



neighborhood outreach connection

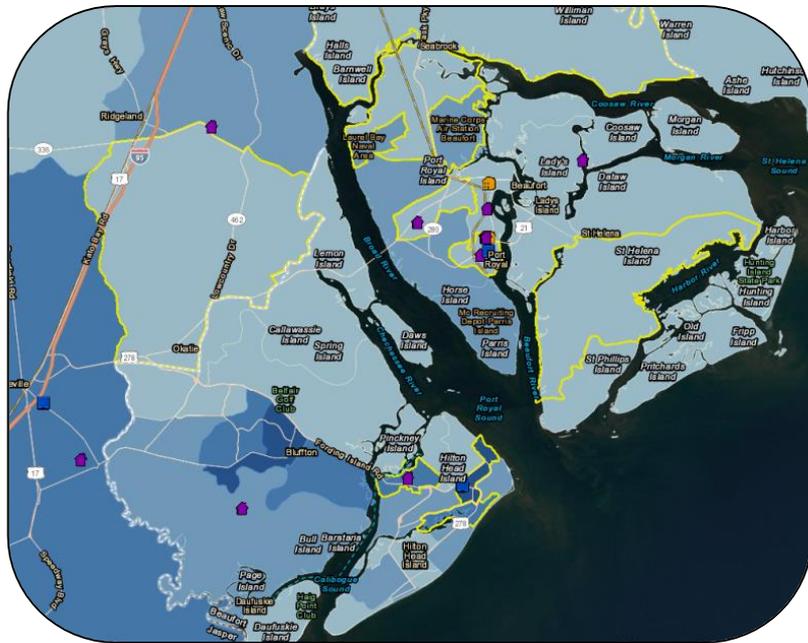
NOC is making a difference in the lives of many people living in low-income neighborhoods in Beaufort County, SC



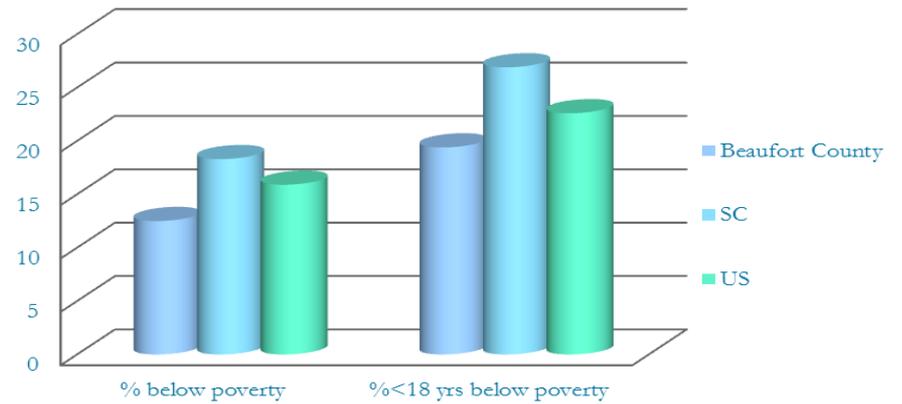
Narendra P. Sharma, PhD



Poverty: Beaufort County



Poverty Levels in Beaufort County, South Carolina, & USA



Why we must fight poverty?

- **In Beaufort County, SC ...**
- *20% of children less than 18 years of age live in poverty*
- *Many of these children come from a single parent household.*
- *More than 40% of African-American and Hispanic students, accounting for 55% of the 22,000 students in public schools, fall in the academic “achievement gap.”*
- *80% of children younger than 4 years old living in low-income neighborhoods lack access to pre-school readiness learning.*
- *Over 90% of people living in low-income neighborhoods do not have health insurance.*
- *Many of the poor live in underserved neighborhoods that lack stability, security, and opportunities.*

Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) empowers people

VISION: NOC envisions a level playing field for everyone so that they enjoy a better quality of life.

