South Carolina History and Culture

Information for Social Workers
Working in the Palmetto State

Candice Morgan, LMSW, PhD Candidate

Any views or opinions presented in this document are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the College of Social Work, University of South Carolina.
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I. Introduction:

This page is a place to begin. You are a student or practitioner of social work new to South Carolina and recently, you have had the thought—*I really ought to know more about this place.* Use this page to orient yourself to the state. Read the text, follow the links, and explore the video interviews from social workers with decades of experience working, living, and learning in South Carolina. The contents of this page will strengthen your curiosity to go beyond this information to discover your own story of South Carolina. Maybe you have come from another region of the U.S., or another country. Regardless of your origins, you already have, or will soon, hear or see something unique to this state. Most of us from here do not notice these things that make people from outside SC pause, question, and sometimes wonder, “Where did that come from?” It may be a discussion over the public display of the [Confederate Flag](http://example.com/confederate) on the State Capital grounds. Or, maybe it is a debate over [public funding for the arts](http://example.com/arts). Either way, you will rarely find a roomful of people who agree whole-heartedly about anything.

Now, to bring this back to why it is important for social workers to listen and respond to that original impulse—*I really ought to know more about this place.* Our professional code puts it this way:

(a) Social workers should understand culture and its function in human behavior and society, recognizing the strengths that exist in all cultures.

(b) Social workers should have a knowledge base of their clients’ cultures and be able to demonstrate competence in the provision of services that are sensitive to clients’ cultures and to differences among people and cultural groups.

(c) Social workers should obtain education about and seek to understand the nature of social diversity and oppression with respect to race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, immigration status, and mental or physical disability ([NASW, 2008](http://example.com/nasw)).

Three social workers interviewed for this project comment on the impact of race and class differences on their practice; more than once, they mention how our differences can stand in the way of relationship building and collaboration. Because racism, discrimination, and oppression contribute to profound social and economic problems in this state and because their expression violates basic social work
values, social workers must increase their knowledge of the unique history and culture of South Carolina. Social workers who come to practice in South Carolina thus have access to an extraordinary opportunity to learn and a responsibility to serve.

II. South Carolina by the Numbers (as of 2012)

This section includes ranks, ratings, and information about the state:

- South Carolina became a state on May 23, 1788. It is known as the “little triangle on the map.” It has an area of 31,113 square miles; this size ranks it 40th in the U.S.
- South Carolina’s estimated population of 4,679,230 people ranks 24th in the U.S.
- Sixty-eight percent of the population is White, twenty-eight percent is Black or African American, and four percent is Hispanic or Latino Origin.
- South Carolina’s rankings compared to other states are Black or African American 5th, White 45th, Native American 33rd, Asian 38th, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander 32nd, Hispanic or Latino Origin 36th, and two or more races 44th. (These numbers are proportions of the population; 1 is the highest.)
- South Carolina has 30 Native American Entities. The federal government recognizes only one, the Catawba Indian Nation (A.K.A.: Catawba Tribe of South Carolina). The state recognizes seven tribes, five groups, and two special interests organizations; there are fifteen non-recognized entities.
- Twenty-three percent of residents 25 years old or older have a bachelor’s degree or above; this gives South Carolina a national ranking of 39th place in citizens with education at the college degree level or higher.
- South Carolina’s high school graduation rate ranks 48th among other states.
- Nine percent of South Carolinians have less than a 9th grade education.
- South Carolina’s Infant Mortality Rate ranks 6th in the U.S.
- South Carolina has the third highest violent crime rate in the U.S.; it ranks 7th for the number of homicides caused by criminal domestic violence.
• Fifteen percent of the state’s residents live below the federal poverty level. Median Household Income ranks 40th in the U.S. The average annual pay in the state is $35K. Since 2006, the Unemployment rate has risen from six percent to twelve percent.
• **Forty-eight percent** of children in the state live below the federal poverty level (33% White, 71% Black, 69% Hispanic).
• Fifty-one percent of grandparents are responsible for their grandchildren.
• Seventy-three percent of the state’s residents own their homes; S.C. ranks 1st in the U.S. for housing units that are mobile homes.
• English is the only language spoken in ninety-three percent of homes.
• Veterans comprise eleven percent of the state population.
• The top industries employing residents 16 years and older are the following:
  - educational services, healthcare, and social assistance employ 20% of residents
  - manufacturing employs 14% of residents
  - retail trade employs 12% of residents
  - arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food service employ 9% of residents
  - professional, scientific, management, and administrative employ 9% of residents
  - construction employs 8% of residents
  - finance and insurance, and real estate employ 6% of residents

