

**South Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Association and
South Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund
Year Two of Cooperative Agreement #12-004**

December 1, 2013 - November 30, 2014

Goal 1: Offer peer support to South Carolinians with spinal cord injuries in communities around the state through local Breeze groups, and utilize the groups as a means of disseminating information about research funded by the South Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund.

Year Two, Objective 1.1: Make information on research studies available at Breeze meetings, through written materials, and updates by SCSCIA staff and/or presentations by SCIRF-funded researchers.

Progress on Objective 1.1:

A SCSCIA/SCIRF brochure was created that provides a brief summary of each organization, explains the relationship between the two, and offers individuals with spinal cord injuries an opportunity to register to be contacted about research studies. The brochure has been distributed to Breeze group leaders, given out at in-service presentations and included in Peer Visit backpacks.

Information was disseminated on November 7, 2014 about webcast on Healthcare Access and Utilization after Spinal Cord Injury with Dr. Lee L. Saunders (SCIRF #09-001). Information disseminated by: Email to professionals and individuals with spinal cord injuries through Mail Chimp service, post on Facebook with a link to posting on SCSCIA website, and Tweet.)

With the change in SCIRF leadership, Catherine Graham met with SCSCIA staff to plan how to improve the information flow to the association on current studies.

Year Two, Objective 1.2: Expand Breeze network by establishing a new group in a targeted location in the state, hence increasing the number of people exposed to SCIRF information.

Progress on Objective 1.2:

A new group in Greenwood started in August. The Greenwood group is run by Kervin Searles, a local DSN board staff member.

August 25, 2014

Meeting at Greenwood Public Library

Nine attended

Speakers:

Angela Jacildone: South Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Association

Mike Hudson: Rediscovering Outdoor Activities & Recreation (ROAR)

Haley English: Local physical therapy services

September 22, 2014

Meeting at Greenwood Public Library
Three attended
Discussion on how to draw people in to meetings

Oct 27, 2014
Meeting at Greenwood Public Library
Eight attended
The group held a card game night.

November 24, 2014
Meeting at Expo 300 Bowling Alley
Seven attended
The group had a bowling night.

A new group in Greenville started in September. The group is based at Roger C Peace Rehabilitation Hospital and currently run by therapists Dennis Koch and Ashley Kinser. The long-term plan is for a leader with a spinal cord injury to emerge from the group.

September 16, 2014 Meeting at Roger C Peace Rehab Hospital
34 attended
The focus of the meeting was talking about the new group and meeting people.

October 16, 2014
Meeting at Roger C Peace Rehab Hospital
25 people attended
Topic: Vocational Rehabilitation Services

November 20, 2104
Meeting at Roger C Peace Rehab Hospital
31 people attended
Topic: Clinical Nutrition Specialist on nutrition after injury

The Colleton group was scheduled to start in September, but instead will start meeting after the first of the year.

The Hampton/Fairfax/Allendale County group has not started meeting yet, but is also looking at starting up after the New Year.

Goal 2: Reach out to individuals with spinal cord injuries to order to enhance their quality of life and increase their knowledge about spinal cord injury, including research efforts in South Carolina.

Year Two, Objective 2.1: Provide one-on-one visits through newly enhanced Peer Visitor Program, and promote opportunities to participate in SCIRF-funded studies during these visits.

Progress on Objective 2.1:

During this period a total of six peer visits were made to individuals in each of the following cities: (Unless there are extenuating circumstances, the Peer Visitor Program provides individuals with one visit.)

St. Matthews (Phone Visit): June 18, 2014

Walterboro (Phone Visit): July 29, 2014

Greenville: September: September 1, 2014

Bowman: October 7, 2014

Vance: October 29, 2014

Columbia: November 20, 2014

A telephone peer visit was also conducted with a man from Los Angeles who was put in touch with Dot Colson through the Denny's Corporation.

A section was added to the form that peer visitors complete during their visits. Individuals are asked if they want to be contacted about research studies. When individuals request to be contacted, Angela Jacildone gets in touch with them individually, explains about the Research Fund, and encourages them to complete a more detailed information form.

