

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Expanded Learning (Kaleidoscope) Officer graduates from prestigious Riley Institute program

Office of Communications

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Charleston, SC – Harold Sanders, a 21st Century program officer for Charleston County School District (CCSD), recently completed the South Carolina Afterschool Leaders Empowered (SCALE) Fellowship as an inaugural participant.

The Riley Institute at Furman and the South Carolina Department of Education have partnered to offer SCALE, a new program that prepares individuals across the state to be strong leaders in the field of afterschool and expanded learning.

Sanders had the opportunity to connect with and hear from other afterschool and summer learning professionals in a structured, well-designed curriculum.

“Mr. Sanders’ selection to this prestigious inaugural program was not surprising to me at all,” said Jason Sakran, Director of Expanded Learning (Kaleidoscope). “Our department is one of the largest, most well-organized afterschool programs in South Carolina and Mr. Sanders’ contributions to our team are immense.”

Sanders was one of only 20 applicants chosen for this inaugural year. Each year for the next three years, SCALE will convene additional diverse cohorts of emerging summer and afterschool learning leaders, providing them with the resources they need to build strong partnerships, secure funding and design and scale effective programming. Ideal participants are leaders who work in the school district or are partners with school districts to provide evidence-based afterschool and summer learning programs. Participants receive continuing education credits for their participation.

“It was great being a part of the fellowship,” said Sanders. “I was able to learn what others were doing across the state as well as share what we do here in our department.”

SCALE was a hybrid in-person and virtual educational experience. The program began with a weeklong intensive course on Furman’s campus from February 20-25, 2022. SCALE Fellows then participated in monthly webinars, took part in a field trips to a nationally-acclaimed summer learning program, and worked on a capstone project related to afterschool or summer learning. The program was

grounded in deep discussion and led by a diverse faculty with afterschool and summer learning expertise.

"I can truly say it felt good knowing others shared the same passion and drive to deliver quality programs to the families we serve," added Sanders. "I can see the shift across the state that the afterschool hours can be meaningful if used correctly. I am very excited about the afterschool movement that is taking place."

For more information, contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 49,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.