

Midlands Class IX Spring 2016

Spokes and Wheels: Connecting the Dots Project Update

A “graduation” ceremony from our Spokes and Wheels project took place on Monday, August 1, 2016 at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands. The kids were recognized for completing the program and each shared a few things they learned from the experience. We then went on a fun ride through the Rosewood community, stopping at one point at Pelican SnoBalls where Tim Malson of Summit Cycles treated them all to snow cones. Troy Thames, Area Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs, reported to us that they think the project was a huge success, and they intend to continue it with another group beginning in September.

Many thanks to those who volunteered on this pilot project and did such a good job: Tim Malson of Summit Cycles who acted as the lead instructor and was there every week with the kids, and also assisted in the purchase of helmets, locks and other equipment at a discount; Chief Skip Holbrook and the Columbia Police Department who donated the bicycles and provided instruction on bicycle safety; Amy Johnson Ely of Palmetto Cycling Coalition who provided safety instruction; Doris Ford of South Carolina Safe Routes to School who provided safety instruction and donated water bottles to the kids; Randy Lowell who secured the seed funding of \$1000 from Palmetto Health; Dan Lebish who is assisting with securing additional (significant) funding from AFLAC for the continuation of the program, and of course, Troy Thames of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands.