

News Releases

DHEC News Release: DHEC names Simpsonville school to All-Health Team

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2012

DHEC names Simpsonville school to All-Health Team

COLUMBIA, S.C. - Five Oaks Academy in Simpsonville has been named to the All-Health Team for its organic garden program, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control announced today.

"Five Oaks Academy integrates health, nutrition and the environment into its curriculum," said Joann Minder, All-Health Team program manager. "All students, preschool to high school, are actively involved in the gardening process."

Minder said many of the students' weekly science lessons utilize the garden to teach about plants, lifecycles and nutrition. The students helped build a greenhouse with a solar powered fan to assist with gardening year-round. They grow herbs, vegetables and fruits.

"The students use the produce from the garden in their food preparation class, for after school snacks and for other cooking projects," Minder said. "Students also raise funds by selling infused oils made from the herbs and selling plants."

The garden is open to the community and many families pick herbs, vegetables and fruits from it.

As a result of being selected to the All-Health Team, BlueCross-BlueShield of South Carolina will award \$500 to the school.

DHEC, WIS-TV and BlueCross-BlueShield of South Carolina sponsor the All-Health Team. Each month, the partnership recognizes an individual or youth group promoting health in their community.

For more information, visit the All-Health Team website at: <http://www.scdhec.gov/allhealth>

<<http://www.scdhec.gov/allhealth>>, call Minder at (803) 545-4501, or e-mail her at: minderjm@dhec.sc.gov.

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