



LAURENS COUNTY SNAPSHOT

2015-2017 IMPACT OF EAT SMART MOVE MORE LAURENS COUNTY

Let's Go! South Carolina was a three-year initiative, established by Eat Smart Move More South Carolina, to increase healthy eating and active living options in communities and schools. Funded by the BlueCross and BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation, an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, the initiative was implemented in six counties: Anderson, Barnwell, Hampton, Kershaw, Laurens, and York.

DEMOGRAPHICS



POPULATION
66,777



POVERTY LEVEL
18.9%



MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD
INCOME
\$38,515

FUNDS LEVERAGED

\$52,000

RAISED THROUGH GRANTS & DONATIONS FOR:



Trail Extension



Tower Gardens

PARTNERSHIPS: WHO HAS BEEN AT THE TABLE?



- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| School Districts | Middle School |
| Town & City Government | Chamber of Commerce |
| Hospital & Public Health | Master Gardeners |
| Non-Profits | Lay Citizens |
| Faith-based Community | Disability Community |

MEDIA COVERAGE



1
BROADCAST NEWS
SEGMENT

1
NEWSPAPER
ARTICLE

MEDIA COVERAGE TOPICS INCLUDED:

- Laurens County School District 56's School Food Service
- Safe Routes to School



COALITION COACH'S TIPS:

BE PATIENT.

DON'T QUIT.

REPRESENT YOUR WHOLE
COMMUNITY.

THE COMMUNITY MUST BE INVOLVED
IN THE PROCESS FOR BUY-IN.

**MAKING THE HEALTHY
CHOICE THE EASY CHOICE**

LAURENS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

5

Teachers from both school districts were trained on **FitnessGram** & increased their capacity **TO HELP STUDENTS IMPROVE HEALTH-RELATED FITNESS.**

9,111

Students now have **HEALTHIER SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS** due to partnering with **ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER GENERATION.**



6,457 CHILDREN at **5 SCHOOLS**

Students were educated on safely walking and biking to school through **SC SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL.**

A garden tower was established at EB Morse Elementary School **PROVIDING A NUTRITION EDUCATION AND GARDENING OPPORTUNITY** to 603 students.



Two middle schools practice **OPEN COMMUNITY USE (OCU)** of outdoor school recreational facilities before/after school hours. Every \$1 invested in OCU at Laurens Middle School generates a **\$10.21 SOCIAL ROI**, while OCU at Sanders Middle School generates a **\$10.06 SOCIAL ROI** for the community.



COMMUNITY



Partnered with the Laurens County Trail Association **TO FACILITATE AN EXTENSION OF THE SWAMP RABBIT TRAIL THROUGH LAURENS COUNTY.**

3,023

ENHANCED THE SANDERS MIDDLE SCHOOL WALKING TRAIL with signage, benches, and trash cans to increase usage. 3,023 people live within one mile of the trail and have a safe and convenient place to walk.



The City of Laurens updated its **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO INCLUDE HEALTHY EATING AND ACTIVE LIVING OBJECTIVES.** The city plans to bring more trails into the city limits.



The Laurens YMCA and Laurens School District 55 **ADOPTED HEALTHY MEETING POLICIES.** Anytime food is served, a healthy option should be available.



Worked with Laurens city and county administrators to **ADVOCATE FOR PARK ACCESSIBILITY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.** Disability-inclusive swings were installed at one city park in Laurens.

THE HYPE PROJECT

2,692

The Laurens County HYPE Team **ENHANCED AN ABANDONED BALL FIELD**, giving 2,692 community members living within one mile of the field convenient access to a fun outdoor space.



Youth **CREATED A COMMUNITY GARDEN** at the Bridging the Gap Advocacy Center and gave away fresh produce to community members.



SUCCESSFULLY ENCOURAGED THE LAURENS COUNTY COUNCIL TO MAKE WALKABILITY IMPROVEMENTS at Sanders Middle School, including safety signage and crosswalk upgrades.

THE HYPE TEAM'S EFFORTS HAVE INCREASED CIVIC PRIDE & ENGAGEMENT!