Year Two, Objective 2.2: Make information on SCIRF and SCIRF-funded studies available on an ongoing basis through association newsletter, website, email communication and social media.

Progress on Objective 2.2:

An announcement went in the summer 2014 issue of the association's Outspoken newsletter about Catherine Graham's new role with SCIRF.

SCSCIA disseminated recruitment information on March 7, 2014 on: Association of race, education, income, and health care access with pressure ulcers (Lee Saunders). (Information was added to SCSCIA website, a Tweet was sent out, Facebook post made, and an email to professional members of SCSCIA.)

SCSCIA disseminated recruitment information on: Six-week Spinal Cord Injury Research Study being conducted by Chris Gregory SCIRF #10-004. (An email was sent out to the members of the Midlands Breeze Group on January 16, 2014. A Tweet was sent out on August 1, 2014 with the flyer included.) SCSCIA disseminated information on November 7, 2104 on SCIRF 2010 – 2014 report. (Emailed to professionals and individuals with spinal cord injuries through Mail Chimp service and posted on SCSCIA website.)

Note: Information was also disseminated on the following Longevity After Injury Studies:

SCSCIA disseminated information on June 12, 2014 and July 9, 2014 on: Depression in People With Spinal Cord Injuries conducted by the Longevity After Injury Project (Emailed to professionals working with spinal cord injury

through Mail Chimp service, posted on SCSCIA website, and Tweeted link to website.)

SCSCIA disseminated information on July 10, 2104 on: Behaviors Related to Maintaining Longevity by the Longevity After Injury Project (Emailed to professionals and individuals with spinal cord injuries through Mail Chimp service, posted on SCSCIA website, and Tweeted link to website.)

Goal 3: Plan and implement the WIND (Wheeling in New Directions) conference as a vehicle to highlight opportunities, options, and research studies for individuals with spinal cord injuries.

Year Two, Objective 3.1: Working in conjunction with a community-based committee, coordinate all sessions, activities, vendors, logistics and marketing for May 10, 2014 event.

After a year of planning, the WIND conference was hosted on May 10 at the Columbia Conference Center. A total of 118 individuals registered for the event, with 103 attending. The day's lineup was comprised of two general sessions and 12 breakout sessions, including sessions on yoga, exercise, parenting, and wheelchair maintenance. A total of 21 vendors displayed products and services.

Year Two, Objective 3.2: Include opportunities to promote SCIRF and provide a research update at the event.

The final session, "On the Cutting Edge" was presented by Catherine Graham, providing an update/introduction on SCIRF and SCIRF-sponsored research.

All promotional materials included that conference funding was from SCIRF.

Goal 4: Provide education on spinal cord injury in order to better equip professionals and volunteers to serve individuals with spinal cord injuries.

Year Two, Objective 4.1: Incorporate a component on the South Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund at the annual Breeze leader training and appreciation workshop.

Progress on Objective 4.1: Lee Saunders presented: "Measuring Outcomes after Spinal Cord Injury in South Carolina" at the workshop on March 21, 2014.

Year Two, Objective 4.2: Highlight a particular research study at the annual Peer Visitor in-service.

Progress on Objective 4.2: Because there was not was not a relevant study to highlight at the time, SCSCIA chose instead to focus at the October 24, 2014 workshop on how peer visitors can help communicate about SCIRF and potential opportunities for participation in research.

Year Two, Objective 4.3: Furnish four in-service presentations to professionals who work with spinal cord injury to educate them on the work on the SCSCIA in the state and how the association collaborates with the South Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund. The in-services address SCSCIA information and referral services, educational updates provided to members, peer visitor program, Breeze groups, Stonemark Station promotion of self-employment, ThinkFirst , WIND, and the SC Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund.

Progress on Objective 4.3:

An in-service was done for eight Bayada Home Health Care Staff in Rock Hill on January 3, 2014.

An in-service was held for 16 Vocational Rehabilitation staff members at the Beaufort Office on January 13, 2014.

An in-service was held for 35 Richland and Lexington County Vocational Rehabilitation staff members on September 24, 2014.

Note: While the goal was four in-services, three in-services are scheduled in December 2014. The goal was for one of these to be held by the end of November, but the specific dates could not be worked out with the facilities.