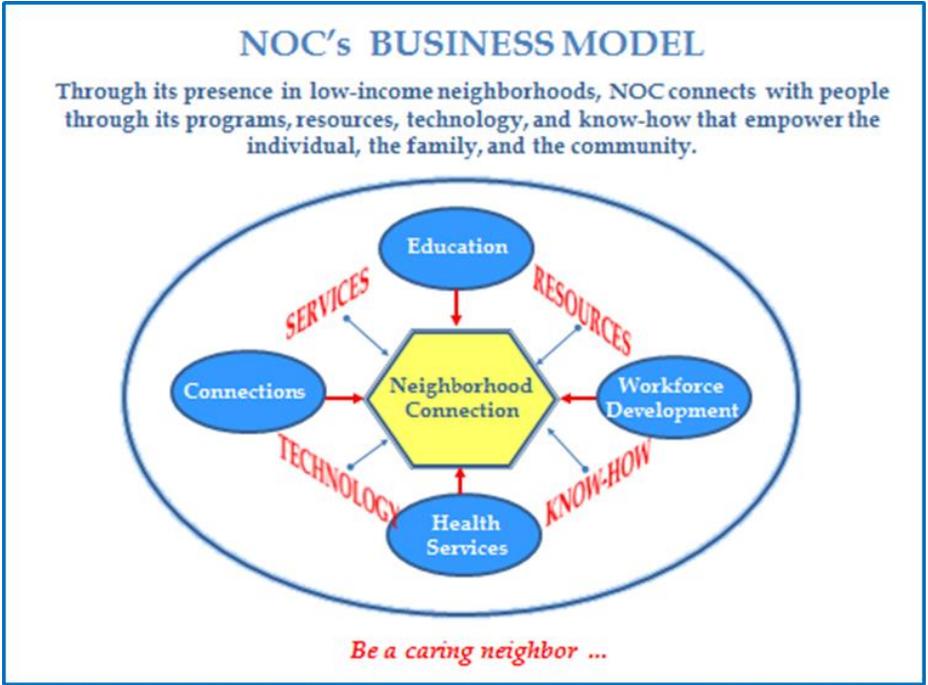
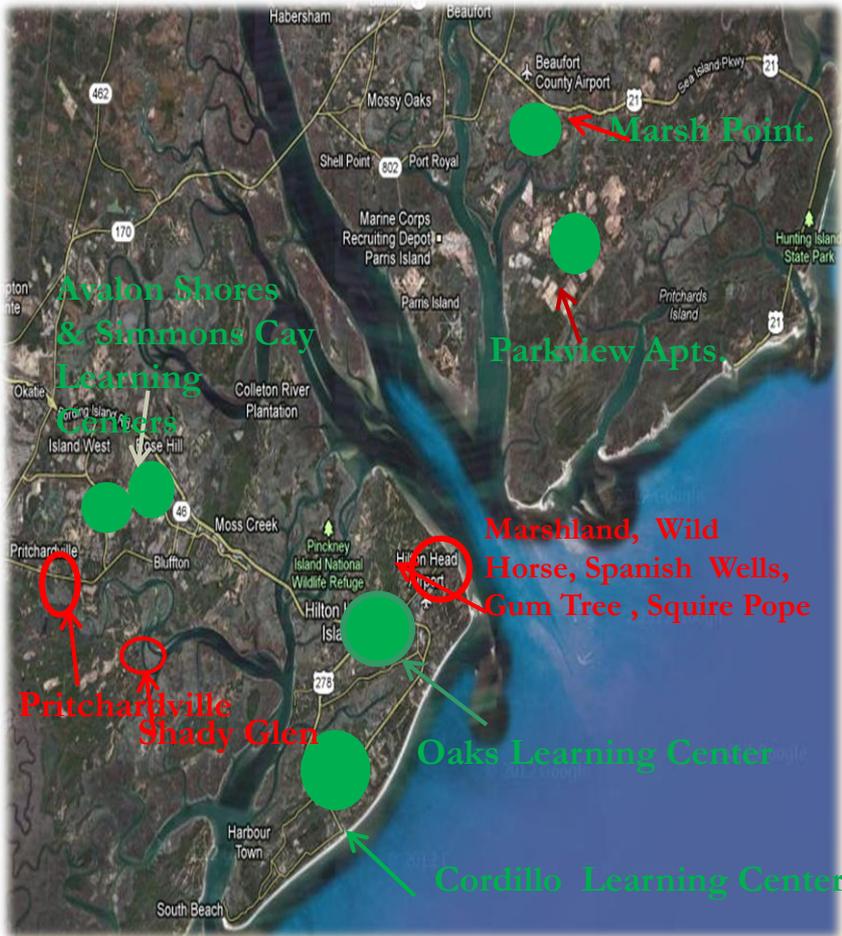
MISSION: NOC fights poverty by helping individuals achieve economic independence and personal fulfillment.

FOCUS: Empowerment through “teaching people how to fish.”

CORE VALUES: Compassion, Respect, and Integrity



NOC development approach and business model



NOC targets low-income neighborhoods

- *People in low-income neighborhoods provide critical labor .*
- *They add to diversity and contribute to the local economy.*
- *Children in these neighborhoods who graduate with the right skills and knowledge will build our workforce and contribute to the economy.*
- *Absence of these workers will increase wage costs, add to labor scarcity, erode investments, and undermine the local economy.*
- *The absence of this workforce will increase the cost of living for fixed income retirees and erode the competitiveness of the local area.*

NOC's flagship education program

- *NOC now serves 450 children in 6 locations in Beaufort County.*
- *NOC program extends over 160 days a year , ranging from 75 minutes to 2 hours daily, Monday through Thursday for the after-school and summer program.*
- *NOC adds an equivalent of 28 days to the public schools' 180 days per annum.*
- *NOC's program is supported by a strong field team (program managers, neighborhood liaisons, trained teachers, and volunteers) and technology.*
- *More than 94% of NOC children show academic growth in standardized tests.*
- *NOC delivers its program at less than \$1,000 annually per child.*



Oaks is NOC's success story

Oaks is now an attractive complex...

