



Leath Correctional Institution

Greenwood, SC



Warden Angelia Rawski



Associate Warden Patricia Yeldell

An Overview of the Institution

Braille Production Center

Chaplain

Character Craft Program

Education

Horticulture

Medical

Maintenance

Prison Industries

PCA Program

SCCA

SPICE Program





Leath Correctional Institution

The mission of the South Carolina Department of Corrections is:

Safety—we will protect the public, our employees, and our inmates.

Service—we will provide rehabilitation and self-improvement opportunities for inmates.

Stewardship—we will promote professional excellence, fiscal responsibility, and self-sufficiency.



Leath Correctional Institution opened in September of 1991 and has been accredited since 1993. The institution sits on thirty-nine acres on Airport Road in Greenwood, SC. Angelia Rawski is the Warden and Patricia Yeldell is the Associate Warden. Together they lead a team of employees who are dedicated to the agency's mission. Of the institution's 145 employees, 105 are members of the security staff and 40 are non-uniformed personnel.

The current inmate population is 562 with a maximum capacity of 968. During their incarceration, inmates are offered a wide variety of employment and education opportunities so that they are prepared for successful reentry into society.

In Honor of Their Service to Leath Correctional Institution:

Warden Richard Bazzle Warden Catherine Kendall

[Return to Main Page](#)

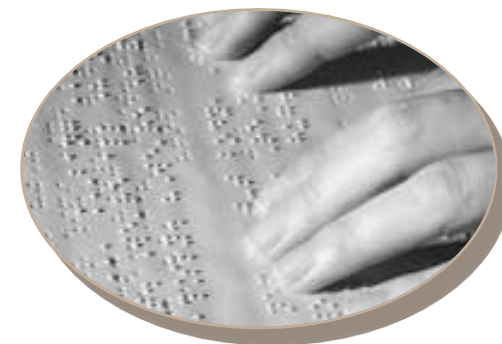


The South Carolina Braille Production Center

Providing Quality Braille Textbooks and Tactile Graphics



The Braille Production Center opened in 2002. It provides an invaluable service to the blind students of South Carolina by supplying educational materials not otherwise available. The center produces K-12 textbooks. Subjects range from early readers to calculus and foreign languages. Material is embossed and bound on site after an extensive proofreading process.



The center currently employs 12 inmates as textbook transcribers and tactile graphics specialists. The inmates learn new skills, give back to society, and prepare to successfully reenter the community. Transcribers are nationally certified in Literary Braille, Textbook Formatting, and the Nemeth Braille Code for Mathematics and Science Notation.

“Helping these children has given my life meaning again.”

The inmates acquire office skills and are trained in computer programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, CorelDraw, Duxbury, and Braille 2000. Recidivism rates are reduced due to increased employment opportunities.

“Using my sight to help a visually impaired student means so much to me.”

The inmates work 37.5 hours per week. They produce an average of 5,800 Braille pages and 1,200 tactile graphics per month. The program is administered by the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind.



Our Mission

The mission of the South Carolina Braille Production Center is to provide quality Braille textbooks in a quick and efficient manner, while providing skills and a sense of self-worth to the inmates at Leath Correctional Institution.

[Return to Main Page](#)



The Chaplaincy Division



Senior Chaplain Dr. D.M. Jamison

The Chaplaincy Division is instrumental in the rehabilitation of our female offenders. Most people would think the Chaplain's Division only deals with things of a religious nature; however, much more is offered. The Chaplain's Division is able to offer many programs on a daily basis due to donations from volunteers, nonprofit organizations, local businesses, and the inmates themselves. Most programs are offered to any inmate that wants to participate.

"Chaplain Jamison's mission has always been to minister to the mind, body, and soul. "

Inmate Participant



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Alcoholics Anonymous is a voluntary fellowship of women of all religious faiths who meet together to obtain and maintain sobriety. The only requirement for membership is the desire to stop drinking. AA is a program of total abstinence. Sobriety is maintained through sharing experiences, gaining strength and hope through group meetings, and following the suggested 12-step program for recovery from alcoholism.

