



### Impacting Our Community: Addressing Childhood

In December, Partners for Active Living, in conjunction with the Hub City Farmers' Market and Spartanburg's Childhood Obesity Taskforce, was awarded a \$360,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to improve opportunities for physical activity and access to affordable, healthy foods for children and families in four communities throughout Spartanburg County. Based on a rigorous selection process that drew more than 500 proposals from across the country, Spartanburg County was one of 41 sites selected for the RWJF *Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities* initiative.

According to a study conducted by the Spartanburg Childhood Obesity Taskforce, 34.4 percent of children ages 6 to 11 in Spartanburg are obese or overweight. In order to begin changing these statistics, Partners for Active Living, Hub City Farmers' Market and the Childhood Obesity Taskforce will focus on encouraging access to healthy food and active living in and around parks in Woodruff, Boiling Springs, Pacolet and the Northside of the City of Spartanburg. Within each of the four communities, advisory committees will be formed to suggest needed policy and environmental changes that positively impact the health of their children.

**Healthy Kids,  
Healthy Communities**  
Supporting Community Action to  
Prevent Childhood Obesity

### Welcome New Staff!

Partners for Active Living recently welcomed two new staff members who will be implementing the Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities childhood obesity grant initiative.

#### ***Rochelle Williams, Community Mobilizing Coordinator***

Rochelle joined PAL in Jan. Previously she worked as a policy analyst at an anti-poverty organization in Raleigh, NC. At the nonprofit Carter Center in Atlanta, Ga., she wrote reports about the organization's international efforts to advance human rights and alleviate suffering.

Rochelle lives on the west side of the county with her husband Dudley.



#### ***Ned Barrett, Partnership Coordinator***

Ned came to Partners for Active Living after two years at Upstate Forever, where he worked on land use planning initiatives throughout the Upstate.

He lives in Spartanburg with his wife Christy and two children Lydia and Quinn, three cats and a dog.



**About Partners for Active Living (PAL):** Partners for Active Living seeks to make Spartanburg County, SC a healthy, more livable community by promoting walking, bicycling and physical activity on a daily basis.

For more information, visit our website, which will be updated soon: [www.active-living.org](http://www.active-living.org).

## Want to Get Involved?

Opportunities to get active with  
PAL and our partners!

April 2: Easter Eggstravaganza:  
Duncan Park  
[www.cityofspartanburg.org](http://www.cityofspartanburg.org)

April 15: ArtCycle Display  
[www.cityofspartanburg.org](http://www.cityofspartanburg.org)

April 24: Caroline's on My Mind  
[www.umdf.org/carolinesonmymind](http://www.umdf.org/carolinesonmymind)

April 30: Spartanburg Regional  
Criterium  
[www.biketownspartanburg.org](http://www.biketownspartanburg.org)

May 16: Bicycle to School Day  
[www.biketownspartanburg.org](http://www.biketownspartanburg.org)

## Consider Joining!

Please consider joining Partners for Active Living's membership program. We have levels of giving that start at only \$50.

Send a tax deductible donation to:

P.O. Box 6728; 29304

## Better Communication!

Over the last four years, Partners for Active Living has celebrated some significant successes. However, we need to do a better job of letting you, our friends, donors and partners, know about them. Therefore, we are going to work on getting this 1.5 page update to you every 4-6 weeks.

In the coming months, we will be updating our website, which will allow us to convert all communication to an electronic format.



**Partners for  
Active Living**

Post Office Box 6728  
Spartanburg, SC 29304



**HUB CYCLE**  
SPARTANBURG COMMUNITY BICYCLES



**Healthy Kids,  
Healthy Communities**

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**-Some of our Programs-**