



United States Department of Agriculture

Rural Development

Spartanburg
Service Center

105 Corporate Drive,
Suite G,
Spartanburg, SC
29303

Voice: 864.814.2471
Ext. 102

Fax: 865.674.0555

May 5, 2014

To Whom It May Concern

In August of 2013 we approved a grant in the amount of **\$45,000** to the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor. The purpose of the grant is to provide technical assistance to the City of Gaffney and the Town of Calhoun Falls. The project consists of resource inventory and assessment, gap analysis of small business support services, identification of Federal, state and local policies, facilitation of Federal, state and local stakeholder involvement, and, tourism training. Of significant note with respect to this grant, however, is that the project focuses on the City of Gaffney and the Town of Calhoun— both Gaffney and Calhoun are located in counties that have been categorized as "the least developed counties" and have the "highest poverty levels", in the state.

We are proud to be working with Michelle McCollum, President and CEO of the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor in a joint USDA StikeForce Initiative to accelerate assistance to counties who have individuals living under the poverty level. Through this collaboration, USDA is working to ensure that all residents in South Carolina have access to programs that will help them thrive.

We are very impressed with how the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor has managed and utilized this grant. They have been extremely diligent in meeting all of our financial requirements and have done an outstanding job in providing us with a Quarterly Project Performance Reports.

Should you have any question regarding the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, please feel free to contact Mr. Myrick C. Dixon, Area Specialist for the South Carolina Rural Development Spartanburg Office. He can be reached at 864-814-2471

Susana-Anjelica Villescas, Area I Director
USDA, SCRural Development
105 Corporate Drive, Suite G
Spartanburg, SC 29303

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naaee

North American Association
for Environmental Education

2000 P Street NW, Suite 540
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 419-0414

May 2, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The South Carolina National Heritage Corridor has received a federal grant through the North American Association for Environmental Education as part of the EECapacity project funded by the federal Environmental Protection Agency. They have administered this grant with great diligence, and have proven themselves prudent and prompt with all financial reporting requirements.

Sincerely,

Lori Mann
Program and Conference Manager