



The Journal

Quarterly Newsletter– August 2025 - 18th Edition
The Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center

PO Box 81-322 Mobley Street
Clover, SC 29710
Tax Exempt ID 47-2092359

SJEC Summer Program 2025: Story Strong

This summer, the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center hosted another exciting five-week program for children in grades Pre-K through 2nd. With an average daily attendance of 18 eager learners, the program was filled with opportunities for growth, friendship, and discovery.

Each day began with morning devotion, setting a positive and uplifting tone. The children engaged in a balance of structured learning and free exploration, with a special focus on reading to strengthen literacy skills, along with some hands-on math activities. Time was also set aside for physical fitness, ensuring both minds and bodies stayed active.

Highlights of the summer included educational field trips, which allowed students to extend their classroom learning into real-world experiences. These outings brought lessons to life and created memories that will last a lifetime. In addition to academics and enrichment, students enjoyed guest visitors and bonding with new friends and developing social skills in a nurturing environment.

Each day, children were served a healthy lunch and afternoon snack, with breakfast offered in the morning to give them a strong start. This ensured that every child was nourished and ready to learn.

The SJEC Summer Program continues to be a place where children are encouraged to explore, imagine, and grow. We are grateful to the families, volunteers, and community partners who made this summer such a success!



Left: The Library Mobile visited weekly, which encouraged reading.

Top right: Fun Water day was held at the YMCA.

Bottom right: A visit by Mr. Hemingway was absolutely exciting and appreciated.

Volunteers
Are
Welcomed!



A Community That Cares Park Pointe Village Blesses Our Students

The Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center is blessed to have board members who go above and beyond to support our mission. One shining example is our devoted board member, Monique Boekhout, whose kindness and commitment continue to touch the lives of our children in meaningful ways.



Recently, Monique once again showed her love for our students by delivering a truckload of delicious snacks and drinks to the Center. These after-school treats bring joy to our children and help fuel them as they learn, play, and grow each day.

What makes this gift even more special is the generosity of the residents of *Park Pointe Village* in Rock Hill, SC, the retirement community where Monique lives. Their willingness to give and share reflects a deep love for children and a shared belief in nurturing the next generation. Through their donations, they remind us all that kindness has no age limit and that community truly extends beyond walls and neighborhoods.

We are deeply grateful to Monique and the residents of Park Pointe Village for their continued generosity. Their gifts of snacks are more than just food—they are a demonstration of care, compassion, and encouragement that help our students thrive.

Shining in Blue: The Annual Spring Performance



All dressed in blue, this happy group made their annual Spring Performance unforgettable. Their smiles and songs filled the room with joy, and their hard work truly shined. Each year, they remind us how special it is to see our children share their gift of music.

A special thanks to Mrs. Johnson, whose hard work and guidance help our students grow through music.

Because of you, our children discover new skills, new dreams, and new confidence.

"Your support is changing lives."

Investing in Beauty, Inspiring Our Communities



The Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center is proud to partner with *Keep York County Beautiful*, an organization dedicated to preserving natural beauty, protecting the environment, and inspiring community action. Their mission is clear: *to encourage citizens to take personal responsibility for improving the environment of their York County community*. With a vision of an empowered, well-educated community committed to beautification, litter prevention, and recycling solutions, *Keep York County Beautiful* works tirelessly to make our county a better and safer place to live.

Each year, the Enrichment Center receives a grant through this initiative to help maintain and beautify our facility's grounds. We believe that the beauty of our outdoor spaces sends a strong message: to the families we serve, it says "you are safe here," and to our community, it shows "we care." Clean, welcoming grounds not only create a sense of pride but also encourage our neighbors to join us in keeping the environment safe and beautiful.

Just as importantly, this work allows us to instill in our children a respect for the spaces they use and the community they call home. When they see their building and grounds cared for with such intentionality, they learn that beauty, responsibility, and safety go hand in hand. Together, with volunteers, neighbors, and the support of *Keep York County Beautiful* we are creating a stronger, cleaner, and more caring community.

From Student to Leader

Celebrating One of Our Own—Jakarhi Mason

At the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center, we believe that when children are nurtured in a safe, loving, and empowering environment, they grow not only in knowledge but also in character. One shining example of this is a young lady who has journeyed with us from student to role model.

Jakarhi first walked through our doors as an elementary school student in the SJJEC program. When she aged out, her story could have ended there but instead, she chose to give back. Starting in the 6th grade, she began volunteering with our Summer Enrichment Program. For three summers straight, and never missing a single day of service, she gave her all. Her dedication and reliability spoke volumes, even at such a young age. By the 10th grade, her commitment had earned her a place on our staff as a Summer Counselor and Assistant. Now, as a high school senior preparing to graduate this December in 3 1/2 years, she is returning to us once again, this time as an *After School Program Counselor*.

Her journey is more than just a personal success story. She is living proof of the mission of SJJEC: nurturing children, instilling values, and preparing them to lead with heart. Dedicated, caring, and committed, she is a wonderful role model for our students today—showing them that service, perseverance, and responsibility open doors to opportunity.

We are beyond proud of her, and she stands among the many success stories of students who have grown through our programs and are now thriving in school, careers, and community. She reminds us all that when you plant seeds of care and encouragement, the harvest is strong leaders who return to give back.



Community Partners Who Nourish Our Children

The Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center has been blessed by the generosity of local businesses and caring individuals who ensure that our children are well-fed during the Summer Program. Each day, our students look forward not only to learning and fun, but also to enjoying a nutritious meal provided with love from our community.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Hardee's, Subway, KFC, McDonald's, and Pizza Hut, whose faithful support has helped us provide lunches year after year. Their continued commitment has allowed us to focus on enriching the lives of children, knowing that their physical needs are cared for by our neighbors.

In addition to our business partners, we also thank the many individuals who stepped forward with donations of lunches and fresh fruits throughout the summer. Your acts of kindness remind us that it truly takes a village to raise a child.

Because of your generosity, our children not only received nourishment for their bodies but also experienced the love, care, and support of a community that believes in them. For this, we are deeply grateful.

Honoring the Legacy of Two Dedicated Leaders

Since our last newsletter, the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center family has experienced the loss of two extraordinary board members whose lives of service shaped both our Center and the greater Clover community: **Rev. Stellie J. Jackson** and **Mr. Willie Green Phillips**.



Rev. Stellie J. Jackson Although Rev. Jackson passed away in February, we did not formally honor him in our May newsletter. We take this opportunity to lift up his remarkable legacy. Rev. Jackson, for whom our Center is named, was the first African American to serve on the Clover School District Board of Trustees, where he dedicated more than ten years of faithful service. His deep commitment to civic involvement, education, and community service continues to inspire our mission.



Mr. Willie Green Phillips was a tireless advocate for justice and preservation. Known as a true legend in Clover, he worked faithfully to protect and uplift the Roosevelt community and to ensure that its history and contributions would not be forgotten. Through his involvement in numerous civic and community organizations, he became a voice for fairness, equality, and unity. His leadership reflected his unwavering commitment to keeping Clover strong and inclusive.

Both Rev. Jackson and Mr. Phillips were charter members of the Board of the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center. From the Center's very beginning, they poured their hearts, wisdom, and energy into its mission. Even as their health declined, their dedication never wavered. Their legacy lives on in the countless children, families, and neighbors whose lives have been touched through the work of SJJEC.

