

SCHHRA

SC HEALTHCARE HUMAN RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

SCHHRA Virtual Forum:

Presented By:

Julie Denesha, MSN,RN, Manager, Workforce & Pipeline Development,
Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System

Evelyn Tucker, Director, State Government Relations, SCHA

September 29, 2026 | 11:00 am-12:00 noon

11:00 – 11:05 am

Welcome & Introductions

Charity Gerald, Associate VP, Talent Strategy, McLeod Health | SCHHRA President

11:05 – 11:35 am

From Classroom to Career: Strengthening the Healthcare Workforce Pipeline Through Student Engagement

Julie Denesha, Manager Workforce & Pipeline Development,
Spartanburg Regional Healthcare

At the end of this presentation, participants will:

1. Recognize the importance of early student engagement as a long-term workforce development strategy.
2. Explore the healthcare career pipeline model from awareness and exploration through engagement, employment, and professional development.
3. Review successful student engagement programs such as career fairs, shadowing experiences, healthcare camps, internships, and work-based learning opportunities.
4. Examine measurable outcomes and return on investment of workforce pipeline initiatives.
5. Identify the value of partnerships among healthcare systems, educational institutions, and community organizations in developing future healthcare professionals.
6. Encourage collaboration and investment in sustainable workforce pipeline programs that strengthen the future healthcare workforce.

11:35 – 12 noon

SC Legislative Update

Evelyn Tucker, Director, State Government Relations, SCHA

This session will provide an update on strategic policy issues in healthcare and what changes are ahead

General Information

Registration & Fees for Current Members of SCHHRA:

This session is open to current paid members of SCHHRA only; There is no cost, but you must register to receive the log in.

Registration & Fees Non-Members of SCHHRA:

The next in-person conference is the joint meeting with the SC ASHRM+AHQ Society & the SC Organization of Nurse Leaders on November 3rd at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. You will receive a discounted registration fee for this conference by joining this society. [Click here](#) to join/renew today.

How to Register:

You must register to receive the log-in information. To register for this or other meetings, visit the [SCHA web calendar of events](#), select this event, view the agenda, and register online.

Speakers

Evelyn Tucker:

Evelyn Tucker serves as Director of State Government Relations at the South Carolina Hospital Association, where she leads advocacy efforts on behalf of South Carolina's hospitals and health systems. In this role, she works closely with legislators, hospital leaders, and healthcare stakeholders to advance policies that strengthen healthcare access, quality, and sustainability across the state.

Evelyn brings more than a decade of experience in government relations, public policy, strategic communications, and legislative affairs.

Earlier in her career, Evelyn worked with the South Carolina Senate Finance Committee and the U.S. House of Representatives, where she gained firsthand experience in the legislative process, constituent services, and fiscal policy. She worked closely with lawmakers, agency representatives, lobbyists, and members of the public, building the relationships and policy expertise that continue to serve her today.

A proud Clemson University graduate with a bachelor's degree in political science, Evelyn also earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of South Carolina. At SCHA, she combines her passion for public service and policy with a collaborative approach to advocacy, helping advance solutions that support South Carolina's hospitals, caregivers, and the patients they serve.

Julie Denesha:

Julie Denesha is a passionate healthcare leader, educator, and workforce strategist dedicated to building equitable and sustainable career pathways in healthcare.

As Manager of Workforce Development at Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System (SRHS), Julie leads innovative initiatives that connect education, community, and healthcare to cultivate the next generation of healthcare professionals. Her work focuses on creating meaningful opportunities that inspire, prepare, and support students as they explore and pursue careers in healthcare.

At SRHS, Julie has led the design and implementation of comprehensive workforce development programs, including career exploration initiatives, structured healthcare internships, and registered healthcare apprenticeships. Julie has been instrumental in expanding internship opportunities across clinical and non-clinical disciplines, partnering with leaders throughout the health system to create experiences that connect classroom learning with real-world practice. Her efforts have helped establish a sustainable pipeline of future healthcare professionals while fostering stronger connections between education and employment.

Julie's work is deeply collaborative, involving partnerships with local school districts, colleges, workforce development organizations, and community leaders, including OneSpartanburg, Inc. and the Spartanburg Academic Movement. Through these partnerships, she continues to champion innovative workforce solutions that strengthen both the healthcare workforce and the communities SRHS serves.