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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ORANGEBURG, S.C. – The 4th annual Speak Life Day, “Lift Your Voice”, will be celebrated on Friday, September 22, 2023, throughout Orangeburg County as well as other communities around the state and country. Communities will be saturated with uplifting words through simple acts of kindness, positive character assemblies, motivational marquees, inspirational social media posts, Speak Life Day posters, apparel, and so many other acts of kindness and encouraging words! Hayward Jean, Founder of Speak Life Enterprises, says “Speak Life Day is like Christmas with words given as presents.” This year, the focus is to “lift your voice” for motivation and not confrontation!

In 2020, Jean used his social media platform for 366 consecutive days to empower and motivate individuals all over the world with positive and thought-provoking video messages. He travels extensively “speaking life” to schools, businesses, churches, and communities locally and throughout the country. His aim is to uplift people with the power of words and corresponding actions while empowering them to do the same for others.

The 1st Speak Life Day was launched as a birthday surprise to Jean from his wife, Speak Life Day Coordinator, Starlette Jean, for his continued support and belief in the power of using words to help others. It was a way to honor the vision and mission of his everyday life.

Since the initial launch, Speak Life Day has been acknowledged with a signed proclamation by Orangeburg Mayor Michael C. Butler. It was then celebrated by many Orangeburg County Schools through exciting pep rallies, assemblies, art exhibits, Speak Life t-shirts, and social media posts. This year we encourage more schools, businesses, companies, universities, technical-colleges, churches, and any group or individual who sees the value in a day dedicated to positive speaking!

This year, to help people celebrate Speak Life Day, free downloads, and resources with tips on "How to celebrate Speak Life Day" can be found at haywardjean.com. Speak Life shirts are also available for purchase on the site. Individuals are asked to share Speak Life Day photos and/or videos on all social media platforms using the hashtag #speaklifeday.

Mr. Hayward Jean's motto is, *"Say what you want to see until you see what you said you saw."*

Orangeburg County School District

The mission of Orangeburg County School District, the catalyst of innovation and excellence, is to ensure all students discover and develop their person, purpose, and platform through high-quality educational experiences distinguished by a culture of collaboration, equity, and inclusion; a creative learning environment with inspiring opportunities; a commitment to nurture the academic, physical, social and emotional well-being of all. Visit us online at ocsdsc.org

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