

South Carolina State Facts

588 missions volunteers have gone to South Asia from January 2005 – June 2008 as part of our international partnership.

37 NAMB-appointed missionaries serve in South Carolina. In addition to this, there are 24 self-funded Mission Service Corps missionaries.

20,000 volunteers supported the partnership with Appalachian Regional Ministries through short term or long term partnerships during 2007.

South Carolina missions volunteers fed 194,210 people in 96,177 households. 184 professions of faith were made through these church and association ministries.

South Carolina Baptists prepared 25,715 Christmas packets that were given to every inmate in state-run adult or youth correctional institutions. Packets included toiletry items, a Christmas card and Scripture portion.

215 endorsed Southern Baptist Chaplains currently serve in South Carolina. 45 Chaplains participated in the annual Chaplains' Conference at White Oak Conference Center.

67 Campers on Mission volunteers were involved in 76 ministry events which included construction, fairs and festivals, church starting, Disaster Relief, and day camps in 2007. 71 individuals made professions of faith as a result of Campers on Mission missions involvement.

South Carolina Disaster Relief held four statewide training events with 2,290 volunteers trained during 2007-2008.

51 teams volunteered from South Carolina to assist in Disaster Relief work during 2007. Floods, tornadoes, church fires, and earthquakes were among those disasters.

Ten teams volunteered from across South Carolina to assist in a disaster relief response due to the earthquake in Peru. SC Disaster Relief responded to the earthquakes in China with a crisis assessment team in June 2008. Other teams are scheduled.

Over 180 medical professionals and support volunteers have been disaster relief trained to form the first Disaster Relief Medical Unit in South Carolina.

Disaster Relief provides training, safety equipment and Bibles for 115 Disaster Relief units in South Carolina.

The South Carolina Baptist Collegiate Ministry sponsored 46 BCM college student missionaries for the school year of 2007-2008. Out of this number, 15 students served in international missions to East Asia during Christmas break; 10 students served as BCM sponsored summer missionaries with the North American Mission Board in Arizona, Canada, Louisiana, and Montana; 15 students served as BCM sponsored summer missionaries with the International Mission Board in South Asia, Serbia, Peru, Senegal, and South Africa; 6 served as BCM sponsored student missionaries in South Carolina.

There were 3,149 international students enrolled in colleges and universities in South Carolina during the 2007-2008 school year. Out of this number, 1,983 attended either the University of South Carolina – Columbia, Clemson University or The College of Charleston. A total of 2,707 international students attended a public college or university in our state. This past year, Baptist Collegiate Ministry programs on college campuses such as the University of South Carolina, Clemson, Winthrop, College of Charleston, Converse, Anderson, Charleston Southern, and North Greenville provided ministry with international students through

monthly gatherings, special international meals, retreats, one-on-one discipleship, welcome kits, transportation, and distribution of Bibles.

In March, South Carolina Baptist Collegiate Ministry sponsored an International Student Day with international students from campuses across the state attending. International and American students went in groups to visit places like the state museum, Riverbanks Zoo, and the state capital building. At lunch, a USC professor shared his testimony and explained the meaning of Easter, which many had never understood before.

In South Carolina, lives are being changed through new churches. In 2007, new churches reported 1,343 new believers.

Pastor Dustin Willis and Midtown Fellowship, Columbia Metro Association, held a baptism gathering in the state museum parking garage. 43 people were baptized, proclaiming Jesus as their Lord and Savior. USC athletes, fraternity brothers, homeless people, and former addicts were among those committing to follow Christ and live on mission with Him.

According to the latest research, 22.7 percent of South Carolina residents attend church on any given Sunday.

45 new churches in South Carolina currently receive covenant assistance through the Janie Chapman offering. These new churches include 8 Hispanic, 4 African American, 2 Brazilian, 1 Laotian, 1 Native American, and 3 Multi-ethnic congregations.

The eighth annual Hispanic Evangelism Conference was held April 25-26, 2008 at East Cooper Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant. Over 900 Hispanics attended, representing four different states. This year, the number of

participants from South Carolina churches was more than double the previous year's number.

During 2007, 45 college and seminary students served as church planting interns in new churches in South Carolina.

South Carolina Missions Interests

2,524 campers participated in various camps at McCall Royal Ambassador Camp in 2007. There were a total of 524 decisions made during the camps which included 331 rededications, 89 professions of faith, and 96 commitments to full-time Christian service.

In 2007, 2,142 campers attended Acteens, GA, Mother/Daughter Overnights, Children in Action, and Youth on Mission camps at Camp La Vida. Decisions made included 64 professions of faith, 58 rededications, ten commitments to full-time Christian service, 82 commitments to full-time mission service, and 27 other significant decisions. During the summer of 2007, campers contributed \$3,624.68 through the Cooperative Program.

During the summer of 2007, seventy-two persons participated in the South Carolina WMU, WMU, SBC and Jamaica Baptist Women's Federation Partnership. Six teams served in various parishes across Jamaica and were involved in leading Vacation Bible School, prayerwalking, evangelism, and leading conferences.

The Transitional Home for Girls of the Department of Juvenile Justice opened its doors in November 2007. It is a beautiful facility and the girls living there have risen to the standards staff and mentors expect of them. A positive environment is essential for rehabilitation to take place.