III. South Carolina History and Culture: Centuries of Debates and Disputes

South Carolina is a unique work environment for a social worker. For over 200 years, residents have endured invasion, war, sickness, and oppression, in addition to prosperity and health. Dividing lines in religion, race, class, and politics defined the early days in South Carolina. Although these divisions started in the 16th century, they continue today in homes, schools, churches, and workplaces around the state.

What you will learn about this state depends on who you ask; South Carolinian’s are the best people to ask about this state’s history, but this does not mean you will get the same story from every person you ask. Until recently, say in the past fifty to sixty years, a person new to the state would have been told an “acceptable story” about the state, but not one with much accuracy. Some have started telling a more inclusive and accurate story about the history of this state. A recent newspaper article about state historian Walter Edgar wrote he “has gently promoted the audacious notion that women, Native Americans, African-Americans, Upstate mill workers and woodsmen ought to have as significant a place in the great mosaic of the state’s history as the powder-wigged Lords Proprietors, Revolutionary War heroes and Civil War generals who straddle the historical imagination” (Post and Courier, June 2012). Edgar and other historians willing to accept our past are not changing history, but they are changing the way we talk about it.

South Carolina remains at the center of history-making decisions and movements in community organizing, civil rights, politics, and health care. Here is a sample of decisions and movements where South Carolinians debate and dispute several important issues:

- The first European settlement in South Carolina becomes the site for the first North American slave revolt. In 1526, African slaves and Native Indians rise up against the Spanish.

- In 1773, the Tea Act granted monopoly to the British East India Company and raised taxes; residents refused to purchase or use the tea, which later in 1776 was sold to purchase war material for the state (Edgar, 1998).

- The War of 1812 and the depression that followed undermined the Low Country’s prosperity; almshouses and “outdoor relief” (e.g., small rations of food, fuel, and cash) were provided. Free blacks could not receive these benefits until as late as 1842 (unless insane).
Late 1700s-1800s: Poor houses dominated the structure of welfare, especially for the mentally ill; an alternative, in 1828, the Robert Mills Building opens as the sixth state supported mental asylum in the United States.

In 1840s-50s, commissioners who came to Charleston to visit poorhouses reported fifth, and vermin. A widowed woman (free) with small children earned 25 cents per 14-hour day. The Ladies Benevolent Society in Charleston, the oldest women’s organization in the United States, went into slums and helped poor families, both white and black.

In 1860, South Carolina, in response to federal opposition to slavery, secedes from the Union. The Civil War starts at Fort Sumter in the Charleston harbor.

The depression of 1893 added stress to an already inadequate state welfare system; into the early part of the 20th century, women in Charleston formed the Women’s Exchange for Women’s Work to support the ability of women to sell their handiwork and become self-sufficient.

After the Civil War, urban areas of the state experienced increased migrations of freed men who saw increases in racial animosity, poverty and disease; in 1888, the Associated Charities Society of Charleston formed to combat “willy-nilly impulse charity” (Buhler-Wilderson, 1992).

In 1896, a new state constitution disenfranchised black voters. The number of public lynching of blacks by whites increased over the next 20 years; African American Women’s clubs, such as the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, protested, raised money, and wrote letters to eradicate the crime of lynching. Benjamin Elijah Mays, born in the state, contributed his energy to this movement (Martin & Sullivan, 2000).

In 1897, the African American community in Charleston, discouraged by requisite investigations and regulations of the Associated Charities Society of Charleston, created their own Colored Relief Society.

