

**For Immediate Release**

November 21, 2022

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# Media Release

## **Students collect flip flops to support children in Liberia**

### Office of Communications

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**Charleston, SC** – Students in Charleston County School District (CCSD) have once again supported an annual effort to collect flip flops for children and families in Liberia.

Earlier this fall, Dr. Helen Frazier, who has previously served on both the CCSD Board of Trustees, and District 23 Constituent Board, coordinated with principals at Baptist Hill Middle High School and E.B. Ellington Elementary School and Jane Edwards Elementary School to host the drive which resulted in the donation of several hundred flip flops.

Dr. Frazier will be making a return trip to Liberia in January; she has visited Gbarnga in Bong County in previous years with her sister to support a non-profit organization that works to change the lives of less-fortunate children through providing necessary physical items (food, clothes, and sanitation products) and education. The Flip Flop campaign is in cooperation with "It Takes A Village," a 501©3 charitable organization with a mission of providing educational and humanitarian outreach activities to individuals and communities here and abroad.

Dr. Frazier noticed large numbers of kids walking around barefoot. Since part of all three schools vision is to serve the community, all three schools were eager to participate.

"My wife and I have always believed that there are givers and takers in the world," said Dallas. "We all know what it feels like to receive; however, how many of us have experienced the joy of giving. Participating in the flip flop campaign allowed our students to step outside of themselves to do for others; to do for those in great need. Our hope is that they recognize that the more they give, the more they will receive."

De Jong said that Baptist Hill students, families and staff are fortunate to have the ability to support this yearly event.

"We have surpassed our last events numbers by 120 sets of flip flops and want to increase next year's total number to 600 pairs," said De Jong. "Thank you Dr. Frazier for the continued support of our school and for allowing us here at Baptist Hill to participate in such a worthy cause."

Principal Logan said the loving and caring children at Jane Edwards Elementary were excited about the Flip Flop campaign.

“Our Social and Emotional Learning curriculum begins with lessons focused on empathy and the Flip Flop campaign has allowed students to reflect on empathy in action,” said Logan. “We are thankful for the opportunity to participate in this worthy cause. Showing kindness will always be emphasized at Jane Edwards.”

For more information about Baptist Hill’s Flip-Flop Campaign, or Dr. Helen Frazier’s trip to Liberia, contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6583.

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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.