

Duke Energy gives more than \$900,000

THE JOURNAL STAFF

SENECA — Duke Energy has been powering South Carolina for more than a century and continues to power the minds of its students and the workforce of the future by investing in innovative education programs and initiatives.

Through the Duke Energy Foundation, more than \$900,000 in grants will go to initiatives across the state that emphasize science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), increasing childhood reading proficiency and workforce development.

“Supporting effective education programs that improve childhood literacy and focus on fields related to science and technology are a critical focus for our company,” Duke Energy’s South Carolina president Kodwo Ghartey-Tagoe said. “Along with high-impact workforce development initiatives, these programs can help create the next generation workforce South Carolina businesses and industries need to be successful.”

Duke Energy awarded education and workforce development grants to AIM to support workforce training programs that help equip people with the necessary skills to earn a livable wage and develop self-sufficiency.

Anderson Districts 1 and 2 Career and Technology Center received a grant to support programs designed to educate students in robotics design, programming and use in industry.

Chapman Cultural Center will use its Duke Energy funding to support a comprehensive educational program connecting professional artists and students and helping teachers better integrate the arts and STEM into their classrooms and

in grant

after-school programs.

Duke also granted funds to Children’s Museum of the Upstate to create a mobile version of the museum, bringing engaging, hands-on, STEM programming wherever it is needed in the Upstate.

Clemson University Women in Science/Programs for Educational Enrichment and Retention (PEER) received funding to provide continued support to programs that provide camps for minority engineering majors, and to provide camps, encouragement and support to women pursuing careers in science and math.

EdVenture will use its Duke Energy grant to support the creation of a STEM-focused exhibit at a satellite museum in Hartsville, and Florence-Darlington Technical College will use its funds to provide under-served students an

led by the medical community, one of the largest employers in the Pee Dee region.

Duke Energy awarded a grant to Francis Marion University to help provide a pipeline of teaching professionals in critical areas for the Pee Dee region of the state and to Lancaster Literacy Council to support education programs for adults seeking employment to strengthen their basic skills for employment, career advancement and lifelong learning skills.

Piedmont Technical College received funds to support programs that introduce manufacturing in a high school setting and encourage participants to pursue careers in the manufacturing sector through youth apprenticeship.

Public Education Partners will use its award to support expansion of an innovative program that provides a pathway into the teaching profession for people with bachelor’s degrees in math and science.

Duke Energy granted

ically disadvantaged and underrepresented elementary and middle school students.

“As we’ve done since our inception in 1985, Public Education Partners seeks to partner with our school district and rally our community to incubate innovative programs that focus on excellent teaching and ultimately result in improved student achievement and success,” Public Education Partners president and CEO Dr. Ansel Sanders said. “Duke Energy understands this as well. We are deeply appreciative of Duke Energy’s transformative commitment to supporting teachers, particularly teachers in the STEM

funds to the School District of Oconee County to expand a district-wide initiative of accelerated professional development for the implementation of STEM curriculum and to the S.C. Governor’s School for Science and Mathematics to expand the successful virtual engineering program across the state and the summer camps that focus on STEM topics that prepare students for the program.

South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities will use these funds to provide scholarships for STEM majors at independent colleges and universities in Duke Energy service areas and Tri-County Technical College use the funds to support a program designed to offer under-resourced adults the ability to earn college credit, national certifications and credentials

“OUR PROGRAM IS ONGOING success.”

EdVenture Children’s Museum president and CEO Karen Coltrane said she is so excited that the museum will partner with Duke Energy to develop an exhibit to help children and families understand the science behind electricity generation.

