



COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION

two states, one future



2015
ANNUAL
REPORT

2015

Continuing a "Proactive Advocacy Culture"



Serving as Chair of the SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) has been an honor. Actually, this is my second time to hold this position. When I reflect on the past two years and the progress made since my last term as Chair of this organization in 2007, I realize just how much we have accomplished. I truly feel a tremendous sense of achievement.

Working with our leadership team and staff to position the organization for sustainable growth has been nothing short of inspiring. As my current term expires, I leave you each with one final promise; we will continue to deepen the culture of proactive advocacy which we started two years ago. Under the leadership of incoming Chair, Sanford Loyd, the Board and staff will continue on its course of creating positive change for the communities of our region.

In essence, proactive advocacy is relationship building. Organizations like the SRSCRO must build relationships with local DOE, the SRS Contractor community, and DOE-HQ officials. But relationship building also extends to federal, state and local representatives and staff, and other key policy makers and local stakeholders in order to expand awareness about the importance of SRS missions and the successful outcomes from diversified economic development and workforce initiatives.

There is a general misconception that advocacy must be adversarial between officials and community organizations. However, the most successful advocacy efforts are from those organizations that invest time and resources in long-term relationship building. It takes time and patience to build trust and find commonality.

Proactive advocacy is the skill of looking ahead and preparing your organization or program for long-term success. You can read about several of our proactive initiatives in this year's report.

I would like to express my gratitude to the wonderful Board members who I have had the pleasure to work alongside these past two years and all my years on the Board. I would also like to thank the SRSCRO staff for their dedication and commitment that contributes to the high regard in which the organization is held by others in the region and nation. While there is still work to be done to achieve our vision, I am confident the SRSCRO will continue to advocate, educate, and collaborate to fulfill its mission.

Dr. Susan A. Winsor, Chair

Regional Workforce Study

Regional employers will need to fill a projected 37,000 job openings over the next five years in the SRSCRO region of South Carolina and Georgia. That is a key finding of the Regional Workforce Study released April 2015 to business and government leaders in the SRSCRO region.

TIP Strategies, an Austin, Texas-based economic consulting firm, performed the study for the SRSCRO by examining workforce trends in the five counties of the SRSCRO region – Aiken, Allendale and Barnwell in South Carolina and Richmond and Columbia in Georgia.

The detailed labor study delved into four of the region's key economic drivers – nuclear, manufacturing, cybersecurity/information technology, and healthcare. TIP Strategies conducted a comprehensive analysis of the region's labor force and factors fueling demand. They examined alignment between education output and industry requirements. TIP Strategies also met with stakeholders in the five county region and gathered input through interviews, employer and educator roundtable discussions and an employer survey.

The SRSCRO continues to meet with local stakeholders on ways to collaborate and advance the concept of a regional workforce strategy. During 2016, the SRSCRO plans to hold a Regional Workforce Summit in response to interest from local economic developers, employers and educators.

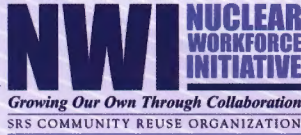


Tom Stellman and Caroline Alexander of TIP Strategies alongside Dr. Susan Winsor, SRSCRO Chair, and Robbie Bennett, SRSCRO Board member, at the presentation of the study on April 22, 2015 at the North Augusta Municipal Building.



Nuclear Workforce Initiative

For the third year in a row, the SRSCRO hosted STEM Career Connections in partnership with local employers and educators. Over 600 high school students and educators have attended the interactive forum designed to promote an understanding of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) career opportunities.



STEM Career Connections is just one way that the SRSCRO Nuclear Workforce Initiative (NWI®) is using integrated partnerships to expand workforce development capabilities in the region.

NWI® promotes programs that support employer needs through active involvement in

teacher workshops, workforce and education organizations, SRS Information Pods and other nuclear and energy workforce organizations.

Strong demand for a highly skilled nuclear workforce continues in the SRSCRO region as retirement trends are growing throughout the local nuclear sector.

NWI® partners are particularly focused on ensuring that people of the greater SRSCRO region have an opportunity to develop the skills needed for regional nuclear industry jobs, something we call "Growing Our Own Through Collaboration®."



Students learn how technology relates to local jobs at STEM Career Connections.



SRSCRO MISSION

The mission of the SRS Community Reuse Organization is to facilitate economic development opportunities associated with Savannah River Site technology, capabilities and missions and to serve as an informed, unified community voice for the five-county, two-state region.



Trailer being removed from SRS by SRSCRO subcontractor, Bolin Marketing Group.

Assets for Services

SRS is currently working with the SRSCRO on a new, large scale test project to remove and dispose of dozens of aged trailers formerly used as temporary offices at SRS at no cost to U.S. taxpayers in return for assets obtained from a now closed power plant within the site's D Area.

