

Charleston County News Release

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Solid Waste & Recycling Department Receives Local Award

Charleston County Solid Waste & Recycling Department recognized as a Bakker Business Partner 2006-2007 by the Carolina Youth Development Center.

The Charleston County Solid Waste and Recycling Department has been recognized as a Bakker Business Partner for 2006-2007 by the Carolina Youth Development Center (CYDC).

Charleston County Solid Waste and Recycling was presented with the local award on Thursday, July 19 for its outreach and education programs for residents of the CYDC at the center's first career fair.

"We are extremely honored by the recognition from the CYDC," said Jenny Bloom, Charleston County's Community Representative and Recycling Educator. "They have a great group of kids and staff who have shown genuine interest in understanding Lowcountry environmental issues and working together to improve their campus and our community."

The event was held at CYDC's residential campus in North Charleston, and a number of business partners who provided programs and support to the center were recognized at the event.

"This award was presented to Charleston County's Solid Waste and Recycling Department due to their substantial support in our efforts to educate our clients about environmental issues that affect us on a national level and community base level," said Jermaine Whirl, CYDC's Personal Development Facilitator, who coordinated the career fair in July. "Jenny Bloom is an awesome representative of the local community, who enabled us to begin our recycling program here at CYDC. Furthermore, our clients were educated and astonished at the environmental hazards of littering and the overall effects that pollution creates in our local economy."

Plaques were awarded, and a full day of "learning, celebration, recognition and fun" programs for the residents followed, including stations that offered information to children about career options.

In attendance at the CYDC's career fair were representatives from Cummins Engines, Enrich, Civitan, the City of North Charleston's Fire Department, Hampton Inn of Daniel Island, Ross Printing, Rick Hendrick BMW, First Federal of Charleston Bank, Trident Technical College, SC Maritime Foundation, the Charleston Children's Garden Project, and Brooks Brothers with a "School to Work" fashion show. Charleston's Freedom School provided the morning program.

CYDC residents, ages 12-17, recently toured Charleston County's Recycling Center with group leader Pam Chamberlain after participating in a program at CYDC's Bakker Career Center. Bakker Career Center offers training and enterprise programs developed by the residents with staff support.

Throughout the year, Charleston County Solid Waste and Recycling Programs are presented in schools and to community groups in Charleston County. Presentations focus on the important benefits to the community by recycling, and representatives answer questions from the public about Charleston's recycling program.

SIDEBAR: Carolina Youth Development Center (CYDC)
(Source: CYDC Web site, <http://www.cydc.org>)

- Founded in 1790, CYDC is an important part of Charleston's historic and cultural heritage, a direct descendant of the Charleston Orphan House, America's first publicly funded orphanage.
- CYDC cares for young people with very serious problems, including physical and sexual abuse, neglect, abandonment, and severe emotional disorders.
- CYDC's mission is to assist children in reaching their full potential as healthy and well-adjusted individuals by delivering a continuum of prevention, assessment, intervention and treatment services.
- CYDC's Big Brothers Big Sisters program provides caring adult role models to hundreds of local children from single-parent families.
- Today, CYDC provides programs that reach more than 600 children and youth each year.

To learn more about the Carolina Youth Development Center, visit <http://www.cydc.org>.

To learn more about educational programs offered by Charleston County Solid Waste and Recycling, call Jenny Bloom at (843) 720-7111.

Visit the Charleston County Web site at www.charlestoncounty.org for news, services and up-to-date information relating to Charleston County Government.