

News from the Savannah River Site

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Principal Media Contact: DT Townsend
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC
803.952.7566
dt-lawrence.townsend@srs.gov

DOE Media Contact: Bill Taylor
803.952.8564
bill.taylor@srs.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SRNS Employees Take Time Off to Team Up, Helping Those in Need throughout the Greater Augusta Area

AIKEN, S.C. – May 2, 2014 – More than 85 employees from Department of Energy contractor Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC (SRNS) volunteered today at six United Way agencies located throughout the greater Augusta area as part of this year's Project SERVE.

Each year, a large number of SRNS employees commit to work at a project during their day off that will improve the quality of life for disadvantaged children, low-income senior citizens, the disabled or single-parent homeowners.

"SRNS gives a lot to the community monetarily," said volunteer Dick Dermody, an SRNS Engineer assigned to the Savannah River National Laboratory. "But Project SERVE gives us an opportunity to take a day and do something even more meaningful. In fact, what we do each year for these United Way agencies, they could never afford to have done through local contractors."

According to SRNS Director and Project SERVE Team Lead for the Shiloh Community Center Dan Armstrong, most of the United Way Agencies supported by this effort have limited budgets



SRNS employees (from left) Danette McClendis, Candice Dermody and JR Ludwick work on several cleanup and repair projects at Augusta's Shiloh Community Center, just one of several teams helping at six United Way agencies this weekend during SRS's annual "Project Serve."

dedicated to support programs and even smaller amounts of funding dedicated to lawn care and building maintenance. “We come here for a day with a little bit of material and a whole lot of manpower and very likely double or triple what would have been accomplished for that budget year related to landscaping and simple maintenance.”

Tasks typical of Project SERVE include clearing debris, painting, repairing flooring, putting up dry wall, building wheel chair ramps, installing smoke detectors, fixing faulty plumbing and yard work.

“It’s my understanding that SRS employees have been helping here for fourteen years,” said Elizabeth Jones, Executive Director, Shiloh Community Center, Augusta, Ga. “We greatly appreciate Savannah River Nuclear Solutions employees coming out to help us on this day of service. It’s awesome and powerful that we have people that are committed to help us restore and preserve this historical site. Without their help, these buildings probably would have fallen apart long before now.”

The mission of the Shiloh Community Center is to provide services for people living in the inner-city of Augusta. More than 80 percent of those served by this agency live beneath the poverty level. Services include free tutoring, a food pantry and activities for seniors.

Other 2014 Project SERVE teams worked at several locations as well, including the Easter Seals facility, Kroc Center, Heritage Academy and Senior Citizens Center Council.

“It’s rewarding when you see the people you’re helping and the results of what you’re doing,” said JR Ludwick, SRNS Project Vision Coordinator. “It’s a humbling experience when you realize just how blessed we are. I’m proud to work with a company that allows us to put a smile on someone’s face.”

Projects SERVE, CARE (Barnwell County) and VISION assist United Way agencies found throughout much of the Central Savannah River Area. Project VISION, involving Aiken County residents and United Way services, was successfully completed on Friday, March 21.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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