



## NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH CONNECTION (NOC)

The Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) is a 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) organization whose mission is to fight poverty by improving the quality of life of people living in low-income neighborhoods in Beaufort County, South Carolina, thus empowering them to achieve the "American Dream." NOC, which has been in operation for more than five years, plays an important role in bringing resources, services, and technology into low-income neighborhoods, accounting for some 10,000 people. These services help individuals who most need them through four program centers (two in Hilton Head Island and two in Bluffton, Beaufort County), each located in a low income neighborhood.

Through its four program centers, NOC provides easy access and opportunities for families to participate in its outreach programs. NOC's bottom-up approach empowers individuals, families, and communities by implementing on-site, sustainable neighborhood projects related to education, health services, and workforce development. NOC also plays an important role as a "connector," fostering interactions among people within the community and bringing other service providers into low-income neighborhoods to help people.

NOC's [flagship education program](#) focuses on pre-school and after-school learning programs that bring teachers, student tutors, and adult volunteers into learning centers that are strategically located in low-income neighborhoods, allowing more than 250 children (mainly African Americans and Hispanics) to receive tutoring, homework help, and computer-based learning support. Technology and teachers, who receive a small stipend from NOC, along with volunteers, play a major role in helping children excel academically. NOC's after school program helps many minority children meet school standards, remain in school, and graduate on time. NOC has worked together with the local school system and parents to evaluate the results of its academic programs. Testing by the Beaufort County School District (BCSD) in 2012 and 2013 shows that students who participate in NOC's after-school and summer programs perform better, on average, than students who participate in BCSD summer programs.

In 2013, NOC in partnership with the Beaufort Memorial Hospital, Volunteers in Medicine, the Lions Club, and DEHEC provided [health care](#) by bringing services into the neighborhoods. More than 300 individuals were screened at NOC program centers for hypertension, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, vision and hearing, and breast and prostate cancer. With its partners, NOC also provides workshops focusing on prenatal care, dental hygiene, and nutrition. Similarly, under its [workforce development program](#), NOC, in partnership with the Literacy Volunteers of the Lowcountry, provided an Adult English Learning program to more than 30 adults in HHI and Bluffton. In addition, NOC is implementing two pilot [social entrepreneurship](#) projects involving women from low income households to generate income and employment.

Through its strong presence in low income neighborhoods, NOC maintains close relationships with families living in these neighborhoods and involves them in its programs. NOC also maintains strong strategic partnerships with local schools, the Beaufort County School District, Beaufort County Library, Literacy Volunteers of the Lowcountry, the Beaufort Memorial Hospital, VIM, local churches, and other service providers.

NOC is now entering its second five-year phase of growth and expansion, targeting more low-income neighborhoods and people living in poverty. NOC has established a solid track record of results and integrity in the way it conducts its business and manages its resources. For more information, visit NOC's website ( [www.noc-sc.org](http://www.noc-sc.org) ) and Facebook page.

*Be a caring neighbor ...*

*Neighborhood Outreach Connection is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. No substantial goods or services are received by donors.*



**NOC’s mission is to fight poverty by enhancing the quality of life of people who are economically insecure and empowering them to achieve the “American Dream.”**

*Pre-school and After School Program*

**The NOC model has received national recognition for its success, with coverage in the *Wall Street Journal Market Watch*, “Making an Investment In At Risk Children,” and *Real Clear Markets*, “Unlearning World Bank Lessons to Fix Local Poverty.”**



**“Empowerment of the individual, family, and community will create pathways to progress, independence, and dignity.”**  
**Source: Narendra P. Sharma PhD, NOC Founder and Chair**



*Health Screening*

*Social Entrepreneurship*

*Adult English Class*

