in on Friday, September 2nd on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), Anchor or [Spotify](#)!

The Culture Connect podcast, brought to you by the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs (CMA), highlights South Carolina's minority communities with the aim to improve their quality of life, highlight opportunities, and provide resources. Be sure to subscribe so that you can stay aware of new episodes. <https://anchor.fm/thecultureconnectsc>

CMA Sessions



In our next episode of CMA Sessions which airs on **September 7th**, Jacelyn Arradaza of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Affairs (AAPI) Division speaks with Omme-Salma Rahemtullah.

Rahemtullah, who was born in Tanzania and raised in Toronto, is a South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA) Fellow, community organizer, policy researcher, and advocate. Jacelyn speaks with Omme-Salma about her experiences as a South Asian living in South Carolina and shares stories about their experiences growing up.

CMA Sessions are a series of educational conversations, webinars, and workshops to present information, resources, and development opportunities. Presenters at the CMA Sessions include community activists, educators, social workers, and experts on different areas of interest for minority communities in South Carolina. To view some of our past CMA Sessions episodes, [click here!](#)

CMA in the Community



CMA Visits the USC Studies Center

Ivan Segura, Director of Multicultural Affairs, met with Stephen Criswell, Director of Native American Studies, and Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Curator of Collections and Galleries, at the Native American Studies Center to talk about future collaborative efforts.

"In our quest to bring communities together and promote more intercultural activities, it is important to learn from the experts and form collaborative efforts."

- Ivan Segura, CMA

Photograph (left to right): Stephen Criswell, Brittany Taylor-Driggers, and Ivan Segura (CMA, Director of Multicultural Affairs)



Building Hope for Children Conference 2022

The 2022 Building Hope for Children Conference, held in Greenville, provided an excellent opportunity for learning, networking, and resource sharing for anyone interested in preventing child abuse and neglect and promoting child and family well-being. Participants included experts from all levels of child welfare, education, healthcare, mental health, childcare, and other areas, as well as community stakeholders such as parents and caregivers, guardians ad litem, elected officials, and others. The SCCMA was a proud sponsor of the event and in attendance were our Executive Director, Dr. Delores Dacosta, Mauricio Orozco, and Andrea Flores.

"Although we serve all minority communities in South Carolina, it's easy to forget that children in these marginalized communities can be underserved as well, so it was eye-opening to meet people from different professions, with the sole goal of supporting our youth in our state."

- Andrea Flores, CMA

Photographed (left to right): Mauricio Orozco (IT Business Analyst, Data Privacy Liaison, & Information Security Liaison), Dr. Delores Dacosta (Executive Director, CMA), and Andrea Flores (Public Information Coordinator)

***Photo Credit: Children's Trust of South Carolina*



Discussing Tribal Community Needs with Secretary Hammond

Executive Director Dr. Delores Dacosta and Native American Affairs Program Assistant Patricia Gaillard attended a meeting on Monday, August 29th with tribal leaders and Secretary of State Mark Hammond in Columbia. Tribal leaders included Chief Buster Hatcher, The Waccamaw Indian People; Chief Lisa Collins, Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians; Chief Dr. John Creel, Edisto Natchez Kusso Tribe of South Carolina; Chief Lamar Nelson, Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes of South Carolina; Chief Pete Parr, Pee Dee Indian Tribe; and Vice Chief Dexter Sharp, Piedmont American India Association Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation of South Carolina.

"I was happy to attend the meeting between the Chiefs and Secretary Hammond. As an advocate for the Native American community, it's vital that we keep all lines of communication open and offer our support when it's needed. A meeting like this was critical to get clarification on the role of the Secretary of State and to understand the concerns of the Native community."

- Dr. Delores Dacosta, CMA



Community Outreach Program

FBI Columbia Community Engagement Council Meeting

Mauricio Orozco attended the FBI Columbia Community Engagement Council meeting on August 31 at the FBI's Columbia Field Office. Two FBI agents presented information on elder fraud, technical support fraud, and non-delivery scams. Also, Mota Crosslinking Business Academy's CEO, Vanessa Mota, received the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award. Vanessa also serves on CMA's Hispanic/Latino Affairs Advisory Committee. Congratulations, Vanessa!



Increasing Latinx Enrollment at Lander University

Ivan Segura, Director of Multicultural Affairs, met with Todd Gambill, Ed.D., Vice President for Enrollment Management, and Liz Araiza Scott, Latinx Community Outreach, at Lander University to strategize activities to increase the number of students attending higher education at this institution. This collaboration falls in line with CMA's [P.L.A.C.E](#) initiative (Pathways for Latinxs to Advance Career and Education) where Latinx students and young professionals will have the opportunity to learn about their shared experiences and available resources in their area. PLACE provides a platform where participants can network, interchange ideas, share resources as well as develop a sense of pride and belonging as a young Latinx in South Carolina.

Photograph (left to right): Todd Gambill, Liz Araiza, and Ivan Segura (CMA, Director of Multicultural Affairs)

Our Board of Commissioners

GOVERNOR'S DESIGNEE

Chief Bill Harris

CMA BOARD CHAIR

Mr. Juwan Ayers, Sixth District

FIRST DISTRICT

Mr. Calvin Whitfield

SECOND DISTRICT

Vacant

THIRD DISTRICT

Vacant

FOURTH DISTRICT

Vacant

FIFTH DISTRICT

Vacant

SEVENTH DISTRICT

Rev. Michelle Law-Gordon

AT-LARGE

Ms. Tammie Hall-Wilson

AT-LARGE

Vacant

Upcoming Meetings

Don't miss out on these important dates!