Early 20th century reformers gained free medical care for mill workers, especially women; the state governor promised to pardon any mill worker who shot the doctor who gave their daughter such an exam (Bass & Poole, 2009).
• 1900s unequal opportunity abounds—Dillon county allocates $ per pupil—white=$22.50, black=$1.79
• 1917 University of South Carolina is 1st college in the state to become accredited; desegregated briefly after civil war; did not allow enrollment of black students until 1960s
• To protest their denial of staff privileges and the exclusion of black women from admission to the City Hospital Training School, a group of black physicians and dentists opened the Hospital and Training School for Nurses in Charleston (Buhler-Wilkerson, 1992).
• Social workers proposed improvements in healthcare to women and children; 1930s South Carolina General Assembly blocked legislation that would require Wasserman test for Venereal Disease to get a marriage license and blocked the establishment of widow’s pensions.
• 1954 the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbia desegregated
• In 1956, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Columbia’s city buses could not be segregated; in response, the South Carolina Public Service Commission said that state law was supreme. Black’s boycotted, the company reverted to serving only whites and went out of business.
• In 1957, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1957. South Carolina Sen. Strom Thurmond (then a Democrat) ended a filibuster against a civil rights bill after talking for 24 hours and 18 minutes.
• In 1962, Harvey Gantt, a black Charlestonian, applied for admission to Clemson; weeks later, a resolution passed to fly the Confederate flag atop the State Capital. Gantt was eventually admitted to Clemson.
• In 1963, the Orangeburg Movement focused on desegregating public facilities; The Orangeburg Massacre resulted in 28 wounded and 3 dead South Carolina State University students.
• In 1964, the Civil Rights Act (equal employment section) destroyed the former caste system, in which white manufacturing workers in the textile industry were assured no black workers would hold equal positions.
• In the 1970s, the racial population is 69.3 percent white and 30.7 percent black. In celebration of the state’s tricentennial celebrations, Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess is performed for the first time in South Carolina (the state in which it is set).
• In 2000, the governor approved the observance of the Martin Luther King holiday, the last state to do so, and a Confederate Memorial Day for the month of May.

• In 2001, Gov. Jim Hodges voiced his regret over the 1968 Orangeburg Massacre.

• In 2005, a circuit judge ruled that South Carolina had no obligation to repair tumbledown facilities or raise teacher's pay. In 2006 the film “Corridor of Shame” was used in a campaign to make public the dilapidated conditions of South Carolina's rural schools.

• In 2007, the 111-year-old J.V. Martin Junior High in Dillon, a part of the state's “Corridor of Shame,” becomes focus of Democratic presidential candidates who use school as an example of neglect by Republican politicians; prompts the South Carolina Chapter of NASW to pass the following resolution:

Whereas, the NASW SC Chapter Board of Directors further believes the words minimally adequate should not be deemed as acceptable to either describe or define our state’s commitment to public education, to public education equity or to public education funding. Therefore, be it hereby resolved that the NASW SC Chapter Board of Directors supports an amendment of Section 3, Article XI of the Constitution of South Carolina to read: "The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a system of free public schools open to all children in the State and shall establish, organize, and support such other public institutions of learning, as may be desirable that will provide a high quality education, allowing all students to reach their highest potential" (Goodbye Minimally Adequate, 2007).

• In the early part of the 21st century, Occupy and Tea Party Movements continue to embody the kind of debate that has been alive in South Carolina since the 18th Century

IV. **Historical Time-Line and Maps:**

This section highlights decisions and events that impacted the state's residents.

**History of Time Periods and Events:**

1526—Spanish Explorer Lucas Alayon establishes the first European settlement; site of first [North American Slave Revolt](#)

1670—First group of settlers leave Barbados for SC; [Henry Woodward’s letter](#) describes SC as a "second Paradize [sic]."

