



## Finding Local Information for Community Analysis and Grant Projects

10/06 mb,bg

### Community Analysis Resources

#### USC University Libraries Catalog <http://www.sc.edu/library/catalog>

Try a **keyword** search with the name of your neighborhood along with the state name or state abbreviation. For South Carolina you want to type in *s c* not *sc*.

*waverly and (s c or south Carolina)*

More likely will be searching for sources about the town, city, or county and then looking in the index of the book. Use a **subject** search and remember the way to enter state names.

*columbia s c*  
*augusta ga*  
*newberry county s c*

If your community is in South Carolina you may also want to talk to the librarians in the South Caroliniana Library after you have tried searching the library catalog.

#### **Other Libraries**

A public library is more likely to have local information on a neighborhood or community. For a list of libraries in South Carolina consult <http://www.sciway.net/lib/>

If your community isn't in South Carolina, a great list of libraries is available at <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/Libweb/>

#### **Newspapers**

Search the library catalog by the title of the newspaper or by the city or county name and newspapers to find out what we have in the library.

title search	post and courier charlotte observer
subject search	rock hill s c newspapers calhoun county s c newspapers

The South Caroliniana Library has local SC newspapers, but the smaller newspapers are only available on microfilm and the library may not have the most recent issues. **Most newspapers do not have an index - - you will need to browse the newspapers.**

The South Carolina State Library (corner of Senate and Bull Streets in Columbia) has recent issues of many SC newspapers. That library is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

#### **Online Newspapers**

If your neighborhood or community is in a larger city, you may be able to search the city's newspaper. If you want to search and bring up the full text of articles from *The State* or the *Greenville News* please visit our INDEXES page <http://www.sc.edu/library/er>

*LexisNexis Academic Universe* is a database that includes articles from many newspapers, but the papers tend to be larger ones and the coverage isn't very good for South Carolina. Select *LexisNexis* from the USC University Libraries Indexes page <http://www.sc.edu/library/er> Then click on the "Guided News Search" tab and use the pull down menus to search US News in step one and then your state's news sources in step two.

## **Neighborhood Associations, Chambers of Commerce, City and County Governments**

The web is a great place to search to see if your community has a neighborhood association or, if your community is a small town, perhaps a chamber of commerce.

*Columbia Neighborhood Associations* <http://www.midnet.sc.edu/neighbor/>

The county or city webpage might also include a link to local neighborhood or homeowners' associations. The South Carolina State Library's online Reference Room has links to counties <http://www.sciway.net/cnty/sc-county-info.html> and cities <http://www.sciway.net/city/sc-city-info.html>.

*SCIway* -- <http://www.sciway.net> – Area statistics and rankings by county, city, state, congressional district and links to U.S. statistics

*State of South Carolina Government Web Page* -- <http://sc.gov/>

Explore the county or city government's structure to identify any agencies that may relate to social problems or issues in your neighborhood or community.

## **Relevant Reference Sources**

### ***Encyclopedia of Social Work***

HV 35 .S6 (Kept at the Reserve Desk)

Covers all aspects of social services in the U.S. and Canada. Includes statistical tables on demographic and social welfare trends. Vol. 2 includes a biography section, the NASW Code of Ethics, and the NASW Standards.

### ***Social Work Almanac***

Ref HV90.G53

Provides summaries of a variety of statistics on different social groups in the U.S. Best used for comparing regions.

### ***United Way 2-1-1 Resource Referral Guide***

Ref HV 99 .C5762 U55

This guide provides information on programs and services offered "within and outside of the four counties of Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry and Richland."

### ***Kids Count Data Book***

Docs Ref HQ 792 .U5 K53

Provides statistical profiles of child well-being at the national and state levels. Data to measure the educational, social, economic, and health status of children are included. Tables outlining national trends and state rankings are presented.

Available online: <http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/>

## Grant Project Resources

### Indexes for Articles

Don't expect to find an article about social workers in your specific community, but look for articles about a type of program, population, or social problem.

#### Searching Tips

- and** both terms must be present  
*elderly and rural and programs*
- or** either term may be present  
*elderly or aged*
- ( )** use parenthesis when you have an AND and an OR in the search  
*(elderly or aged) and programs*  
*(elderly or aged) and (programs or grants) and rural*
- \*** wildcard, truncation  
Most of the indexes use an asterisk for a wildcard, but not all.  
*project\** finds project, projects and any other words beginning with project

All of these indexes are available from the University Libraries Electronic Indexes webpage  
<http://www.sc.edu/library/er>

***Social Work Abstracts*** Devoted to the literature of the social work field. Don't expect to do just one search to find everything relevant, try variations on your search terms.

***Social Services Abstracts*** Covers community and mental health services, crisis intervention, family and social welfare, gerontology, poverty and homelessness, professional issues in social work, social and health policy, social work education, social work practice, support groups/networks, violence, abuse, neglect and welfare services.

***Academic Search Premier*** Covers magazines and journals from all subject areas, but not in great depth. Sometimes include the full text of the articles.

Depending on your population or social issue there may be literature from other disciplines that could contribute to your project. Likely choices would include:

***Criminal Justice Abstracts***

***ERIC*** (Education)

***Sociological Abstracts***

***PsycInfo*** (Psychology)

### Finding the Journals

Many of these databases include some full text articles. If they do not you will need to look for the following links:

**Find Text** This link searches the library's electronic journals collection to see if you can access the full text.

**Search University of South Carolina library catalog** – Searches the library's catalog to see if we have the journal in print. You will need to verify that we have the volume number you are looking for and record the citation information.