BECOMING A WOMAN GOD CAN USE

This 6-week bible study course is based on the book of Esther. This course will teach you how to deal with out of control situations, show you how God can still use you in unfavorable circumstances if you are willing to let Him and how to offer the uncontrollable to God's care.

BIRTHDAY CLUB

This is a monthly celebration of birthdays that is given by outside volunteers to the inmates.

BREAKING FREE

This bible study course is based on Beth Moore's book "Breaking Free". The objective is to produce a rehabilitated, productive citizen by making liberty in Christ a reality in the inmate's life.



CARDS

Inmates are allowed to pick out different occasion cards to send to their families. This outreach ministry encourages them to keep in touch with their love ones and helps them to embrace the concept of connectedness.

CATHOLIC

This group meets weekly and provides an opportunity for members of the Catholic faith to worship together.

CELEBRATION

This workshop enables the inmate to discover the gifts, talents, and abilities that lie dormant within them. They are taught to tap into their unused potential and celebrate their spiritual self.

CHILD PARENT DAY - SCHOOL EVENT

This workshop is designed for Mothers to be able to mentor their children for the up and coming school year. Mothers will be instructed on how to encourage their children in decision making, relationships, grades and behaviors.



CHOIR

This group meets weekly. Musical talents and gifts are demonstrated through singing at worship services.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Interns from various colleges are available for counseling with inmates, bringing in their therapeutic knowledge to impact the mental health of our community.

EMPOWERING WOMEN

Developing a life under control is the theme of this 12-week workshop. Inmates are encouraged to develop spiritual disciplines to help them overcome past traumatic events.

GRIEF WORKSHOP

This 12-week program is conducted with the aid of videos and workbooks to enable participants to process their unresolved grief experiences by encouraging them to journalize their hurts and process their mourning. Many participants have lost family members or loved ones without the benefit of saying goodbye or attending the funeral of the deceased. This workshop allows them to face their loss, express their grief, and deal with their emotions of depression and anger.



The Leath Chapel dedication ceremony was held on February 21, 2013. This marked the culmination of a 22 year dream. The Leath Chapel Fund was established in 1991 by Former Chaplain Mitchell Wray and Mrs. Gail Wilson, a Prison Fellowship Volunteer. Dr. Delcinia Jamison took over the fund when she became Chaplain in 2007 and saw it through to fruition.



IT'S TOUGH BEING A WOMAN

This workshop addresses the issues of feeling inadequate, threatened or pushed into overpowering situations.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS

This group meets weekly and provides an opportunity for members of the Jehovah faith to worship and provide one-on-one counseling.

JOB READINESS

Job Readiness is a 12-week workshop for inmates who will be released within a six-month period. The purpose is to evaluate each inmate's job skills, teach job interview techniques, and to provide counseling on job opportunities and guidance for applying for employment. Avenues are explored with each inmate, based on past employment experience, to aid them with job opportunities upon release.

KAIROS

Meets monthly and is an ecumenical organization designed to teach a daily prayer and share atmosphere through scripture and personal testimony.

THE KEY TO YOUR EXPECTED END

This Bible Study is a true story by Katie Souza who was once incarcerated and inspiring inmates about her miraculous stories while in prison.

MUSLIM

This group meets weekly and provides an opportunity for members of the Muslim faith to worship together.

NEW CONVERTS CLASS

This class is designed to assist inmates who are new and old Christian believers. The focus is to help inmates develop a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Christian and to live as a Christian according to God's plan.

ONE ON ONE BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Bible study groups are available to inmates upon request. Services are provided by the Chaplain and qualified volunteers. Sessions are weekly and last for 1 hour.

ONE ON ONE MENTORING

One-On-One counseling sessions are available to inmates upon request. Sessions are held weekly for 30 minutes. Services are provided by the Chaplain and qualified volunteers.

PAPER MOMS

This is a six-week workshop that is designed to teach the inmate skills for communicating, encouraging, corresponding and restoring their relationship with their children.

PAPER MOM'S CROCHET CLASS

This group is a spin-off class from the Paper Moms Parenting Class. The class meets weekly. In this class the inmates learn to crochet various items for their children. The items are given to the children during Parent/Child Day mentoring sessions.





