

# South Carolina Promise Zone

Second Round



## Lead Organization:

Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance

## Population:

90,004

## Poverty Rate:

28.12%

## Unemployment rate:

14.7%

## Key Partners:

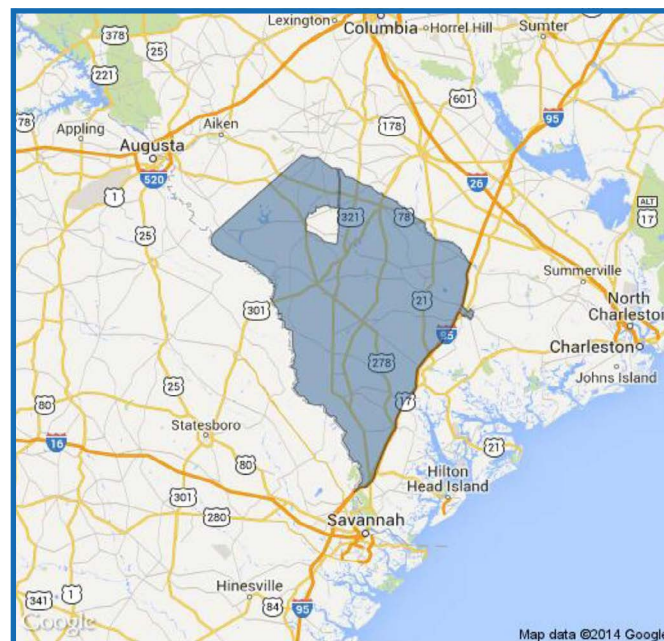
South Carolina Housing Authority; South Carolina Department of Commerce; Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina; South Carolina Department of Agriculture; South Carolina Victim's Assistance Network; GrowFoods Carolina; Palmetto Project; Lowcountry Council of Governments

## About the South Carolina Promise Zone

The South Carolina Promise Zone is located in the Low Country, and encompasses portions of Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties. The area is home to 90,000 residents, 28.12% of whom live in poverty. The 2012 Median Income for the Promise Zone counties is \$32,705, or 25% less than South Carolina's Median Household Income and 45% less than the United States' Median Household Income. Educational attainment and employment rates are low among residents and quality affordable housing is scarce.

## Promise Zone Leadership and Goals

The Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance (SCA) will lead the Promise Zone in partnership with more than 28 organizations within the Promise Zone and across the State. With 20 years of experience in the region, the SCA is well-positioned promote collaboration



among partners to revitalize the community and improve the quality of life for residents. The Promise Zone designation will catalyze an effort across the South Carolina Low Country to meet identified goals essential to increasing the quality of life and accelerating efforts to create comprehensive community revitalization in the region:

- Create Jobs Improve Educational Outcomes
- Increase Economic Activity Leverage Private Capital
- Expand Affordable Housing Stock
- Improve Public Safety

**"We believe that our County can benefit from the provisions of the Promise Zone and would welcome an opportunity to work with the Alliance to reduce poverty and its associated consequences."**

*James L. Pinkney, Sr., County Chairman, Allendale County*