ABOUT THE SCHA FOUNDATION

THE SCHA FOUNDATION IS AN INDEPENDENT, not-for-profit 501(C)(3) organization, established in 1964 to generate private and grant support for SCHA initiatives. Since then, the Foundation has attracted millions of dollars to fund strategic initiatives, research, educational programs and statewide partnerships to improve health.

The Foundation supports the mission of SCHA by fostering and accelerating the collective impact of hospitals, health systems and other partners to create a better state of health for South Carolina.

Formerly known as the South Carolina Hospital Research and Education Foundation, the SCHA Foundation was renamed in 2019 to clearly define its purpose of supporting SCHA, reflect its expanding scope of work and recognize contributions of non-hospital partners.
I’M PLEASED TO SHARE OUR 2019 ANNUAL report, highlighting achievements and successes of the team at the South Carolina Hospital Association, our member hospitals and partners across the Carolinas. With the generous support of The Duke Endowment, federal and state agencies, we recently kicked off a new program to help reduce burnout among healthcare workers, published a report on results of our quality and patient safety initiatives, and launched a project with The Duke Endowment and the North Carolina Healthcare Association to develop a formal program to accelerate healthcare innovations.

Thank you for your continuing support of SCHA.

Melanie Matney
YEAR AT A GLANCE

$3.71 MILLION generated

10 PROGRAMS supported
Most generous supporters

The Duke Endowment
Hospital Improvement and Innovation Network (CMS and Premier)
S. C. Department of Education
Blue Cross Blue Shield South Carolina Foundation

Key Successes

Five new Healthy People, Healthy Carolinas regions approved
POST legislation approved
Thriving Workforce initiative launched
STRETCHING FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE COAST, AccessHealth SC is a network of organizations connecting people who need medical, dental or social assistance with local providers and resources. The statewide effort to support community-based options for uninsured South Carolinians, founded through a grant from The Duke Endowment, coordinates with local and state agencies, foundations and insurers to help individuals take control of their health and wellbeing.

By 2019, nearly a dozen networks were operating statewide. Residents of counties not currently served can find help by calling SCHA directly.
1. AccessHealth Mountain Lakes
2. AccessHealth Greenville County
3. AccessHealth Spartanburg
4. AccessHealth Anderson
5. AccessHealth Lakelands
6. Palmetto AccessHealth
7. AccessHealth Kershaw
8. AccessHealth Pee Dee
9. AccessHealth Horry
10. Tidelands Community Care Network
11. AccessHealth TriCounty
12. AccessHealth Lowcountry
THE COALITION OF MORE THAN 60 DIVERSE organizations working together to improve population health announced one of its most ambitious efforts in late 2018 with the release of the first comprehensive state health assessment, and, more importantly, a state health improvement plan with action-oriented goals supporting five priority area to accomplish by 2023.

The Alliance was founded in 2013 with support from the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation. The statewide, multi-sector coalition is built on a collective impact platform and aims to align efforts to improve health and well-being in S.C. In 2019, the Alliance convened community and state partners to build collaborative connections supporting health improvement, including the 4th Annual South Carolina Population Health Summit, 2nd Annual Live Healthy SC Annual Meeting and the 2nd South Carolina Health Equity Summit.

Visit HealthierSC.org to learn more.
Live Healthy SC

Visit LiveHealthySC.com to view the video and learn more.
THE DUKE ENDOWMENT LAUNCHED THE HEALTHY People, Healthy Carolinas initiative in 2015 to help communities in the Carolinas address chronic health issues, starting with five coalitions in North Carolina. The program expanded into South Carolina, with SCHA providing technical and coordinating support for the regional coalitions. In November 2018, funding was approved to expand Healthy People, Healthy Carolinas to the following five regions selected by The Duke Endowment:

- Eat Smart Move More Barnwell, Barnwell
- Eat Smart Move More Spartanburg, Spartanburg
- Healthy Tri-County, Charleston
- Impact York County, Rock Hill
- Tidelands Community Care Network, Georgetown

Healthy People, Healthy Carolinas now consists of 10 coalitions covering 16 counties representing 45 percent of South Carolina’s population.

Visit bit.ly/HealthyPeopleHealthyCarolinas to learn more.
THE SOUTH CAROLINA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH Coalition is an alliance of public and private agencies, organizations and healthcare providers that are committed to improving the mental health and well-being of all South Carolinians. SCHA provides leadership and support for the coalition. This multi-sector coalition is an outgrowth of the work of the S.C. Institute of Medicine and Public Health’s Behavioral Health Task Force, the S.C. House Opioid Study Committee and the Governor’s Opioid Crisis Task Force, each of which provided a set of recommended actions to improve the care and outcomes of South Carolinians suffering with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

Recent initiatives include distribution of info-graphics, white papers and other materials to address society’s most critical behavioral health issues, including school safety, opioid abuse, behavioral health workforce needs and access to mental health services.

Visit SCBHC.org to learn more.
IN 2012, SCHA AND PARTNERS established a statewide care transitions collaborative, called Preventing Avoidable Readmissions Together, which supports hospital efforts to reduce readmissions among patients with both chronic and acute medical conditions. The work led to the establishment of the Collaboration of Care Journey, an initiative funded by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina and SCHA, with support from The Duke Endowment.