PARENT CHILD DAY FESTIVAL

This event is held once a year in the Leath gymnasium. The inmates and the caretakers of their children are encouraged to interact with each other through playing various indoor and outdoor games.

PARENTING

Parenting classes teach biblically based techniques for child rearing and are designed to equip inmates with the ability to break generational patterns which have resulted in broken families. The techniques taught are foundational to healthy family interactions.

PRAISE TEAM

This team meets weekly and was developed to allow the inmates the opportunity to express their spirituality through dance and music.



PRAYER SESSION

On every Tuesday, two sessions of prayer are available to Inmates. All religious preference are allowed to come to the Chapel for one hour of prayer as well as to submit a prayer request.

PURPOSE DRIVEN WORKSHOP

This workshop is based upon a book by Rick Warren entitled "The Purpose Driven Life". This workshop meets weekly with qualified volunteers.

REDEEMED WOMEN - INTIMACY WITH GOD

Redeemed Women is a non-profit organization which focuses on one's ability to apply the concept of forgiveness to her own life. Inmates learn that forgiveness of self and others is important to them in terms of developing healthy self-esteem and having successful relationships in the future.

RELAPSE PREVENTION WORKSHOP

The goal of this 12-week workshop is to effectively address lifestyles and behaviors that led to prison. It teaches how to recognize and understand things that trigger bad behavior, and helps identify people and places that need to be avoided. Certificates are issued upon completion of this workshop.

S.A.L.T.

This Christian bible study focuses on the seven areas of life. It teaches inmates to excel in the spiritual, physical, marital, social, psychological, financial, and relational areas of their lives.

SHOPLIFTERS RESOLUTION WORKSHOP

Helps the inmate understand the reasons, risks, and stressors related to the shoplifting addiction. The inmates will be better prepared to break the cycle of shoplifting addiction.

SPANISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

This workshop will enable inmates to learn basic conversational Spanish. It will assist them in communicating with the non-English speaking inmates, and will also serve as a very marketable skill upon release.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING WORKSHOP

This workshop assists inmates with securing a transitional housing facility upon release from the institution.

WICCAN

This group meets weekly and provides an opportunity for members of the Wicca faith to worship together.

A WOMEN'S HEALTH FAIR

This workshop is designed to teach inmates the importance of various health issues. There will be discussions on the importance of a healthy heart, the issues with blood pressure, why weight is important, the diabetic dilemma and many other relevant topics.

WOMEN STEPPING INTO FITNESS - 1

This is a 5-week physical fitness program to improve overall health. This consists of various stretching, aerobic, circuit, and kick boxing exercises. This program is high impact.





The Character Craft Program



Heather Green
Program Coordinator

The Character Craft Program started in 2011 initially as a Character Crochet Group with 6 starting participants and 3 mentors. It immediately became apparent that this was an excellent way to reach women within the facility and help them change their lives to reflect a more positive way of living. What was not expected at the start of the Program was the effect that creating crochet items and gaining mastery of skills had on the participants' self-esteem. Women that were often quiet and withdrawn soon became outgoing, creative and positive. Immediately the staff sought ways to expand the program. The community came to our aid and donated much needed materials and the Alston Wilkes Society immediately sought ways to help the group expand further. In 2012 the Program moved to its own Quad on Laurel Building and lived together while working on their positive character traits. The group met once a week for a Character Class and created items throughout the week for community projects.

Sadly, the Addiction Treatment Program at Leath moved to Graham Correctional Institution, leaving a programming void at Leath. Warden Rawski and Ms. Green soon determined that the Character Crochet Program should expand and become the full-fledged Character Craft Program on Alexander Building, which had beds for 96 inmates. As soon as word reached Leath's Compound, the applications poured in and more beds were needed. The Program went into full swing in September of 2012. As of October 2013, there are 92 Program Participants. The Program consists of classes in Anger Management, Positive Thinking, Life in Recovery for inmates with substance abuse histories, Self-Esteem, Character in the Bible, Impact of Crime, Sexual Trauma for victims of sexual abuse, Creative Writing, and GED Tutoring in addition to classes in crocheting, cross stitch, drawing, beading and card making. The bulletin boards on each Quad display character related topics and chalk boards on each Quad have character quotes to remind the inmates to remain positive.





