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**Date:** 10/28/2014 10:02:56 AM  
**Subject:** Exciting Success for Exceptional Needs

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# Happenings @ The Forum

*October 28, 2014*

## Celebrating Exceptional Children

October is National Down's Syndrome Awareness Month. So this week, we're celebrating South Carolina's current **Exceptional Needs Tax Credit Scholarship** ...as well as looking at ideas like Arizona's ground-breaking Empower Scholarship Accounts (ESA's) that are creating even more opportunity for these precious children. DON'T MISS Salima's touching ESA success story below...

## Connect

*Policy affects real people,  
and we care about what  
YOU have to say.*

*Be sure to connect with us  
on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, or  
**Instagram** and join the  
conversation!*

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MAKING PROGRESS IN 2014: SC's exceptional needs tax credit was not made permanent in 2014, but the original proviso was renewed and there are now five Scholarship Funding Organizations (SFO's) up and running, supporting the work of nearly 100 schools.

NEXT STEPS: Continue a transparent, accountable implementation process for current scholarships and enact our Exceptional Needs tax credit into permanent law!

## Support

*We rely on the generous,  
tax-deductible  
contributions of South  
Carolinians who share our  
vision for a  
free & prosperous  
Palmetto State.*

**DONATE TODAY**

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## Renewing America's Promise

Last week, U.S. Senator  
us for a dinner discussion  
his time as Speaker of  
Senator Rubio has been a  
state-based policy solutions to  
the American Dream. As  
Florida holding "idearaisers" (the  
became 100 Innovative  
Future). It was great to he  
bringing this kind of common  
working to return decision-making to the states!

Ellen Weaver welcomes Sen. Rubio's daughter Tammy & Dan Adams (Forum Board Member)

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## We're Growing!

We're excited to introduce you to our new Development Director, Jessica Blake! A native of Columbia, Jessi now lives in Greenville with her husband Josh, 11 week old son Joey and Otis, their faithful beagle/baset hound mix.

### QUICK FACTS

School: Furman University (graduated in 2006 with a degree in Political Science and English).

Favorite Things: Music is very important (I love everything from the Avett Brothers to choral anthems), all college football (but especially Clemson and Furman), breakfast food anytime of the day, and relaxing along our beautiful coast.

What the Forum Means to Me: Having been a U.S. Senate Staffer for many years, I saw firsthand our nation's changing policy climate. Now, I'm excited to be a part of team that is striving to bring positive and proven ideas to our state...as well as ensuring that our state is a beacon and model for others.

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## Just Around the Corner

Discover the **DYNAMIC BLUEPRINT** to create **NEW OPPORTUNITY** for every South Carolinian. **SAVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!**

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*Palmetto Policy Forum is a nonpartisan organization committed to policy entrepreneurship & transformative solutions to SC's policy challenges.*

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