1696—South Carolina enacts its first [slave code](#)

1700—Colony Assembly funds the first private lending library for the city elite

1707—[Letter from Frances Rokeby](#) to Reverend Mr. Rose regarding settling in South Carolina to Christianize Native Americans:

> I have long had a desire to go into Carolina, & take one of those Honest Clergiemen [who are not suffered to doe good in England;] to endeavour the Conversion of the Poor Ignorant Natives, of that country; who are good Moral Heathen & if they can be rightly Instructed, in our Holy Religion; may I hope, be as good Christians: (excerpt from Letter from Frances Rokeby to Reverend Mr. Rose, 1707)

1739—[Stono Rebellion](#), the major slave rebellion in South Carolina’s history

1739—Colonial Newspapers regularly advertise [sale of slaves](#)

1761—A [Treaty of Peace and Friendship](#): Treaties with the Cherokees

1776—[State Constitution](#) established former colony's first independent government

1788—South Carolina becomes the 8th State

1795—Rise of American [abolitionist movement](#)

1808—U.S. Constitution outlaws the slave trade

1813—Ladies Benevolent Society established in Charleston

1828—South Carolina Lunatic Asylum was one of the first in the nation built expressly for the mentally ill and funded by a state government
1832—**Runaway Slave Advertisement**: $10 reward for the return of two runaway slaves

1835—**Early Patient Letters** illustrate daily life in the South Carolina Lunatic Asylum

1840—Library of SC College is the first free standing library building in the U.S.

1859—The State Senate and House of Representatives **resolve to defend and secure the system of America slavery**

1860—The South Carolina **Ordinance of Secession**

1860—The American Civil War (**The Brothers’ War**)  

1862—Robert Smalls and other slaves take over steamer *Planter* and bring it to Federal forces blockading the Charleston harbor

1865—**Confederate Governor Andrew Magrath** documents anxieties and suffering at end of war

1865—New state Constitution section: “Black Codes,” articles that regulated and restricted the lives of African Americans

1868—Radical Republicans take control of the state legislature and create **new state Constitution**

1868—South Carolina readmitted into the Union

1880—Collapse of the Radical Reconstruction leads to restrictions on black voting and office-holding

1888—Associated Charities Society of Charleston established

1890—Benjamin Tillman becomes governor of SC and builds the 1895 constitutional convention that “formally disenfranchises African Americans”

1892—Virginia Durant Young of Greenville County organized the South Carolina Equal Rights Association

1897—State newspaper founder, N. G. Gonzales, editorializes opposition for harmful factory legislation. Gonzales ends his editorial with this plea: "We speak not for the owners of cotton mill stock but for the whole people, not for the dividends of the present but for the industrial prosperity of the future when we
urge the general assembly to negative emphatically
these propositions” (Gonzales, N.G, 1897)

1897—Colored Relief Society established

1903—State Child Labor Law

1912—The Charleston Insurrection

1912—New Era Club in Spartanburg County promotes the cause of women’s suffrage

Around 1915—Speaker of the House of Representatives threw a barbeque for members of the General Assembly at the local Ku Klux Klan headquarters building

1920s—Agricultural collapse (affecting mainly cotton farmers) led to a mass exodus from state

1920—Eight counties have health departments. Twenty-six counties had nursing services

1920—Adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment for women to vote (but South Carolina ratified the amendment in 1969!)

1922—The State Board of Health received $20,000 from the Federal government for maternal and child health through the Sheppard-Towner Act

1927—A Child Health Center is established in Florence to provide immunizations and child health care in a full-time health clinic

1929—Federal funds from the Sheppard-Towner Act were withdrawn.

1930—Tens of thousands of black South Carolinians migrate to the North seeking better opportunities

1931—The State Board of Health in danger of being eliminated because of economic stress

As of 1936—South Carolina was one of six states without old-age pensions, one of fourteen without assistance for the blind, and one of two with no aid for dependent children--Almshouses and poor farms were the only aid for the poor and the homeless

1936—The General Assembly enacts public assistance to people in the state
1936—Federal funds appropriated under Title V of the Social Security Act enable creation of the Division of Maternal and Child Health—Other programs created or re-established with Federal funding include Industrial Hygiene, Crippled Children, Venereal Disease Control, Medical Epidemiology

1937—The South Carolina Department of Social Services established

1944—Black teachers filed suit (to get the state to pay them the same wages as white teachers with the same certificates) and won

1944—Ms. Lucia Murchison is hired as the first public health social worker

1947—Willie Earle (black) was arrested and charged with the murder of Thomas Brown (white). A mob seized and lynched Earle. Thirty-one arrests were made, but the jury acquitted those accused of the lynching