Positive Character living is stressed during Building Meetings and daily living. There are character building activities and even a Glee Club. The inmates are thriving in this environment and self-esteem is at an all-time high, which is amazing considering some of the environments the women in this Program lived in before incarceration. The inmates support each other, teach each other and grow daily. The craft portion of this program offers an esteem building approach to otherwise unreachable women. It also teaches them skills useful in rebuilding their lives and when they are released back into society.



One of the most important aspects of the Character Craft Program is community outreach. The inmates are currently working on projects for Community Initiatives, The Greenwood Guardian ad Litem Program, Hospice House, the Burton Center, local charity drives in the community, individual projects brought to us by the community for people in need, The Greenwood Cancer Fund and recently working with several local mental health agencies to provide needed items to their patients. The inmates are completely dedicated to giving back to those in need and find it provides purpose in their lives.



Since the Character Craft Program receives no funding, it has been amazing to see the outpouring of community support it has received. Without this support the Program could not exist. Additionally, Greenwood and the surrounding communities are given a different, positive view of inmates and what they can achieve with support



[Return to Main Page](#)



Education



- The Leath Adult Education Center operates under the Palmetto Unified School District 1 (PUSD).
- The program focuses on the population over the age of twenty-one.
- Adult learners have the opportunity to earn a GED, a vocational certificate or a WorkKeys certificate.
- For the 2012/2013 school year, a total of 38 GED's, 107 WorkKeys and 140 Vocational Horticulture certificates were presented.
- Once a year, an awards ceremony is given to honor these recipients.

[Return to Main Page](#)



Horticulture

The Leath Vocational Horticulture program features a variety of educational opportunities to prepare inmates for various career options in the field of horticulture upon their release.

Inmates can earn up to three levels of horticultural certificates while participating in the horticulture class. Each level requires class work and on the job training with a minimum of 200 hours over a span of 6 months. Classes are held Monday through Friday. Students earn a total of 15 hours each week.

Classes include gardening, landscaping, plant identification, plant propagation, and greenhouse operation.

Leath Horticulture has two plant sales each year in the spring and fall. Inmates in the class grow and nurture the plants from seed. They are sold to employees, visitors, and volunteers.

We also have a grounds maintenance crew that is responsible for maintaining the Leath grounds. This includes cutting, edging, and trimming the grass. It also involves installing and maintaining flowerbeds, trimming trees and shrubs, and removing debris from the grounds.



We have a garden that produces healthy vegetables for the Leath cafeteria year-round. This helps to reduce food costs for the cafeteria. For the year ending 2012, a total of 8,666 pounds of vegetables were provided to the cafeteria from the garden.

This year, we have produced:

