

## **DDSN STAKEHOLDER SESSIONS**

The SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) is hosting eight community Stakeholder Sessions across the state. March is Disability Awareness Month, so the timing is perfect for the agency to speak with stakeholders about the future of the service delivery system for our state. The healthcare world is changing. Changes at both the national and state level may impact service delivery options to people with disabilities and special needs. DDSN is thinking forward in order to better navigate and adjust to upcoming changes.

DDSN desires to engage in meaningful conversations with consumers, families, advocates, providers, and other stakeholders to better understand the value of the current services DDSN provides. What services are the most and least important? What can DDSN do to create or improve supports to individuals and families? Are there other models or approaches to supporting people with disabilities and special needs and their families that would improve quality and value while lowering costs? On the healthcare end, we want stakeholders to identify concerns with accessing physician or clinic-based services. In what ways can these services be improved? What are the barriers to getting healthcare? Are there parts of the system that are working well that you want to be sure remain in place?

New national trends in healthcare give us a wonderful opportunity to strengthen, modify, and adopt new initiatives to provide better services and improved results. Each stakeholder session will break into four concurrent target groups. These break-out groups will allow us to focus discussion on issues specific to the service needs of individuals and families across the state. The groups are:

- 1) Young children (birth-5 years)
- 2) School age children (ages 6-21)
- 3) Adults who live in their home or at home with family
- 4) Adults who live in DDSN residential settings

Please join us for one of the eight sessions across the state most convenient for you. We will start at 6:00PM and end by 7:30PM. Attached is the meeting schedule and if you have any questions please contact DDSN at 803-898-9600.

In addition to the community Stakeholder Sessions, DDSN will conduct an online stakeholder survey. The survey will cover similar topics to the discussion points of the Stakeholder Sessions and provide opportunity for further input to the agency. The survey will be available during the month of March via the DDSN website. Additional information and updates will be posted on the DDSN website at <http://ddsn.sc.gov>.

**SC DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS  
Stakeholder Sessions**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
February 27, 2012 – Monday	6:00 PM– 7:30 PM	Pawley’s Island  Pawley’s Island Presbyterian Church 9967 Ocean Highway, Pawley’s Island, SC Open Door Fellowship Hall
March 1, 2012 –Thursday	6:00 PM– 7:30 PM	Rock Hill  Grace Lutheran Church 426 Oakland Ave Rock Hill, SC, 29730
March 5, 2012 – Monday	6:00 PM– 7:30 PM	Greenville  Hughes Main Library 25 Heritage Green Place Greenville, SC 29601 Meeting Rooms A and B
March 12, 2012 -- Monday	6:00 PM– 7:30 PM	Florence  Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Library 509 South Dargan Street Florence, SC 29506 Joe Stukes meeting room
March 15, 2012 – Thursday	6:00 PM– 7:30 PM	Columbia  Rich/Lex DSN Board R. L. Bryan Building 301 Grey Stone Blvd Columbia SC 29210
March 19, 2012 – Monday	6:00 PM– 7:30 PM	Ridgeland  Palmetto Electric Cooperative 4063 Grays Highway Ridgeland, SC 29936
March 22, 2012 – Thursday	6:00 PM– 7:30 PM	Charleston  Goodwill Industries of Lower South Carolina 2150 Eagle Dr. North Charleston SC 29406
March 26, 2012 – Monday	6:00 PM– 7:30 PM	Greenwood  Burton Center 2605 Hwy. 72/221 E. Greenwood, SC 29649

- Greenville Location added and Charleston address corrected