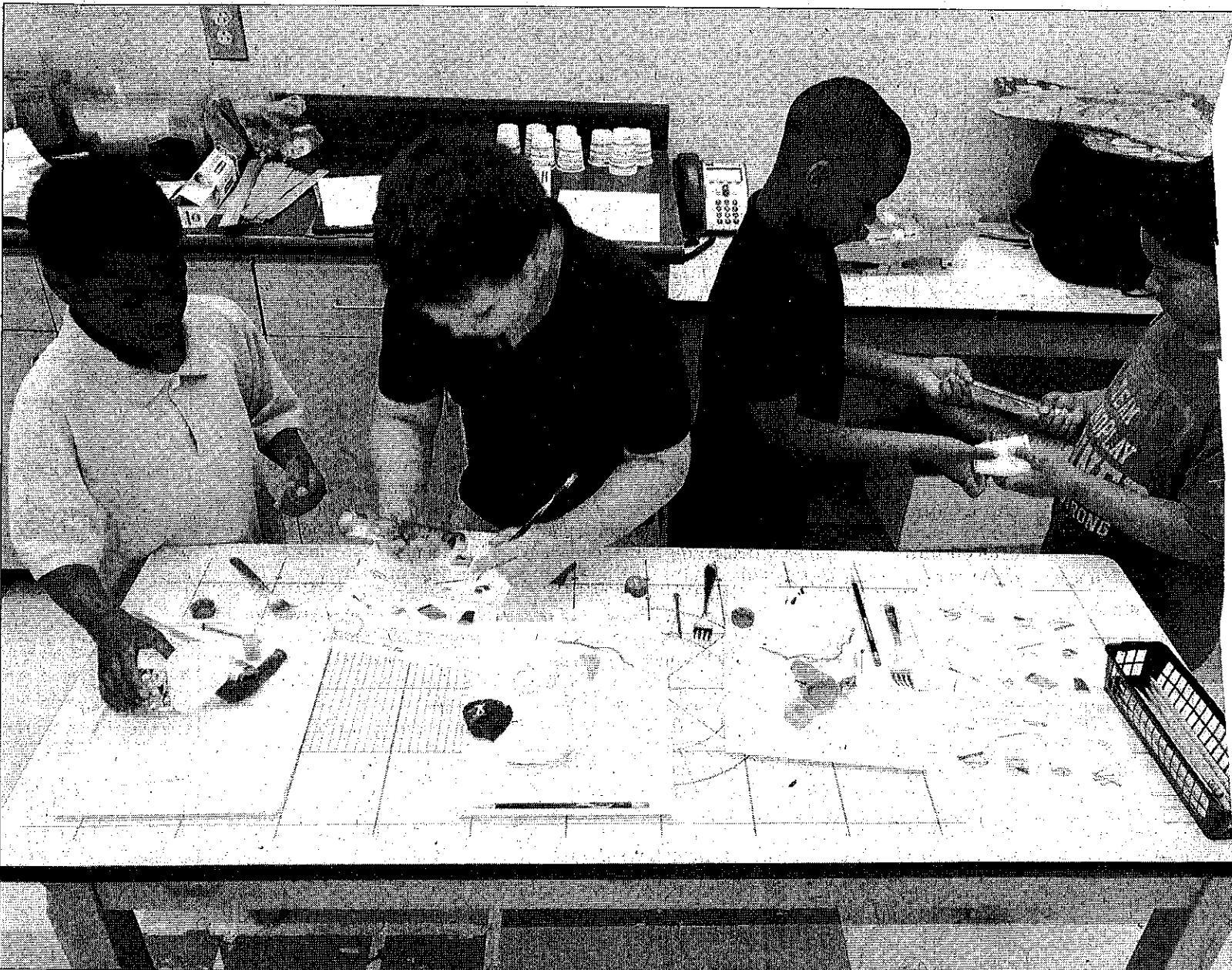
“Discovery through doing is how EdVenture inspires a life-long, internally motivated love of learning, and we suspected from seeing other great projects that Duke Energy has made possible that we were on the right track with this,” she said. “Thousands of children in South Carolina will have a better understanding of this important topic because of this grant.”

The grants are administered through the Duke Energy Foundation. Last year, the foundation donated more than \$2.8 million to nonprofit organizations throughout South Carolina.

leading to good jobs with a future in local manufacturing companies.

Duke Energy awarded a grant to United Way of Pickens County to fully expand the successful “Camp iRock” summer literacy program county-wide and to Upcountry History Museum to support hands-on discovery zones that will take visitors on a journey around the world as they explore faraway places and cultures through literature.

Upstate Warrior Solution will use its funds to support workforce development for Upstate veterans by teaching them skills that will allow them to enter the civilian workforce at a livable wage. And YouthLink will use the funds to support after school programs with an explicit goal to provide students with project-based STEM experiences for economic



SPECIAL TO THE

Students at Armstrong Elementary in Greenville are participating in a mobile version of STEM programming from the Children's Museum of the state made possible through a grant from the Duke Energy Foundation.

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