30 Lbs. of broccoli

825 Lbs. of tomatoes

480 Lbs. of collards

480 Lbs. of squash

60 Lbs. of okra

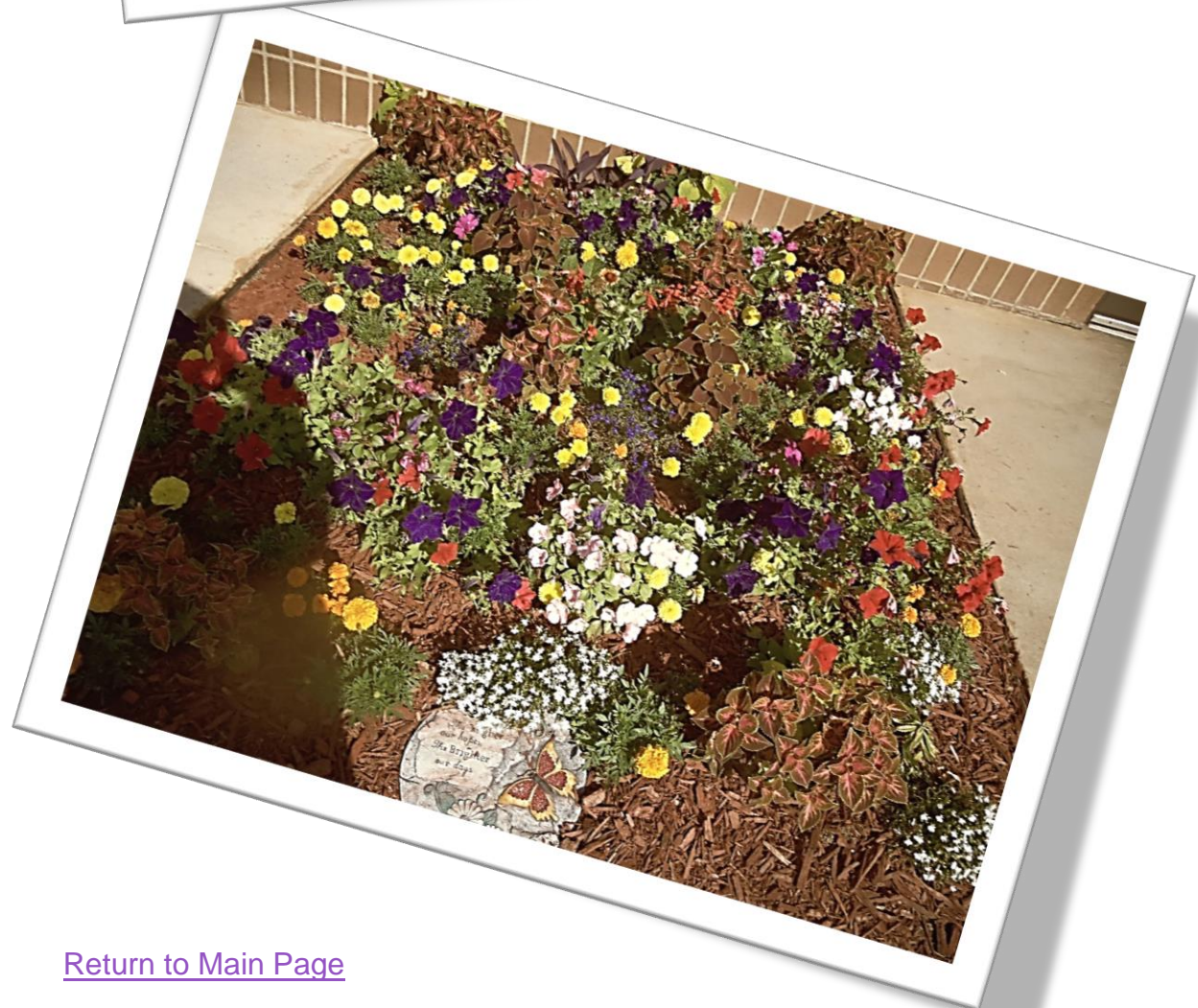
200 Lbs. of lettuce

170 Lbs. of green beans

40 Lbs. of snow peas

10 Lbs. of green peppers

30 Lbs. of turnips



[Return to Main Page](#)



Medical

The Leath Medical Department began when Leath first opened in 1991. Presently our staff consists of a board certified family practice doctor with over 30 years of experience, a general practice dentist with 30 years of experience, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, a dental assistant, and a certified nursing assistant with over 100 years combined experience.



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- *Chronic Care Clinics for conditions such as hypertension and asthma are conducted weekly.*
 - *Sick Call Clinic is available three times a week.*
 - *Doctor Clinic is offered four times a week.*
 - *Dental Clinic is available twice a week.*
 - *Emergency medical treatment is available to our inmates 7 days a week.*
-

We are very excited about our [Personal Care Assistant \(PCA\) program](#) which selects and trains inmates to help other inmates who need assistance with their activities of daily living. The PCA's receive training and a certificate which provides them with skills and experience that can help them prepare for their future once they leave the institution. We also have monthly programs for our [S.P.I.C.E. program](#) and a Wellness Program through the Chaplain.