1948—The membership of the South Carolina NAACP rose to fourteen thousand

1948—South Carolina ended the white-only primary

1948—in Clarendon County, a parent filed suit to obtain school buses for black students; under Plessy doctrine of “separate but equal,” buses should have been provided, but on a technicality, the suit was dismissed. In response, 1949 Clarendon County residents filed suit. “Briggs v. Elliott was the first legal challenge to school segregation to originate in the twentieth-century South” (Edgars, W., 1998, p. 522)

1948—Strom Thurmond is nominated for president as the State’s Rights Democrats Party (Dixiecrats)—sets stage for a revolt against the possibility of civil rights legislation in the state

1949—Greenville school district hires the first school social worker

1954—The Supreme Court ruled that “separate but equal” was unconstitutional

1954—The General Assembly passed a right-to-work law

1956—Strom Thurmond, now a U.S. senator, authored the Southern Manifesto which attacked the Supreme Court. A year later, he filibustered for a record 24 hours, 18 minutes in an attempt to block civil rights legislation

1960—In Greenville to protest the threatened arrest of Jackie Robinson for entering the town’s airport “white” waiting room months earlier
1960s—Black South Carolinians changed tactics from legal maneuvers through courts to peaceful public protests including staged sit-in demonstrations.

1962—The Confederate flag was raised over the State House to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the Civil War.

1963—Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman of the state NAACP published a list of demands to solve racial problems.

1963—“South Carolina in 1963 was different from other states in the Deep South, not only because of what did not occur, but also because of how the decisions were made” (Edgar, W., 1998). A claim supported by the fact that South Carolina experienced less violence and more political involvement during the de-segregation movement than other southern states did.

1964—The S.C. Department of Mental Health was created as an independent agency of state government to develop a more comprehensive system, which combined medical care and treatment with expanded community services, mental health education, consultation, professional training, and research.

1965—All of the state’s public colleges and twelve of its twenty-five private colleges agreed to admit qualified students regardless of race.

1965—Voting Rights Act implemented.

1966—Richland 1 and Lexington 2 school districts hired school social workers.

1967—the Columbia Area Mental Health Center became the first comprehensive community mental health center in the Southeast.

1969—Sen. Ernest F. Hollings’s Hunger Tour brought national attention to the state’s poor.

1969—A supplemental food commodities program for pregnant women and children begins.

1969-1970—School districts in Greenville and Darlington Counties are ordered to desegregate; Governor McNair denounce anyone who might be inclined to cause trouble and in 1970, all school districts operated unitary systems.

1971—All counties participating in the Food Stamp Program; South Carolina is the first state in the nation to offer food stamp coupons via the mail.
1973—Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) begins

1974—South Carolina is the first state to enact legislation to implement foster care review on a statewide basis

1975—South Carolina Indo-Chinese Refugee Agency (SCIRA) administered by DSS, which assisted more than 1000 Indo-Chinese refugees in the state

1979—70 school social workers employed in school districts across the state—the South Carolina Association of School Social Workers is formed

1980—the Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities opens

1983—Civil rights leader I. DeQuincey Newman became the first black senator since 1880s

1988—the State Museum opens

1989-1996—several racial incidents occurred:

In 1989, an Aiken restaurant refused to serve black customers; later their liquor license was revoked.

In 1989, an integrated youth group was turned away from a Saluda County pool; later, Governor Campbell invited the group to the Governor’s Mansion for a pool party.

In 1996, KKK slogans were painted on the dock of a Charleston couple; later, College of Charleston faculty, students, and alumni cleaned up the defaced property (the man was an alumnus)

1994—Ernest A. Finney Jr. was the first black person elected chief justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court

2000—The Confederate Flag is moved from the State Capital dome to the grounds

2001—African American History Monument on the State Capital grounds

2002—South Carolina Equality Coalition was established in 2002 as a statewide non-partisan coalition of local and state social, religious and political GLBT organizations and allies with a mission to secure civil and human rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender South Carolinians

2007—City of Charleston opens a slavery museum
2011-2012—South Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers advocates for a Human Trafficking Bill and a Safe Schools Climate Act