Normal disposal costs, which include the time and manpower needed to safely and efficiently remove utilities, uninstall support infrastructure, demolish and transport a trailer to a landfill for SRS, can be as high as \$45,000 over recent years. This initial program has achieved nearly \$300,000 in cost avoidance for SRS.

The proceeds generated from this program, and the conversion of other excess assets to cash, are invested back into the five-county region surrounding SRS for clearly-defined economic development and workforce related purposes. With these funds, the SRSCRO sponsors initiatives in workforce education (e.g., a "Nuclear Workforce Initiative"), prepares studies and reports (e.g., "SRS Economic Impact Study & Regional Workforce Study"), hosts public forums and community exchanges, and conducts meetings at the local, state and federal level on SRS community issues.

Community Issues - Advocacy

For the third year in a row, the SRSCRO hosted a community forum, held in the Aiken Technical College Amphitheater, where top local Department of Energy managers discussed the funding outlook and plans for future work at the Savannah River Site. As the region's largest economic engine, SRS continues its role in the nation's nuclear complex by performing activities related to nuclear research, nuclear material security and management, cleanup of legacy waste, closure of waste tanks, reprocessing of weapons materials and monitoring the impacts of these activities on the local ecosystem. The sizable impact of SRS on our economy makes this a very important topic for everyone in our community.

The SRSCRO also hosted its fifth annual workshop for Congressional staff representing GA and SC (Washington, DC and local). It consisted of one half-day meeting where the staffers heard about SRSCRO initiatives including the Nuclear Workforce Initiative and community concerns about SRS issues. The group also toured SRS.

In addition, the SRSCRO helped the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) host a Peer Exchange on Advancing Nuclear Priorities for approximately 50 ECA members, officials from the Department of Energy's (DOE) offices of Nuclear Energy and Environmental Management, and officials from other local governments visiting the SRS area. The peer exchanges bring together leaders from communities impacted by DOE activities to provide the opportunity to explore issues impacting their communities. The program's core is "peer matching," built around an interaction strategy.



Congressional Staffers enjoying a tour of SRS



DOE community representatives from across the nation at ECA peer exchange



SRSCRO funds helped with initial infrastructure for a 100,000-square-foot industrial spec building in Sage Mill Industrial Park

Economic Vitality

As stipulated in the Asset Transition Program (ATP) agreement between DOE and the SRSCRO, all of the proceeds generated from the conversion of assets to cash must be invested back into the community and closely monitored to assure they are used in support of clearly-defined community economic development purposes, in the context of local operational and economic realities. Due to the positive financial strength of the ATP, the SRSCRO decided to disburse some of these funds.

Last year, the SRSCRO was able to distribute \$1 million for designated infrastructure improvement projects in the region. Examples of how this funding was used by the SRSCRO include assisting with

site preparation work (grading, roads, parking) involving the construction of a 100,000 square foot speculation (spec) building on a 22-acre parcel within the Sage Mill Industrial Park, near Graniteville, S.C. In addition, these funds were used to help purchase land to add to the Pointe Salkehatchie Industrial Park in Allendale County, S.C., and to assist with the construction of a spec building in the South Carolina Advanced Technology Park in Barnwell County, S.C. These spec buildings will be used to lure new industry to the area, creating employment opportunities and an economic boost for the affected community.

Advancing Nuclear Skills Regionally

In 2015, the Department of Energy (DOE) awarded \$994,000 to the SRSCRO for continued support of the Advancing Nuclear Skills Regionally (ANSR) education and training program. This award marks the fifth year for the program with a total of \$4.8M in funding. ANSR provides nuclear career pathways for local students.

The ANSR program is administered by the SRSCRO in partnership with five area colleges and universities: Aiken Technical College, Augusta Technical College, Augusta University, University of South Carolina Aiken and University of South Carolina Salkehatchie.

ANSR graduates are entering the workforce. More than 763 students have enrolled in the various ANSR degree programs, and 154 students have already graduated. At least 85% of the ANSR graduates are employed. Another 7% of the graduates have continued their education for advanced degrees.

ANSR partners have leveraged more than \$4.6M on their own to support ANSR programs by providing new laboratory space, instructors and equipment. For example, the nuclear welding program developed at Aiken Technical College under the ANSR grant is housed at the new Center for Energy and Advanced Manufacturing (CEAM) that opened August 2015.



Pete Yerace, ANSR grant DOE Project Officer, met with faculty and students involved with Augusta Technical College's Nuclear Engineering Technology program.