[Return to Main Page](#)



Maintenance

Electrical

Plumbing

Tile Work

HVAC

Painting

Sheetrock

Concrete Work



The Leath Maintenance Department provides quality building maintenance services in a manner that provides a safe and comfortable environment for the entire institution. It takes a lot of effort to maintain such a large facility. The supervisors and workers are on call seven days a week to resolve emergency situations quickly and efficiently.

The workers receive training from highly skilled supervisors in a variety of areas such as electrical, plumbing, and HVAC. The skills and certifications that they receive help them prepare for a bright future upon release from the institution.



Prison Industries



Prison Industry has been at Leath for twenty-one years. During that time, we have sewn for many different companies such as Third Generation Garment Factory, Craig Industries and Josten's. Craig Industries has produced items for the United States Army, Marines, ROTC, Disney, Anvil and AT&T. We have made T-shirts for Delta Apparel which promotes "Made in the USA" garments. Josten's has made caps, gowns, hoods, stoles, collars, and tassels at our facility. These garments were worn by many on "graduation day."

Some other companies that have contracted with the PI plant include Roche of NC (Christmas ornaments), Fuji of Greenwood (plastic reclaim), and Bracketbooks (purses in which part of the proceeds from sales went to a breast cancer fund).

Inmates working for a company are paid. Out of their checks, they pay restitution, child support, victim-witness, taxes and room and board. They also contribute to a long term savings account that they receive at the time of their release. The workforce at Leath is willing, eager and extremely talented. Please contact Thomas Frick, Business Manager, to see if our facility might be a cost effective alternative for your business.





Other inmates within the facility work on projects for the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Some of these inmates have never sewn before. These projects give them the opportunity to not only learn to make a garment but also to be part of a team.

The inmates also love to give back to the community. The blanket project started when one of the ladies used some scrap pieces of fleece to make a small blanket during her break. She stated that it was her birthday and she wanted to make something that someone else could use. Linda Littlefield, Prison Industries Supervisor, had the idea that blankets could be made from scrap and donated materials and given to nursing homes and other organizations in the community. The administration at Leath gave permission for the project and the blankets have been accepted with open arms. It has been a wonderful creative therapy for all the inmates involved.



The South Carolina Correctional **Leath** Chapter Association President Lt. Carter, along with the Girls on a Mission, gave away two grand prizes to residents at Magnolia Manor Nursing Home that were made by the inmates at **Leath** Correctional Institution.



Blankets were sewn and donated to the Relay for Life

[Return to Main Page](#)



PCA Program

Personal Care Assistant

Orthopedic Injuries

Cardiovascular

Infections

Cancer Patients

Amputees

Diabetics

Preoperative

Postoperative

Neurological Conditions

Respiratory

Care for the Aging

Under the direct supervision of the [Leath Medical Department](#),
The PCA program provides extra care for inmates in need.

Elements of the program

- **Medical Training:** Successful completion of a 20 hour training course which includes but is not limited to, volunteer rules and codes of conduct, universal precautions, safety procedures, patients' rights and confidentiality, weekly reports, effective communication, and assisting the patient with general care.
- **Team Building Classes:** PCA inmates participate in team building exercises with an end result of organizational skills, accurate perception, conflict resolution skills, overcoming diversity, innovative thinking, and a sense of responsibility.
- **Work Ethics Class:** This portion of the class creates a team that can cope with difficult situations in order to get the job done, while building character and preparing for a future upon release from the institution.
- **Rehabilitative Therapy:** The PCA workers and patients participate in an exercise program three times per week to enhance flexibility, strengthen, tone, control weight, and manage stress. This improves the quality of life while promoting a healthy lifestyle.



Our Mission

Helping people regain and maintain their independence through access to health care, education, teamwork, and compassion.

[Return to Main Page](#)



SCCA Leath Chapter



The Leath Chapter Association is comprised of a group of people that are full of compassion and zeal to help at all cost! The Leath Chapter Association is committed to being involved in the great community in which they live so that other lives will be better and more fulfilled!

