



BoomTown's Jurassic Park Team' after running the 5k to raise money for the Charleston Digital Corridor 2017. (Photo/Provided)

GIVING BACK

CHARLESTON'S FRIENDLY NATURE SHINES

Charleston has been called the world's friendliest city. There are many reasons for that: its world-class hospitality industry; its approachable citizenry when tourists ask for directions; and, most importantly, its willingness to help those in need. The photos in this section illustrate just a few of the philanthropic and humanitarian activities and efforts that go on every day around the Lowcountry.

Without the generous financial and volunteer support of employees at small and large companies around the tri-county area, many worthwhile community outreach programs would find themselves unable to sustain their efforts. Volunteers have helped build homes in

rural and impoverished areas, stock shelves in food banks, deliver food to the elderly and infirm, raise millions of dollars for charities, teach children how to read, shelter and clothe the homeless and much more.

The Lowcountry is fortunate to have a well-developed support system when it comes to charitable giving and volunteerism, thanks to organizations such as Trident United Way, the Coastal Community Foundation, Together SC, the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the S.C. Community Loan Fund and others. Their services are invaluable in organizing and sustaining major volunteer and charity efforts such as the annual Day of Caring.



Volunteers and Trident United Way staff talk with a visitor to the Finance & Food Trucks event put on by the Berkeley County Prosperity Center in April to celebrate Financial Literacy Month. The event hosted financial literacy classes on a range of topics and rewarded attendees with tickets for food from participating food trucks. Live music, a bounce house and face-painting made it a family affair. (Photo/Provided)



Johnson & Johnson employees partner with Charleston Habitat for Humanity on Trident United Way's Day of Caring in 2016. This year's Day of Caring is Nov. 17. (Photo/Provided)



Alex DeLuna and Rostina Mincey at their first day with AmeriCorps working in the Berkeley County Prosperity Center, a collaboration between Trident United Way, Palmetto Goodwill and Origin. (Photo/Provided)



Cummins employees volunteering at the Lowcountry Food Bank through a corporate work engagement opportunity facilitated by Trident United Way. (Photo/Provided)



An Eaton Aerospace employee reads to a group of kindergartners after she and coworkers drop off backpacks full of school supplies at Mary Ford Elementary in North Charleston. (Photo/Provided)



Matthew (right), an intern with Cummins, working with Trident United Way Volunteer Engagement Manager Amanda Netsch to prepare food for a hot lunchtime meal during the annual Day of Caring. (Photo/Provided)



Employees of Mercedes Benz Vans helped build oyster reefs on James Island recently. The plant has organized employee volunteer events as part of scheduled production shutdowns. (Photo/Provided)