**Regional Maps and Local Economy Development:**

1. Upstate (AKA: the Piedmont, the Upcountry, the Back County):

   Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Spartanburg, Oconee, Pickens, Union, Laurens, Abbeville, and Greenwood

   a. **economy**
      i. Late 19th century, Greenville and Spartanburg on mainline of the Southern Railroad
      ii. 1915 Southern Textile Exposition
         a. SC was leading textile-producing state, 2nd only to Massachusetts
            i. mills paid workers in “looneys” (brass coins) that could be redeemed only in mill-owned stores
         b. Spartanburg firm of Walker, Fleming, and
iii. 1920s local officials create the infrastructure for a modern industrial society (electric power, water systems, and paved roads); The Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Public Works Administration (PWA) provided an airport, post office and high school in Greenville
iv. 1933 the National Industrial Recovery Act reduces hours, improves salaries, but decreases employees at mills
v. Post WWII up to 1975 textiles remain a dominant industry
vi. 1990 The Peace Center for the Performing Arts opens
vii. Early 21st century the number of South Carolinians employed in textile mills and apparel industry decreases by 80%; By 2003, there are one-third fewer jobs than there were two years earlier

2. Midlands

Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Orangeburg, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, Fairfield, and Sumter

a. economy
   i. 1896 Swansea Veneer and Basket Works
      a. made wooden crates for the region’s developing truck and fruit crops
   ii. 1900s Columbia was a regional Railroad hub served by 144 daily trains
   iii. 1930s PWA and the WPA build three housing projects, a new courthouse, and dormitories at the University of South Carolina
   iv. 1986 Columbia’s bicentennial marks a revitalization of the downtown area and the riverfront
   v. By the 1990s the Colonial Cup is a national steeplechase event
3. **Low Country** and Grand Strand (AKA: the Coast, the Beach):

Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper, Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Allendale, Georgetown, Williamsburg, and Horry

a. economy
   i. 1880s Georgetown developed economic ventures
      a. naval stores (turpentine)
      b. lumber (Paper mill in 20th cent.)
      c. commercial fisheries
   ii. Women’s exchange for Women’s Work
      a. in Charleston, 1920s, sold handiware for $ for their families
      b. Late 1800's: daughters of the old elite earn 70 cents per day
   iii. 1929 Low County legislators pass the highway bond to improve roads
   iv. 1920s tourism grew in Charleston with the opening of the Fort Sumter Hotel and the Francis Marion on Citadel Square
   v. The PWA saved Charleston’s Navy Yard and built two multi-million dollar housing projects
   vi. 1936 the Santee Cooper project to produce power and to sell electricity
   vii. 1948 Veterans returning from WWII start new businesses utilizing the GI Bill
   viii. 1949 Darlington Raceway born
   ix. In the Pee Dee, 1950s, bulk metal tobacco barns and mechanical harvesters reduced labor needs by 70 %;
   x. 1950s Charleston's seaport ranked as one of the busiest in the nation
   xi. 1970s new awareness of tobacco-related illness leads to crop decline in Pee-Dee region
   xii. 1975 Charleston begins a transformation; the Spoleto Festival USA started in 1977
2008 the new 140-acre Hard Rock Park opened for business in Myrtle Beach. The official opening was set for request the company to begin liquidating. Private investors had put up some $75 million for the them park and raised another $320 million in debt to fund the operation.


IV. The Structure of State Government

Branches of State Government:
EXECUTIVE
Governor
Lieutenant Governor
State Agencies in the Governor’s Cabinet
JUDICIAL
Judicial Department
LEGISLATIVE
House of Representatives
Senate

Cabinet Agencies:
Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services
www.daodas.state.sc.us
(803) 896-5555

Department of Commerce
www.sccommerce.com
(803) 737-0400

Department of Corrections
www.doc.sc.gov
(803) 896-8500

Department of Employment and Workforce
www.dew.sc.gov
(803) 737-2400
Department of Health and Human Services
www.scdhhs.gov
(803) 898-2500

