



September 20, 2017

Greetings Citizens of Charleston County:

I am pleased to present my first budget as Charleston County Administrator. In my role as the County Administrator, there are five guiding principles that will always be in the forefront of everything Charleston County government does.

First, the County Government will find creative ways to preserve, maintain, and expand essential services to all of our citizens. We are constantly challenging ourselves to ensure that our services, support and commitment address the concerns of each citizens.

Second, the County Government will go beyond ordinary means to create and deliver on opportunities for our most vulnerable residents.

Third, the County Government will recognize our most valuable assets, Charleston County employees. The County must create opportunities to attract, retain, and develop our employees to deliver effective services to our customers, the citizens.

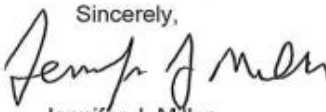
Fourth, the County Government will place more emphasis on "process not outcome", knowing that the right process delivers the best outcome. Employees will strive to ensure all processes are properly coordinated, maintained, integrated and developed to sustain our many programs and services.

And finally, the County Government will work to keep the citizens safe in the event of natural disasters, emergencies, and other unanticipated situations significantly impacting the County. Safety is paramount for our citizens, employees and all who visit our County.

The FY 2018 budget encompasses all five of the guiding principles. I would like to thank Charleston County Council for their hard work and approval of the FY 2018 budget. I would also like to thank the employees of Charleston County for their hard work in developing the budget and their dedication to the citizens of Charleston. The FY 2018 budget is based on the County's values: **Trust, Commitment, Accountability, Communication, Customer Service Excellence, Teamwork, Diversity, Safety, and Versatility.**

Charleston County has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the past twenty-eight years. We are proud of this recognition, and we work hard each year to improve upon the budget from the previous year. We believe that this budget document conforms to the award program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA for consideration.

We hope you find this budget document helpful in understanding how hard your County government works for YOU!

Sincerely,

Jennifer J. Miller
County Administrator