

## SCDC Named Community Partner at 2016 Walk A Mile



More than 450 officers and staff participated in the 2016 Walk a Mile in Their Shoes event to raise awareness and funds for survivors of sexual assault. The South Carolina Department of Corrections assembled the largest participating group for the second year in a row and was recognized with this year's Community Partner Award. The award is given annually to an individual or organization that has made a substantial contribution to achieving this mission in the past year.

SCDC and Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands works together to provide violence prevention training in multiple institutions. Mr. John Barkley and Ms. Nicole Abrams were recognized for being an integral part of this year's success. Prison Rape Crisis Advocate Tanyeka Hopkins writes, "Mr. Barkley plays a vital role in the governing of the prison rape elimination project. He is influential and committed to changing the culture of prison rape."

Community Education Director Kayce Singletary offers, "The Division of Victims Services has an integral role in the identification and prevention of sexual violence throughout our state. Since October, 25 SCDC Facilitators have implemented over 70 sessions of the Violence Prevention Curriculum with 325 inmates throughout the state. SCDC staff consistently go above and beyond in their support of STSM and their commitment to raising awareness and preventing sexual assault. We are truly grateful for this partnership, and we know that we are making progress towards ending sexual violence in our community."

Mr. Barkley and Ms. Abrams were acknowledged for their special contributions at last night's awards ceremony on the steps of the South Carolina Statehouse. Mr. McCall, Deputy Director for Operations and Sherry Rhodes, Team SCDC's Walk a Mile team captain, represented SCDC in accepting the top prize.

Thank you to everyone who came to Walk a Mile to represent SCDC and support STSM.

Photos from the 2016 Walk a Mile







