

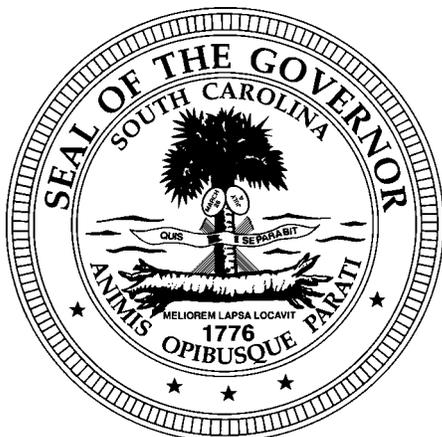
*State of South Carolina*  
*Proclamation*  
*by*  
*Governor Jim Hodges*

- WHEREAS,** the United Black Fund of the Midlands was founded in 1983 by Columbia businessman James Hopkins in an effort to raise funds to provide direct emergency assistance to needy individuals and families in danger of being homeless or disconnected from essential utilities and to improve the quality of life for disadvantaged persons throughout the Midlands of South Carolina; and
- WHEREAS,** since 1983, the United Black Fund of the Midlands has worked tirelessly to secure equitable participation for African-Americans and economically disadvantaged people in the raising and dispensing of charitable funds; and
- WHEREAS,** the United Black Fund of the Midlands is committed to meeting the educational, social, health, and cultural needs of African-American residents in Richland, Lexington, Fairfield, and Newberry counties; and
- WHEREAS,** during the month of February 2002, I am asking local state agencies to participate in a fundraising campaign to help ensure that the United Black Fund of the Midlands has the resources necessary to continue providing vital services for African-American citizens throughout the Midlands of South Carolina.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 2002 as**

**UNITED BLACK FUND OF THE MIDLANDS  
MONTH**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the many contributions made by the United Black Fund of the Midlands to the continued well-being of African-Americans.



*Jim Hodges*

**Jim Hodges**  
**Governor**  
**State of South Carolina**