The Mission of the South Carolina Correctional Association is:

- To promote professionalism and personal improvement in its members;
- To provide information and forums for the exchange of ideas and opinions to those involved or interested in the fields of institutional or community-based corrections;
- To promote public awareness of the efforts and issues faced by those engaged in the business of adult and juvenile corrections;
- To stimulate the creation and encourage the involvement of our association and its members in meaningful juvenile and adult crime prevention endeavors; and
- To provide opportunities for individuals involved in the broad array of state, local, federal, educational and non-governmental entities concerned with the business of institutional or community corrections to collaborate and interact for their individual enrichment, and to benefit the citizens of South Carolina.



Warden Rawski was the first to volunteer.

The Leath Chapter Association sponsored a blood drive at Leath. Twenty-three units were collected and each unit can save up to three lives. The Leath Chapter Association takes pride in giving back to the community.

EDUCATION

The South Carolina Leath Chapter Association sponsored a Gang Workshop at Leath Correctional Institution. The Gang Workshop shared important information on this widespread issue that is plaguing the state of South Carolina. Guest speakers elaborated on Gang Awareness issues such as how to readily identify gang members, gang tendencies, effects of gang violence, and what can be done to slow down gang violence.

With the increase in Gang Violence in Greenwood and throughout the state we have to be able to stay informed and keep up with the gang activity. The Gangs are constantly changing and law enforcement, corrections, and the community have to make a statement to show that we will do everything we can to keep the gangs from making the streets unsafe, keep gangs from destroying the neighborhoods, and keep gangs from intimidating the people in society. The community must stay informed and send out a message loud and clear. The Gang Violence has got to stop! The law enforcement community in conjunction with the community can do it

COMMUNITY

The South Carolina Leath Chapter Association held a fish fry fundraiser to support the Special Olympics. Although the organization daily helps to rehabilitate the inmates in the facility, we decided to step outside the four walls and make a difference in the community as well. After the fundraiser the SCCA organization donated fish, grits, baked beans and bread to the Faith Home in Greenwood.



Pictured are two Faith Home workers along with Associate Warden Patricia Yeldell

SERVICE



Special Olympics Fundraiser

The South Carolina Leath Chapter Association held a fish fry to benefit the Special Olympics. Plates were sold during visitation hours allowing the inmates to share a meal with family and friends. Leath Chapter members donated their time for the cause.

COMPASSION



The South Carolina Leath Chapter Association donated approximately twelve boxes of food to the Greenwood Soup Kitchen. The Soup kitchen is dedicated to feeding the residents of the community. This is reflected in their mission which is "Feed My Sheep." They serve an average of 140 people per day.

Pictured: Mr. Willie Mouzon (soup kitchen board member) with Lt. Michele Carter (South Carolina Leath Chapter President)

COMMITMENT



The South Carolina Leath Chapter Celebrated Breast Cancer Awareness throughout the month of October. There were several projects held to help raise funds for the Susan G. Komen Foundation and the Greenwood Cancer Fund including the sale of pink ribbons and baked goods. T-shirts were also sold to the staff to help support the cause. The Non-Security Staff showed support and signified unity in the fight to cure cancer by wearing their shirts to work on the same day. The theme for the event was, "Leath Fighting for the Cure." There was a pink celebration held and every staff member received pink cake and pink lemonade.

RESPONSIBILITY

The South Carolina Leath Chapter Association contacted a representative concerning what the chapter could do for the Veterans as a project. The veteran representative wanted to know if we had anyone that could sew. The project "Shirt/Bibs for Vets" was taken on by Lt. Col. Kay Dowling and Capt. John Dowling, with the permission of Lt. Col. Caryl Johns, Commander of the Legislative Squadron, and the South Carolina Wing of the Civil Air Patrol.

The bibs were sewed inside the shirt by the inmates that work in the prison industries plant. The Shirt/Bibs will be sent to Lt. Col Mara Wight, USAF Ret. and Administrative Assistant for Geriatric and Extended Care Services at the V.A. Campbell's Veterans Home in Anderson, SC.

By wearing these shirt/bibs, to be referred to from now on as their "shirts", the veterans will have more dignity and feel better about themselves since they are no longer having to wear the child like bibs that they have been wearing all these years. The Inmates were more than overjoyed to help in the project for the Veterans.