SUMMARY STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2015 and 2014

ASSETS

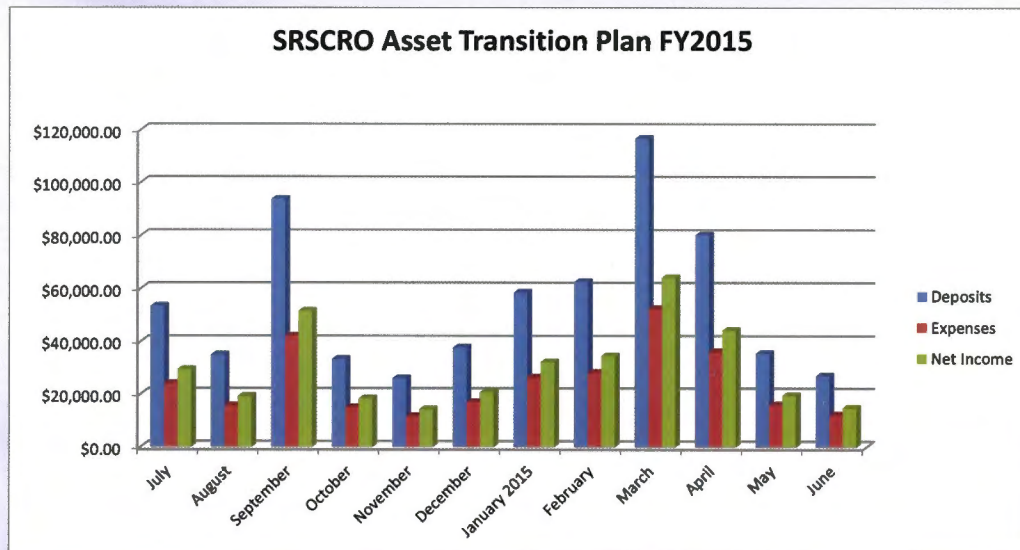
CURRENT ASSETS	2015	2014
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 367,222	\$1,267,878
Investments	\$ 4,706,712	\$4,529,213
Inventory	\$ 158,853	\$289,136
Accounts Receivable	\$ 35,687	\$67,503
Grant Reimbursements Receivable	\$ 48,718	\$53,943
Total Current Assets	\$ 5,317,192	\$6,207,673

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ 83,959	\$144,631
Accrued Expenses		\$2,134
Total Liabilities	\$ 83,959	\$146,765
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	\$ 5,233,233	\$6,060,908
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 5,317,192	\$6,207,673

Asset Transition Program

Through an agreement with the Department of Energy, the SRS Community Reuse Organization is the designated agency for donation of excess/surplus material no longer needed for Savannah River Site operations. In FY2015, the program returned approximately \$362,840 (excluding Assets for Services) to the SRSCRO.



In Fiscal Year 2015, the Asset Transition Program and Assets for Services Program returned approximately \$424,024 in revenue to the SRSCRO.

SRSCRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015

South Carolina

Danny R. Black, SC Representative at Large*

*Southern Carolina Alliance;
Congressional Appointment*

Terra L. Carroll

*North Augusta Chamber of Commerce;
North Augusta Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

Fred E. Humes

*Applied Research Center;
Economic Development Partnership Appointment*

J. David Jameson

*Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce;
Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

Dr. Sandra J. Jordan

*University of South Carolina Aiken;
Congressional Appointment*

Anna G. Loadholt

*(Retired);
Southern Carolina Alliance Appointment*

Anne P. Rice, SRSCRO Treasurer*

*(Retired);
Allendale/Barnwell County Council Appointment (Rotate)*

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*Southern Carolina Alliance;
Southern Carolina Alliance Appointment*

Chuck Smith

*Edward Jones Investments;
Aiken County Council Appointment*

Will Williams

*Economic Development Partnership;
Economic Development Partnership Appointment*

Dr. Susan A. Winsor, SRSCRO Chair*

*Aiken Technical College;
Congressional Appointment*

Georgia

Robert F. Bennett

*Development Authority of Columbia County;
Development Authority of Columbia County Appointment*

Sanford Loyd, SRSCRO Vice Chair*

*Sanford Loyd, CPA; PC;
Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

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*Augusta University;
Congressional Appointment*

Dr. J. Christopher Noah, GA Representative at Large*

*(Retired);
Columbia County Commission Appointment*

Dr. Lisa L. Palmer, SRSCRO Secretary*

*Augusta Technical College;
Congressional Appointment*

Susan E. Parr

*Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce;
Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

John Ray

*WRDW-TV;
Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

Tammy G. Shepherd

*Columbia County Chamber of Commerce;
Columbia County Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

Walter C. Sprouse, Jr.

*Augusta Economic Development Authority;
Augusta Economic Development Authority Appointment*

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*W. R. Toole Engineers;
Augusta/Richmond County Consolidated Government Appointment*

Reagan Williams

*Parlay Political, Parlay Marketing & GovComms;
Congressional Appointment*

**Executive Committee Member*



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