Today, CCJ is defining care transitions more broadly. While continuing to help hospitals improve the care of patients and families by engaging frontline staff, sharing best practices, and utilizing tools and resources, the collaboration is expanding to develop strategic partnerships with a variety of non-hospital care settings.
FOR NEARLY 10 YEARS, WORKING WELL HAS HELPED hospitals, health systems, government organizations and businesses in South Carolina and other states create a culture of well-being in the workplace, which studies show increases employee engagement, productivity and retention. In 2019, Working Well launched the Thriving Workforce program, a multi-layered effort to reduce burnout and improve professional fulfillment among healthcare staff. At a time when more than half of the current healthcare workforce reports high burnout rates and low rates of job satisfaction nationally, this new effort is one of the first to take a comprehensive, system-level approach to make an effective difference in the lives of South Carolina’s hospital workers.

The program, funded through a grant from The Duke Endowment, kicked off with a national conference to share innovative strategies employers can use to help staff enhance personal resilience, improve organizational efficiency and institute a culture of wellbeing to build a thriving workforce.

SCHA was a charter member in 2010 to establish the S.C. Coalition for the Care of the Seriously Ill (CSI), which aims to collaboratively redesign care, improve quality of life and protect the rights of seriously, chronically or terminally ill South Carolinians. Other members of the Coalition include the South Carolina Medical Association, the Carolinas Center for Hospice and End of Life Care, the SC Healthcare Ethics Network, the S.C. Society of Chaplains, LifePoint, AARP, and the South Carolina Nurses Association.

Working with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), a pilot of the National POLST program was implemented in 2016. POLST honors a person’s end-of-life decisions through provider engagement, documentation, and a storage and retrieval system so that the POLST order is easily accessible. A 2017 grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield South Carolina Foundation to CSI helped CSI consolidate work under the My Life My Choices initiative—mylifemychoices.org/initiative. This grant helped several communities provide specialized training and educational programs on end-of-life communication and planning.

Building on the POLST pilot, in 2019, the Coalition achieved one of its key objectives by successfully advocating for the passage of legislation to implements POLST in South Carolina. In South Carolina it is called POST (Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment), and it allows physicians, Advanced Practice Nurses, and Physician Assistants to execute a POST medical order. DHEC has developed a standard POST form — mylifemychoices.org/providers/#post — and training is available through DHEC and My Life My Choices.

Visit bit.ly/SCHAACP to learn more.
QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY

OVER THE LAST DECADE, SCHA HAS LED A SERIES OF endeavors to improve patient safety and the quality of care in member facilities, made possible through support from The Duke Endowment. From partnering with Premier Inc. in the Hospital Engagement Network (HEN) and Hospital Innovation and Improvement Network (HIIN) to individual initiatives such as a surgical safety checklist, SCHA has consistently championed patient safety.

SCHA’s flagship program, the Certified Zero Harm Awards, has been a driver for high reliability initiatives to enhance safety in S.C. hospitals. In 2019, more than two-thirds of our membership received awards. We’ve also worked with members and other partners to increase data-driven decision-making such as improving birthing outcomes, general surgery outcomes, newborn screenings, reducing hospital readmissions and improving palliative care. Here is a snapshot of successes over the years.

Visit bit.ly/PatientSafetySC to learn more.
Quality and Patient Safety Key Successes

- 47% of babies born in a certified baby-friendly hospital (since 2013)
- 7% improvement in surgical site infection rates (since 2016)
- Early elective inductions reduced by 58% (2011–2018)
- Statewide stroke deaths decreased by 15% (2007–2016)
- Cardiac patient survival increased by 14% (2015–2017)
IN 2019, SCHA AND THE S.C. DEPARTMENT OF Education updated and redistributed Be Something Amazing, a free information resource to encourage middle- and high-school students to consider healthcare careers. For students, the interactive, online Career Starter provides job descriptions, salary information, job outlook, educational requirements and area schools offering programs. We target the primary influencers of these students (such as parents, guardians and teachers) in our recruitment and tool-sharing. For educators, a Media Toolkit provides presentations, videos profiling people in healthcare careers, and a year’s worth of social media content. Hospitals can also use the tools and resources in their own recruitment activities.

The campaign demonstrates that healthcare offers students a wide variety of job opportunities, high demand and good salaries, and a way to contribute to their communities. Be Something Amazing is part of SCHA’s commitment to helping meet the workforce needs of South Carolina hospitals and health systems by building the pipeline of future healthcare staff.

Visit BeSomethingAmazing.com to learn more.
DEAR FRIENDS OF SCHA,

The 2019 SCHA Foundation annual report is a testament to the power of collaboration. None of the achievements and successes presented here could have been accomplished by any one of us alone. So, in closing, I want to thank all of our partners and collaborators for their commitment to leading South Carolina to a better state of health.

I’d also like to acknowledge the important role that the Foundation plays in support of SCHA and our member hospitals. By attracting resources to invest in healthcare in South Carolina, the Foundation helps SCHA fulfill its mission and add value for our members.

Finally, I want to thank The Duke Endowment and other donors for their generous support of the SCHA Foundation. You are making an important difference for the people of South Carolina.