**Pictured are Lt. Col. Kay Dowling and Mr. Thomas Frick
of Leath PI**



Lt. Col Kay Dowling, CAP

112 Starboard Tack

Greenwood, SC 29649

16 October 2013

Warden, Residents and Staff of Leath Correctional Institution,

On behalf of Lt. Col. Caryl Johns, Capt. John Dowling and myself, I want to thank you for all your hard work in getting shirt/bibs made and made so well and in such short time for our Disabled Veterans. These shirt/bibs will give our disabled vets dignity they did not have when they had to wear the child like bibs they have been used to. The shirts will be delivered personally to residents of the VA in Baldwin Park, FL and C. Richard Campbell VA in Anderson, SC.

Words cannot express the gratitude we have for you and for such a coordinated effort by everyone.

Thank you again, and may God Bless all of you,

Lt. Col. Kay Dowling



SENSITIVITY



The South Carolina Leath Chapter Association decided to lend a hand in helping the children at the Bower-Rodgers Home by donating back-to-school bags filled with school supplies and stuffed animals. The book bags were made by inmates from the Prison Industries Plant. The stuffed animals were crocheted by inmates in the Character Crotchet Program.

The Bower-Rodgers Children's Home provides emergency intake services and residential care to abused, neglected and abandoned children.

CHARACTER



The Leath Chapter of the South Carolina Corrections Association made a \$500 donation to the Special Olympics. The Special Olympics provides year-round training and athletic competition to children and adults with intellectual and physical disabilities. Participants are to compete in Olympic-type sports, giving them the opportunity to be physically fit, and demonstrate courage. They experience joy and share gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Pictured from left to right: Mrs. Shelby Benson, Director for Area 5 Special Olympics; Lt. Michele Carter (Leath Chapter President); Consumers Nina Ouzts, Ann Biggerstaff, S. Caleb DeHart; and Warden Angelia Rawski.

[Return to Main Page](#)



SPICE

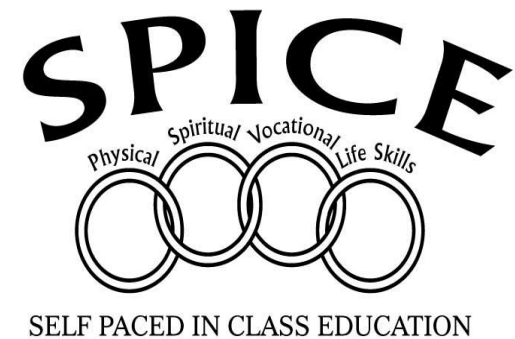
Self Paced In Class Education

The S.P.I.C.E. Program is an 18 week, faith-based program that expanded to Leath from Tyger River in November 2006 to help prepare participants for the challenges of leaving incarceration and returning to society. The goals of this program are to reduce recidivism, reduce taxpayers' expense of incarceration, improve the local community and to enhance self-sufficiency for individuals with a criminal record.

The South Carolina Department of Corrections has partnered with several state agencies and educational institutions to help the participants of the S.P.I.C.E. Program make the transition from prison to the community.

The Four Institutional Components of the Program

- The Spiritual component consists of daily devotions, faith-based classes, Bible study, weekly one-on-one mentoring, and any classes offered by the chaplaincy division that suits individual needs.
- The Vocational/Education component consists of in-class and hands-on learning in Horticulture and/or Adult Ed as well as Victim Impact. All classes are self-paced and certificates are awarded after completion of required classroom hours. This component also includes courses taught by participating technical schools to further the chances of employment.
- The Life Skills component consists of the “Life Skill” curriculum, Employment Readiness, Character First! and other classes to help women understand and meet the challenges of motherhood, working, and managing a household.
- The Physical component includes daily exercise and power walking to aid participants in making healthy life style choices. This component also includes health tips, blood pressure checks and question and answer sessions done by [Leath medical staff](#).



During the 18 week session, a Transition Team made up of members from the partnering agencies meets with the participants at least 3 times to address concerns, assess individual needs and help each participant “transition” from incarceration to the community.

[Return to Main Page](#)