
From: Patel, Swati
Sent: Friday, October 9, 2015 9:45 PM
To: Haley, Nikki
Subject: Fwd: South Carolina Flooding 2015

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Smith, Leroy" <LeroySmith@SCDPS.GOV>
Date: October 9, 2015 at 9:30:54 PM EDT
To: SCDPS-ALL <GlobalList@scdps.net>
Subject: South Carolina Flooding 2015

TEAM DPS:

The State of South Carolina continues to cope as we have entered Day Nine of the Governor's Emergency Declaration for this major flooding event. So many of our employees have been on the front lines and some working nearly around the clock to ensure people traveling our roads are informed and safe. I can't begin to express my gratitude for the dedicated service of our law enforcement, Telecommunications staff, and those civilian staff who have worked at the State Emergency Operations Center this past week. You have logged long, arduous hours. Many of our law enforcement have been on the front lines, courageously and compassionately putting their needs aside to rescue and protect others.

I have been inspired as I have watched our state come together and heartened by how other states have rushed in to help augment rescue personnel; how churches and relief organizations have brought water and supplies; and so many other acts of kindness that are truly humbling. In fact, Governor Haley said today that our shelters – at this time – no longer need volunteers or goods. That, as she said, is a “great problem to have” and shows the spirit of South Carolina. I couldn't agree more.

As we begin to peel back the layers and look at the impact of this flood event, there is another area of concern for me. I want to ensure that we are taking care of our own. I know that some members of the TEAM DPS family have personally suffered losses in this flood. Thankfully, we have had no serious injuries or loss of life, but many in the TEAM DPS family have suffered loss of property. First of all, let me say how sorry I am if you are one of those. I cannot imagine what a stressful time this is for you and your family. I would ask that if you have been affected by the floods, please reach out to your supervisor so they can pass that information up.

Additionally, I know we have had members of TEAM DPS ask how they could help others within our own agency who have been affected. If you need help or would like to volunteer, please reach out to Sherri Iacobelli (sherriacobelli@scdps.gov - 803-331-7819) or Phil Riley (phillipriley@scdps.gov - 803-606-6154), so we can coordinate these efforts. Also, if you are

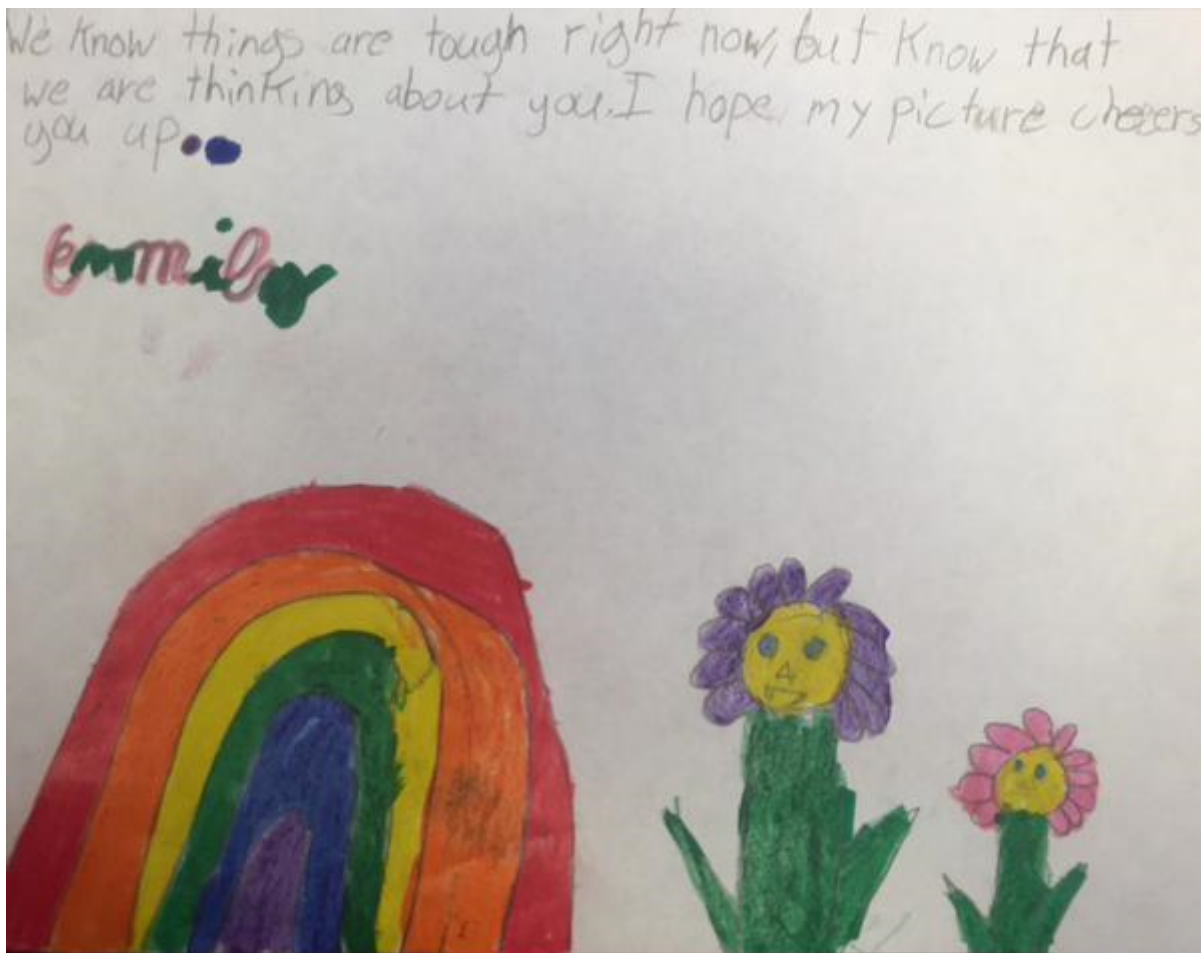
interested in ways you can donate or volunteer statewide, all of that information is housed in one spot: <http://www.scmd.org/recovery-section/donations-and-volunteers> or call: 1-888-585-9643.

While the Midlands is in recovery mode, there are still areas that are in the active rescue and response mode. I ask that you continue to keep all of those affected by the floods in your thoughts and prayers, especially as the Lowcountry experiences Round Two of this deluge of water. This weekend will be another critical time.

In closing, the Governor shared a picture today that had been sent to her from a little girl with special needs named Emily. I believe this picture really captures the spirit of our state right now. (see below)

God bless each of you in the coming weeks and months as South Carolina shows the world once again what strength, resolve, and love-in-action look like.

Director Smith



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