

From: Kevin L. Bryant <KevinBryant@scstatehouse.gov>
To: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
Date: 1/28/2017 2:48:01 PM
Subject: FW: Community Relations (Black / White) Forum Reply ~ Website email from Lenny Gaines

From: Senate General Committee
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 9:50 AM
To: Kevin L. Bryant
Cc: Debbie Parker
Subject: RE: Community Relations (Black / White) Forum Reply ~ Website email from Lenny Gaines

I just realized this is the same gentlemen I have a voicemail from yesterday following up on this email. He gave a different phone number in the voicemail: 864-325-3253

Forward from General Committee email.

From: Senate General Committee
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 9:48 AM
To: Kevin L. Bryant <KevinBryant@scsenate.gov>
Cc: Debbie Parker <DebbieParker@scsenate.gov>
Subject: FW: Community Relations (Black / White) Forum Reply ~ Website email from Lenny Gaines

Forward from General Committee email.

From: lenny.gaines@gmail.com [<mailto:lenny.gaines@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 8:07 AM
Subject: Community Relations (Black / White) Forum Reply ~ Website email from Lenny Gaines

Mr. Bryant: I attended your forum at the Civic Ctr. approximately a month back and begin really attempting to wrap my brain around how our community could repair, restore and simply develop as a whole. As a former full-time educator in Anderson 4 and for a stint in Spartanburg, I am fully resolved that education with cultural connections are key in positioning and framing the mindsets of our young people. I had a sense of that in Anderson 4, but when I accepted the position in Spartanburg 7, in what is considered a predominately inner-city school setting, I am assured that when students learn content in a culturally sensitive and aware environment, they are intrigued, their citizenship is developed and achievement in the inner-cities and with our black/brown children. It is with that thought that I would like to speak to you about the immediate possibility of assisting my efforts in opening up a charter school in the Anderson County community. One that would be open to all students but as you are aware (as with most charter schools throughout SC) has a specific focus on meeting the needs of the more high-risk demographics in the area that it serves. I have been corresponding back and forth with a successful charter school developer that assures me Anderson County is in need of a charter school; however, the funds that he's speaking of needing to begin are out of my realm of access. You asked in the meeting what you could do to be of assistance to the black community and as a local black pastor, educator, and one that is seeking to see positive and effective change in Anderson County -- I really need your assistance in helping me bring some key players together to getting this charter school off the ground. I really believe we would have an amazing curriculum and development program that would objectively bring affect to the Anderson community especially amongst our young black and brown communities. I will contact you later via phone and I hope that you will take my request and information in high regard because I'm very ready to launch

and prepare to move some ideas forward concerning this process. Thank You, Lenny Gaines

Lenny Gaines
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864-556-3731