South Carolina’s economic future is directly linked to its willingness to invest in creating an educated workforce. With the rapid advances in technology, STEM career paths are more important than ever. However, many school districts lack the expertise and resources to provide up-to-date, innovative programs in these areas.

The Greenwood Genetic Center's Division of Education is working to meet this need, as well as equalize the disparities among SC school districts, by providing support and opportunities for all of our teachers and students. Learn more inside...
GGC’s outreach programs serve students across SC

Since the mobile lab program began in 2010, GGC instructors have visited schools in 42 of the 46 SC counties.

GGC has focused outreach efforts on underserved school districts across SC, to make sure all students have the same opportunities for success.

In the 2018-19 school year, GGC served 12,535 students through 200 visits to 126 schools. 417 students visited our campus. All of these experiences were provided to students at no charge.

GGC’s Goals

**Genetic Literacy**
An educated population requires a basic knowledge of genetics, whether they plan to work in the healthcare or biotechnology fields, or simply want to be active participants in making healthcare decisions for themselves and their families.

**Career Exploration**
Genetic information is important in a variety of fields from healthcare to agriculture and engineering to public safety. By introducing career paths such as bioinformatics, genetic counseling, and forensic science to students in middle and high school, GGC is preparing SC’s future workforce for success.

**Provider Training**
GGC is actively addressing the current national shortage of genetics providers. With programs for medical and nursing students, genetic counseling trainees, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners, GGC is ensuring that patients always receive the best quality genetic care.
Thank you!

In a single school year (2017-18), state funding through the SC Department of Education and the Education Oversight Committee allowed us to **DOUBLE** the number of students served! We look forward to continuing this invaluable partnership as our program continues to grow.

GGC’s Division of Education and SC’s future workforce thank you for your commitment to supporting valuable STEM outreach opportunities for all students in our great state!

**Outreach Programs**

**Mobile Science Labs**
GGC’s mobile science lab (Gene Machine) and the cargo van (Helix Express), bring engaging hands-on laboratory activities to middle and high school students across SC.

These inspiring visits teach bioscience principles, further career exploration, and improve genetic literacy, all at no cost to the schools or students.

Through nine years of school visits, over 60,000 students have learned while having fun using micropipettes, making patient diagnoses, and solving forensics cases.

**Teacher Education**

Students’ primary and constant connections to the sciences are their teachers.

Since 1994, a popular series of graduate courses have brought teachers to GGC, both in-person and online, to expand their knowledge and comfort level with this rapidly changing discipline and equip them with ideas to inspire their students.

GGC has also developed teacher development workshops and has ongoing year-round support for classroom teachers and career development facilitators.

**Tours and Camps**

GGC’s Genetic Education Center in Greenwood welcomes students throughout the school year to tour our laboratories, see genetic testing in action, interact with genetics professionals, and participate in hands-on experiments.

Each summer, rising 10th-12th graders get an in-depth look at the field of medical genetics through the Junior Genetic Scholars Summer Camp.

**What teachers and students are saying...**

“I learned so much that I did not know was involved in genetics. This opportunity was a big influence on my career pathway.”
- Anderson County Student

“I am so amazed at the advances that have been made even since my first course in 2010. Thank you for all of your hard work that allows us to continue to educate our students with the most up to date information.”
- Kathryn Knox, teacher, Lancaster High School

“Our students were thoroughly engaged! We are excited about the impact that the GGC’s Mobile Lab is having on our students.”
- Shaunta Mack, teacher, C.E. Murray Middle/High School
Greenwood Genetic Center

The Greenwood Genetic Center is a nonprofit institute organized to provide clinical genetic services, diagnostic laboratory testing, *educational programs and resources*, and research in the field of medical genetics.