- *Property values are up and crime is down and hardworking families have moved in.*
- *Children continuously participate in NOC education programs with the support of BCSD teachers, technology, and volunteers and show academic improvements in math, reading, and language arts.*
- *Residents have access to a refurbished community center, restroom facilities, a playground and small soccer field, annual health screenings, and adult education.*
- *Residents now organize and enjoy their own social events and show a sense of community.*
- *Onsite security, management, the Owners Association make Oaks a safer, stable, and attractive neighborhood.*



Bluffton is also a success story

- *In 2011 NOC was invited by the management group to establish a learning center to help build a stronger community.*
- *In 2013, a Boston-based company bought Bluffton House and asked NOC to terminate its services there.*
- *NOC mobilized local support, which played an important role in convincing this new group to rent NOC an apartment for \$1,000 per month to operate its services.*
- *The same company has recently bought Simmons Cay and will convert this complex into luxury apartments.*
- *Now this company wants NOC to continue with its services at Avalon Shores as well as at Simmons Cay because of its positive impact at Avalon.*



NOC has a solid track record

NOC has received national and local recognition for its achievements:

- George H. W. Bush Daily Point of Light Award
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Community Service
- Encore Purpose Prize Award
- Foundation for Educational Excellence Peggy May Inspiration Award
- The John Calamari Humanitarian Award



The Cordillo problem

- *Cordillo is a poverty, crime-ridden, and underserved neighborhood; more 80% live in poverty.*
- *There are more than 225 apartment units in Cordillo, Hedges , and Woodhaven, accounting for more than 1,000 people.*
- *More than 140 children attend public schools; nearly all are in free lunch program, and more than 45% do not perform at grade level in math, reading, or language arts.*
- *After operating for 3.5 years at Cordillo, NOC will, effective May 2018, cease its programs (after school/summer learning for children, annual health screening, and workforce development) in keeping with the settlement agreement with Cordillo Board.*
- *This action will result in irreparable harm to children and hard working families.*

Why we should be concerned

- *People in Cordillo, Hedges, and Woodhaven provide critical labor .*
- *They add to diversity and contribute to the local economy.*
- *Children in these neighborhoods graduating with the right skills and knowledge will build our workforce and contribute to the economy.*
- *Absence of these workers will increase wage costs, add to labor scarcity, erode investments, and undermine the local economy.*
- *The Cordillo problem is a microcosm of a larger issue that relates to affordable housing for low-income workers and the workforce in HHI.*

Noc supports the town's Cordillo project

Timely Project: A step in the right direction

Proposed uses:

- *Community center, adult and youth tennis, and pickle ball. ✓
(the community center component is a vitally important and essential feature of this project)*

Proposed physical components:

- *Community center configuration; size/location of restrooms and storage facilities critical. ✓*
- *1-2 full size courts for adult tennis. ✓*
- *2-3 full size courts for youth tennis and pickle ball. ✓*

Project has significant benefits

Significant social and economic benefits:

The project will:

- *Increase property value over time.*
- *Improve the appearance of the area and change perception.*
- *Promote youth tennis, including children in the 3 apartment complexes.*
- *Promote community development and social networking through diverse use of the community center.*
- *Provide opportunities to all people to enjoy tennis, pickle ball, and social events.*
- *Build bridges among communities of diverse backgrounds.*
- *Reduce crime and youth delinquency*

How you can help the Cordillo children and families

- *Write to Mayor David Bennett and the Island Packet, supporting the Town's conceptual plan to develop the 1.45 acres owned by the Town.*
- *Promote community activism to create opportunities for the people in these neighborhoods to improve the quality of life and to give them dignity.*
- *Help NOC's outreach programs through donations, goods, and volunteer services.*
- *Be involved in finding a solution for the children in the event that the community building is not completed by May 2018.*
- *Visit NOC's Learning Center and meet the children and NOC' field team.*

MORAL and economic imperative

Together we can create opportunities and pathways so that those in need can achieve economic and social progress , as well as a better quality of life. By doing so, we will enhance our own well-being and the entire society will gain .





neighborhood outreach connection

For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you visited Me ...

Matthew 25:35 (NIV)