Our Board of Commissioners and Advisory Committee meetings are hosted each quarter and can be live-streamed via CMA's official [Youtube page](#). The schedule is as follows:

- Native American Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting / **Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 10:00 AM / VIRTUAL**
- Board of Commissioners Meeting / **Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 10:00 AM / VIRTUAL**
- Asian American and Pacific Islander Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting / **Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM / VIRTUAL**
- African American Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting / **Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 10:00 AM / VIRTUAL**
- Hispanic/Latino Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting / **Tuesday, October 25, at 10:00 AM / VIRTUAL**
- Small & Minority Business Advisory Committee Meeting / **Wednesday, October 26, 2022 / VIRTUAL**

**Dates are subject to change

Due to COVID-19 precautions, the meeting(s) will be streamed online via the agency's YouTube page. Those who wish to participate in the public input portion of the meeting should email comments to info@cma.sc.gov. **Comments must be received no later than noon on the day prior to the scheduled meeting.** The following information must be included when submitting a public comment:

- Your Full Name
- Phone Number
- Date of Meeting
- Meeting Name
- Agenda Item
- Comment (500 words or less)

For more information, contact the SC Commission for Minority Affairs at (803) 333-9621 or info@cma.sc.gov.

Other Helpful Links

[Madam C.J. Walker, a Black pioneer and the first female self-made millionaire is set to get her own Barbie](#)

[2022 BMW Supplier Diversity Conference](#)

[Medal of Honor Given to Army Spc. 5 Dwight W. Birdwell, a member of the Cherokee Nation](#)

[Student Loan Forgiveness in Focus](#)

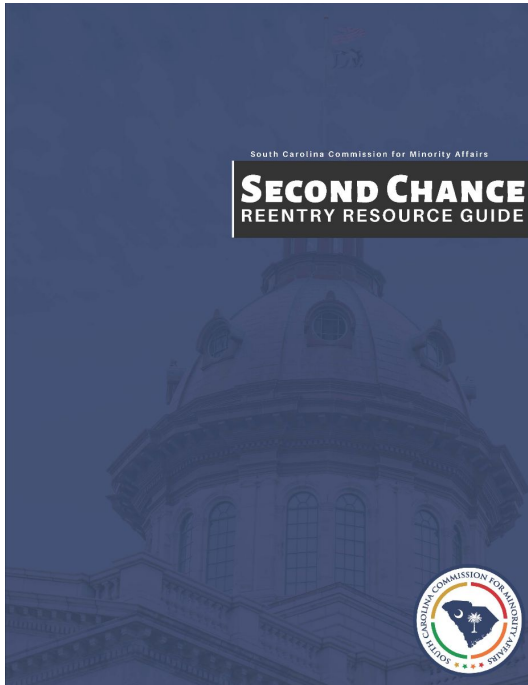
[Native American tribe gets its land back after being displaced nearly 400 years ago](#)

[California governor nominates first Latina as state's Supreme Court chief justice](#)

[Bank of America Fall for Greenville presented by Pepsi](#)

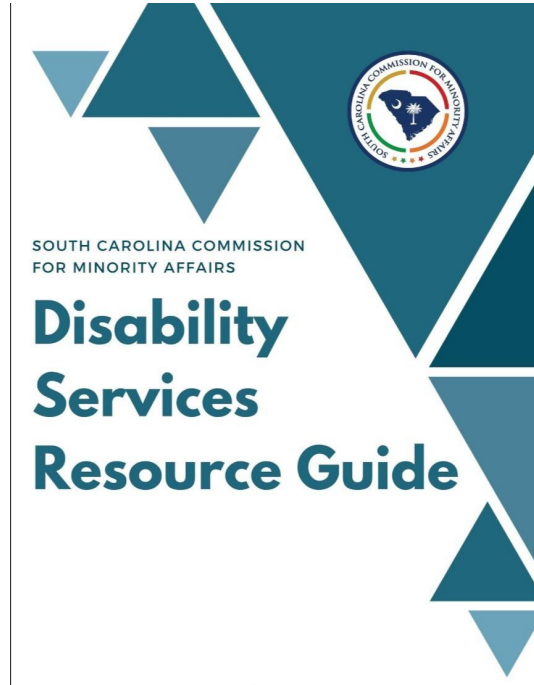
[Mary Peltola set to make history as the first Alaska Native in Congress](#)

[Benedict College Becomes First HBCU With Esports Degree And Gaming Room](#)



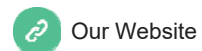
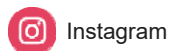
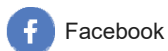
The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs released its initial [Second Chance Reentry Resource Guide](#), which is comprised of local, state, and national resources. The guide is designed to assist the formerly incarcerated as they transition back to their communities.

For more information about the resource guide, contact Cynthia Haddad at 803-333-9621 or chaddad@cma.sc.gov.



The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs released a [Disability Services Resource Guide](#) designed to connect minorities with disabilities to the services they need in order to achieve their employment and independent living goals.

For more information about the guide, contact Jerry Francis, Native American Affairs Program Manager, at (803) 832-8162 or jfrancis@cma.sc.gov.



Our mailing address is:

293 Greystone Blvd., Suite 3

Columbia, SC 29210

(803) 333-9621 | cma.sc.gov

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