Department of Insurance
www.doi.sc.gov
(803) 737-6160

Department of Juvenile Justice
www.state.sc.us/djj/
(803) 896-9749

Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
www.llr.state.sc.us
(803) 896-4300

Department of Motor Vehicles
www.scdmvonline.com
(803) 896-5000

Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
www.scprt.com
(803) 734-0166

Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services
www.dppps.sc.gov
(803) 734-9220

Department of Public Safety
www.scdps.org
(803) 896-7839

Department of Revenue
www.sctax.org
(803) 898-5040

Department of Social Services
www.dss.sc.gov
(803) 898-7601
Department of Transportation
www.scdot.org
(803) 737-1302

State Law Enforcement Division
www.sled.sc.gov
(803) 737-9000

**State Resources:**

**Association of Counties**
Statewide county government association.

**Fast Facts About South Carolina**
Quickly find the basic facts about South Carolina, including population and land area.

**Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina**
Training, scholarships, conferences and luncheons for government finance officers.

**Municipal Association of South Carolina**
Statewide city government association.

**SC Military Department**
South Carolina National Guard, Air National Guard, State Guard, and Emergency Management.

**State Agency Listing**
Alphabetical listing of South Carolina state agencies.

**State Constitution**
Full text of South Carolina’s constitution, listed by article.

**State Symbols**
Official state seals, plants, foods, animals and more.

**Voter Registration**
How to register, specific directions listed by county.

**Aging Disability and Resource Centers**
Connect quickly to regional Aging disability and Resource Centers in SC

**General Assembly - House of Representatives**
Representatives, meetings, rules, calendar, committees, and contact information.

**General Assembly - Senate**
Senators, meetings, rules, calendar, committees, and contact information.
V. Video Links

Carla Damron
Carla Damron is a native South Carolinian and has practiced social work in this state for 31 years. She has served on the advisory committee for the University of South Carolina’s School of Rehab Counseling and has worked for various community mental health centers and the state office for the Department of Mental Health. She is the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers-South Carolina Chapter.

Cornelia (Nela) Gibbons Edgar
Cornelia Danforth Gibbons Edgar (Nela) is a native of Columbia, South Carolina and received both her Undergraduate degree in Secondary Education and her Master of Social Work degree from the University of South Carolina. Her professional career has spanned many areas of Health and Human Services. Ms. Edgar both served as former Governor David Beasley’s Chief Advisor for Health and as Director of the Division of Health and Human Services in the Office of the Governor, Deputy Director of Beneficiary Services and Aging Services for the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, and Director of the South Carolina Office on Aging under the Lieutenant Governor. She was presented the Order of the Palmetto by Governor Beasley, presented the Alumni Award in 1999-2000 by the USC College of Social Work, and received the 2006 Hope World Wide Cameo Award for Service.

Jim Manning
Jim Manning grew up in Pennsylvania, received both his bachelors and masters degrees in social work at West Virginia University, and attended night school at the University of South Carolina while working for the Richland County Department of Social Services and earning his master’s degree in public administration. Prior to working with the Richland County DSS, Jim worked at the Midlands Center, a residential facility for people with developmental disabilities. Currently, Jim is a Richland County Councilman and a licensed independent social worker employed by Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services of South Carolina. He is also an adjunct professor in the human services department at Midlands Technical College.

VI. Additional Links

Social Work Professionalism
http://www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/socialworkers/
http://www.scnasw.org/
http://www.scclinicalsocialwork.org/
http://www.scassw.org/

Civil Rights
SC Equality http://www.scequality.org/
Protection and Advocacy http://pandasc.org/

Culture and Knowledge
SC ETV http://scetv.org/

State and Local Web-sites
South Carolina Government www.myscgov.com
South Carolina Department of Mental Health www.state.sc.us/dmh/
South Carolina Department of Social Services www.state.sc.us/dss/
USC’s Center for Disability Resources Library www.uscm.med.sc.edu/CDR/
South Carolina Dept. of Disabilities and Special Needs www.state.sc.us/ddsn/
South Carolina Dept. of Health and Environmental Control www.scdhec.net

State and Local Media
The Post and Courier www.charleston.net
The Greenville News www.greenvilleonline.com
The State www.thestate.com